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