

For the latest update, please visit the course website (Blackboard)

**CONTRACTS I
LAW 102-002 (CRN#72212)
Fall 2023**

Yijia Lu
ylu25@gmu.edu

COURSE SCHEDULE/MEETING TIMES/TYPE:

Thursday 9:50am - 11:50am

OFFICE HOURS: TBA

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Textbook: Robert E. Scott and Jody S. Kraus, *Contract Law and Theory* (5th 2014);
Supplement: Restatement (2d) of Contracts and UCC Article 2

COURSE OVERVIEW/DESCRIPTION:

Contracts are promises “for the breach of which the law gives a remedy, or the performance of which the law in some way recognizes as a duty.” What do parties have to do to form a contract? And would courts enforce it? Contracts I studies these essential questions of contract formation.

Contracts II, offered in the spring, studies issues related to contract interpretation, performance/breach, defenses, and remedies. Throughout our courses, differences between the common law and UCC approaches will be highlighted, with occasional comparison to contract law in foreign jurisdictions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Recognize the primary sources of US contract law, especially the differences between the common law and the UCC
- Understand the process of offer and acceptance in contract formation
- Master the doctrine of consideration, promissory estoppel, and definiteness
- Apply doctrines that police the process of contract formation
- Appreciate the theories and policies governing contract law

BASIS OF EVALUATION & ASSESSMENTS:

Grading will be based on a final exam. Exam format will consist of multiple-choice and essay questions.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS AND COURSE RULES/STRUCTURE:

Please come to each class having completed all assigned readings.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Page numbers refer to the textbook (Blue/Grey hard cover), not the supplement

For the latest update, please visit the course website (Blackboard)

<p>Topic 1: Contract Formation (Chapters 2 and 3) Aug 24 Class 01: 1-30 Introduction (30 pages)</p> <p>Aug 31 Class 02: 203-216 Offer (14 pages) Sep 7 Class 03 217-233, 246-259 (29 pages) Acceptance, Counteroffer</p> <p>Sep 14 Class 04 131-143, 42-52 (25 pages) Consideration I Sep 21 Class Cancelled Sep 28 Class 05 143-173, 183-186 (34 pages) Consideration II & Promissory Estoppel</p>
<p>Topic 2: Contractual Relationships (Chapter 4) Oct 5 Class 06 281-306, 30-39 (35 pages; including n. 1 on p. 39) Preliminary Agreement, Indefinite Agreements Oct 12 Class 07 316-341 (26 pages) Output/Requirements Contracts Oct 19 Class 08 341-354 (n. 1-5), 380-5 (n. 1-2) (19 pages) Exclusive Dealing, Modification</p>
<p>Topic 3: Regulating the Bargaining Process (Chapter 5) Oct 26 Class 09 401-420 Duress (20 pages) Nov 2 Class 10 420-427 & 432-7 (n.1, 4-7), 448-464 Fraud (28 pages) Nov 9 Class 11 464-473 (skip n. 4&7), 480-500 (skip n.3 after Watts and n.2&4 after Baby M) Incapacity, Public Policy (27 pages) Nov 16 Class 12 501-514 (n.1-7) , 52-61 (n.1-5) Unconscionability (22 pages)</p>
<p>Class 13 Review [TBA] Additional Office Hour [TBA]</p>
<p>Final Examination Date of Examination (open book; no internet): Nov 29</p>

EMAIL COMMUNICATION: Students must use their MasonLive email account to receive important University information, including communications related to this class.

ATTENDANCE: Regular and punctual attendance are required to earn academic credit. Attendance requirements for academic credit will follow the policies set forth in Academic Regulation 4-1. Should a student anticipate the possibility of missing a substantial number of class sessions (e.g. a serious illness), he or she should immediately contact the Assistant Dean, Student Academic Affairs. There is no substituted work available for this course (see AR 4-1.2).

CLASS RECORDINGS PROHIBITED: No portion of a class session or an examination may be preserved by means of a recording device such as an audio recording device or camera (AR 4-2.2). Any exceptions to this policy must be expressly permitted in writing by me. Requests to access a particular meeting to accommodate a COVID-related absence should be made to the Assistant Dean, Student Academic Affairs.

EXAM CONFLICTS: In accordance with AR 4-4.1, excuses and requests for permission not to sit for an examination when scheduled must be presented, with appropriate documentation, to the Assistant Dean, Student Academic Affairs. Except in emergencies, such requests should be presented no later than two weeks before the date of the examination. All requests for extensions or rescheduling of deadlines will be processed through the Assistant Dean, Student Academic Affairs, whose decision will be final.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: It is expected that students adhere to the Antonin Scalia Law School Honor Code. The Honor Code prohibits lying, cheating, or stealing. This includes a student obligation to never represent the work of another as their own, and to never provide or accept unauthorized assistance on any school related assignment. The Honor Code is available here: <https://sls.gmu.edu/honor/>.

CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATIONS: Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please visit <https://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disabilities Registration Process. Faculty may not receive or respond to requests for an accommodation. All requests must be handled by the office of Disability Services. You may contact Disability Services directly via email at ods@gmu.edu or phone at (703) 993-2474. If you have any questions about how in-class or testing accommodations are implemented at the law school, please contact the Assistant Dean, Student Academic Affairs for more information.

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL POLICIES AND RESOURCES:

STUDENT HONOR CODE - [Click Here](#)

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS - [Click Here](#)

UNIVERSITY LIFE: University Life provides student support resources such as **Counseling and Psychological Services** (<https://caps.gmu.edu/>), **Student Health Services** (<https://shs.gmu.edu/>), and the **Student Support and Advocacy Center** (<https://ssac.gmu.edu/>). For more information about University Life on the Arlington Campus, please visit: <https://ularlington.gmu.edu/>