**University of Denver Sturm College of Law**

**Property;
Fall 2023**

**Prof. Annecoos Wiersema**

**awiersema@law.du.edu**

**Syllabus**

**This is a template based on a syllabus for property; you should adjust for your own needs.**

**Please note that pursuant to ABA, University of Denver, and Sturm College of Law requirements, your syllabus must include information on the following:**

* **Assignments**
* **Course Materials**
* **Office hours and availability**
* **Disability accommodations. (Required University of Denver language is below)**
* **Learning Outcomes**
* **Class Attendance**
* **Formative and Summative Assessment**
* **Grading**

**Examples are provided below. Additional information about these requirements can be found on the Faculty Resources web page: https://www.law.du.edu/resources/faculty-resources**

**Classes:**

* Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10:30-11:40am; Room 165.

**Office Hours and Contact:**

* I will hold office hours at the following times:
* I will also hold drop-in office hours over Zoom at [this link] below at the following times:
* If you need to talk at a different day or time, please email me.
* The best way to reach me is through my law school email address (not Canvas): awiersema@law.du.edu

**Course Materials:**

* Singer, Berger, Davidson, and Peñalver, *Property Law: Rules, Policies, and Practices*, 7th Edition, 2017, Aspen, ISBN: 9781454881797 (Casebook). You can, if you want, buy a used copy of this book.
* Linda H. Edwards, *Estates in Land and Future Interests: A Step by Step Guide*, 5th Edition, 2017, Aspen, ISBN: 9781454886389 (Edwards). You can, if you want, buy a used copy of this book.
* Any handouts that form part of the required readings will be posted on Canvas under the relevant module. If you have difficulty downloading any of the handouts, please let me know.

**Class Participation and Attendance:**

* I expect you to attend class, be on time, and come having read the assigned material and prepared to discuss it. I will call on people during class – both those in-person and those who are participating on zoom. You have 2 passes.
* Absences for significant religious will be treated as excused absences provided you contact me ahead of the class(es) where possible.
* I will keep track of both attendance and participation and reserve the right to sanction a persistent failure to meet these expectations of attendance, preparation, and participation by reduction in course grade, by exclusion from the course or final exam, or by failure of the class. You must attend at least 80% of the classes.

**Class Recordings:**

* If you cannot attend class for the following reasons, please notify me.
* To request a recording of the class, please complete this petition with the Office of Student Affairs: <https://udenver.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9HTXiCupyEEBOoC>
* There is no option to zoom into the class synchronously unless you have an accommodation approved by the University of Denver’s Disability Services Program.

**Grading and Exam:**

* [Add information about how students will be assessed, clarifying participation, and the relative weight of various assessments during the semester.]

**Honor Code:**

* You are bound by the Sturm College of Law Honor Code, the University of Denver Honor Code, and applicable University of Denver and Sturm College of Law policies and procedures.

**Disabilities/Medical Issues:**

* If you have a disability/medical issue protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and need to request accommodations, please visit the Disability Services Program (DSP) website at <https://studentaffairs.du.edu/disability-services-program>.

**Learning Goals:**

* The ultimate goal of this course is that you will gain an understanding of the core doctrines of property law and emerge with the ability to apply those doctrines to new facts. In addition, working with property law, you will gain core skills involved in being an effective lawyer. Broken down, the goals for this course are as follows:
	+ Understand core property law doctrines;
	+ Understand the theories and policies that inform property law;
	+ Understand how theory and policy informs property law doctrine;
	+ Understand the hierarchy of legal sources within the United States;
	+ Be able to construct arguments on both sides of an issue or legal problem;
	+ Be able to identify the applicable law for a property law problem, explain the law, and apply the law to the facts with analysis that addresses all the possible arguments.

**Achieving the Learning Goals:**

* The following elements of the class are designed to help you achieve the learning goals for the course:
* Reading case law, statutes, and supplementary material;
* Analyzing case law during class to understand the reasoning behind the outcome of a case and relevance of the facts;
* Synthesizing the reading material to be able to construct an overview of the law, with rules and explanations;
* Applying the law to new fact patterns during class and in preparation for the exam;
* Drawing on theory and policy to supplement application of the law to new fact patterns;
* Completing the required written assignment described below.

**Written Assignment:**

* You will have one required written assignment, a written answer to a hypothetical that I will give you partway through the semester. You will be required to write an answer and submit it within the deadline I give you, and you will be required to meet with me to go over it. The assignment is ungraded and provides an opportunity for me to give you feedback. However, even though it is ungraded, failure to complete the assignment within the deadline and failure to sign up for a meeting and meet with me will result in a deduction of your course grade. The amount of potential deduction for failure to complete the assignment will be specified at the time the assignment is given.

**Grading and Exam:**

* Your final grade will be based on a 3.5 hour exam. I will distribute sample exams questions during the semester.

**Class Assignments**

[Add here class assignments]