

Copyright Law
Professor Ann Bartow
Fall 2018

Office:

Email:

Phone:

Required Texts:

1. **Intellectual Property in the New Technological Age** by Peter S. Menell, Mark A. Lemley and Robert P. Merges (2018), Volume II. This book may be purchased online here: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1945555106>
2. An accessible, searchable paper or digital copy of the complete U.S. Copyright Act (see e.g. <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/> for a digital copy; there is a paperback version for sale online for less than six dollars.) Bring this to every class meeting.

Assigned Readings:

Readings of 40 to 45 pages will be assigned on a class by class basis, to control for the tempo of each class and allow suitable time for discussions and questions. **If you forget to write down an assignment, or Professor Bartow forgets to announce one, simply read the next 45 pages of the chapters we are covering in the book!** We will move sequentially through the entire Copyright section of the assigned text (pages 492 through 860).

Class Schedule:

Copyright Law meets on Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. until 4:40 p.m. in Room 345. **Please note that class will be cancelled on September 4th. A make-up classes will be held on September 14th from 10 am until 11:40 am in Room 345.**

Student Evaluation:

There will be a mandatory “take home” mid-term examination that will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis and discussed afterwards in class. Dates t/b/a. There will be an “open casebook, open outline prepared by you” final exam during the regularly scheduled exam period. The grade you receive on this exam will be your final grade (unless your grade is lowered due to poor participation). Professor Bartow reserves the right to lower your grade by one half step due to inadequate class participation.

The Levin College of Law’s mean and mandatory distributions are posted on the College’s website and this class adheres to that posted grading policy. The following chart describes the specific letter grade/grade point equivalent in place:

Letter Grade	Point Equivalent
A (Excellent)	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C (Satisfactory)	2.0
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D (Poor)	1.0
D-	0.67
E (Failure)	0.0

The law school grading policy is available at: <http://www.law.ufl.edu/student-affairs/current-students/academic-policies#9>.

Office Hours:

I will usually be available immediately after class meetings to answer questions. My official office hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Appointments can also be scheduled at other times as necessary.

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Accommodations:

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>). Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to Dean Rachel Inman when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Attendance:

Class attendance is mandatory. Attendance is measured solely by the sign-in sheet. It is each student’s responsibility to sign the sheet at the beginning of class. Students deemed absent for more than 20% of scheduled classes may not sit for the final examination and cannot pass the course. I provide the Registrar with an attendance sheet for each class, and that is the exclusive measure of your attendance. If for any reason your attendance is not recorded there, you are considered absent. There are no “excused” absences – if for any reason you anticipate missing more than 20% of the classes, you are advised to

withdraw before it is too late to do so. Please review the Student Handbook for further information regarding the attendance policy. Also be aware that it is a serious violation of the Academic Integrity policy to sign in other people or to have others sign you in. Punctuality shows respect for your colleagues and professors and is part of the professionalism expected of you as future lawyers. Please arrive at school early enough to allow yourself enough time to be in your seat ready to begin. Any student not in class within the first fifteen minutes of class (or leaving more than fifteen minutes early) is not permitted to sign the attendance sheet.

Workload/class preparation (ABA Standard 310):

Students should expect to spend, on average, approximately two hours preparing for every hour of class in compliance with ABA Standard 310, which requires that students devote 120 minutes to out-of-class preparation for every “classroom hour” of in-class instruction.

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>. It is much better to fail with honor than to cheat; not just philosophically but as a practical matter as well. Most people rebound nicely from failure and go on to succeed at other things. Cheating will follow you forever.

Course Learning Outcomes:

This course introduces students to the basic doctrines and theories of Copyright Law. By the end of the semester, students taking Copyright Law should have a solid knowledge of the basics of U.S. Copyright Law, as derived from the Copyright Act and through case law and administrative actors. They will also have a sense of how the United States interacts with other nations that are members of the Berne Convention. Students should be able to spot copyright law issues, and sketch out the steps a conscientious lawyer might take in handling copyright disputes from the perspectives of plaintiffs, defendants, and third-party intermediaries. Students should also be able to identify and assess the impact that copyright laws and policies have upon authors, publishers, distributors and consumers.

The topics covered will include copyright requirements, copyrightable subject matter, ownership of copyrights, duration of copyrights, copyright scope, copyright infringement (both direct and through secondary liability), defenses to copyright infringement, remedies, and a brief introduction to international copyright law. “Current events” in copyright law may also be discussed in class as appropriate.