

Torts - Sec 2A (LAW504-002-12C): Course Evaluation Report

Course LAW504-002-12C
Title Torts - Sec 2A
Instructors Klick
Evaluations 38/41

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	0%	8%	21%	45%	26%	100%
	Responses	0	3	8	17	10	38
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						93%
2. Workload: 1 - too light 3 - appropriate 5 - too heavy	Percent	0%	8%	79%	5%	8%	100%
	Responses	0	3	30	2	3	38
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						93%
3. Satisfaction with course materials	Percent	3%	16%	34%	26%	21%	100%
	Responses	1	6	13	10	8	38
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						93%
4. Clarity and effectiveness of presentation	Percent	0%	3%	21%	29%	47%	100%
	Responses	0	1	8	11	18	38
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						93%
5. Instructor's knowledge of the subject matter and identification of underlying principles and issues	Percent	0%	0%	0%	16%	84%	100%
	Responses	0	0	0	6	32	38
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						93%
6. Would you recommend that other students take this course? 1 - Would not recommend 3 - Would recommend 5 - Highly recommend	Percent	3%	3%	14%	19%	61%	100%
	Responses	1	1	5	7	22	36
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						88%
7. Overall effectiveness of instructor - Jonathan Klick	Percent	0%	0%	8%	39%	53%	100%
	Responses	0	0	3	15	20	38
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						93%
8. Overall effectiveness of course	Percent	3%	5%	16%	30%	46%	100%
	Responses	1	2	6	11	17	37
	Total Response (% of Enrollment)						90%

Essay Questions

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

- Basic econ. Logical reasoning.
- Some basic understanding of economics wouldn't hurt
- Be open-minded and ready to approach things from a different perspective.
- I am sure that many students are going to say something to the effect of "this was an economics course" or "you better know economics before this class." So I'll say that this is not true. I have no background in economics, but I was able to understand this course and all of the concepts that Prof. Klick presented. He did a good job of explaining the principles that underlie tort law, whether economic, social, or moral.
- No Answer
- No
- Econ background will help, but not necessary.
- No.
- n/a
- No Answer
- No.
- I wish I had taken a background course in economics.
- No Answer
- economics
- An understanding of economics is of great advantage.
- No.
- No Answer
- Maybe an economics and the law course would be helpful.
- No Answer
- No.
- It would be helpful to be familiar with basic econ, though it's not necessary.
- economics background would be helpful
- Some background econ wouldnt hurt.
- Not really, but anyone with a basic econ background will have an easier time talking the talk Professor Klick wants to hear.
- Sometimes I felt like I needed a background in economics, but we'll see after this final.
- Not really. Knowledge of basic economic theories might put you in a better position at the beginning of class.
- No but an elementary understanding of economics concepts is extremely helpful
- helped to have some econ background
- Econ definitely helps
- No background necessary
- No
- Maybe read an economics book, just to get some basic idea.
- Econ background helpful in the beginning, but by the end of the course everything is understandable
- Microeconomics, statistics, and maybe even a little bit of econometrics are all helpful, but not necessary.
- No, since it's a required 1L fall course. However, given Professor Klick's heavy reliance on the law & economics approach, it definitely is to students' advantage to have a background in business and/or economics.
- No
- Intro to economics
- No Answer

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

- Since Klick is an econ guy, the course is most valuable when taught through an econ perspective. I felt the way Klick taught torts made the course more interesting (and useful) than a normal torts class.
- I would definitely recommend him and I plan on taking more courses with him in the future.
- Very effective at keeping my attention even first thing in the morning. I wanted to listen and he made it easy to listen.
- It is clear that Prof. Klick is interested in torts, especially how tort law impacts persons' behaviors. Furthermore, he presented numerous alternative theories, both from other academic writers and himself, that helped students understand multiple viewpoints on the issues.
- No Answer
- Excellent. Klick is the most intelligent person I think I've ever met. I hate mornings, but I could always look forward to Klick's class, just for the opportunity to learn from him and think about something in a way I never had before.
- All the Econ stuff can start sounding the same after a while, but Klick stimulates the interest of the subject matter with his amusing stories and theories.
- No Answer
- Klick's lectures and class discussions were very interesting.
- No Answer
- The class is interesting. Professor Klick makes the topic of Torts even more interesting by bringing an economics background to the subject.
- Klick takes a great approach to Torts by challenging students to think outside the box in a course that could have been easily overlooked.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very enthusiastic
- Very good
- Most engaging professor of any level that I have ever had.
- Professor had a very pragmatic approach to the subject that I really appreciated.
- No Answer
- It was interesting to learn the subject from an economist's standpoint.
- Prof. Klick, though very clearly a law and econ advocate, allowed for discussions of other viewpoints as they pertain to tort. Prof. Klick did a fantastic job of explaining tort through law and econ in an interesting and

- engaging way.
- interesting discussions on different tort reforms
- Klick's econ driven perspective put an interesting twist on the subject matter and kept things interesting, especially when rules were either boring or convoluted
- Independent thought is fine as long as it is within the law & econ framework. Personally, I learned a lot and became even more interested in econ
- The economic perspective was definitely different and I didn't always agree with it, but I learned a lot. I'm convinced that the legal system pretty much revolves around economics anyway, so it was useful. Professor Klick was always funny and engaged.
- Klick makes you justify your conclusions and thoughts without relying on your foundational beliefs. Learning how to analyze a problem from a quantifiable and cost-justified perspective is an important skill to augment your legal training.
- The instructor was very interested in and knowledgeable about the subject matter presented in the course. Professor Klick was able to present the material through a very logical and coherent framework that made the underlying policy make sense.
- klick was great. i found his lectures very interesting
- Once you started looking at things through the lens he wanted you too the reading became very interesting.
- Strong on independent thought as course centers entirely around policy reactions to the law
- Very interesting to me, since I find economics fascinating.
- Very interesting classes and gave us a good framework when looking at torts
- None
- It's Professor Klick. In this category he is above excellent.
- I generally found the class to be interesting. I thought it was most interesting when Professor Klick was lecturing. He explains things quite well and really clarified the confusing portions of the case book. I thought he could have relied even less on class participation (although it was much appreciated that he didn't cold call). Most of the time, students didn't have anything of real value to add, and it just took the discussion off course.
- No Answer
- 1. Great econ background, good policy discussions
- 2. Professor not tolerant of other views, particularly moral ones. Even wrt economic views, Professor shuts down views if they contradict his approach on nuisance or landlord/tenant relationships. Last year's test forced students to regurgitate Prof's views on Torts as all qs were policy.
- No Answer

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

- Great attitude, accessible.
- No comments
- Professor Klick does a wonderful job of making students feel comfortable about speaking up in class and always welcomed us into his office.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Helpful and available.
- Very approachable and makes himself accessible outside of the class.
- No Answer
- Klick is very approachable outside of class.
- No Answer
- Professor Klick is very respectful to the students. He often waits after class to make sure no one has any other questions that need to be answered before office hours.
- Always accessible, helpful during office hours.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Very good
- Very accessible.
- No Answer
- Prof. Klick encouraged student discussion without using Socratic method. His office hours were during another class, but setting up an appointment by e-mail was not a problem.
- Relatively accessible but was away a lot.
- Very approachable and easy to reach out of class.
- No Answer
- Very accessible whenever we needed him. Great attitude towards his student.
- Professor Klick's office hours conflicted with one of our classes, but he was always receptive to meet at arranged times and was happy to discuss questions
- He was always helpful and answered questions if/when I had them.
- Very nice guy and available whenever you walk into his office. Office Hours were scheduled for a time when we had another class.
- Professor Klick was always willing to stay after class and answer students questions and he made himself available during office hours for further discussion.
- his office hours were during another one of my classes so I wish he had been more accessible.
- Was very friendly, and willing to help.
- Unknown
- Great attitude, affable, engaging, does not use socratic method which is wonderful for Monday mornings. Can't comment on accessibility.
- Open to student comments and accessible if you wanted to meet outside of class.
- None
- Professor Klick is often available and generous with his time.
- Professor Klick had a good attitude toward students. He doesn't take himself too seriously and understands

what it's like to be a student. He made himself accessible outside of class, basically telling us to stop by his office whenever we'd like. However, I think he should have made an effort to re-schedule his official office hours once we made him aware that we were all in civil procedure at that time. Although it was nice to know we could stop by whenever, it's also nice to know that there's a set aside time for us to come when he'll always be there.

- Very accessible in his office.
- Office hours scheduled for when the whole class had another class, so we could NEVER meet him. Was accessible to discuss practice midterm - appreciate candid feedback there!
- No Answer

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

- No Answer
- Perhaps the course is a little one sided. But I wouldn't be sure.
- I think it is an extremely strong course; so strong in fact that I don't have any suggestions!
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Klick assigns huge chunks of reading then sails by for a number of days on that assignment. You really have to read day by day, though- and in trying to guess, sometimes you would spend an hour on a case that we breezed through in five minutes, while sometimes the shortest cases were those that would take up 40 minutes of discussion. While there's no fear of being unprepared, more frequent "chucks" of reading on the syllabus (perhaps every 2 class periods) would be helpful to give a better idea of what to prepare for each session.
- No Answer
- The only weakness I saw was a need for more explanation of the economic theories that Professor Klick based his view of Torts on. I have no background at all in economics so the economic concepts he employed in class discussion sometimes went over my head and I had trouble grasping and applying to Tort issues.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- I think the course is great just the way it is. While Professor Klick doesn't use the Socratic Method in class, we all raise our hand and volunteer answers at different points throughout the semester. As a first semester 1L, it was nice to have one class that I didn't always have to be 100% prepared for. I still prepared for the course, but I didn't feel the need to spend 5 hours the night before class reviewing the readings and briefing every case I read. My time was much better used thinking about the efficient economic policies behind torts.
- Encourage students to read a book about econ at the beginning of the term. Although the use of econ is seemingly common sensical at the beginning of the semester when the terms are foreign often relevant/important topics are overlooked because you are stuck trying to grasp the economic theory rather than properly applying the economic theory to the subject matter.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- More black-letter law
- none really
- Maybe a few powerpoint slides would help elucidate the econ.
- Teaching style is very heavily slanted towards economic policy and incentives and that may be hard for someone who is not well-versed in those areas to digest and understand initially.
- No Answer
- Might have been nice to use materials outside of the casebook, particularly in regards to some of the studies we discussed in class on the effectiveness of certain rules and policies.
- Main Strength: Excellent teaching of the law and econ view of law. Helped influence my view of other subjects for the better. Main Weakness: Organization of the course was lacking. It was not always easy to know what to read for class. The pages were assigned over large chunks of time, which is fine. It was just that the "30 page a day" rule of thumb wasn't always an accurate guide and knowing what to focus on in the reading was not easy to discern. This is the only improvement that should be made.
- No Answer
- Strengths - we learned a lot about econ and were forced to think about why the rules exist as they do and what alternatives might be, which was certainly a valuable intellectual exercise. The course could potentially be improved by beginning the class with a couple day overview of the black letter, so we don't worry that we aren't learning it as we dedicate time to more interesting ideas...
- No Answer
- The reading should be divided by the day and not the weekly chunks listed on the syllabus.
- No Answer
- This course was very well organized and Professor Klick made it very easy to understand the concepts as long as you attended lectures and took notes. The debates and discussions he engages in with students are very effective at illustrating the concepts we are learning about. There is nothing that really needs changing with this course.
- i thought his class was great - might feel differently after the exam
- Maybe some type of supplement on law and econ
- This class should be held in an extremely acoustically friendly classroom
- VERY policy-focused. But still sufficiently lectures on the law itself.
- No Answer
- None
- Adding more numerical examples would be very helpful. Often we discuss empirical concepts, but do so purely in hypothetical terms, which makes it harder to understand the underlying principle. Also, Professor Klick often mentions research and publications, and it would be helpful to add them to the course portal so we can review them.
- The strength of the course was how relaxed it was. After seeing how well this class went without the Socratic method, I don't understand why all the other professors cling to it. We still learned and paid attention without having to worry about being called on. For weaknesses, I wish more targeted reading was assigned. We never covered most of what was in the 30 pages suggested to read for each day, so many of us were

- frustrated with the fact that we bothered to read.
- No Answer
- 1. Book requires economics supplement to answer Prof's policy questions. Also requires a black-letter law supplement.
- 2. Book covered too haphazardly. There were sections where reading the tiny notes cases was important. Other sections where Professor assigned 100+ pages and totally skipped in class, such as Emotional Harms and Insurance. Deterred students from reading.
- No Answer

13. **Other comments:**

- No Answer
- No Answer
- Not only was the course well taught, but Professor Klick himself is a genuinely nice person who made the first semester of law school a whole lot more manageable just by starting my day off with a class that was easy to understand and interesting.
- Prof. Klick did a good job of explaining his views but encouraging students to present theirs and entertaining opposition to his views.
- No Answer
- Like said, Klick is a tremendous professor and brilliant mind, and I look forward to the opportunity to take a course with him again.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- I benefited from learning torts like any other law student does during his or her first year of law school, without the cost of spending 20+ hours a week on the materials. I'd say I definitely came out ahead. Thank you Professor Klick.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Klick is a very fun and entertaining professor that gives a unique perspective to the study of law.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- I enjoyed when Prof. Klick brought his own research into the class discussion.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- I found myself relating a lot of his arguments about incentives and efficiency to concepts and material in other classes, so I definitely learned and was introduced to a different perspective.
- No Answer
- No Answer
- No Answer
- Fun class. Klick has a unique outlook which was great to get exposed to.
- No Answer
- [Reading was not mandatory--was discretionary. Therefore not sure how to answer question 15.]
- No Answer
- None
- No Answer
- I wasn't happy about the policy focus of this class at first, but by the end, it all came together. I think it makes sense to take a broader view of torts, rather than simply learn black letter law. It was interesting to get a broader view of things. Despite this, I do think a little more black letter law would be good. I was embarrassed to talk to others outside of Klick's class toward the end of the semester and realize I didn't even know what the elements of a tort are. Although we had learned these elements, Professor Klick would gloss over the basics of the law a bit too much.
- Not what I expected to be learning in torts, but it ended up being more than I imagined and very thought provoking.
- No Answer
- No Answer

Category Relative Statistics

LAW504-002-12C				First-Year				First-Year Weighted By Course		
	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.		Mean	Median	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.	
1.	3.9	4.0	0.9	1.	4.1	4.0	1.0	1.	4.1	0.8
2.	3.1	3.0	0.7	2.	3.4	3.0	0.6	2.	3.4	0.6
3.	3.5	3.0	1.1	3.	3.8	4.0	1.0	3.	3.8	0.9
4.	4.2	4.0	0.9	4.	4.0	4.0	1.1	4.	4.0	0.9
5.	4.8	5.0	0.4	5.	4.6	5.0	0.7	5.	4.6	0.9
6.	4.3	5.0	1.0	6.	4.2	5.0	1.2	5.	4.6	0.5

7.	4.4	5.0	0.6
8.	4.1	4.0	1.0
14.	95.8	99.0	6.1
15.	69.4	77.5	31.3

Results are calculated using the evaluation responses for LAW504-002-12C only.

7.	4.3	5.0	1.0
8.	4.1	4.0	1.0
14.	97.7	100.0	4.7
15.	93.2	100.0	14.2

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.

6.	4.2	0.9
7.	4.3	0.8
8.	4.1	0.9
14.	97.7	4.3
15.	92.7	11.8

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.