

Law and Economics (LAW514-001-10A): Course Evaluation Report

Course LAW514-001-10A
Title Law and Economics
Instructors Klick
Evaluations 86/95

Standard Questions Report

Students rated the Instructor and Course on the following questions. "5" is the highest ranking and "1" is the lowest ranking. Note: Totals that do not equal 100% are due to rounding.

Choice Questions	Statistic	1	2	3	4	5	Totals
1. Organization of the course	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	1% 1	7% 6	31% 25	27% 22	33% 27	100% 81 85%
2. Workload: 1 - too light 3 - appropriate 5 - too heavy	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	8% 6	30% 24	58% 46	1% 1	4% 3	100% 80 84%
3. Satisfaction with course materials	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	5% 4	13% 10	36% 28	21% 16	26% 20	100% 78 82%
4. Clarity and effectiveness of presentation	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	4% 3	6% 5	21% 17	28% 23	41% 33	100% 81 85%
5. Instructor's knowledge of the subject matter and identification of underlying principles and issues	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	1% 1	2% 2	6% 5	16% 13	74% 60	100% 81 85%
6. Would you recommend that other students take this course? 1 - Would not recommend 3 - Would recommend 5 - Highly recommend	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	4% 3	6% 5	16% 13	26% 21	48% 39	100% 81 85%
7. Overall effectiveness of instructor - JONATHAN KLIICK	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	1% 1	5% 4	13% 10	26% 21	55% 44	100% 80 84%
8. Overall effectiveness of course	Percent Responses Total Response (% of Enrollment)	4% 3	10% 8	16% 13	33% 26	38% 30	100% 80 84%

Essay Questions

9. **Is there any special preparation or background necessary to take this course?**

- Good to have econ, but not necessary.
- No
- Technically no, but undergrad microeconomics or just familiarity with popular literature, ie Freakonomics or The Tipping Point, is probably worthwhile.
- Having a background in economics, finance, game theory, and other legal courses is helpful. I felt like a lot of the material in the course I understood well because I had seen it before in other disciplines.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- no
- No, though knowledge of economic theory helps

- No Answer
- No
- No Answer
- I wouldn't recommend taking this class without at least one background college Econ course. I had to look up every other term Klick used.
- No Answer
- No
- No Answer
- No
- No Answer
- No.
- No Answer
- No, the course presupposes that students have little to none knowledge of economics.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- no
- No Answer
- Economic background is not necessary but could potentially be helpful
- No
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Not really, although a background in economics is helpful it is not essential.
- No Answer
- Knowledge of economics would be very useful.
- No, but some basic economics is helpful.
- No. Prof. Klick's M.O. is all about inculcating liberal arts-minds with economic principles -- it's targeted at people with no math background. That said, expect a lot of former i-bankers (and undergraduate econ majors) in the room. If you have no such background, be sure to attend Klick's lectures on micro and macroeconomics. And read the readings.
- No
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Some econ background may help.
- It would be helpful to have an economics background, because a large number of students in the class have taken econ classes.
- Yes. I think students that have taken at least one undergraduate economics course might be at advantage coming into this course.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No
- No Answer
- no
- I was a liberal arts major with no experience in economics, and I had no trouble following the lecture. It remains to be seen, however, how I will perform on the final compared to all those JD/MBAs in the back row.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No. A background in economics is helpful.
- No.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No background knowledge is necessary. No economics knowledge is necessary - though one may find it useful.
- No Answer
- economics!!! if your mind doesn't lean towards economic thinking (especially in corporate/business world) this isn't necessarily the right class for you.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- None
- No.
- It is very helpful to have an economic background. Taking this class without any economic background will often put students at a disadvantage

- No
- Not really. But having a passing familiarity with economics is certainly helpful.
- None.
- None.
- No Answer
- absolutely not
- no, he does a good overview of basic economic principles that you need
- No Answer
- economics helps.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Some econ is helpful, not necessary
- No but economics would help
- no
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- maybe some economics background would have been helpful, but not necessary

10. **Comment on the instructor's stimulation of interest in the subject matter and independent thought.**

- No Answer
- Excellent
- No matter what questions people ask, Klick always seems to know of some research that sheds light on it.
- Pretty laid back instructor. At first I thought he didn't prepare much for class, but over time you do realize that he is very bright and knows quite a bit about the subject matter. Even still, it would be nice to know before hand what principles we are going to cover during a class period. A more detailed syllabus and course outline would be helpful.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- good
- Very good, stimulated discussion with real world examples
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- My friends and I referred to this class as "Klick's Variety Hour." We never knew what was coming, but Prof. Klick was always totally prepared for questions. My own independent thought was certainly stimulated-I keep thinking of new reasons to dislike the Law & Economics movement.
- No Answer
- Very well.
- No Answer
- Professor Klick did a great job stimulating interest and independent thought
- No Answer
- Very good in this regard -- interesting topics are chosen and presented in a clear manner.
- No Answer
- Professor Klick is very good at keeping students stimulated from the beginning to the end of the class.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Prof Klick did a very good job of stimulating interest and making the materials relevant.
- No Answer
- Instructor was good and made smart jokes. He really knows what he is teaching. Sometimes was talking too fast, it was hard to follow. Class was very useful and makes one think more broadly about the policies behind law making and law enforcing.
- No Answer
- Totally riveting. All Prof. Klick asks of his students is solid thought and strong arguments. I've heard some people criticize his approach as being no more intellectual than a slightly-more-legal version of the Freakonomics blog. But there is meaning in his mission: bending the brains of English majors like me to wrap around controversial topics from an economic perspective. I think some econ people were bored, and some true bleeding hearts were offended. But I was riveted.
- He always had a variety of interesting and wide-ranging topics to talk about.
- This is, perhaps, one weakness, although I would not attribute it to Prof. Klick as much as to the of the

perspective nature of this class. I came to Penn because I was really interested in the field of Law & Econ, but this class, while very informative, did not show the path that I, as a law student, could take in this field.

- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- I do not have any background in economics and Professor Klick absolutely stimulated my interest in the intersections of law and economics.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Good
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Klick was humorous, and very knowledgeable. Not always the most interesting class, but worthwhile, and the light workload was much appreciated.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- He isn't that engaging, but still tries to break it down so people understand. so despite it being a complex issue, when he tries to make it simple it can be interesting.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- The professor asked students to raise interesting issues and responded to student questions and comments.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Interested and knowledgeable.
- I really find myself thinking of things differently due to this class. P. Klick stimulates a lot of interest and I would look forward to going to this class every time we met.
- I am very interested in the material. However, I found the course to be so basic that I didn't really engage with the material that strongly.
- Professor Klick is very passionate about his field of study.
- No Answer
- He got me very interested in a lot of the topics.
- very good.
- No Answer
- knows his stuff
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very good at explaining economic concepts, and stimulating thought.
- Great lecturer; funny and articulate and fast on his feet
- Very good
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer

11. **Comment on the instructor with respect to attitude toward students and accessibility outside of class.**

- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Prof Klick was always available for questions and clarifications after class.

- No Answer
- He was friendly and stayed after class to talk and answer questions. Not very good in replying to e-mails.
- Professor Klick is very accessible and willing to explain things to students after class and at his office hours.
- Prof. Klick seems to know the first name of everyone in the class, and is totally accessible outside of it. He respects his students. The classroom is easygoing and collegial.
- Respectful, easygoing style. I did not seek him out outside of class.
- Very cool and accessible
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very respectful. Professor Klick is a nice guy.
- I thought Professor Klick was very accessible and respectful toward students.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very nice and relaxed
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Professor Klick is super nice. He does not use a seating chart and lets students sit where they want, yet he still managed to learn people's name. Professor Klick is really informal and has a great sense of humor.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- After a full semester in the course, the instructor neither knows my name nor shows any interest in knowing it or knowing me. While most students believe Prof. Klick is amazing because he is extremely laid back and personable - I found him "laid back" to be more accurately phrased as uninterested. His knowledge of the material is unquestionable. His interest in effectively teaching this course is, however, open for debate.
- No Answer
- very respectful and always accessible in OH. really takes our opinions into account. cares about what we think. and wants to help you do well.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Instructor was respectful for the most part, but sometimes would denigrate a student's comment or question if it was stupid.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Accessible and respectful.
- great attitude. Extremely approachable - not intimidating at all! He's really cool!
- Klick is awesome. 100%.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very respectful and accessible.
- very good. accessible through emails and office hours.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Great attitude and interaction.
- Accessible enough. Warm reception waiting in office hours.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Good
- N/A
- Stayed after class to talk with students. Had open office hours as well.
- No Answer
- No Answer

- great
- Respectful and responsive.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Friendly.
- No Answer
- He had a very friendly attitude toward students and was accessible outside of class
- No Answer
- Seemed very available.
- No Answer
- He is very friendly in class. He doesn't get to respond to all the e-mails students send to him.
- No Answer
- No Answer

12. **Comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the course. How could it be improved?**

- No Answer
- Prof. Klick is good at encouraging discussion and getting people to think. What's frustrating is that we can't all just write papers. Since some of us have to prepare for an actual in-class exam, I feel unprepared. We have no reading to back up what the professor says, and the lectures span several topics in a meandering way. I don't think I understood what principles we were supposed to learn until this week, right before exams. Perhaps an overview of the main concepts at the beginning and periodically through the course would be helpful. Otherwise, it's hard to tell what's being emphasized.
- Unsurprisingly, I found it rather scattershot. It's very interesting, and I enjoyed it. But there's a final coming up in which we're supposed to conduct a "Law and Economics Analysis" of an issue, and I'm not even sure what that means.
- Having a more detailed outline and content list for the course topics would help. I'd also like to talk more about the reading in the textbook. There were some interesting points made in the textbook that we never got to cover in class.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- no
- It was great the way it was.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- It would have been great to have some more in-depth reading assigned. Never thought I'd say that about a law school class.
- No Answer
- Strength: Funny
Weakness: Not theoretically organized
- He tends to stick to a stream of consciousness lecture - it's very interesting to listen to, but hard to take notes from. I appreciate it when he draws diagrams.
- The course was very interesting. Perhaps if we were not allowed to have laptops, it would have been a more effective in-class discussion.
- No Answer
- A very interesting class that I have found to be very useful. However, since there isn't much material outside of class, I am worried about being able to prepare for a final and think the final grade may be somewhat arbitrary.
- No Answer
- Its strength is that initiate the students to the basics of macroeconomics. I think that all lawyers need to have such kind of knowledge. Its weakness is that although the book is fun maybe it's not necessary for the class. In general, maybe the materials to be distributed should be reconsidered.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- This course was very interesting, but it would have been helpful if there was a more concrete textbook for students with less of an economic background - may have made it easier to follow course discussion
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- The course was very relevant and clear but could have benefitted from more tie-ins to the reading and out of class materials.
- No Answer

- For the ones with no economic background, a different book would be more useful to introduce them to the basic (at least) economic terms and meanings.
- No Answer
- I think it is more or less as advertised. I might have preferred a bit more reading, or some way of measuring whether or not I was getting it.
- I am not sure whether the economics aspect of the class would have been clear to me if I had not been an economics major in undergrad. Perhaps this is the aim of the course, to show that the study of economics is omnipresent.
- Like many other classes, there is just not enough time to explore the subject matter in depth.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- While I found the class easy to follow, I would have appreciated a little more required background reading to gain a better understanding of the economic tools and concepts discussed.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very interesting material. Could be more structured.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Professor Klick is an awesome, engaging lecturer. He encourages a lot of class participation, and he can fluidly take his lectures in new directions depending on the kind of questions students ask. He makes complex material seem incredibly clear. Advice to future 1Ls: This class had a light reading load to balance out sometimes onerous reading in con and criminal law. Professor Klick is also really informal (wears Converse to class) and provides a nice balance with some of the more rigid, Socratic professors. He's awesome!
- No Answer
- Should really actually use some type of written material. Going to a lecture and basing discussions significantly off of student's comments in class is not an effective way for students to absorb and understand the material.
- I think the course should be stressed more as a beginner course, as there were people in the class who seemed frustrated with the beginning level of material and would ask complicated questions that the rest of us had trouble keeping up with.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- This was not what I expected. The first couple of convenings introduced a few very basic tools and then the remaining convenings were spent with the professor lecturing on how these few tools were applied to a myriad of policy and legal topics. This would have been far more effective if issues, opinions, and laws were taken and analyzed to find the underlying logic and clarifying the basis for these legal points.
- No Answer
- strength- good at breaking down complex issues to try and make them simple so that non-economic students can understand.
weakness- the book wasn't helpful in trying to understand issues you don't get in class. the exam is arbitrary because it's hard to see how to apply what we've learned to a new situation.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- The course was too basic and only covered material already covered in Torts, Contracts, Property, etc. There was nothing new. More relation to law would have been nice instead of just rambling about different topics of (somewhat) interest. Readings may have helped.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Unsure.
- Strengths - not a lot of work outside of class required but this can also be a weakness b/c as far as course materials go, the only materials that are really helpful in way of exam prep are one's notes. No real text book.
- Strengths: Klick is very knowledgeable.
Weakness: This class appears to be developed for people with no microeconomics training. It would have been 100x better if the course was about reading and discussing technical law and econ pieces rather than being micro 101 for humanities majors. I don't blame Professor Klick for this, as I realize that he has to teach to his pupils. But this class should absolutely be made more challenging for upper level economics minds. (Or advertised as uninteresting for econ majors.)
- I know Professor Klick thinks we don't need to do any outside reading. I think he overstates his case. I think the class experience would have been much more enjoyable had we had some text to base it on. And I don't think Freedman was a good choice for a text.

- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Class was cancelled for two straight weeks at the beginning of the semester, and that mean a lot of Friday makeups later on. It would have been nice to have greater continuity in the class. The only other issue I have is that it's really tough to know what to expect from the final. We don't read cases, so it's hard to know how to study.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Most of the course can be achieved through reading Freakonomics; Posner; Tipping Point; and anything written by Jonathan Klick.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- The course just analyzed the economic perspective of various substantive areas of law (torts, contracts, etc.). But we had already examined those issues in the substantive courses. Thus, nothing new was said. The course bore little relation to law and was more of an exercise in how to think like an economist (but without even learning the basic empirical tools of an economist)

Class was often boring and seemed pointless.

- No Answer
- This course is very laid back. If you want structure, this is not the right class.
- No Answer
- This class was a wonderful experience and I would recommend that one not go through 3 years of Penn Law without taking this course - especially with P. Klick who is a total "rockstar"
- Klick is awesome.
- Professor Klick is a very good instructor. I'm glad I took the class.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- He's a great professor and a pleasure to listen to.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer

Percentage Questions	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.
14. Please note the approximate percentage of classes that you attended.	91	95	11
15. Please note the approximate percentage of classes for which you had read the assigned materials in advance.	87	99	18

Category Relative Statistics

LAW514-001-10A				First-Year				First-Year Weighted By Course		
	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.		Mean	Median	Std. Dev.		Mean	Std. Dev.
1.	3.8	4.0	1.0	1.	4.0	4.0	0.9	1.	4.1	0.8
2.	2.6	3.0	0.8	2.	3.4	3.0	0.8	2.	3.5	0.7
3.	3.5	3.0	1.2	3.	3.7	4.0	1.0	3.	3.8	0.9
4.	4.0	4.0	1.1	4.	3.8	4.0	1.0			

5.	4.6	5.0	0.8
6.	4.1	4.0	1.1
7.	4.3	5.0	1.0
8.	3.9	4.0	1.1
14.	90.9	95.0	11.3
15.	87.3	99.0	17.6

Results are calculated using the evaluation responses for LAW514-001-10A only.

5.	4.5	5.0	0.8
6.	3.8	4.0	1.2
7.	4.1	4.0	1.0
8.	3.9	4.0	1.0
14.	95.9	100.0	6.9
15.	90.5	100.0	16.0

Results are calculated using the evaluation responses for all First-Year courses. Each response has equal weight, so courses with more enrolled students have a greater effect on the results than courses with fewer students.

4.	4.0	0.9
5.	4.5	0.7
6.	3.9	1.0
7.	4.1	0.9
8.	4.0	0.9
14.	97.2	4.5
15.	91.3	13.4

Results are calculated by first calculating a result for each First-Year course and then equally weighting each of those results together to form the final result. This means that each course has equal weight in the results.