

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

GOVT 280

UNDERGRADUATE TORTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will examine the parameters of tort law and learn how to analyze and apply principles of tort law. Through readings, lectures, discussions and individual research each student will analyze how American jurisprudence assigns social duties, assesses damages, and determines the distribution of burdens for the risk of harm to include; when a court should award money from one party to another for intentional acts, for negligent acts, and for certain non-negligent acts.

RATIONALE

The purpose of this course is for students to examine the way American jurisprudence determines social duties, evaluates risks of harm and calculates damages. It is important for students in the School of Government to understand the fundamental tort law principles, an overview of the techniques that are involved in assessing the claim and the damages caused and the ways in which tort law is changing.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify and explain the elements of tort law.
- B. Read and analyze legal materials related to intentional torts, negligence, and strict liability.
- C. Understand the significance of the law and articulate this understanding in writing.
- D. Demonstrate an understanding of biblical and historical foundations of tort law.

- E. Identify legal issues in factual scenarios and accurately state and apply rules of tort law.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 250 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be 125 words.

- D. Activity (3)

After reading and reviewing the current module(s)/week(s) reading and/or presentation, the student will complete a corresponding activity. Answers to the questions must be well-organized and use proper grammar. Each activity must be at least 1.5 pages.

- E. Research Paper

The student will write an 8-page research-based paper in current Turabian format that focuses on tort law. The paper must include at least 6 references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible.

- F. Tests (4)

Each test will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned module(s)/week(s). Each test will be open-book/open-notes, contain 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 1 hour and 30-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 150 pts ea)	300
Activity (3 at 60 pts ea)	180
Research Paper	200
Tests (4 at 80 pts ea)	320
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

GOVT 280

Textbooks: Edwards et al., *Tort Law* (2015).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Edwards et al.: chs. 1–3 2 presentations 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Activity 1	10 0 60
2	Edwards et al.: chs. 4–5 1 presentation 1 website	Activity 2 Test 1	60 80
3	Edwards et al.: chs. 6–7 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 1 Thread	100
4	Edwards et al.: ch. 8 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 1 Replies Test 2	50 80
5	Edwards et al.: chs. 11–12 2 presentations	Research Paper	200
6	Edwards et al.: ch. 13 2 presentations	Activity 3 Test 3	60 80
7	Edwards et al.: chs. 14–15 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 2 Thread	100
8	Edwards et al.: ch. 16 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 2 Replies Test 4	50 80
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.