

COPYRIGHT LAW (191-002)

GMU SCHOOL OF LAW
COURSE SYLLABUS
INSTRUCTOR: TERENCE P. ROSS
SPRING 2009

Administrative Matters

Class will be held on Tuesday evenings from 8:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in Room 120. The exam will be administered on Monday, May 04, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The exam will be entirely short-answer questions. The exam will constitute 80% of your grade. Class participation will constitute 20% of your grade.

Students are expected to read the assigned material prior to class and to be prepared to participate during class discussion. The key to participation is first and foremost attending class. Attendance will be taken at each class.

The following standards for grading participation will be used:

Exceptional, insightful ("A") participation is when a student:

- is thoroughly prepared for discussion: that is, has completed all the reading, ANALYZED it, formulated opinions and questions about it, and has selected and prepared specific examples to discuss;
- facilitates discussion by introducing issues and/or examples for discussion;
- contributes to the discussion of issues raised by professor or other members of the class;
- makes specific references to materials read;
- shows comprehension of materials (has clearly done readings carefully, can easily recount contents and arguments);
- demonstrates the ability to analyze critically both the readings and discussion of them;
- engages other members of class in discussion (draws others into a discussion, responds to colleagues) and shows respect for the ideas and opinions of others.

Active, contributing ("B") participation is when a student:

- is well prepared for discussion: that is, has completed all the reading, thought about it;
- contributes to discussion of issues raised by professor or other members of the class;
- shows comprehension of materials and some ability to use specific examples;
- attempts to analyze critically readings and discussion, at least sometimes successfully;
- responds to other students of the class and shows respect for their ideas and opinions.

Obviously, among the "unsatisfactory" characteristics of class participation are lack of preparedness and rudeness or incivility toward one's colleagues and their ideas. Informed questions about the case under discussion are a contribution, but very general questions that reveal no knowledge of the case and are proffered in an attempt to mask lack of preparation are not welcome.

Textbooks: *Copyright*, Ninth Edition (Ralph S. Brown & Robert C. Denicola), Foundation Press (2005) **AND** *Statutory Supplement to Cases on Copyright*, Foundation Press (2008).

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Reading Assignments

January 13 The Boundaries of Copyright
Text: pp. 1-48
Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 106, 202, 401-412

January 20 Original Works of Authorship
Text: pp. 49-107
Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 103, 104

<u>January 27</u>	The Limits of Statutory Subject Matter Text: pp. 107-200 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 102 (revisit), 105, 113, 120, 1301-1332 (skim)
<u>February 3</u>	Ideas and Expressions in Works of Fiction/Music/ Substantial Similarity in Visual Works Text: pp. 201-250 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 101 (revisit), 102 (revisit), 501
<u>February 10</u>	Copyright in Characters/Non-Fiction Works Text: pp. 251-283 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 102 (revisit), 106 (revisit); 501 (revisit)
<u>February 17</u>	Computer Programs Text: pp. 283-313 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 106A (skim)
<u>February 24</u>	Sound Recordings/Distribution, Display & Derivative Rights Text: pp. 313-359 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 109, 110, 111(a), 114, 602
<u>March 3</u>	Fair Use (Part I) Text: pp. 360-420 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 107, 1201(k)
<u>March 17</u>	Fair Use (Part II) Text: pp. 420-451 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 107 (revisit), 108
<u>March 31</u>	Contributory and Vicarious Infringement/Copyright in a Digital Age Text: pp. 452-514; <i>Grockster</i> Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 512; 1001-1010 (skim); 1201-1205
<u>April 7</u>	Duration and Termination of Transfers Text: pp. 514-544 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 201, 203-205; 302-305
<u>April 14</u>	Derivative Works/Works Made For Hire/Joint Works Text: pp. 544-602 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 101; 201(a); 115, 501 (revisit); 507(b)
<u>April 21</u>	Jurisdiction & Remedies Text: pp. 603-624 Supplement: 17 U.S.C. §§ 301; 502-511