

TORTS II

Fall 2008

Professor Marilynne Roberts
Law Graduate Building 218 East
651-523-2123
mroberts@hamline.edu

Office Hours Th 12-2 Fri 11 - 12 and 2-3 Or by appointment

Class Wednesday and Thursday 2:30 - 3:45 p.m. Room 103

Required Casebook

Galligan, Haddon, Maraist, et al, Tort Law: Cases, Perspectives, and Problems, Revised Fourth Edition, LexisNexis, ISBN 978-1-4224-2170-3

Goals and Objectives

1. Identify and define the essential elements for tort causes of action and defenses involving limited duties, strict liability for abnormally dangerous activities, vicarious responsibility, products liability, and defamation, among others, and know the policies those doctrines seek to promote
2. Demonstrate the capacity to understand and apply in a torts context perspectives on law including law and economics, corrective justice, critical race theory, critical feminism, pragmatism, and social justice, while appreciating law as an instrument of public policy and social change, observing the development of the common law, and understanding arguments regarding tort reform
3. Construct persuasive legal arguments in support of a position and respond to arguments made by others; recognize gaps, conflicts and ambiguities in the law of torts; and develop skills in making arguments for legal change
4. Become accustomed to the expectations, culture, and ethics of the legal profession

Attendance, Participation and Technology

Attendance will be taken by passing the sheets prepared by the Law Registrar. Attendance is for the full class session; do not plan to leave early without approval. Academic Rule 1-110 requires that you attend class regularly, be punctual, and be prepared. I will enforce this rule.

Only word processing programs may be open during class, and the material must be related to the Torts II course. Do not use web browsers, e-mail, instant messaging, or games. An individual violating this policy may not be permitted to bring a laptop to class for the duration of the course.

Turn off phones, PDAs, Blackberries, etc.. Do not text during class.

Grading

This course will have one three-hour, self-scheduled exam. I reserve the right to raise a student's grade one-half grade for regular, excellent class participation.

Advance Assignments

Class Date Reading

1	8/20	1-27; skim 27-37 if you choose to; 37-47; 337-344
2	8/21	345-373
3	8/27	373-393
4	8/28	425-454

