



## **ECP 3451**

### **Law And Economics**

Section: U01

Hybrid/Certified

Fall Term 2025

### **Course Meeting Information**

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The in-person class meetings for this hybrid course are on Thursdays from 12:30pm to 1:45pm in GL 166.

**Course Time Zone | Eastern Time (ET). Course due dates are according to this time zone.**

### **Professor Information**

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Jesse Bull

**Roles:** Primary Instructor

**Email:** [bullj@fiu.edu](mailto:bullj@fiu.edu)

**Phone:** 305-348-3893

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 10:20am to 12:20pm and 1:50 to 2:50pm, and via Zoom on Tuesdays 1pm to 2pm. Also, by appointment.

**Office Location:** DM 319C

**Department or Academic Unit:** Economics

## **Course Prerequisites**

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Course prerequisites, if any, are listed below.

Prerequisites: ECO2013, ECO2023

## **Course Description and Purpose**

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(from the catalog) The relationship of economic principles to law and the use of economic analysis to the study of legal problems. Topics include: property rights and contracts, and economic analysis of legal decision making.

Course Goal: That you develop a strong ability to use economic analysis to evaluate, analyze, and explain the law.

## **Textbook and Course Materials**

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**N/A**

**Required/Recommended:** N/A

**Authors:** N/A

**Publisher:** N/A

**Publication Date:** N/A

**Copyright Date:** N/A

**ISBN 10:** N/A

**ISBN 13:** N/A

**Panther Book Pack**

The Panther Book Pack rental program provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of \$20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack.

Make sure to review the pricing for all materials across your classes this semester and compare the cost to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. The deadline to opt back into the Panther Book Pack is also three days after the add/drop deadline.

If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged \$20 per undergraduate credit hour for which you are registered and the course materials will be reserved in your name. For more details and to learn how to access your course materials, visit [onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack](http://onestop.fiu.edu/bookpack).

## **Other Course Materials and Open Educational Resources (OER)**

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Law and Economics

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Addison-Wesley , 6th Edition, 2016

ISBN-10: 0132540657

ISBN-13: 978-0132540650

The authors have posted a PDF of the text at [Berkeley Law's Scholarship Repository](http://Berkeley Law's Scholarship Repository). "for everyone freely to read or use as a textbook." We will not follow the text exactly, but it is a great resource and is available at no cost.

## **Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives**

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Student learning outcomes allow faculty to assess the level of proficiency in content knowledge and skills that their students acquire in a course.

If the objective meets a special designation, you will see the code after the objective:

University Core Curriculum: UCC

Gordon Rule Writing: GRW

Global Learning: GL

Civic Literacy: CL

- evaluate the law using economic concepts such as efficiency and equilibrium.
- explain how the legal system influences people's behavior by shaping the incentives they face.
- analyze standard rules of law in property, tort, contract, and criminal, as well as legal procedure.

## Expectations of this Course

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This is a hybrid course, meaning half of the coursework will be conducted in class, on campus, with the remaining half conducted out of class, including in this Canvas course. Expectations for performance in hybrid courses are the same as in a traditional course. Hybrid courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- **review the getting started** page located in the course modules;
- **introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;
- **take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with the learning management system, Canvas;
- **interact** online with instructor and peers;

- **review** and follow the course calendar and weekly outlines;
- **Attend class sessions** in person as scheduled;
- **log in** to the course 2 **times** per week;
- **respond** to discussions by the due date specified. **No late work will be accepted;**
- **respond** to **emails** within 1 **days**;
- **submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline.

The instructor will:

- log in to the course 2 times per week;
- respond to **emails** within 36 **hours**;
- grade assignments and/or provide feedback within 7 **days** of the assignment deadline.

## Course Communication

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Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial](#) or [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox. I will respond to all correspondences within 24 hours.

## Policies & Resources

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Before starting this course, please review the Policies & Resources Page in Canvas which includes comprehensive information on various University and Course Level Policies such as:

- University Policies
- Accessibility and Accommodations

- Online Etiquette
- Technical Requirements and Skills
- Computer & Digital Literacy Skills
- Course Technology Accessibility Statements and Privacy Policies
- Academic Integrity
- Copyright Statement
- Core Principles of This Course
- Nondiscrimination Statement
- Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Fair Use Policy

### **Weekly Meeting and Participation**

Following the course format, each Thursday (each week) we will meet in person. We will primarily use this time to actively work on problems related to that week's topic. Your participation in this is important for learning the material so class participation is a component of your grade. I anticipate this to be quite helpful since solving problems is an important skill to develop in order to learn the material and do well in the course. I will post slides with the problems we work in class and solutions for them.

### **Use of AI**

I understand that generative AI is a tool that is available in practical situations. So, you are free to choose to use generative AI (such as ChatGPT) to help with any outside of class assignments (naturally, these may not be used for exams). However, if you choose to do so, you are required to include a statement explaining how and the extent to which

it was used, which generative AI platform was used and include all prompts that you used to generate any component of your assignment.

It's worth noting that generative AI often has difficulty with getting citations correct. It is your responsibility, whether using generative AI or not, to ensure that all work drawn upon is properly cited.

## **Assignments & Assessments**

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### **Discussion Forums**

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

Discussion posts are required for each Module.

During the first week of class you are asked to introduce yourself in the appropriate discussion and to also respond to the posts of two of your classmates.

For weeks 2 to 14, you are asked to do a "2-1-1" post in the appropriate discussion and to also respond to the posts of two of your classmates. This asks you to describe, based on the recordings you viewed: 2 things you learned, 1 way you can apply it to the real world, and 1 question (if you have a question). The responses to the posts of two of your classmates is typically due 1 week after your initial 2-1-1 post. The responses may be aimed at responding to the questions of others.

These are to be used to interact with your classmates and the professor or teaching assistants in a way that is constructive and helps you to better understand the material.

### **Homework**

There will be a short homework assignment (typically one problem) most weeks that we work on new material. This will be due the following Tuesday. Your three lowest scores will be dropped.

## **Exams**

There will be 2 in-class midterm exams. These will use the full class time. These will be on September 25th and October 30th.

Additionally, there will be a cumulative final exam at the University-assigned exam time.

If you miss midterm exam due to a documented University-accepted reason, your final exam will be re-weighted in place of a makeup midterm exam.

## **Paper on Research Presentation**

This assignment asks you to a general interest research presentation that I will give (during our regular class time) on December 4th and to write a short (one page or less) paper reflecting on your thoughts on the topic.

Alternatively, you may discuss a real-life application of some of the ideas and analysis covered in this course in a 2 to 3 page paper. Your paper should clearly explain the practical application and how insights from this course apply to it. There is no need to produce your own analysis. Instead, the focus is on the practical issues and an intuitive explanation of the relevant economics.

## **Zoom Video Conference**

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Zoom is a video conference tool that you can use to interact with your professor and fellow students by sharing screens, chatting, broadcasting live video/audio, and taking part in other interactive online activities.

Zoom meetings can be accessed via the Zoom link in the course navigation menu. Once you click on the Zoom link, it will route you to join the meeting for the respective class session. You will also be able to view upcoming meetings, previous meetings that you have already joined, and meeting recordings. Before joining an actual class session:

Reference the [Zoom Student Tutorials](#) to learn about the tool, how to access your meeting room, and share your screen.



Access the [Zoom Test Meeting Room](#) to test out the software before joining an actual session.

If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the [FIU Canvas Help Team](#). Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

## Grading

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Course Grades Distribution Table

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points of Each	Total Points Available	Weight
Midterm Exams	2	100	200	30%
Final Exam	2	200	400	25%
Homework	7	100	700	20%
Discussion Posts	8	100	800	15%
Participation in Class		100	5%	
Paper (on presentation or practical issue)	1	100	100	5%
Total	10	N/A	1000	100%

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter Grade	Sample Range %
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Letter Grade	Sample Range %
A	93 - 100
A-	90 – 92.99
B+	87 – 89.99
B	83 – 86.99
B-	80 – 82.99
C+	77 – 79.99
C	70 – 76.99
D	60 – 69.99
F	0 – 59.99

## Canvas Schedule

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Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	<a href="#">Academic Honesty Policy</a>	Quiz	0
	<a href="#">Exam 1</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Exam 2</a>	Assignment	100

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	<a href="#">Exam 3</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 10</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 11</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 12</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 13</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework Week 2</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework Week 3</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 4</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 6</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 7</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Homework week 9</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Open Forum</a>	Discussion	0
	<a href="#">Paper</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Participation in class meetings</a>	Assignment	100
	<a href="#">Practice Quiz</a>	Quiz	0
	<a href="#">Week 1: Introduction Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 10: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	<a href="#">Week 11: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 12: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 13: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 2: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 3: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 4: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 6: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 7: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100
	<a href="#">Week 9: 2-1-1 Reflection Post</a>	Discussion	100

## Schedule of Topics

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Schedule 3451 Fall 2025

Week 1 (8/25): Introduction and Basic Game Theory

Week 2 (8/31): Property – Introduction and Externalities

Week 3 (9/7): Property – Coase Theorem

Week 4 (9/14): Property – Common Resource Problems and Public Goods

Week 5 (9/21): Exam 1 in class on 9/25

Week 6 (9/28): Torts – Introduction and One-Sided Case

Week 7 (10/5): Torts – Two-Sided Case

Week 8 (10/12): Contracts – Introduction and Party-Specified Damages

Week 9 (10/19): Contracts – Court-Specified Damages and Team Production

Week 10 (10/26): Exam 2 in Class on 10/30

Week 11 (11/2): Procedure

Week 12 (11/9): Evidence

Week 13 (11/16): Crime

Week 14 (11/23): Thanksgiving on 11/27

Week 15 (11/30): Review and Research Presentation

Week 16 (12/7): Cumulative final exam at University-assigned day/time

## **Core Principles of this Course**

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This course is designed to serve all students by fostering collaboration and encouraging an appreciation for multiple perspectives and ideas. We recognize and value the lived experiences that each student brings to the classroom and are committed to ongoing education that supports open participation.

In alignment with Florida International University's endorsement of the Florida Board of Governors' Statement of Free Expression, this course supports full and open discourse. Civil and respectful discussion is fundamental to critical thinking, both within the classroom and in broader university events. Students are expected to engage in discussions with curiosity, respect, and a willingness to consider differing viewpoints.

## **Nondiscrimination Statement**

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The **Office of Civil Rights Compliance and Accessibility** (CRCA) is responsible for ensuring that FIU maintains a workplace and learning environment free from discrimination, where current and prospective faculty, staff, and students are treated equitably. If any student, employee, or applicant has a sincere and reasonable belief that they have been discriminated against or harassed based on age, color, disability, gender, marital status, ethnic or national origin, race, religion, retaliation, sex, or any other protected category, they can report their concerns to the CRCA team through [report.fiu.edu](https://report.fiu.edu).

## How to Do Well

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An important step for learning the material is doing lots of practice problems. I will guide you in this in several ways. Our synchronous meetings will focus on practice problems. I will also suggest problems from the text, and provide previous exams (with solutions). These problem solving skills can be developed, regardless of your background or preparation for this course. Just like exercise, learning a musical instrument, a sport, or foreign language, learning the material and getting better at it requires time and effort. Of course, I will provide guidance.

In my experience, working consistently on learning the course material and on practice problems is very helpful. To help and encourage this, a portion of your grade will be based on you watching the recorded lectures, participating in the weekly synchronous meetings, and reflecting on what you have learned. A portion of your grade is based on participating in the weekly synchronous meetings. Another portion will be based on you doing regular (almost weekly) homework assignments.