

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

COURSE TITLE: Personal Injury & Malpractice

COURSE NUMBER: LES 420

I. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A: Develop an understanding of tort law

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- A-1 Explain sources and history of tort law
- A-2 Explain policies of tort law
- A-3 Explain tort categories

GOAL B: Develop an understanding of intentional torts

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- B-1 Identify the elements of intentional torts against persons
- B-2 Identify the elements of intentional torts against property
- B-3 Explain the defenses to intentional torts

GOAL C: Develop an understanding of negligence

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- C-1 Identify the elements of negligence actions
- C-2 Explain special negligence actions such as premises liability and negligence per se
- C-3 Explain defenses to negligence

GOAL D: Develop an understanding of strict liability and products liability

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

- D-1 Identify the elements of strict liability
- D-2 Identify the elements of products liability
- D-3 Explain defenses to strict liability and products liability

II. ASSIGNMENTS, PROJECTS & EXAMS

A. Class Participation

Students are to be prepared for class by doing the assigned readings prior to class. By doing the readings beforehand, students will gain a much better understanding of the material covered in class. In addition, students will be able to engage their classmates and the instructor intelligently in any class discussions. Students should expect to be called upon in class to summarize cases in the assigned reading, to state and support legal positions, and answer questions about the readings

B. Homework Assignments

Students should type any homework assignments and submit them by the assigned due date.

C. Research Memorandum

Students should prepare a three (3) to five (5) page typewritten memorandum analyzing a topic of interest to them related to tort law. Where applicable, the grading rubric on page 5 of the syllabus will be used to judge the students' English usage.

D. Structured External Assignment Memorandum

Students should read John Grisham's novel *The King of Torts*. After reading it, they should write at least two (2) typewritten pages analyzing the ethics involved in the book's mass tort actions. Where applicable, the grading rubric on page 5 of the syllabus will be used to judge the students' English usage.

E. Final Exam

Students will take a final exam during the final class session. The final exam will consist primarily of essay questions. The exam will be open book, with students able to use their textbooks, notes and any handouts from class.

STUDENT WRITING EVALUATION FORM

DATE _____

ASSIGNMENT _____

INSTRUCTOR _____

STUDENT NAME _____

COURSE _____

	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Marginal</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Excellent</u>
<u>INTRODUCTION</u>					
1. Contains a thesis (p.9)	2	4	6	8	10
2. Captures the reader's attention (p.9)	2	4	6	8	10
<u>BODY</u>					
3. Each paragraph relates to the thesis (pp. 11 & 13)	2	4	6	8	10
4. Transitions are used effectively (p. 11)	1	2	3	4	5
5. Contains supportive details: examples, statistics, quotes, etc. (p. 10)	2	4	6	8	10
6. Information covers the topic (pp. 10 & 11)	1	2	3	4	5
7. Word usage is correct (no slang) (pp. 45-55)	1	2	3	4	5
Writing is:					
8. Concise (p. 15)	2	4	6	8	10
9. Clear (clarity) (p. 16)	2	4	6	8	10
10. Grammatically correct (pp. 17-27)	2	4	6	8	10
11. Punctuated correctly (pp. 28-39)	1	2	3	4	5
12. Checked for spelling. (pp. 43&44)	1	2	3	4	5
<u>CONCLUSION</u>					
13. Conclusions are correctly drawn from the body of the paper (pp. 11&12)	1	2	3	4	5

TOTAL POINTS _____

NOTE: The page numbers (p.) that follow each criterion refer to pages in Dr. John Szczechowski's *Instructor's Guide For Basic Student Writing* where specific information about each criterion can be found.

Revised 6/2/03