

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**Contracts I, Fall 2015**  
**T, Th 2:00-3:15**  
**Professor Jonathan Fineman**

**Contact Information**

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**Office Hours**

Office hours are from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. In addition, please feel free to speak with me after class or drop by my office whenever I am there. If you would like to schedule an appointment outside of office hours, please send me an email.

**Course Overview**

This course explores the basic principles of American contract law. Furthermore, we will examine changes in the law, including the contrast between classical and modern views of contract law. The primary sources used in our study will be: judicial decisions, statutes (principally the Uniform Commercial Code), the Restatement (Second) of Contracts, and scholarly writing.

**Required Texts**

Charles L. Knapp, Nathan M. Crystal & Harry G. Prince, *Problems in Contract Law: Cases and Materials* (7<sup>th</sup> ed. 2012). ISBN 9780735598225.

Charles L. Knapp, Nathan M. Crystal & Harry G. Prince, *Rules of Contract Law*. ISBN 9781454818564.

**Attendance and Class Participation**

All students are required to regularly attend class and participate in classroom discussion. I will circulate an attendance sheet at the beginning of each class. By placing your initials on the sheet, you represent that you are present for that class.

You will be permitted eight (8) absences. Pursuant to American Bar Association Rules, any student who is absent from class more than eight times must receive an "F."

I will randomly call on students throughout the semester. If you are not prepared to discuss the assigned material when called upon, I will consider you absent for that class.

Students have responsibility for maintaining a professional learning environment. While intellectual disagreements are expected and encouraged, classroom discussion at all times should be courteous and respectful.

**Grading**

This course will have a final exam that will count for 70% of the final grade.

At the end of each chapter there will be a multiple-choice quiz. Together, these quizzes will count for 15% of the final grade.

The final exam and all quizzes will be limited open book; you will be allowed to refer to the course textbooks and any notes that you have prepared yourself or with other students, but not commercial outlines or hornbooks.

I will split you into small groups to work on problems and exercises throughout the semester. Together, these assignments will count for 10% of the final grade.

Finally, I will assign one individual assignment which will count for 5% of the final grade.

**Other Policies**

The course will comply with FAMU College of Law policies on discrimination, sexual harassment, accommodating religious obligations, and accommodating people with disabilities. Please refer to the student handbook for more information about these policies.

All students are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Student Code of Conduct. Please refer to the student handbook for more information about the code of conduct. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported as outlined in the handbook.

## Course Assignments

Page numbers refer to the textbook unless otherwise noted.

### Week 1

Introduction, pages 1-26; Mutual Assent, pages 31-48 (skip *Izadi*).

### Week 2

Mutual Assent, pages 54-62, 67-97 (skip *Petterson*).

### Week 3

Consideration, pages 97-113, 119-142 (skip *Dougherty*).

### Week 4

UCC Formation, pages 142-178.

### Week 5

UCC Formation, pages 178-188; Electronic Contracting, pages 188-208.

### Week 6

Promissory Estoppel, pages 209-217, 228-247 (skip *King* and problem 3-1).

### Week 7

Promissory Estoppel, pages 251-260, 266-276 (skip *James Baird* and *Berryman*).

### Week 8

Restitution, pages 276-311, *Realty Assoc. of Sedona v. Valley Nat'l Bank of Arizona*, 738 P.2d 1121, 153 Ariz. 514 (1986), pages 321-324 (skip *Mills* and *Webb*).

### Week 9

Statute of Frauds, pages 325-372.

### Week 10

Interpretation, pages 373-393, Parol Evidence Rule, pages 405-416 (skip *C&J Fertilizer*).

### Week 11

Parol Evidence Rule, pages 415-431, 439-456 (skip *Sherrodd*).

### Week 12

Implied Terms, pages 457-489.

### Week 13

Implied Terms, pages 489-499, 510-517 (skip *Donahue* and section on warranties).

### Week 14

Catch up and/or review.