

# **LAW 7348-01: INTERNATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT LAW**

## **SYLLABUS**

Prof. Bell  
Spring 2009

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course concerns law and policy of creating and distributing entertainment goods and services across national boundaries. Topics will include: the acquisition and enforcement of copyrights, trademarks, and rights of publicity; issues relating to the employment of talent; financing, both private and public; production, with particular emphasis on the challenges of distributing works abroad; and the challenge of distributing works under various levels of censorship. Students will make in-class presentations and write final papers on approved topics.

This class should prepare you to analyze at a general level a wide variety of issues relating to international entertainment law. Practicing in a specialized area, such as cross-border licensing or foreign labor rules, may require additional study. This class should also help to polish your legal reasoning skills and introduce you to some of the practical and ethical concerns of a working attorney.

### **GRADING**

Seventy-five percent of your course grade will come from a final paper. That paper should resemble a law review comment in terms of style and format. It will be due before 5:00 p.m. on the last day of finals, May 15, and must be at least 25 pages long, using 12-point Times or Times New Roman font, a top margin of 1 inch, and other margins of 1.25 inches. You will lose .1 grade points from your course grade for each day that you hand in the paper late.

An outline of your paper will be due before 5:00 p.m. on March 31. A substantial draft will be due before 5:00 p.m. on the last day of classes, April 29. Neither the outline nor the draft will be graded, but you will lose .1 grade points from your course grade for each day that you hand in those papers late.

Participation will count for 25% of your course grade and will be based on a point system. You can earn one participation point per class by signing a sheet indicating that you have prepared to discuss the assignment. You may lose some or all of the points allowed for classroom discussion if you sign up to speak but demonstrate lack of preparation.

You can earn 10 points for giving an in-class presentation on the subject of your paper. That presentation will be assessed on a pass/fail basis. Before February 1, you should pick a reading from the text that you think deals most closely with the topic on which you want to write and notify me of your choice. I will allocate presentation slots

on a first-come, first-served basis, and allow only one presentation per class session. You should use your presentation to try out a tentative thesis for your paper, though you may later decide to change your thesis, or even the entire subject matter, of your paper.

You may team up with one other classmate for your presentation and paper, though I will of course expect your team to do twice the work of any individual student. Please note that I will not police disputes among team members about how to share duties, but will instead assign each team member the same number of points for the in-class presentation and the same grade for paper.

## HOW TO CONTACT ME

You can find me in my office, room 438, each Monday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and each Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 2:30 until 5:30 p.m. I welcome you to drop by at those times or at other times by appointment. You can also call me at 714/628-2503 or email me at <[tbell@chapman.edu](mailto:tbell@chapman.edu)>. At <<http://www.tomwbell.com/teaching.html>> you can find course materials, such as a copy of this syllabus and some past exams.

## READING ASSIGNMENTS

This syllabus sets forth the readings assigned from the course's text, INTERNATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT LAW (Lionel S. Sobel & Donald E. Biederman, eds., 2003). Please note that while I will make a good faith effort to follow this syllabus, I reserve the right to change it.

<u>class #</u>	<u>assignment</u>	<u>(# of pages)</u>
<b>Introduction</b>		
Class 1:	(no reading assignment)	(0)
<b>Ch. 1. Acquisition of Rights</b>		
Class 2:	pp. 1-5, 7-22	(16)
Class 3:	pp. 22-37	(15)
Class 4:	pp. 37-50	(12)
Class 5:	pp. 50-66	(16)
Class 6:	pp. 66-79	(13)
Class 7:	pp. 79-96	(17)
Class 8:	pp. 96-108	(12)
Class 9:	pp. 108-121	(13)
Class 10:	pp. 121-137	(15)

<b>Ch. 2. Employment of Talent</b>		
Class 11:	pp. 139-163	(13)*
Class 12:	pp. 163-176	(13)
Class 13:	pp. 176-186	(10)
Class 14:	pp. 186-199	(14)
Class 15:	pp. 200-218	(19)
Class 16:	pp. 219-239	(21)
<b>Ch. 3. Finance</b>		
Class 17:	pp. 241-260	(15)*
Class 18:	pp. 261-72	(11)
Class 19:	pp. 272-295	(19)*
<b>Ch. 4. Production</b>		
Class 20 (cont. below):	pp. 297-298	(1)
<b>Ch. 5. Distribution</b>		
Class 20 (cont. from above):	pp. 299-306	(8)
Class 21:	pp. 306-324	(18)
Class 22:	pp. 324-334	(10)
<b>Ch. 6. Performance, Distribution, and Sale</b>		
Class 23:	pp. 335-351	(16)
Class 24:	pp. 351-360	(10)
Class 25:	pp. 361-377	(16)
Class 26:	pp. 377-388	(11)
Class 27:	pp. 388-403	(15)

**NB:** The 28th class will be held in reserve for a visiting speaker, and will fit in the syllabus as the speaker's schedule demands.

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\* Estimated pages of text; the assigned pages include such non-textual elements as tables or diagrams.