

## TORTS 2012 INFORMATION

T/2012-00I.Info

**Instructor:** Robert B Leflar

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### **Questions and Discussion out of Class:**

I encourage questions, comments, and suggestions by e-mail. I may re-post your observations on the course TWEN site (with your name removed, if you prefer), together with my responses.

My **office hours** are generally weekday afternoons except Wednesdays. Reserve your time in advance, or just drop in, or talk with me right after class. Please do not drop in or call immediately before class, since I will be concentrating on class preparation. I usually check e-mail before class, so if you need to reach me in the morning on class days, please e-mail me.

My teaching assistant, **Caitlin Gezgin**, [cgezgin@uark.edu](mailto:cgezgin@uark.edu), will be available for one-on-one conferences as well as review and study skills sessions every week at times to be posted.

I will have “advisory committee” meetings most weeks, especially the first part of the semester. These are informal sessions with small groups of students to go over difficult aspects of the course, talk about law and law careers, and generally just get acquainted. I will ask each of you to fill out an “acquaintance card” (see next page) so I can learn something about who you are.

### **Attendance/Participation Policy:**

You may miss up to three classes, or be unprepared up to three times, or any combination totaling three, without grade penalty. Absences and instances of unpreparedness exceeding three subject the student to a grade penalty commensurate with the level of nonperformance. Exceptional class participation benefits both the class and you (see “Grading,” below), so prepare well.

All students are responsible for material covered in class, whether they attend or not. A roll sheet will circulate at each class. If for some reason you are present but don’t initial it, please promptly e-mail me to that effect so that you will not be counted absent. If you have a valid medical, family, or other reason for missing class such that you had no effective choice to attend, and wish to apply for an excused absence not counting against the limit of three, please submit a note or e-mail to me within 48 hours of that class, briefly explaining the reason. No other documentation is necessary; your word suffices, and the Honor Code applies.

**Inclement weather:** When the university is open, class will be held, unless I am physically incapable of meeting it. (That’s not likely unless I’m sick, since I live only three miles away.) However, a student for whom coming to class is effectively impossible will not be counted absent, if (a) public schools are closed at the location of the student’s residence, or (b) the student gives me another good reason for inability to attend, by e-mail within 48 hours of the class.

I may need to schedule some make-up classes due to out-of-town commitments. I will try to schedule make-ups at a time when no class member has a conflict. Roll will not be taken at any make-up classes held outside regular law school class hours.

## **Grading:**

The vast majority of your grade will be derived from your final exam grade. However, two other factors may affect your grade. (1) Class participation: exceptional participation, in the form of insightful comments (as opposed to blather) based on consistent thorough preparation, may merit a bump up in my discretion. Poor participation, evidenced by lack of thorough preparation or inattentiveness, may merit the reverse. (2) I may occasionally offer a few students the opportunity to volunteer for a short, graded research project or other special assignment. These projects and assignments will typically be worth 5% to 10% of the student's grade, correspondingly decreasing the weight of the final exam.

Students with disabilities may request academic adjustments as provided by federal law. All such requests should be made by contacting the Center for Educational Access, ARKU 104, 575-3104, [ada@uark.edu](mailto:ada@uark.edu), or [www.uark.edu/ua/csd/](http://www.uark.edu/ua/csd/).

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## **ACQUAINTANCE CARD INFORMATION**

Cards will be passed out the first week of class. Write this in the top right corner: ↓

**TORTS/2012**

- 1. Name you go by; last name**
- 2. Preferred e-mail (if different from \_\_\_\_\_@uark.edu)**
- 3. Home Town**
- 4. Undergraduate School(s)  
(Postgraduate School)**
- 5. Degree(s) & Year**
- 6. Field(s) of Concentration**
- 7. Work Experiences**
- 8. Tell me two or three things unique about yourself -- unusual experiences you've had, talents you've developed, adversity you've overcome, interests you've pursued. (Describe, for example, something that sets you apart from your classmates.)**
- 9. Please describe, if you can, your ideal work situation ten years from now.**