

About this Course

Torts
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Slides

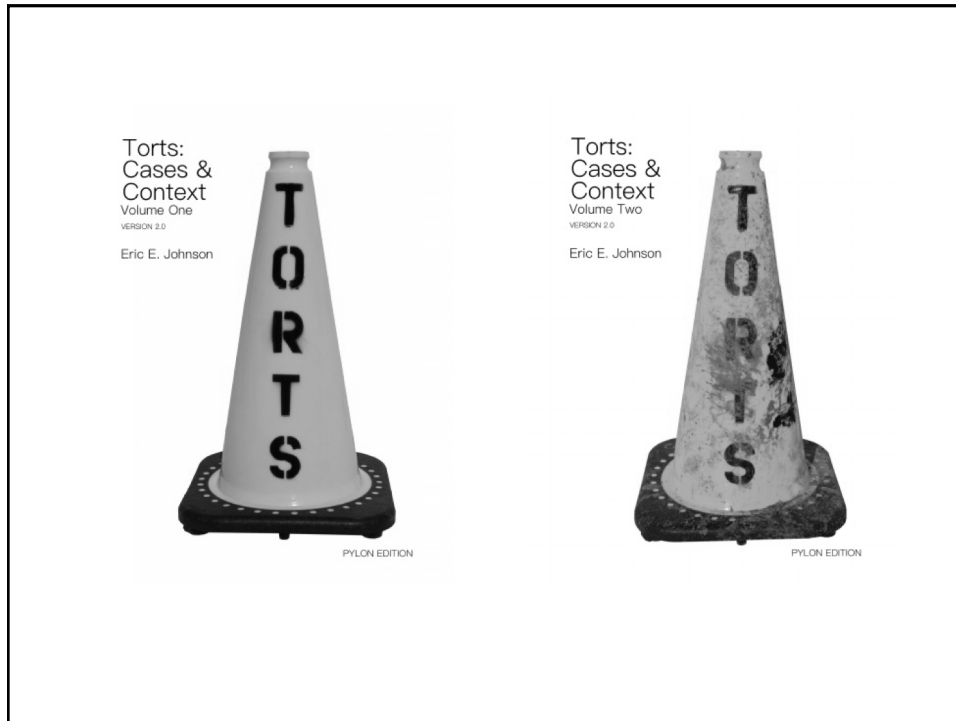
- I don't always use slides, but when I do ...
- My practice is to read every word on every slide.
- And I will post all slides with text content to the class website after the class in which they are used.
- Therefore, I strongly urge you not to try to read the slides in class. Just listen. Then, look at the slides later to review things.

Class Website

- The home for information about the course is the course website.
 - It is in the open and not password-protected.
http://www.ericejohnson.com/courses/torts_20/
- It has the syllabus and chart of assignments. It's where I'll post slideshows, handouts, info about the exam, links to supplemental reading, etc.
- To the extent I use Canvas, I'll let you know by e-mail or by instruction on the chart of assignments.

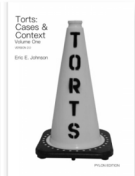
Books

- *Torts: Cases & Context, Volume One* (Pylon Edition 2.0)
- *Torts: Cases & Context, Volume Two* (Pylon Edition 2.0)
- *Four Trials*, John Edwards



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Torts: Cases and Context, Volume One (Pylon Edition, Version 2.0)

By Eric E. Johnson

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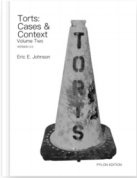
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Details		Specifications	
Publication Date	7/26/2019	Pages	476
Language	English	Binding	Paperback
Category	Law	Interior Color	Black & White
Copyright	All Rights Reserved - Standard Copyright License	Dimensions	US Letter (8.5 x 11 in / 216 x 279 mm)
Contributors	By (author): Eric E. Johnson		

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FOUR TRIALS



JOHN EDWARDS

U.S. SENATOR, NORTH CAROLINA
WITH JOHN AUGHARD

Syllabus

- Read the syllabus!
- You are assumed to be on notice for everything in it.
- It is long, but reading it is worth it.
- It is your guide to how to do well in class.
- It is my guide to what I've committed to, how I grade, and how I handle any problems.
- It is posted on the class website.

Some key in-class rules

- Keep your video on.
- No audio or video recording.
- No electronic communications with others in class (except through Zoom).
- Read the syllabus for more in-class rules.

Grading

- Read the syllabus, it talks about grading in detail! What follows are highlights.
- Regular letter grades will be given for this course (A+, A, A-, B+, etc.).
- Based mostly on a final exam
 - Format pending ... it depends on covid contingencies
- Also can affect your course grade:
 - things set out in the syllabus, including:
 - attendance
 - class participation (incl. classroom conduct)
 - academic misconduct

Grading

- There is no pre-determined grade-point average or grade distribution for the class. So you are not in competition with your fellow students for a limited pool of grades! Favor cooperation!
- The initial assignment of grades will be done by seeing the raw point totals from the exam and inserting cut-offs based on clumps and my sense of how performance corresponds to letter grades.
- Alternative minimum grading: According to the schedule (§ 6-3). E.g., if you got 87% of max possible points, then you can't get lower than an B+ for the exam grade.
- You get the higher grade of the two methods.

Grading

- The exam grade is your course grade, unless it is adjusted up or down.
- Discretionary adjustments:
 - Can go one step up (e.g., B+ to A-) for class participation. In unusual situations, two steps up.
 - Could possibly be adjusted downward the same way—one or two steps.
- Deficient attendance and academic misconduct can lower the course grade (or lead to administrative withdrawal or an F).

Attendance Policy

- It's § 9 in the syllabus. Read it! You're responsible for knowing all of it.
- What follows are only highlights ...

Attendance Policy

- Arriving late is half an absence.
- 12 absences is a step-down in grade.
- 13 absences is another step-down.
- 14 absences is another step-down.
- 15 absences is an F for the course or administrative withdrawal.
- If you hit 15 absences, you must immediately give me written notice according to § 9-5.

Attendance Policy

- If you claim special extenuating circumstances and/or excuse for religious observance, you must file an End-of-Semester Attendance Mitigation Statement according to § 9-6.
- It must be filed not earlier than the last day of class, nor later than the day after the last scheduled day of final exams for OU Law.
- Take a moment now to calendar this.