This course will use economic analysis to illuminate the structure of law in the fields of property law, tort law, contract law, and criminal law. This class will meet for 12 sessions of 90 minutes each.

The text for this class will be Robert Cooter and Thomas Ulen, Law and Economics (Sixth Edition). The references below to Chapter numbers refer to this book. I will not assign Chapter 3, entitled "A Brief Introduction to Law and Legal Institutions," but if you are interested in a serviceable overview of the American legal system, you might want to peruse that chapter.

While Cooter and Ulen primarily develop the theoretical economic issues in each of the four substantive areas of law that we will study, I will also supplement this with insights from the empirical literature. Thus, as we progress through the various substantive topics, we will also read the relevant sections of Kessler and Rubinfeld, "Empirical Study of the Civil Justice System" and Levitt and Miles, "Empirical Study of Criminal Punishment," both of which can be found in the Handbook of Law and Economics, http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/handbooks/15740730

I have not yet assigned readings for the last two classes because I will have to see how fast we can cover the currently assigned readings and if there is time for additional topics I would like to gain more information about the interests and abilities of the class in making those selections.

My email address is jjd@stanford.edu. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Class 1:

Chapter 1 An Introduction to Law and Economics

Class 2:

Chapter 2 A Brief Review of Microeconomic Theory

Class 3:

Chapter 4 An Economic Theory of Property
Class 4:

**Chapter 5** Topics in the Economics of Property Law

Class 5:

**Chapter 6** An Economic Theory of Tort Law

Class 6:

**Chapter 7** Topics in the Economics of Tort Liability

Class 7:

**Chapter 8** An Economic Theory of Contract Law

Class 8:

**Chapter 9** Topics in the Economics of Contract Law

Class 9:

**Chapter 12** An Economic Theory of Crime and Punishment

Class 10:

**Chapter 13** Topics in the Economics of Crime and Punishment

Class 11: To be determined

Class 12: To be determined