

## Commercial and Consumer Law Courses

Commercial lawyers represent clients in a wide variety of business related transactional and litigation matters. Most commercial work is contract based, and the actual work done by commercial lawyers is as varied as the kinds of contracts in which people engage. Some types of commercial work has become quite specialized, and many law firms either limit their practice to a particular type of commercial work or devote separate sections of the firm to specialized commercial work. Bankruptcy, construction law, employment law, banking, finance, and commercial litigation are examples of these types of specialized commercial practice. If you liked your first year contracts courses and you are intrigued by the concept of people doing deals and making their own private law rules, you should enjoy many of the course offerings from the following rich curriculum. If you are interested in commercial litigation, you should consider taking additional courses in procedure, evidence, and trial advocacy.

Some lawyers who deal with commercial areas specialize in representing the interests of consumers, either by representing individual clients or by working for state and federal agencies or public interest groups that work in the interests of consumers. They must be familiar with federal and state laws relating to deceptive trade practices, warranties, debt collection, credit reporting, truth in lending, and other consumer rights. Commercial and consumer work require skill in client counseling, negotiation, litigation, regulatory work, and legislative advocacy.

### *Foundation Courses – Introducing the Basic Concepts*

Contracts I & II  
Business Enterprise  
Consumer Law  
Creditors' Rights  
Payment Systems  
Sales  
Secured Transactions

### *Recommended Courses – Electives for Commercial and Consumer Lawyers*

Advanced Commercial Law  
Advanced Contracts Workshop  
Advanced Contracts: Drafting  
Commercial Real Estate Seminar  
Commercial Remedies  
Income Taxation

### *Clinics*

Civil/Consumer Clinic  
Small Business & Trademark Clinic

### *Related Courses*

Construction Law  
Economic Analysis of Law  
Insurance  
Intellectual Property

International Business & Financial Transactions  
Negotiations  
Oil & Gas Contracts: Domestic & International (GW option)  
Products Liability  
Real Estate Transactions  
Sports Law  
Trademarks & Business Torts

*Externships*

Attorney General's Office Consumer Protection Division  
Corporate Counsel Externship Program  
Federal Trade Commission

*Public Service Placements*

Attorney General's Office Consumer Protection Division  
Better Business Bureau  
Dallas City Attorney's Office – Code Compliance Section  
Housing Crisis Center  
Legal Action Works  
Legal Aid of Northwest Texas  
Nursing Home Ombudsman Program

*Faculty*

Here are some of the full-time faculty members who teach or have an interest in this area:

Roy Anderson  
Martin Camp  
Micki Cashen  
Greg Crespi  
Christopher Hanna  
Joe Norton  
John Lowe  
Carla Reyes  
Keith Robinson  
Mary Spector (consumer law)  
Diane Sumoski