

CONTRACTS
Professor Jacobs
Fall 2008

The text. Burton, Principles of Contract Law (3d edition), supplemented by Burton & Eisenberg, Contract Law: Selected Source Materials

The Purposes of the Class

Like all First Year courses, Contracts is meant to provide some insight into legal method – how cases are decided and why – as well as into the substance of the law – what the rules and cases seem to require. But in addition, this class is meant to introduce you to some basic principles of economics and economic reasoning, and to the ethical and policy questions raised by those principles. Finally, it is hoped that by preparing for and participating meaningfully in class discussion, students will come to a better understanding of logical argument, and its role in law.

Reading Assignments

The following pages refer to the Burton casebook. When the book cites provisions of the Restatement 2d of Contracts or the UCC, please look them up in supplement and read them carefully. The assignments are short, by design, so that you can be well prepared to discuss them in class.

Week 1	1-17; 17-38;
Week 2	38-58; 59-74;
Week 3	75-95; 95-110;
Week 4	110-127; 128-144;
Week 5	144-161; 161-180;
Week 6	186-200; 201-219;
Week 7	219-236; 236-254;
Week 8	254-272; 273-289;
Week 9	289-305; 309-324;
Week 10	324-342; 343-358;
Week 11	359-373; 374-392;
Week 12	393-411; 411-429;

Week 13 429-447; 447-462;

Week 14 Catch-up; Review

Examination and grading

There will be an open-book take-home, final examination whose details I'll provide more fully as the time approaches. Your final grade will reflect your performance on the final exam as well as your attendance and the quality of your participation in class. I reserve the right to lower the grade of, and even to fail, anyone consistently absent or regularly unprepared.

Office Hours

My office is in room 744. My telephone extension is 2-8141. If my office door is open, you're welcome to come in and talk with me at any time, or by appointment. My regular office hours will be posted on my door.

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