

CS 4984: Introduction to Computer Law

Instructor: Ross Dannenberg

██████████████████, tel. ████████████████████

<http://courses.cs.vt.edu/~cs4984/computerlaw>

Syllabus

Each topic corresponds approximately to 1 class hour. Topics 13-15 are optional, depending on how quickly we move through the first 12 topics.

- Topic 1 – Introduction to the study of law and the American judicial system
- Topic 2 – Beginning Intellectual Property
- Topic 3 – Copyrights I
- Topic 4 – Copyrights II
- Topic 5 – Patents I
- Topic 6 – Patents II
- Topic 7 – Trademarks
- Topic 8 – Trade Secrets/Misappropriation
- Topic 9 – Internet I
- Topic 10 – Internet II
- Topic 11 – Open Source Software
- Topic 12 – Computer Crimes
- Topic 13 – Intro to Business Formation
- Topic 14 – Employment Issues
- Topic 15 – Contract Basics

· Topic 16 – Review

Text

Optional: P. Maggs, J.Soma, and J. Sprowl, *Internet and Computer Law*, West Group, 2001. The text is available at Amazon.com or any other Internet legal textbook provider.

Office Hours

Mondays on which we have class, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., location TBD. I am also available via email at [REDACTED]. Please put 'CS4984' in the subject line of the email.

Student Evaluation

The course is a 1-hour letter grade class. Grades will be based on at least 4 assignments throughout the semester, class attendance, class participation, and a final exam. I reserve the right to assign more or less than four assignments. Students may opt to perform extra assignments throughout the semester in lieu of taking the final exam.

Disclaimer

This class should not be relied upon as legal advice for any specific situation, but rather serves to instruct students to recognize when to seek legal advice regarding various situations and topics. *This class does not and is not intended to create an attorney-client relationship with anyone.* That having been said, I hope (and expect) that after graduation you each become a productive creator of intellectual property. As such, upon successful completion of this course, you each get one “free” call to me for legal advice. After that, we'll discuss my hourly rate...