THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
Baltimore, Maryland
Fall, 2014

COURSE NAME: LAW AND THE INTERNET, 660.311.01
Classroom: TBD
Time: Tuesdays, 6:15pm-9:00pm

INSTRUCTOR: Douglas S. Sandhaus, Attorney at Law, PO Box 3600, Baltimore, MD 21214. Phone: 410-370-1525. Fax: 443-836-0341. Email: doug@sandhauslaw.com

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, after class.

COURSE ASSISTANT: Matthew Delgrosso, matthew@jhu.edu

OFFICE HOURS: TBD

IMPORTANT NOTE: This syllabus was drafted based on an average class size of approximately 20 or more students. If any given class has fewer than 20 students, the reading material and course dates will not change, but the requirements of the class project may need to be adjusted accordingly.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Law and the Internet is designed for the student who is interested in either (a) a broad knowledge of law as it relates to the interaction between modern business and the Internet, or (b) a business-related career which requires working, in some fashion, in an online environment.

ISBN: 0-324-39972-3

COURSE OUTCOMES: Students will . . .

• Demonstrate an understanding of the general goals and objectives of cyberlaw in a global marketplace, in western civilization, and in the United States;
• Master a general and principled understanding of all aspects of cyberlaw, including jurisdictional law, intellectual property, contract law and tort law, as these relate to e-commerce;
• Demonstrate an understanding of legal issues that are unique to e-commerce;
• Understand the legal consequences of creating an e-commerce web site;
• Know how to reduce the liability exposure of an e-business;
• Recognize the areas of law on Internet reform as part of the public debate;
• Develop a competency level of legal issues that's useful in serving in a consulting capacity to an online business.
This GOOGLE SITE page IS THE CENTER OF YOUR UNIVERSE:

https://sites.google.com/site/internetlawstuff/home

The following web site is crucial for properly using citations in your project papers or any legal
writing:  www.law.cornell.edu/citation/

The following website displays audio and transcript examples of oral arguments before the U.S.
Supreme Court.  I STRONGLY recommend you take the time to listen to at least one of
these:  www.oyez.org/

ABET OUTCOMES:

   Ability to function on multidisciplinary teams
   Understanding of professional and ethical responsibility
   Ability to communicate effectively
   Recognition of the need for and an ability to engage in life-long learning
   Knowledge of contemporary issues

COURSE CONTENT:

September  2  Introduction/syllabus/course description, Chapters 1 (Introduction)
            and 8 (Jurisdiction)
          9  Chapter 8 (Jurisdiction, Litigation, ADR) and Library trip*
          16 Chapter 4 (Trademark)
              (ASSIGNMENT OF PROJECTS)
          23 Chapter 5 (Copyright)
              (NAPSTER CASE DUE)
          30 Chapters 5 and 9 (Contracts)
              (PROJECT FACT PATTERNS DUE)
              (PROJECT ROLES ASSIGNED)
October    7  Chapters 9 and 11 (Government Regulation)
          14 Chapter 11 and Midterm review
21 MIDTERM

28 From Online Readings (Virtual World Law)

November 4 Chapter 12 (Privacy)

11 Chapter 10 (Employment Relationships)

18 From Online Readings (Defamation and Obscenity)

25 **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

December 2 Chapter 13 (Security and Crime)
December 16 Final Exam

*September 9 will include instruction in the Library on advanced legal research. Details to be given in class.

**GRADING:** The final grade for this course will be based upon the following factors:

- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 20%
- Class Participation 30%
- Attendance 10%
- Team project 20%

No make-up midterm exam will be given. Should a student fail to participate in the scheduled midterm, s/he will receive zero (0) points for that test. In the event of illness or emergency properly documented by the student, the instructor may permit the preparation of a paper, in accordance with the specifications set by the instructor, to supplement the exam. The topic for the paper would be chosen by the student and the instructor.

**FORMAT:** This course utilizes lectures, case studies and problems. Students are required to read the assigned materials in advance of the class period in which the materials will be discussed. Students are advised to be familiar with the problems at the end of the chapter, as these may be discussed in class, and possibly appear on an examination. Students will be expected to participate in class discussions of the materials. Briefing cases and outlining the chapters will greatly assist in learning of materials.

**CHEATING:** Students found cheating on an exam will fail the course and will be reported to the appropriate authority.

**HONOR:** The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In
this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. Report any violations you witness to the instructor.

**ATTENDANCE:** Students are expected to attend all class sessions except in cases of emergency (E.g., illness, death in family), the advent of religious holidays (the observance of which requires restriction of daily activity), or when participating in official University functions (e.g., field trips or athletic events). In the case of absence for special personal reasons other than those mentioned above, it is the responsibility of the student to confer with the instructor about whether the absence is to be considered as excused. When determining whether to excuse the absence, the instructor may require documentary evidence as seems fit.

You can find more information about university misconduct policies on the web at these sites:

- For undergraduates: [http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/undergrad-students/student-life-policies/](http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/undergrad-students/student-life-policies/)
- For graduate students: [http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/grad-students/graduate-specific-policies/](http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/grad-students/graduate-specific-policies/)

**GRADING STANDARDS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>Commendable</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-86</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-83</td>
<td>Conscientious</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>Mediocre</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>Very Poor</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>Most Poor</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>00-59</td>
<td>Unacceptable</td>
<td>F</td>
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**Note:** Any assignments submitted in paper format, other than the mid-term and final exams, must be typed, and if multiple pages, must be stapled. Any papers submitted that are not typed or stapled will lose a full letter grade. This is cumulative for papers that are neither typed nor stapled.
DISCLAIMER: Please be advised that the course discussions and information, in and out of class, are not to be construed as legal advice. The professor does not have an attorney/client relationship with any student. Only your attorney can give you legal advice.

The instructor will not keep any papers or student work beyond the end of the semester following the final exam. All papers or student work still in the instructor’s possession at that time will be destroyed.