

# CHARLES H. STEEN

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## UTA Course Syllabus **Law & Economics** **Econ 3305 Section 001**

**Spring 2010**

- Class Meetings:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 to 9:50 p.m., Room COBA 239
- UTA Office and Hours:** COBA 312, Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:50 to 10:50 p.m., or by appointment.
- Course Prerequisites:** Econ 2306, or instructor permission.
- Required Reading s:** *Legal Environment of Business*, Roger E. Meiners, et al., South-Western College Publishing; 10th edition ; ISBN: 0324654367 and ISBN 13: 9780324654363; and R. Coase, The Problem of Social Cost, 3 J. Law & Econ. 1 (1960) (available on-line from many sources).
- Course Description:** An introduction to the economics of law and legal institutions, including property rights, the common law of contracts and torts, government regulation, and securities.
- Course Learning Goals:** Part 1: Elements of Law and the Judicial Process; Part 2: Elements of Traditional Business Law; Part 3: the Legal Environment of Business.
- Attendance:** Students are expected to attend each class, and to come to each class with their reading completed. Students who miss a class are responsible for securing any and all coursework missed.
- Quizzes:** Students are strongly encouraged to work the chapter problems, and to take the online quizzes found on the text's companion site (*see* <http://tinyurl.com/yf76ur8>).

**Tentative Lecture/Topic Schedule (course content):**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Reading/Comments</b>
January	19	Chapter 1
January	25	Chapter 2
February	1	Chapter 3
February	8	Chapter 4
February	15	Chapter 5
February	22	Chapter 6
March	1	Chapter 7, 8 (begin)
March	8	Chapter 8, 9 (and review for mid-term)
<b>March</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
March	15	Spring Break
March	22	Chapter 10
March	29	Chapter 13
April	5	Chapter 14
April	12	Chapter 15
April	19	Chapter 20 (overview only), and 21 (overview only)
April	26	Lecture Material
May	3	Lecture Material and Course Review
<b>May</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Final Exam 8:15-10:45 p.m.</b>

**Examinations:** The course will be graded based on **300 total points**. There will be one mid-term examination, in class, on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, plus the final examination on Monday, May 10, 2010. Both exams will be multiple choice. **The final exam is comprehensive. The mid-term counts for 100 points, and the final examination counts for 200 points.** There will be no make up for the mid-term examination. If you do not take the mid-term, for whatever reason, you may take the final exam alone for your whole course grade, although there will be an automatic penalty of 15 points for taking this route, making a perfect final exam worth 285 points. The only way to avoid this penalty is to have an acceptable excuse, which is very rare. Examples are: (1) a death in your immediate family; (2) a University sponsored athletic excursion; or (3) a serious, documented illness.

**My Law Practice:**

I am a trial lawyer. Among other things, this means I sometimes have to be in Court without much notice. I have scheduled my trials and hearings so as not to interfere with our lecture time. That said, if something comes up I will give you as much notice as I can. You are, of course,

welcome to come to Court as an observer any time I am there. I will let you know of anything interesting.

### **Americans With Disabilities Act:**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112 -- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans With Disabilities Act - (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodation" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22).

### **Student Support Services Available:**

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.