CE 404 Business and Intellectual Property Law for Engineers 3 Units

USC | SONNY ASTANI DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

ABET Course Syllabus

Course Information, Textbook and Supplementary Materials

Course Description:
Legal problems confronting the engineer in his professional environment and daily life. Survey of the legal system and how it operates. This class is specifically intended to satisfy the SITEC legal course requirement.

Elective for: BSCE

Prerequisites and Co-requisites: None

Required Textbooks:

Gideon's Trumpet, by Anthony Lewis, 1989 (paperback)
Make No Law, by Anthony Lewis, 1992 (paperback)

Reference: Handout materials distributed by instructor (copy fee TBD)

Topics Covered	Learning Outcomes
Fundamentals of law for engineers	Students will have a basic understanding of the principles of law that will face the modern engineering practitioner: 1. Improve and develop confidence in oral presentation skills. 2. Improve non-quantitative analytical and decision making processes. 3. Understand non-technical issues in the engineering and construction processes.
The nature, source and role of law in the society, and particularly the structure and function of the American legal system.	4. The development and operation of the American legal system. 5. The substantive law of business forms 6. The substantive law of intellectual property 7. The impact of the legal system upon the personal and professional lives of engineers.
Contract law	8. The substantive law of contracts
Liability law and torts	9. The substantive law of torts

Lecture and Lab Schedule

Lecture		Lab	
Sessions per Week	Duration per Session	Sessions per Week	Duration per Session
1	3 hours	n/a	

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Relation of Course Objectives to Program Outcomes

The Civil Engineering program is designed to teach beyond the technical content of the curriculum and prepare the students to utilize what they learn in a professional setting.

This course contributes to the program outcomes as outlined in the adjacent table.

Course Contribution to Program Outcomes (a-k)	✓ Key
f. An understanding of professional and ethical responsibility.	
g. An ability to communicate effectively.	
h. The broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global economic and environmental and societal context.	
i. Recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning.	
j. Knowledge of contemporary issues.	

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