

ENTERTAINMENT LAW

Spring 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Yocel Alonso (yocelaw@aol.com); Justen Barks (law@jstnbrks.com)

LOCATION: TBA

CLASS HOURS: Monday & Wednesday, 7:30-9:00pm

A. ABOUT THE COURSE

The course will focus on the constitutional, statutory, and common law framework of entertainment law and the practical implications for lawyers. With the Constitution as our North Star, we will explore the wide body of law that governs the world of entertainment; including copyrights, trademarks, contracts, and tort law, analyzing their impact on the business and legal affairs of recording artists, record companies, publishers, digital and terrestrial radio and television broadcasting, and the motion picture industry.

The goal will be not only to provide you with a comprehensive insight into this unique field, but also to prepare you to represent clients with entertainment law related issues, be they transactional or litigation-oriented. Intellectual property is fundamental to an understanding of entertainment law, so please be prepared to spend lots of time on Copyright and Trademark Law. **Please take the time to read the course schedule—the reading load will be non-wimpy, but essential and hopefully interesting to interested students.**

B. REQUIRED TEXT

Paul C. Weiler, Gary Myers, and William W. Berry, III, *Entertainment, Media, And The Law* (West Academic 5th ed. 2015). ISBN-13: 978-1634598835; ISBN-10: 1634598830.

C. YOUR GRADE

Your course grade is determined by a standard law school, open-book final exam with short-answer and long-form essay questions—including true/false questions which ask that you explain your answer—in conjunction with multiple-choice questions. The exam counts for 90% of your grade. The remaining 10% of your grade is based on class participation. While we will enforce attendance to the extent required by the school, your failure to attend and participate will be your loss.

D. OFFICE HOURS

Professors are typically available before or after class to respond to questions or provide clarification on the materials presented. Students are encouraged to communicate directly with the professors through their provided email addresses if additional help or discussion is necessary.

E. CAPS

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demand of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (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 (www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html).

F. READING SCHEDULE

Class Dates	Weiler Myers & Berry Pages
Class 1	Read: 33-42 Skim: 1-33, 42-56
Class 2	Read: 56-65, 71-82
Class 3	Read: 149-168 Skim: 168-174
Class 4	Read: 231-245, 247-253
Class 5	Read: 253-267; <u>Heller v. NBC Universal</u>
Class 6	Read: 291-298, 302-306, 319-330 Skim: 298-302, 363-367
Class 7	Read: 368-374, 378-390
Class 8	Read: 401-417, 438-441 Skim: 398-400
Class 9	Read 441-448, 451-454, 457-469 Skim: 448-451
Class 10	Read: 477-491 Skim 469-472
Class 11	Read: 523-547 Skim: 509-523; <u>Lenz v. Universal Music Group</u>
Class 12	Read: 547-557, 426-438 Skim: 558-565

Class 13	Read: 568-572, 575-580, 592-595 Skim: 582-584
Class 14	Read: 605-614, 623-627 Skim: 631-634
Class 15	Read: 634-647, 666-671
Class 16	Read: 674-689; <u>In re Tam</u> Skim: 673, 689-693
Class 17	Read: 696-708 Skim: 708-714
Class 18	Read: 714-722, 742-751 Skim 733-739
Class 19	Read: 752-756, 758-772 Skim: 756-759
Class 20	Read: 786-797; <u>Ichiban Records v. Rap-a-lot</u> Skim: 784-786
Class 21	Read: 819-822, 824-830, 841-849 Skim: 815-819, 836-841, 849-851
Class 22	<u>***FINAL EXAM REVIEW***</u> Read: 851-856, 859-869 Skim: 856-859,
Class 23	Read: 874-880 Skim: 869-874
Class 24	Read: 887-891, 908-918
Class 25	Read: 919-923, 925-937 Skim: 923-925
Class 26	Read: 948-951, 954-967 Skim: 951-954
Class 27	Read: 973-987; Conflicts Article Skim: 987-993