

# 22707– INTRODUCTION TO THE LAW OF MEXICO

PROFESSOR IGNACIO PINTO–LEON

## SYLLABUS AND RULES

SPRING 2018

WEDNESDAYS 4 -6 PM

Contact info:  
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Office hours:  
By appointment  
713-338-2879

- (1) JAN. 17 – INTRODUCTION TO MEXICAN LEGAL HISTORY
  - Read chapters 1 and 2 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
  - Supplementary readings:
    - Content, Structure, and Growth of Mexican Legal Education, by Luis Fernando Perez–Hurtado
    - What Do Mexican Private Scholars Do, by Juan Carlos Marin Gonzalez
- (2) JAN. 24 – MEXICAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: FEDERALISM AND SEPARATION OF POWERS
  - Read chapters 4 and 5 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- (3) JAN. 31 – INTRODUCTION TO THE MEXICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM
  - Read chapters 3 and 6 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- (4) FEB. 7 – JUDICIAL ENFORCEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS
  - Read chapters 7 and 8 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- (5) FEB. 14 – MEXICAN CIVIL PROCEDURE AND CONFLICTS OF LAWS
  - Read chapters 10 and 22 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- (6) FEB. 21 – INTRODUCTION TO THE MEXICAN CIVIL CODES
  - Read chapters 14 and 15 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- (7) FEB. 28 – OBLIGATIONS (CONTRACTUAL AND EXTRA-CONTRACTUAL)
  - Read chapter 17 of Mexican Law (photocopied materials)
- (8) MAR. 7 – MEXICAN CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE
  - Read Mexican Law chapter 11 (photocopied materials)
  - Supplementary readings: (1) Justice Reform in Mexico, Change and Challenges in the Judicial Sector, by David A Shirk
- (9) MAR. 21 – SESSION ON HOW TO RESEARCH MEXICAN LAW

- I will distribute hypothetical problems to be solved by teams
- Guest speaker TBA

(10) MAR. 28 – MEXICAN COMMERCIAL LAW

- Read Mexican Law chapter 18 (photocopied materials)

(11) APR. 4 – PRACTICAL ASPECTS AND INTERACTIONS OF MEXICAN LAW WITH THE U.S. PRACTITIONER

- Supplementary reading: Working with Foreign Counsel. Ignacio Pinto–Leon.
- Guest speaker TBA
- Presentations and discussions of solutions to hypothetical problems

(12) APR. 11 – REGULATION OF THE ECONOMY; ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

- Read Mexican Law chapters 9 and 12 (photocopied materials)
- Supplementary reading: TBA

(13) APR. 18 – RENEGOTIATING THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

- Supplementary reading: TBA

(14) APR. 25 – FINAL CLASS/FIESTA/TERTULIA

- Reading to be assigned

FINAL EXAM: Class Exam

Required texts in the course: photocopied course materials will be distributed before the beginning of the course. Supplementary reading materials will be distributed throughout the semester.

Attendance policy: Students are required to attend at least to 80% of the classes. There will be 14 sessions. If you missed 3 classes, you would be under the 80%

Student participation is expected. Students should be ready for class, with their assignments. Repeated unpreparation will be noted and could be used to mark down somebody's grade.

Grading info: the final grade will be based on a 2-hour open book final exam. The final exam will consist of a combination of essay, multiple choice and true/false questions.

Counseling and Psychological Services (**CAPS**) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS ([www.uh.edu/caps](http://www.uh.edu/caps)) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the “Let's Talk” program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. [http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets\\_talk.html](http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html)