

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ASIA  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND LAW**

\* \* \* \* \*

**LAW AND ECONOMICS (LAW/BA 416; 4286)  
FALL 2017 – 3 Credits**

Nicholas Mazik, LL.M., Doctor of Jurisprudence  
Class Hours: Wed. 5:00 pm-8:00 pm [Sept. 6, 13, 21, 27; Oct. 18, 25]  
E-mail: mazik\_n@auca.kg Office: 215  
Office Hours: T/TH 9:25 am – 10:40 am and by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

The law shapes the economy, and the economy shapes the law. This course will examine how legal decisions and regulations affect the economy. This course will also examine how laws can be economically efficient or inefficient in implementation. During the course students will learn about the history of economics from a Western and Eastern perspective, including such events as the First and Second Industrial Revolutions and globalization. The course will take both a practical and theoretical examination of such topics as property torts and criminal law, and the economic implications thereof. Class will be a mix of lecture, case and topic discussion.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of economics and its implication to legal systems and legal decisions. Students completing this course will have an understanding of the principal areas of law as applied to economics, including how law and economic decisions converge and diverge around the world.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Comprehend the basic foundation of law;
- Understand how legal decisions operate, not in a vacuum, but in the larger context of society;
- Understand how the law and economics interact with one another
- Improve upon legal reading and writing;
- Understand how law and economic decisions differ throughout the world;

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

1. Class sessions are a mixture of class discussion based on the reading assignments, lecture and interactive student-focused activities (presentations, case-study analysis, etc.). Students are expected to come to classes prepared and ready to discuss the assigned materials. Students may be called on at random to discuss the assigned materials, case or hypothetical, or to perform any other tasks in furtherance of the course objectives.
2. Class participation includes participation in class that shows the student's preparation for class through either the use of and/or reference to the materials assignment that the student was assigned to read or to prepare prior to class. Class participation also includes presentations as noted in the syllabus.
3. Class attendance is required. For each unexcused absence exceeding two (2) classes, students will receive a 5% deduction from the attendance and participation grade (up to - 20%).
4. Students will be on time for every class. Students regularly arriving late to any class will be marked as "absent" for that class period. For each student absence exceeding two (2) classes will receive a 5% deduction from the attendance and participation grade (up to - 20%).
5. Students will submit all written assignments and homework, if any on the "due date". The grade for late submissions will be deducted 10% for each day the assignment is late. After ten (10) days, students will be given a grade of "zero" (0) for the assignment.
6. The use of cell phones (talking, texting, etc.) during class is strictly prohibited. Students violating this policy will be given one (1) warning. A second violation of this policy will result in the student being counted absent for the class.
7. The use of any other electronic devices during class for any purpose not related to the furtherance of the class objectives is strictly prohibited. Students violating this policy will be given one (1) warning. A second violation of this policy will result in the student being counted absent for the class.
8. Students are expected to follow the AUCA ACADEMIC HONESTY code. All types of plagiarism, cheating, or unauthorized group work are strictly prohibited. If a student fails to observe this requirement, the instructor may assign an "F" for the work or an "F" for the whole class, depending on the type of assignment and relevant circumstances. Students are expected to read and follow the section on the Student Academic Dishonesty of the AUCA Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct.
- 9. This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class and the updated version of the written syllabus may be found on the "e-course". It is each student's responsibility to stay informed of any changes made.**

### GRADING POLICY

The final course grade will be determined based on the following components:

Class attendance and participation	20%
Two (2) Quizzes	40%
Final Assignment	40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### GRADING CRITERIA

A 94-100%	B- 80-83%	D+ 67-69%
A- 90-93%	C+ 77-79%	D 64-66%
B+ 87-89%	C 74-76%	D- 60-63%
B 84-86%	C- 70-73%	Failing Grade: below 60%

### UNDERSTANDING THE COURSE SYLLABUS

Below is an outline of the course content. Each class session identifies the general topic to be discussed during that meeting. Required readings and homework will be posted on the "e-course" at least one week prior to class. The "e-course" may also identify "supplemental" readings that, while not required to be read, may be helpful in better understanding a particular topic or may provide a different perspective not discussed in class.

Required readings and homework, if any, are to be completed before the beginning of each class meeting (not after). Each session's lecture and discussion will be based on these materials. In order to understand the day's topic and be better prepared for discussion of the same, you will need to have read the assigned materials and completed the homework assignments.

### COURSE CONTENT

Class	Course Topic(s)
1	Introduction to Law and Economics <i>Homework:</i> <i>Read Pages 1-10, in Law and Economics (available on e-course);</i>

	<p><i>Watch the following videos (available on e-course):</i>  <i>Introduction to Economics;</i>  <i>Introduction to Adam Smith's Capitalism;</i>  <i>Introduction to Marxian Economics</i></p>
2	<p>Economic Theory of Torts  <i>Homework:</i>  <i>Read pages 187-199 in Law and Economics;</i>  <i>Optional Reading: 199-227 in Law and Economics</i></p>
3	<p>Finish Economic Theory of Torts          Begin Economic Theory of Crime and Punishment  <b>In Class Quiz/Test #1</b>  <i>Homework:</i>  <i>Read pages: 454-467 in Law and Economics;</i>  <i>Study for Quiz in today's class</i></p>
4	<p>Finish Economic Theory of Crime and Punishment  <i>Read Pages: 467-484 in Law and Economics</i></p>
5	<p>Begin Economic Theory of Property  <b>In Class Quiz/Test #2</b>  <i>Homework:</i>  <i>Read pages 338-343, in International Business Transactions</i>  <i>Read pages: bottom of p 102 to middle of p 106; 139-142, bottom of p 146 to top of p 150 &amp;, in Law and Economics</i></p>
6	<p>Finish Economic Theory of Property          Review for examination: In-class exercises, class discussion  <i>Homework</i>          Come prepared with questions or topics you wish to review  <b>Final Exam in the second half of class – Closed book.</b></p>

### IMPORTANT DATES

**September 20, 2017: In-Class Quiz #1**

**October 18, 2017: In-Class Quiz #2**

**October 25, 2017: Final Examination (In-Class)**

### COURSE MATERIALS

You will be required to read materials distributed in class or via the "e-course". The primary textbook is: Robert Cooter & Thomas Ulen, *Law & Economics*, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. (2012). Additional book readings, articles and videos will also periodically be assigned.