LAW 520 Courses

LAW520B: LEGAL BASICS FOR ENTREPRENEURS & STARTUPS

This course provides an overview of issues that typically arise in the legal representation of entrepreneurial ventures and early-stage businesses. Areas covered will include the role of the lawyer and types of engagements; choice of entity; governance; capital raising; creditors’ rights and bankruptcy; typical operational contracts; intellectual property issues; risk management; and strategic transactions such as IPOs, mergers, and acquisitions. The objective is to provide students an introduction to various legal issues they are likely to encounter in the representation of entrepreneurs and start-up businesses.

LAW520H: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

This course is the first law school course of its kind in the United States. The market for artificial intelligence systems and uses (collectively, AI) is slated to be in the trillions by 2030. Virtually every person on the planet is exposed to and impacted by AI, or soon will be. Systemic racism and other forms of discrimination are AI-mediated, and informational injuries and other harms result. Despite these facts, there is very little AI regulation in the United States and none at the federal level. In addition, existing laws that should protect people and communities do not do so, in part, because their application to AI-mediated harms is unclear or even impossible.

Today, there is a tremendous amount of public and policy debate about AI and the need for regulation to protect people, apply equal justice and the rule of law to AI, and to encourage innovation and trustworthy markets. State and foreign legislatures are moving forward. Federal legislative and regulatory proposals are being explored and announced. Now is the time to learn about AI technologies and AI systems and uses as subjects for the law. Now is the time to get engaged. This is the Artificial Intelligence Age, and law students who prepare themselves will find opportunities for excellent employment and, more, meaningful opportunities to contribute to the ongoing AI debates and to the creation of new and vital laws.

This course introduces you to and engages you directly in the study of artificial intelligence, legislation and regulation, and social justice learning and work through the foundational lenses of civil rights and consumer protection. With diligence and efforts and fostering their growth mindsets, students will onboard a demonstrable knowledge of AI systems, including machine learning, big data, data curation, and other aspects of such systems. Readings, AI use case research and short writings, group work, class discussions, and other activities among and between Professor Loza de Siles and class members are regular feature of the course. Those activities help students to: (1) learn and practice lifelong strategies for meeting the professional ethical duties, including as to competence and diligence regarding AI and other technologies; (2) elevate and competitively differentiate themselves during law school and throughout their
careers; and (3) make meaningful and impactful contributions toward a greater realization of justice and equal protection for all in today’s increasingly algorithmic society.

**LAW520J: THE PUBLIC TRUST UNDER THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION**

The Hawai‘i Constitution provides that all public natural resources, including land, water, and air, are held in trust by the State for the benefit of Hawai‘i’s people and for future generations. As a trustee, the State and its political subdivisions are required to conserve and protect Hawai‘i's natural beauty and public natural resources. This course explores the dynamic case law of Hawai‘i that has addressed the purposes of the public trust doctrine, the affirmative duties placed upon the State to protect our natural resources, and the procedural safeguards agencies are to employ when making decisions affecting public resources.

Also reviewed in this course is Hawai‘i's constitutional provision establishing each person’s right to a clean and healthful environment, which together with the public trust doctrine, forms the bases of a lawsuit filed by youth plaintiffs in Hawai‘i asserting that the State has insufficiently reduced greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels in its transportation system.

**LAW520M: EXTENDED BAR REVIEW I**

This hybrid course is designed to provide a review of substantive law in three areas that are heavily tested on the bar exam—Civil Procedure, Criminal Law & Criminal Procedure, and Real Property—and to develop the skills necessary to apply the substantive law to answer bar exam multiple choice and essay questions. This course will also introduce students to the Multistate Performance Test.

The course is intended to assist students in: (1) Developing a strategy for answering multiple choice questions as tested on the bar exam; (2) Critically reading and writing essays and the multistate performance test; and (3) Reviewing the substantive law that many students have not studied since their first year of law school. To achieve the objective of not only passing this class but also passing the bar exam (your ultimate goal to practice as a lawyer), you must commit yourself to completing the course assignments in a timely and satisfactory manner and participating in class. To measure your success, and your ability to pass the bar exam, you will have assignments each week consisting of Modules that include reading, learning checks, multiple choice questions, essays, and performance tests. **This course is asynchronous (except for exams as stated below), so while there is no set date for the class, you must complete the Modules in the week they are assigned.**

You will also have a midterm and final exam, each comprised of multiple choice and bar essay questions. **The Midterm and Final Exams are delivered live and in person at the Law School.**

**LAW520Q: ISLAND LEADERSHIP LAB**

Increasingly, law school graduates find themselves exercising leadership outside law firms and the courtroom. Richardson Law has several generations of graduates who have founded businesses, become non-profit executives, been elected to political office, and exercise leadership in multiple roles across society. Knowing how to lead is a different skill than knowing the black letter law. In this unique seminar, Dean Camille Nelson will co-lead an immersive leadership experience grounded in a curriculum specifically developed to prepare next-generation island leaders for success. The seminar will feature candid conversations and case
studies with established leaders in the field. The seminar will include contemporary leadership issues around equity and justice and will feature small group interactions that build leadership skills and share tools that will be used across entire careers. (Limited enrollment)

**LAW520S: INTRO TO SPORTS AND MEDIA LAW**

A truly unique course opportunity to get an insider view of the media and sports law world you see every day on your TV and in your feed. We will focus on learning about the massive business of professional sports, TV distribution, digital media, music, and live entertainment. Taught by a seasoned general counsel who headed the legal departments of multi-billion-dollar sports leagues during their times of greatest growth and change, you will learn practical skills and instincts in the context of sports and media that ultimately apply to legal affairs departments across all businesses, including branding, sales, negotiations, leverage, drafting, government affairs, IP, social media, mergers and acquisitions, litigation prevention, and corporate governance considerations.

The course will also cover an intro content creation in TV, film, music, and live event production from start to finish, plus important concepts in sports business such as stakeholder ecosystems, league governance, club/team operation, athlete representation, collective bargaining, NIL developments, venues/stadiums, global media distribution, sponsorships, marketing, and advertising, as well as the ways in which the office of legal affairs helps companies of all types monetize their brands and create revenue.

**LAW520T: SPACE LAW**

Space law introduces students to the international and domestic public and private law governing the exploration, utility, and commercialization of outer space and celestial bodies. Public international law and/or international environmental law are not required prerequisite courses but are highly recommended to help advance your understanding of the space industry and law. Those students unfamiliar with public international law will be expected to read a recommended bibliography to help you develop a foundational understanding of international law and participate in class. Students should expect to complete several short, formal writing assignments and presentations, along with a final project.

**Additional Course Information**

**LAW 515: CHAPTER 11 BUSINESS REORGANIZATIONS**

This course examines the rights and remedies available to a failing business and its creditors when the business seeks to reorganize its business and financial affairs under chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy code. The course will cover current industry trends in restructuring relating to health care, real estate, crypto, airlines, and mass torts. We will also touch on substantive "hot topics," including cross-border matters, "toggle" plans, DIP to reorganized equity conversions, and enforceability of charter/operating agreement forfeiture provisions. The course structure tracks the anatomy of a chapter 11 case from pre-filing to confirmation and emergence using pleadings and no textbook! (LAW 554 Secured Transactions and/or LAW 562 Debtors & Creditors are recommended prerequisites, but not required).
LAW584: CIVIL RIGHTS LITIGATION

Doing well while doing good. This short course will cover evaluating cases, legal traps, fee shifting to winning plaintiffs, qualified immunity, police brutality, free speech and its limits, failure to protect in prisons, and failure to treat prisoners’ medical needs. The course is being taught by an attorney with 43 years of experience including arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court on a First Amendment case.