SEM: EMERGING ISSUES IN TECHNOLOGY LAW & LEGAL ETHICS
LAW 804
FALL 2020
BLACKBOARD
MARTINA E. CARTWRIGHT
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
**Professor/Managing Attorney**

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**CELL PHONE:** 713.927.1195

**LOCATION:** Suite 100L

**OFFICE HOURS:**

- **TUESDAY:** 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- **WEDNESDAY:** NOON – 2:00 PM
- **THURSDAY:** 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**ALL OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**
COURSE BOOKS & MATERIAL & REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

REQUIRED TEXT/MANUAL:

1. Victoria Sutton, Introduction to Emerging Technologies Law, Vol(s). 1 & 3 (online purchase via Amazon—Kindle or hardcopy)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:

Additional materials are either are located in either the course modules or available through Hein Online and other electronic resources available through the Robert J. Terry Library (e.g. JSTOR, EBSCOhost, SAGE Journal, ProQuest). Hein Online is an electronic resource database, providing students with access to hundreds of law journals, law reviews, and bar journals. By the beginning of the semester, each student should receive instructions for remote access to Hein Online from the Faculty Research Librarian. Access to the electronic databases through the Robert J. Terry Library is available for all students, by inputting your last name and T number.

Certain modules will reference journal articles or other sources of information. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain these articles and read, in advance of class discussions.

REQUIRED SOFTWARE

1. Blackboard
2. Microsoft Word

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Grammarly for Word
Dragon Dictation software
**COURSE DESCRIPTION, REQUIREMENTS, AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**DESCRIPTION:**
Emerging Issues in Technology Law and Legal Ethics is two credit-hour seminar, designed to provide instruction in the areas of existing and developing technology and legal ethics. This seminar will be taught more broadly than its previous antecedent—which focused primarily on the use of technology in lawyering and accompanying ethical conundrums faced by today’s lawyers. This class will incorporate discussion on the various aspects of existing and developing technology (biotechnology, bitcoin, social media, etc), as well as gaps in the law and public policy. At the conclusion of the course, students are expected to draft a well-researched law review quality paper, twenty pages or more, discussing an issue of interest in the area of modern technology, its societal impacts, and potential legal and policy remedies.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

**CLASS READINGS**
Students are required to attend each class, prepared to discuss the assigned readings. The syllabus includes a schedule of assigned readings for each class. Ensure that you read all materials in the textbooks, as well as any other articles you are expected to obtain through electronic databases.

**COVID-19 NETIQUETTE & CLASS PARTICIPATION**
As it is likely that the entire semester course will be taught online, students are expected to adhere to a certain netiquette. Please ensure that background noise or distractions are kept to a minimum. I recognize that many may have pets or young children, but it is not helpful to the class (or to you) for those “unexpected observers” to participate in class discussions. Second, please ensure that your video is ON during class discussions. While your mic may remain muted, your video must remain on. As much as jarring noises distract class presentations, so do blank screens. Likewise, choose a background that is not distracting. Your classmates should be impressed with your arguments, not jarring wall decors or virtual backgrounds. Third, despite this seminar format—which should allow for robust discussion—questions should be posed to the professor using the “CHAT” feature. Finally, everyone is entitled to privacy in their educational endeavors. Accordingly, sharing or posting of class recordings, pictures, or screen shots of class are STRICTLY prohibited.

Class participation—which will include discussion(s) in class, as well as responses and posts on the discussion board—accounts for at least ten percent of your grade!

This semester is going to be extremely challenging and I expect that we all will struggle throughout the next thirteen weeks. But let’s focus on the learning and the growth and remember to be KIND to one another.
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completion of the seminar, students will be able to:

(a) Identify an issue or issues, in the area of technology and the law and/or public policy;
(b) Developing and draft a thesis statement, identifying the main point or points of the research paper;
(c) Research, collect, and organize primary (law, caselaw) and secondary sources (books, journal articles) of information;
(d) Analyze and evaluate data INFORMATION;
(e) Draft an effective research paper, discussing an issue of significance involving modern technology, advocating for improvement or changes in law and ethics and/or public policy.
GRADING

Class Participation 10%

Assignments | Due Date | Percentage of Grade |
--- | --- | --- |
Outline | Sept. 3rd | 5% |
Draft Thesis Statement | Sept. 17th | 10% |
Draft Introduction | October 15th | 15% |
Final Paper | November 12th | 60% |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Above Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Needs Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 &amp; below</td>
<td>Poor</td>
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PARTICIPATION, ATTENDANCE & PROFESSIONALISM

CLASS (ONLINE): Attendance is MANDATORY. There are no EXCUSED ABSENCES. Pursuant to Article III.9 of the Student Rules and Regulations, if you miss more than the allotted number of class meetings, in accordance with Article III.9, your grade may be reduced up to one (1) letter grade. Attendance is taken automatically in Blackboard. If you are more than 10 minutes late logging in or calling into the class session, you will be considered ABSENT.

NETIQUETTE: See above.
Policies & Procedures

ADA Policy

The Law School will make reasonable accommodations to individuals with documented disabilities. Such accommodations will not be provided, however, if they fundamentally alter the nature of the program or if they would be unduly burdensome either financially or administratively.

The term “disability” is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These federal acts mandate equal opportunities for qualified persons with disabilities in all public facilities, programs, activities, services, and benefits derived from them. In order to receive accommodations a student must have a documented mental or physical disability that substantially limits a major life activity. Some examples of major life activities that would impact learning are: seeing, hearing, concentrating, communicating, reading, and writing. Reasonable accommodations are recommended based on the application review process and supporting documentation.

For more information about the accommodation process, please contact the Office of Assistant Dean for Student Development.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assigned reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Emerging Technologies: Dystopian View versus the Utopian View, the examples of Henrietta Lacks and the Tuskegee Experiments</td>
<td>Lecture; Fajans, p.1-15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Principles of Legal Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Regulation Theories, Principles &amp; Legal Structures; Choosing a Topic</td>
<td>Sutton, p. 49-68, Fajans, 17-27</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Const. Law &amp; Emerging Technologies</td>
<td>Sutton, p. 69-98</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>International Law &amp; Emerging Tech; Finding and Developing a Thesis</td>
<td>Sutton, p. 127-157, Fajans, 57-62</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Biotechnology Law; Research &amp; Gathering Information</td>
<td>Sutton, Chpt 13; Fajans, p.64-73</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Biotechnology Law</td>
<td>Sutton, Chpt. 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Robotics, Writing Stage (Getting it Down on Paper)</td>
<td>Sutton, Chpt 15; Fajans, p. 75-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Information &amp; Communications Tech; Social Media</td>
<td>Sutton, Chpt 16, Lecture—Loss of Privacy; Doxxing; Swatting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Information &amp; Communications Technology, Estate Planning, CyberCrime</td>
<td>Sutton, Chpt. 16, Lecture</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Criminal Law &amp; Emerging Technology; Revising &amp; Polishing</td>
<td>Lecture, Fajans, p. 93-118</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Criminal Law &amp; Emerging Technology; Footnotes and the Ethical Use of Borrowed Material</td>
<td>Lecture, Fajans, p. 119-141</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Writing that counts</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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