

ITMG281

Course Summary

Course : ITMG281 **Title :** Law, Privacy and Digital Data

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description:

This course examines how laws have had to change to account for the expanded realm of crimes in the digital age. Despite legislation intended to combat the problem of identity theft, it continues to be one of the most common crimes associated with the Internet. Sexual harassment complaints can now be triggered simply by an employee forwarding a questionable email to fellow employees. Some regard intellectual property rights violations to be innocent flattery, while others consider them to be violations that must be stamped out by force of law. Plagiarism by students who pull content from the Internet is a growing problem. Stalkers can log into their victims lives and gain access to highly confidential medical and financial information, and even sabotage their victim's reputations. This course examines current literature on such topics as HIPPA, FERPA, COPPA, Sarbanes - Oxley and other current legislation impacting legal disputes.

Course Scope:

This course will examine how laws have had to change to account for the new possibilities of the digital age. Primarily because of, but not entirely due to, the Internet, crimes such as identity theft have become more common than in past. Sexual harassment complaints can now be triggered simply by an employee's unwisely forwarding the wrong email to fellow employees. Intellectual property rights violations are considered by some to be innocent flattery, and by others to be violations that must be stamped out by force of law. Plagiarism by students who pull content from the Internet is a growing problem. Stalkers can log into their victims lives and gain access to highly confidential details, medical and financial records, and even sabotage their victim's reputations. These issues, and more, will be addressed by an examination of the current literature on these topics.

Objectives

The successful student will fulfill the following learning objectives:

1. Analyze key cases in the American courts and how they illustrate various legal concepts.

2. Categorize the various taxation issues created by the Internet and apply case law to determining appropriate taxes in various situations.
 3. Apply the laws for trade secrets, trademarks, and copyrights to various situations involving the Internet and e-commerce.
 4. Analyze the issues surrounding jurisdiction that have been created by the Internet and e-commerce. Examine the issues surrounding torts and product liability, created by the Internet and e-commerce, according to the terms of a given contract.
 5. Compare and contrast various ways of raising capital for an e-business. Analyze the issues surrounding securities that have been created by the Internet and e-commerce.
 6. Summarize the facts of a case and determine if antitrust law has been violated.
 7. Evaluate the facts of a case and determine if hiring and termination laws have been violated.
 8. Distinguish the numerous types of computer crime.
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Outline

Week 1:

Topic

Overview of Cyberlaw and E-Commerce Business Models

Learning Objectives

1, 2

Readings

Ferrera, Ch 1

Assignments

Week 1 Discussion

Assignment #1

Week 2:

Topic

Innovations & Inventions

Learning Objectives

1, 3, 4

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 2-3

Assignments

Week 2 Discussion

Term Paper Outline

Assignment #2

Week 3:

Topic

Intellectual Property & Copyrights

Learning Objectives

1, 5

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 4-5

Assignments

Week 3 Discussion

Assignment #3

Week 4:

Topic

Patents & Trade Secrets

Learning Objectives

1, 6, 7

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 6-7

Assignments

Week 4 Discussion

Assignment #4

Week 5:

Topic

Dispute Resolution & Contracts

Learning Objectives

1, 8

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 8-9

Assignments

Week 5 Discussion

Assignment #5

Week 6:

Topic

Employment Relations & Regulations

Learning Objectives

1, 9, 10, 11

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 10-11

Assignments

Week 6 Discussion

Assignment #6

Week 7:

Topic

Privacy & Computer Crime

Learning Objectives

1, 12, 13

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 12-13

Assignments

Week 7 Discussion

Week 8:

Topic

International Cyberlaw

Learning Objectives 1,
14

Readings

Ferrara, Ch 14

Assignments

Week 8 Discussion

Assignment #8

Term Paper

Evaluation

Submit your Weekly assignments to your student folder, and make sure you select the correct assignment association.

Please name your submitted document with your last name as the first part of the file name. For example, Assignment

#1 could be named, Lastname_Assignment1.doc. Discussion assignments only need to be posted on the within the Discussion Board. It is not necessary to submit a word document containing your discussion posts. Simply submit your discussion postings using the submit button and I will review them and update your assignment grade accordingly.

Assignment Requirements

This course has a strong writing component. The goal is to organize, synthesize, and demonstrate your comprehension of core concepts investigated during this course by applying a combination of the terms, concepts, and details you have learned in a systematic way. As important as "the details" that you analyze and arrange in your writing, however, are the conclusions you draw from those details, and your predictions, responses to, and ultimate interpretation of those details.

Written Assignments

- Each week assignment instructions can be found under the Assignments. For example, Assignment #1 can be found under the Assignment #1 within Assignments.
- Complete the assignment in a Word document with your last name as part of the file name.
- After answering the questions, save and upload the document in the **Assignments** section of the e-classroom.
- All assignments must be written using APA guidelines.

Assignments are due by Sunday 11:59 p.m. ET of the week in which they are assigned. If you need an extension, please contact me via email to discuss your circumstances.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit assignments by the due dates listed in the classroom. Late assignments, including but not limited to Assignments, Discussions, posts and responses, quizzes, and exams, may or may not be accepted after the course end date. Submitting an assignment after the due date may result in a penalty of up to 10% of the grade per day late, not to exceed a maximum 50% of the grade. The amount of the penalty is at the faculty member's discretion. Faculty recognize that students have limited time and may be more flexible if potential delays are communicated ahead of time.*

****Students with DSA accommodations may have different late policies applied. For more information regarding our DSA services, please contact DSA@apus.edu.**

Weekly discussion Activities:

Each week you will be required to participate in the weekly discussions. Each discussion activity will consist of one or more threads/topics. The assignments may involve discussion or debate. The questions are designed to allow you to apply what you have learned in the chapter to real-world scenarios or hypothetical, but realistic, situations. Post your answers to the questions in each thread prior to **11:59 p.m. ET on Wednesday at 11:59 pm**. Please do not be late with this post because your classmates will be relying on you to post on time to give them a post to respond to later in the week. A discussion period will then ensue from Thursday through Sunday. Read your classmates' posts and post at least **two** follow-up messages to your classmates' posts in **each** thread prior to **11:59 p.m. ET on**

Sunday. Some threads may require you to post more than two replies, so make sure you read the directions carefully. Of course, you may always post more than the required number of replies and you are encouraged to continue participating in the discussion even after you have met the minimum number of posts required. Your discussion participation will be considered at the end of the semester if your grade is on the borderline. Borderline grades will only be rounded up if you have exceeded the minimum requirements in the discussions and shown insight and critical thinking in all of your posts and replies. Your follow-up posts must contain substance and should add additional insight to your classmates' opinions or challenge their opinions. It is never sufficient to simply say, "I agree with what you wrote" or "I really liked your post." You must use your follow-up posts as a way to continue the discussion at a high level of discourse. Be sure to read the follow-up posts to your own posts and reply to any questions or requests for clarification, including questions posted by your professor. You will be expected to log into the classroom several times each week to participate in the class discussion. Postings are a large part of your grade and I will be looking for quality and depth in your postings.

Term Paper:

You will be required to write one term paper this semester. The specifications are as follows:

You must write a 4-6 page term paper on a cyberlaw of your choice. This project provides you with an opportunity to increase and demonstrate your understanding of cyberlaw theory and practice. The paper will be broken down into three parts. You will need to pick a law(s) that you find interesting. The paper must be 4-6 pages detailing the below questions.

Before completing the below steps, please be sure to have the law that you are researching approved.

- a. Thesis: What are you researching (This is where you will need to choose a specific law)? What is the position that you want to take (Do you agree or disagree with the current way in which the law is written)?
- b. Background: What is the existing point you want to challenge or support, and how did the law get to be that way?

Now take a look at the inadequacies and adequacies of the law you are researching.

- a. Inadequacies: What are the deficiencies in the current way of doing things, or what are the weaknesses in the argument you are attacking?
- b. Adequacies: How will we have a better situation, mode of understanding or clarity of procedure with what you are advocating? In short, how can the law be improved (or not diminished)? (This is where you will have the chance to change the law with your own ideas of how it should be improved).
- c. Conclusion: Why should this new proposal of the law be adopted?

A detailed implementation plan is NOT expected, but you should provide enough specifics for practical follow-up. *In making the recommendations, you are expected to draw on theories, concepts and readings.* When writing the term paper you must have a minimum of 3-5 outside sources cited and referenced in the paper.

1. Your term paper outline is due at the end of Week 2.
2. Your term paper is due at the end of Week 8.
3. In addition to the 4-6 pages of the paper itself, you must include a title page and a reference page.
4. Your title page must include the title of your paper, the date, the name of the course, your name, and your instructor's name.
5. Your reference page must be written in APA citation style, Arial or Time New Roman styles, 12-point font.
6. Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side, and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations.
7. Your paper must be in your own words, representing original work. Paraphrases of others' work must include attributions to the authors. **Limit quotations to an average of no more than 3-5 lines, and use quotations sparingly.** It is always better to write the information in your own words than to directly quote.
8. Papers will automatically run through Turnitin upon submission. PAPERS WITH AN ORIGINALITY REPORT FROM TURNITIN OVER 15% OR OVER 2% FROM A SINGLE SOURCE WILL RESULT IN A SIGNIFICANT POINT REDUCTION.
9. PER THE STUDENT HANDBOOK, YOU CANNOT SUBMIT A PAPER THAT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED IN ANOTHER COURSE.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Discussions	32.00 %
Discussion Week 1	4.00 %
Discussion Week 2	4.00 %
Discussion Week 3	4.00 %
Discussion Week 4	4.00 %
Discussion Week 5	4.00 %
Discussion Week 6	4.00 %
Discussion Week 7	4.00 %
Discussion Week 8	4.00 %
Assignments	40.00 %

Assignment #1	5.00 %
Assignment #2	5.00 %
Assignment #3	5.00 %
Assignment #4	5.00 %
Assignment #5	5.00 %
Assignment #6	5.00 %
Assignment #7	5.00 %
Assignment #8	5.00 %
Term Paper Outline	3.00 %
Term Paper Outline	3.00 %
Term Paper	25.00 %
Term Paper	25.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Cyberlaw : Text and Cases, 3rd ed.- the VitalSource e-book is provided inside the classroom; hard copy not available from the APUS Bookstore, please try other sources.

Author: Ferrera

Publication Info: VS-Cengage

ISBN: 9780324399721

Bagby, J. (2002). *Cyberlaw handbook for ecommerce* . Mason, OH: South-Western College.

Halbert, T., & Inquilli, E. (2004). *Cyberethics*. Mason, OH: South-Western College.

Helewitz, J. (2003). *Cyberlaw : legal principles of emerging technologies* . Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- **Attention Please:** Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Turn It In

- Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc) See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Communicating on the Discussion

- Discussions are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting time after which the instructor will grade comments, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the discussion. The purpose of the discussions is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.

- “Substantive” means comments that contribute something new and hopefully important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says “I agree” is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.

Identity Verification & Live Proctoring

- Faculty may require students to provide proof of identity when submitting assignments or completing assessments in this course. Verification may be in the form of a photograph and/or video of the student's face together with a valid photo ID, depending on the assignment format.
 - Faculty may require live proctoring when completing assessments in this course. Proctoring may include identity verification and continuous monitoring of the student by webcam and microphone during testing.
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University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.