

Graduate Program in Insurance Law Program
Course Descriptions
Trinity (May) Term 2012

Required Courses:

6098 – INSURANCE COMPANY FORMATION, REGULATION & GOVERNANCE (3 cr.)

A study of the corporate, regulatory and governance aspects of insurance companies directed towards preparing students for the corporate law aspects of representing insurance clients before regulatory tribunals and the courts. Special emphasis will be given to the creation, organization and qualification of a Michigan based insurance company, assuring that students will acquire the skills for establishing and maintaining a compliant enterprise. Professional responsibility lessons will be interwoven throughout the materials and classroom discussion.

Prof. Babbish

Day & Time: Saturday, 1:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

14 Weeks: 5/12/12 – 8/11/12

Section / Location / Room:

11	LAN	L13	
12	AH	187	(Orig)
13	GR	523	

Exam/Paper: TBA

6197 – INSURANCE LAW (3 cr.)

An in depth study of the principles of insurance. Students will be able to distinguish and apply concepts of insurable interest, risk transfer and the formation of insurance agreements. The insurance contract and its defensibility will be considered. Students will learn to identify and apply litigation claims and defenses unique to insurance relationships. Text materials will be supplemented with readings on market configurations and relationships, insurance company operations and current industry issues. Professional responsibility will be a focus of all teachings, with particular focus on conflicts of interest arising in the relationship between insureds and insurers and their legal counsel. This course is foundational to other course offerings, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of insurance organizations, insurance contracts, the interaction between insurance and tort principles and the public policy aspects of insurance regulation.

Prof. DeMoss

Day & Time: Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

14 Weeks: 5/9/12 – 8/8/12; NO CLASS 7/4/12

Section / Location / Room:

11	LAN	L13	(Orig)
12	AH	187	
13	GR	523	
14	AA	224	

Exam/Paper: TBA

Elective Courses:

6028 - CORPORATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (3 cr.)

Focuses on the ethical, as well as broader public policy issues, presented in the practice of law in the corporate setting from the perspectives of both inside and outside counsel in a multistate and global practice arena. Utilizing a practical case study method, the course will address subjects such as the lawyer's role in the corporation, attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine, attorney discipline and malpractice, conflicts of interest, negotiations, and relationships between inside and outside counsel. Further, the course will review the structure of corporate compliance activities and regulatory compliance and counseling, at the national, state, local and foreign governmental levels in a number of areas including: environmental; employment, labor and benefits; product liability and recalls; Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and white collar litigation. In addition, the course will explore a lawyer's role in society including emphasizing the necessity for a corporate lawyer to embrace diversity, and participate in pro bono and community service activities in order to be successful.

Prof. Johnson

Day & Time: Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

14 Weeks: 5/8/12 – 8/7/12

Section / Location / Room:

00 Web Synchronous ONLY

Exam/Paper: TBA

Exam/Paper: TBA

Joint JD/LL.M. students must receive permission prior to registration.

Contact Professor DeMoss.

6010 - DIRECTED STUDY (up to 2 cr.)

Provides an opportunity for Master's students to submit a proposal for Directed Study project to the Program Director. Generally requires 15-20 pages of a written project for each credit hour earned.

Permission required prior to registration. Contact Professor DeMoss for details. Contact registration. Contact

6021 - EXTERNSHIP (up to 4 cr.)

Offers students the opportunity to practice tax law in a supervised setting. Master's students can complete tasks assigned by their attorney supervisors, with their learning guided by a Cooley faculty member. Students must apply and be approved for externship placements and all sites must be pre-approved.

Permission required prior to registration. Contact Professor DeMoss for details.

6015 - MASTER THESIS / RESEARCH PROJECT (2 cr.)

Students research and write on a topic selected by the student and approved by the Program Director.

Permission required prior to registration. Contact Professor DeMoss for details.

Elective Courses (continued):

6191 - MICHIGAN NO-FAULT INSURANCE LAW [JD course equivalent 1078]

Provides an in-depth analysis of Michigan's No-Fault insurance law. Both first-party (contract) benefits and third-party (tort) benefits will be explored, including what is required to trigger these benefits under Michigan's No-Fault Act. In addition to covering the statutory and case law necessary to understand Michigan's No-Fault coverage, includes practice information; such as claims handling requirements, proving a threshold injury, and uninsured and under insured coverage. Students must complete a supplemental 10-15 page double-spaced paper, or equivalent project, to earn LL.M. credit.

Dean Miller

Day & Time: Tuesday, 3:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

14 Weeks: 5/8/12 – 8/7/12

Section / Location / Room:

21	GR	523	(Orig)
22	LAN	308	
23	AH	186	
24	AA	272	

6099 – PENSION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS (3 cr.):

Includes problems in the tax aspects of deferred compensation with particular emphasis on qualified pension and profit-sharing plans: minimum eligibility, participation, and vesting requirements; deductions, contributions, and benefits limitations; and, taxation of distributions.

Prof. Shaevsky

Day & Time: Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

14 Weeks: 5/12/12 – 8/11/12; NO CLASS 5/26/12

Section / Location / Room:

11	LAN	L13	
12	AH	186	(Orig)
13	GR	523	
14	AA	114	

Exam/Paper: TBA

Joint JD/LL.M. students must receive permission prior to registration.

Contact Professor DeMoss

6178 – PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING (2 cr.):

This is a basic personal risk management course focusing on income and asset management, investments and retirement planning. Personal insurance lines (property, life, liability, health and disability) will be covered along with insurance company operations within those areas. The first four weeks will provide an introduction to the subject matter with a particular emphasis on the legal and regulatory oversight of the financial planning industry.

Prof. DeMoss and Olivet Professor

Day & Time: Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

13 Weeks: 5/8/12 – 7/31/12

Section / Location / Room:

00 Web Synchronous ONLY

Exam/Paper: TBA

Joint JD/LL.M. students must receive permission prior to registration.

Contact Professor DeMoss

Elective Courses (continued):

6190 – STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF PROPERTY/CASUALTY INSURERS (2 cr.):

This course is an advanced course covering insurer financial statements and management, insurance marketing, property and liability underwriting, ratemaking and claims adjustment. The first four weeks of the course are preparatory for lawyers seeking to understand insurance company operations and financial oversight.

Prof. DeMoss and Olivet Professor

Day & Time: Thursday, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

13 Weeks: 5/10/12 – 8/2/12

Section / Location / Room:

00 Web Synchronous ONLY

Exam/Paper: TBA

Joint JD/LL.M. students must receive permission prior to registration.

Contact Professor DeMoss

6192 - WORKER'S COMPENSATION LAW [JD course equivalent 934]

Coverage, practice and procedure under the various state workers' disability compensation laws. Covers remedies for an injured worker under workers' disability compensation, social security, unemployment, third party actions, and first party actions.

Students must complete a supplemental 10-15 page double-spaced paper, or equivalent project, to earn LL.M. credit.

Prof. Critchell

Day & Time: Sunday, 3:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.

14 Weeks: 5/13/12 – 8/12/12

Section / Location / Room:

30 AH 286
ONLY

Prof. Pollok

Day & Time: Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

14 Weeks: 5/11/12 – 8/10/12

Section / Location / Room:

11 LAN 403
ONLY