Law and economics is about the interface between economics and the law. Legal institutions importantly affect economic behavior and performance. Economic conditions, in turn, affect the law.

Course objective: To learn about the importance of the law for economic behavior and performance.
To learn how economic conditions affect the law.

Course structure: We will follow the text closely and there will be up to 10 spot quizzes and only 1 can be dropped. Class attendance is required. There also will be a midterm and final. The final exam will be cumulative.

Exams: Up to 10 spot quizzes (30% of final grade).
2 Midterms (35%)
Final (35%)

Course outline:

Week of August 22: Chapters 1 and 2 (basic concepts and review of microeconomics)
August 29: Chapters 3 and 4 (legal institutions and the economic theory of property)
September 7: (no class, Sept 5th) Chapter 4 (property)
September 12: Chapters 4 and 5 (property and topics in property)
September 19: Chapters 4 and 5 and review

MIDTERM1 September 21st (Chapters 1-5)

September 26: Chapter 5 (property rights)
October 3: Chapters 6 and 7 (contracts and contract law)
October 10: Chapters 6 and 7 (contracts and contract law)
October 17: Chapters 7 and 8 (contract law and torts)
October 24: Chapters 8 and 9 (torts and tort liability)
October 31: Chapters 9 and 10 (tort liability and the legal process)
November 7: Chapter 10 and review

MIDTERM2 November 14 (subject to change) (Chapters 6-10)

November 16: Chapter 11 and 12 (crime and punishment and topics)
November 21: Chapters 11 and 12 (crime and punishment and topics)
November 28: Chapter 12 (Topics in Crime and Punishment)
December 5: Review

FINAL: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 11-1pm. Chapters 1-12.