

Internet Law

University of Houston Law Center
Anna Raimer, Adjunct Professor
Fall 2022 Tuesdays,
5:30-7:30 p.m.

SYLLABUS

A. BRIEF SUMMARY OF COURSE

This course will offer a survey of legal issues arising from the rapid growth of the Internet and other on-line communications. The focus will be on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights on the Internet, including copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets. The course will also include discussion on jurisdictional issues, free speech, data privacy, electronic transactions, and computer crime. The goal is to provide you with a practical overview of Internet law that will prepare you to address issues pertaining to this area of law.

B. REQUIRED TEXT

Professor Eric Goldman's *Internet Law: Cases and Materials* (2021 edition)

- * DRM-free PDF: <https://ericgoldman.gumroad.com/l/EoIAN>
- * Printed book: <https://www.amazon.com/Internet-Law-Cases-Materials2021/dp/B09BGM1M58> (students who buy the hard copy can email a copy of their receipt to egoldman@gmail.com for a free PDF to go with the hard copy)
- * Kindle version: https://www.amazon.com/Internet-Law-Cases-Materials2021-ebook-dp-B09BKBDMDMX/dp/B09BKBDMDMX/ref=mt_other?encoding=UTF8&me=&qid=

C. GRADING POLICY

Your course grade will primarily be determined by an in-class, open-book final exam. The exam will count for 90% of your grade. The remaining 10% of your grade will be based on class participation.

D. CONTACT INFORMATION AND OFFICE HOURS

I can be reached by email at aeraimer@jonesday.com and by phone at 512.632.7650. If you prefer to discuss by phone, please first make an appointment via email. All emails should include "UHLC Internet Law" in the subject line.

E. COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)

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) 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).

F. RECORDING OF CLASS

Students may not record all or part of class, livestream all or part of class, or make/distribute screen captures, without advanced written consent. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the [Center for Students with DisABILITIES](#). If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform. Classes may be recorded by me, but such recordings are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without my prior written approval. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings will result in a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office and may result in disciplinary action.

G. SYLLABUS CHANGES

Please note that I may need to make modifications to the course syllabus and may do so at any time. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through email.

H. CLASS SCHEDULE

| Dates | Topics | Pages of Reading / Additional Cases |
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| Class 1 8/23/22 | Overview of Course and Intellectual Property Rights; Background on the Internet | pp. 1-28 |
| Class 2 8/30/22 | Copyrightability; Copyright Rights; Copyright Infringement; Defenses | pp. 121-142 |

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| Class 3 9/6/22 | Secondary Liability for Copyright Infringement; DMCA | pp. 143-191 |
| Class 4 9/13/22 | Trademark Rights; Trademark Infringement; Defenses | pp. 192-195, 211-235 |
| Class 5 9/20/22 | Contributory Trademark Infringement; False Advertising; Dilution | pp. 236-250 <i>Rosetta Stone Ltd. v. Google, Inc.</i> , 676 F.3d 144 (4th Cir. 2012) |
| Class 6 9/27/22 | Domain Name Registration and Enforcement; IP Issues in Social Media | pp. 196-210 <i>Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. v. Tabari</i> , 610 F.3d 1171 (9th Cir. 2010) <i>Taubman Co. v. Webfeats</i> , 319 F.3d 770 (6th Cir. 2003) |
| Class 7 10/4/22 | Internet Jurisdiction (Guest Lecturer) | pp. 29-44 |
| Class 8 10/11/22 | Trade Secrets | <i>Religious Tech. Ctr. v. Lerma</i> , 908 F. Supp. 1362 (E.D. Va. 1995) <i>WeRide Corp. v. Huang</i> , 379 F. Supp. 3d 834 (N.D. Cal. 2019) <i>U.S. v. Jin</i> , 833 F. Supp. 2d 977 (N.D. Ill. 2012) |
| Class 9 10/18/22 | Data Privacy (Guest Lecturer) | pp. 354-383 |
| Class 10 10/25/22 | Internet Crime; CANSPAM Act; Fake News; Dark Web | pp. 91-116, 384-392 |
| Class 11 11/1/22 | Pornography; Defamation and Information Torts | pp. 251-342 |
| Class 12 11/8/22 | Blogs and Social Networking Sites | pp. 393-427 |
| Class 13 11/15/22 | Electronic Transactions and Licenses; Blockchain; Cryptocurrency; the Metaverse; and the Internet of Things | pp. 45-90 <i>Nguyen v. Barnes & Noble</i> , 763 F.3d 1772 (9th Cir. 2014) Handouts |

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| Class 14 11/22/22 | Antitrust; Use of the Internet in Legal Research; Review | <i>U.S. v. Microsoft Corp.</i> , 253 F.3d 34 (D.C. Cir. 2001) <i>U.S. v. Apple, Inc.</i> , 791 F.3d 290 (2d Cir. 2015) |
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