

UHLC Internet Law
University of Houston Law Center
Anna Raimer, Adjunct Professor
Fall 2026 (6233/14879)
Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

SYLLABUS

A. BRIEF SUMMARY OF COURSE AND LEARNING GOALS

This course will offer a survey of legal issues arising from the rapid growth of the Internet and online communications. The focus of the course 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 as covered by this syllabus.

B. REQUIRED TEXT

Professor Eric Goldman's *Internet Law: Cases and Materials* (2025 edition), which is available to purchase as follows:

- PDF (\$10): <http://ericgoldman.gumroad.com//djgzgh>
- Softcover (\$20): <https://amzn.to/3SQ7bvP>
- Hardcover (\$28): <https://amzn.to/4dKulq5>
- Kindle (\$9.99): <https://amzn.to/3M8YCc2> (a reminder that the Kindle screen numbering won't match the book page numbering)

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. MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES

The University of Houston has a number of resources to support students' mental health and overall wellness, including CoogsCARE and the UH Go App. UH

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers 24/7 mental health support for all students, addressing various concerns like stress, college adjustment and sadness. CAPS provides individual and couples counseling, group therapy, workshops and connections to other support services on and off-campus. For assistance visit uh.edu/caps, call 713-743-5454, or visit a Let's Talk location in-person or virtually. Let's Talk are daily, informal confidential consultations with CAPS therapists where no appointment or paperwork is needed.

The Student Health Center offers a Psychiatry Clinic for enrolled UH students. Call 713-743-5149 during clinic hours, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. to schedule an appointment.

Need Support Now? - If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call CAPS crisis support 24/7 at 713-743-5454, or the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: call or text 988, or chat 988lifeline.org.

The A.D. Bruce Religion Center offers spiritual support and a variety of programs centered on well-being.

The Center for Student Advocacy and Community (CSAC) is where you can go if you need help but don't know where to start. CSAC is a "home away from home" and serves as a resource hub to help you get the resources needed to support academic and personal success. Through its Cougar Cupboard, all students can get up to 30 lbs of FREE groceries a week. Additionally, CSAC provides 1:1 appointments to get you connected to on- and off-campus resources related to essential needs, safety and advocacy, and more. The Cougar Closet is a registered student organization advised by CSAC's office and offers free clothes to students so that all Coogs can feel good in their fit. They also host a series of cultural and community-based events that foster social connection and helps the cougar community come closer together. Visit the CSAC homepage or follow it on Instagram: [@uh_CSAC](https://www.instagram.com/uh_CSAC) and [@uhcupbrd](https://www.instagram.com/uhcupbrd).

F. TITLE IX/SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Per the UHS Sexual Misconduct Policy, your instructor is a "responsible employee" for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and state law and must report incidents of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, intimate partner violence, or stalking) about which they become aware to the Title IX office. Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. You can find more information about resources on the Title IX website at <https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/>.

G. REASONABLE ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS/AUXILIARY AIDS

The University of Houston is committed to providing an academic environment and educational programs that are accessible for its students. Any student with a disability who is experiencing barriers to learning, assessment or participation is encouraged to contact the Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center (Dart Center) to

learn more about academic accommodations and support that may be available to them. Students seeking academic accommodations will need to register with the Dart Center as soon as possible to ensure timely implementation of approved accommodations. Please contact the Dart Center by visiting the website: <https://uh.edu/accessibility/> calling (713) 743-5400, or emailing jdcenter@Central.UH.EDU.

H. WOMEN AND GENDER RESOURCE CENTER

The mission of the WGRC is to advance the University of Houston and promote the success of all students, faculty, and staff through educating, empowering, and supporting the UH community. The WGRC suite is open to you. Stop by the office for a study space, to take a break, grab a snack, or check out one of the WGRC programs or resources. Stop by Student Center South room B12 (Basement floor near Starbucks and down the hall from Creation Station) from 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday.

I. 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 Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center. 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. 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.

J. SYLLABUS CHANGES

Please note that this syllabus may be updated at any time. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through email.

K. HONOR CODE

The UHLC Honor Code applies to all aspects of this course. You are responsible for knowing all Honor Code provisions and for complying with the Honor Code. Please inquire if you have any questions regarding how the Honor Code's provisions apply to specific activities or situations related to this course. Your continuing enrollment in this course is deemed to be a pledge by you under the Honor Code to comply with the Honor Code in relation to this course and to comply with the instructions in the course syllabus.

L. AI GENERATED TEXT

The software technology known as artificial intelligence has expanded its capability to generate text (AI Generated Text). Examples of the technology include what are known as "generative" large language models (LLMs), and a specific implementation what is well known in the general public is ChatGPT. These systems

can generate text in response to prompts and/or input of other text/documents/code/images. The output, the AI Generated Text, appears to have human mimicking “intelligence” and is thus potentially usable as a substitute for written work product one might generate themselves. AI Generated Text can include computer code or programs as well as human language content.

Your continuing enrollment in this course is deemed to be a pledge by you under the Honor Code to not prompt, generate, obtain, read, or use any AI Generated Text in relation to any activity or assessment in this course. This applies to AI Generated Text from yourself or others. This pledge includes that your assessment work product in the course is without any contribution from AI Generated Text. This specifically extends to the plagiarism policy and unauthorized aid/materials parts of the Honor Code: AI Generated Text will be treated as from another/other in applying the plagiarism policy to this course. The term “assessment” means any work product generated for this course that is submitted to the instructor or presented in a class session, regardless of whether it is graded content or not. Assessments include final exams. AI Generated Text may not be used in the development or drafting of any assessments created by you in a non proctored environment, such as a “take home” final examination unless specified as an exception below. The parts of the Honor Code that refer to unauthorized materials or aid are specifically prohibited from any use of AI Generated Text in this course unless specified as an exception below.

The following activities are exceptions to the immediately preceding paragraph; the intent of these exceptions is to allow use of AI Generated Text for specifically and narrowly defined activities in relation to this course:

- Creating content for an outline that you use to summarize the course content;
- “Conversing” with the AI Generated Text software system to create hypotheticals to better understand course content, alone or with others; and
- Using such platforms to better understand the copyright law implications of this technology.

M. CLASS SCHEDULE

Dates	Topics	Pages of Reading / Additional Cases
8/24/26	Overview of Course and Intellectual Property Rights; Background on the Internet	I. What Is the Internet? Who Regulates It? pp. 1-31
8/31/26	Copyrightability; Copyright Rights; Copyright Infringement; Generative AI	V. Copyright pp. 119-124, 131-162

Dates	Topics	Pages of Reading / Additional Cases
9/14/26	DMCA; Fair Use and Other Defenses to Copyright Infringement	V. Copyright pp. 125-131, 163-200
9/21/26	Trademark Rights; Trademark Infringement	VI. Trademarks pp. 201-204, 220-245
9/28/26	Secondary Liability for Trademark Infringement; Dilution; False Advertising; Defenses to Lanham Act Claims	VI. Trademarks pp. 246-260 <i>Rosetta Stone Ltd. v. Google, Inc.</i> , 676 F.3d 144 (4th Cir. 2012)
10/5/26	Domain Name Registration and Enforcement; ACPA	VI. Trademarks and Domain Names pp. 205-219 <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)
10/12/26	Social Media; IP Issues in Social Media; the Metaverse; and the Internet of Things	XI. Social Media pp. 399-409
10/19/26	Electronic Transactions; Spam; Blockchain; Cryptocurrency; NFTs	III. Contracts pp. 42-104 X. Spam p. 398
10/26/26	Misappropriation of Trade Secrets; Internet Crime; Dark Web	IV. Trespass/Computer Fraud & Abuse Act pp. 105-118 <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)
11/2/26	Internet Jurisdiction	II. Jurisdiction pp. 32-41
11/9/26	First Amendment Issues	VII. Content Regulation and Child Safety pp. 261-303
11/16/26	Defamation and Information Torts	VIII. Defamation and Information Torts 304-371
11/23/26	Data Privacy	IX. Privacy pp. 328-352
11/30/26	Hot Topics Discussion Review/Questions	