

**Industrial Organization: Law and Economics**

Business Economics 427W

Section: D100

Term: 2011 Fall

Instructor: D. Allen

Discussion Topics:

This course uses economic theory to understand the general structure of law. It is not a law course. Specifically, it analyzes the economic logic of law, how alterations in laws influence the allocation of resources, and how general economic activity feedback and influence the law. In doing so it provides a theory of the legal regime. The course begins with a general discussion of economic reasoning and the concept of efficiency. It then examines the Coase Theorem in considerable detail. After these introductory foundations, we move on to cover the legal topics of property, contracts, family, torts, and crime. These topics should take the entire semester. If time permits we may briefly cover such topics as anti-trust and public enforcement.

Grading:

The distribution of grades will be as follows.

Participation

10%

Weekly

Written Assignments 15%

Midterm

15%

Term

Paper 30%

Final Exam 30%

Required Texts:

There is no text for this course. Most of the readings will be on-line (many will come from the Encyclopedia of Law and Economics), those that are not will be available in an envelope outside my door.

This is a W course, which means there is a very serious reading and writing component. Students will complete weekly writing assignments, as well as a term paper. Participation in weekly discussions is mandatory, and each student will lead at least one seminar.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: ECON 301. Students with credit for BUEC 495 cannot take this course for further credit. Writing.

Notes:

## **Industrial Organization: Law and Economics**

Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities at 778-782-3112 or csdo@sfu.ca

All students are expected to read and understand SFUs policies with regard to academic dishonesty (S 10.02 and S 10.03).

These policies are available at the following web addresses:

<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-02.html>

and <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-03.html>

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