

# SCHOOL OF LAW

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSES

### **DERE 7006 Torts.**

Credits: 3

Civil and common-law principles of liability for wrongs to persons, property, or other interests based on fault or negligence. Emphasis on the interaction of civil law and common law in Puerto Rico.

### **DERE 7007 Property Law.**

Credits: 3

Rights over things vis-à-vis rights to credit. Classification of things. Possession and the right to possess. The right to property, its evolution and modalities. Ways of acquiring property; usufruct; servitude; possession; and homestead rights among others.

### **DERE 7008 Family Law.**

Credits: 3

The family as a social and legal institution. Birth, death and limitations on rights of parenthood. Study of institutions, marriage, divorce, parenthood and custody, emancipation, and guardianship.

### **DERE 7015 Criminal Law.**

Credits: 3

Origin, nature, sources, and concepts of criminal law. Its evolution in Puerto Rico. Criminal Law Interpretation and its temporal and territorial application Legality principle. General theory of the offense. Analysis of general criminal law principles such as: The act, intent, causation and result, justification and excuse and the rationale of punishment. Parties to crime. Conspiracy. Security measures for the maintenance of peace and order. Specific crimes.

### **DERE 7016 Obligations and Contract Law.**

Credits: 4

Credit rights. Obligation. Types of obligations. Their effects. Extinguishment of obligations, especially payment and novation. Individual and collective actions by creditors. Evolution of contracts and their binding nature. Study of consent, object, and consideration in contracts. Perfection of a contract. Voiding of contracts by reason of non-existence, nullity, rescission, and cancellation. Special rescissions. The *rebus sic stantibus* clause.

### **DERE 7017 Civil Procedure.**

Credits: 4

Study of the organization and jurisdiction of the courts and the current Civil Procedure Rules issued by our Supreme Court.

**DERE 7018 Constitutional Law.**

Credits: 4

Study of the limits and extension of Constitutional authority in the federal and state jurisdiction with emphasis on the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Some of the topics to be discussed are: Federal power to regulate commerce and the limits it impose on state regulation; the general powers of Congress and their interaction with local and state government; due process restrictions applicable to criminal procedure; limitations imposed by substantive due process on economic regulation and offer governments regulations; the right to freedom of expression; the equal protection choose and judicial review.

**DERE 7019 Criminal Procedure.**

Credits: 4

Prerequisite: DERE 7015 (Criminal Law)

Criminal jurisdiction. Duties of the prosecuting attorney. Methods of prosecution. Arrest. Preliminary Hearing; post Judicial Appeals. Bail. Grand Jury Hearings; Assignment. Trial. Sentencing; Motions and procedures.

**DERE 7020 Criminal Law: Specific Crimes.**

Credits: 3

The study of crimes contained in the Commonwealth Criminal Code and other related statutes.

**DERE 7021 Federal Jurisdiction.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: DERE 7017, 7018 (Civil Procedure and Constitutional Law)

Study, analysis and reflection on Article III of the Constitution of the United States, and on the principal federal statutes that govern the exercise of federal jurisdiction. Concept, nature, and extent of Federal judicial power and the basis for its execution. Distribution of judicial power between federal and state courts, principles of federation, conflicts between state and federal courts and the doctrines which have been used to address those conflicts.

**DERE 7025 Law and Social Change.**

Credits: 3

Legal aspects of development and social change. Analysis of present legal institutions and their adequacy in the solution of contemporary social problems. Study of legislation on planning, urban affairs, civil rights, and poverty, and the development of legal trends, in these and other areas, as cause and effect of economic and social change.

**DERE 7026 Evidence.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: DERE 7017 (Civil Procedure)

Study of the principles and current rules of evidence, in light of the rulings of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. Study of origins of said rules and analysis of the modern tendencies in evidence.

**DERE 7027 Commercial Contracts.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: DERE 7016 (Contracts Law)

Study of theory of modern commercial law with reference to new trade regulations. The historical development and sources of commercial law, commercial contracts and special regulations.

**DERE 7028 Administrative Law.**

Credits: 4

Prerequisite: DERE 7018 (Constitutional Law)

Analysis of the birth and development of modern administrative process. Study of the function of administrative agencies and of administrative procedures. Examination of the investigative, interpretative, quasi-legislative, and quasi-judicial functions of administrative agencies.

**DERE 7029 Trusts and Estates.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: DERE 7008, 7016 (Family Law, Contracts)

Decedent estates, wills; gifts; trusts.

**DERE 7035 Mortgage Law.**

Credits: 3

The historical evolution of mortgage legislation. The registrar, recording of instruments; property and title registration. Mortgages and legal proceedings in the execution of the Mortgage Law of Puerto Rico, particularly summary execution.

**DERE 7036 Business Associations and Corporations.**

Credits: 3

General principles of law relating to private corporations, including the principles relating to their organization. Promoters and contractors. The distribution of corporate powers among shareholders, directors, and officers. Responsibility of directors. Shareholders' rights to inspect corporate books and derivative shareholders' suits. Special problems of closed corporations.

**DERE 7039 Theory of Law.**

Credits: 3

Examination of the fundamental problems and issues on the theory of law, among them, the structures of law, the legitimacy of rules, problems in legal methodology, key concepts of the prevailing legal order, and the relationships between law, power, social

structure, and ideology. These issues will be discussed in light of contributions from various juridical schools of thought, with particular emphasis on recent developments in the discipline.

**DERE 7040 Educational Policy and the Law.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: DERE 7018 (Constitutional Law)

Analysis of the constitutional, statutory and regulatory elements that influence governance of education, both public and private. Study of the problems and constitutional norms relative to compulsory education: the juridical limits to teaching about religious, political, or moral values; the freedom of speech of teachers and students; the right of privacy in the school context; and the guarantees of due process of law. Consideration of the problem of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, disability, or social solidarity and the consequences that solutions to the problem of discrimination have on education. Evaluation of reform proposals, including the formulation of national standards, and privatization.

**DERE 7041 Legal Aid Clinic. (First Part)**

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: 60 Credits approved, including DERE 7017 and 7026. DERE 7019 is required only for clinics dealing with criminal law cases.

Professional practice in the handling of actual cases, under the supervision of a clinical law professor. Students learn the basic skills in interviewing clients, understanding the legal problem presented, determining which course of action to follow for a solution, and the preparation of the necessary judicial and extra-judicial documents.

**DERE 7042 Legal Aid Clinic. (Second Part)**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: DERE 7041

Continuation of DERE 7041.

**DERE 7045 Aviation Law.**

Credits: 3

This course seeks to acquaint students with the fundamentals of the law governing the aviation industry, with emphasis on aircraft related legislation and administrative problems in this field.

**DERE 7048 Civil Policy and Civil Rights Legislation.**

Credits: 2

Study of Federal legislation for the protection of civil rights.

**DERE 7049 Government Law: The Executive.**

Credits: 3

Study and analysis of the power of the Executive, its sources, limits and the process by which it is exercised. The analysis will include both legal and practical operational elements.

**DERE 7055 Economic Analysis of the Law.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Second and third year law students.

Study of those areas of political economy having particular relevance to the law.

Exposition of the relevant economic principles in a systematic survey of the rules and institutions of the legal system, including torts, property, contracts, public regulation of the market, the regulation of business organizations and financial markets, the distribution of income and wealth, constitutional law, federal system, and the legal process.

**DERE 7056 Energy and Law.**

Credits: 3

Federal and Puerto Rican legislation; regulations; and judicial precedents applicable to the importation, production, transformation, allocation, cost and conservation of energy. Policy framework, institutional structure and practice. Case studies illustrating typical legal problems.

**DERE 7057 International Business Arbitration.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Civil Procedure (DERE 7017)

A study of the advantages of international business arbitration over other traditional methods of resolving disputes that arise as a result of various international transactions. Analysis of the arbitration procedures and the relation of these procedures to the court systems of various nations.

**DERE 7058 Sexual Orientation and the Law.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law (DERE 7018)

A study of the regulation of sexuality and sexual preferences in the context of criminal law, privacy, freedom of association, family, employment, and education.

**DERE 7065 Housing Legislation and Regulations.**

Credits: 3

A study of Puerto Rican, federal, and other jurisdictions housing legislation and regulation with respect to public and private housing, home construction, urban renewal, and pertinent governmental administrative structures.

**DERE 7066 The Legal Profession.**

Credits: 2

Study of the legal profession. Examination of its history, organization, commitments, values, and guiding principles, and the regulation of the professional responsibilities of its members. Analysis of the legal profession's interaction with other social groups and its relationship to processes of social transformation. Study of the effects of contemporary political, social, and cultural tendencies over the legal profession.

**DERE 7067 Securities Regulations.**

Credits: 2

An analytical study of the Federal Securities Act. The administrative aspects of securities traffic regulations and relations between the corporation and the shareholder. Integration of Federal precedents into state laws. The Uniform Securities Act of Puerto Rico and how it has been interpreted.

**DERE 7068 Legal Research and Writing.**

Credits: 2

Study of the sources, methods, techniques, and practices of legal analysis and research. Development, by means of practical and theoretical exercises, of the analytical and research skills needed for the study and practice of law. Introduction to contemporary electronic means and resources for conducting legal research. Development, by means of practical exercises, of the ability to use legal forms and prepare legal memoranda to communicate the results of legal researches.

**DERE 7075 Constitutional Law and Gender-Based Discrimination Law.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law (DERE 7018)

Study of gender-based discrimination and its Constitutional, statutory, administrative and judicial implications. The course pays special attention to particular constitutional concepts, the development of feminist juridical theory, the relation between theory and practice and the development of juridical remedies.

**DERE 7077 Notary Law and Practice**

Credit: 3

Prerequisite: DERE 7035

Origins of the Puerto Rican Notarial Institution. History, development and effectiveness of the notarial institutions. Study of the Notarial Law and its Regulation. The Public Notary: requisites to become a notary, functions, duties and professional and ethical responsibilities. The notarial documents: drafting, and preparation of diverse notarial documents, preparation of protocol. Analytical study of case law on the subject matter

**DERE 7085 Legal Aspects of International Business Transactions.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Commercial Transactions (DERE 7027)

Sudy of the normative principles and mechanisms that prevail in International Commercial Law.

**DERE 7086 Legal Aspects of the European Economic Community.**

Credits: 3

A study of the institutional and constitutional mechanisms of the European Economic Community as it approaches the Single European Market and looks into the future.

**DERE 7087 Technology Transfer.**

Credits: 2

Analysis and discussion of the basic concepts of technology and its importance in the legal and corporative world. Contractual relationships in reference to the several methods of technology transfer. Evaluation of the several forms and methods of technology transfer. Financial sources for technological innovation. The role of the lawyer in the processes of technology transfer, at the national and international levels. The function of government as regulator and facilitator of technological innovation. Study of the legal framework in reference to technology transfer.

**DERE 7105 Author's Rights and Interconnected Rights.**

Credits: 2

Prerequisites: Property Rights (DERE 7007), Obligations and Contracts (DERE 7016)  
Study and analysis of the author's subjective rights over those creations arising out of his or her intellectual endeavors and which have taken the form of literary, artistic, and scientific productions.

**DERE 7115 Public International Law.**

Credits: 3

Study of the historical evolution, basic concepts, institutions and structures, and principal processes of public international law. Its incorporation into Puerto Rican and U.S. law. Its effects on legislation and case law in domestic law.

**DERE 7116 Payment Systems.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Obligation and Contracts (DERE 7016)  
Study of regulations of payment systems including negotiable instruments, check-cashing, deposits, money transfers, letters of credit, warehouse warrants, bills of lading, and other documents of title; the rights and responsibilities of parties on a promissory note, check, and other negotiable instruments. Examination of regulation relating to the use of credit cards, electronic money transfers, and other payment systems.

**DERE 7209 Immigration Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of the law, policies, and procedures related to the immigration processes in the United States including the exclusion and deportation rules.

**DERE 7215 European Human Rights**

Credits: 2

Study of human rights protection in Europe through the legislation and applicable case law.

**DERE 7219 Administrative Comparative Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of the administrative law, policies, and procedures in different jurisdictions.

**DERE 7227 Business Organizations in Europe.**

Credits: 2

Study of the community law regarding partnerships. Special interest in the stock company partnership existing in Europe. Analysis of the aspects pending legal regulation. Examination of the different types of regulated companies.

**DERE 7308 Cyber Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of the basic legal problems arising from the commercialization of digital network technology, such as the Internet. Jurisdictional considerations, the use and legitimacy of digitized and electronic signatures, the violation of on-line intellectual property rights, cyber crimes, protection of the right to privacy and the right to freedom of expression, among other issues. This course will also analyze public policy debates on the development of a coherent ordinance to regulate e-commerce and other on-line technologies.

**DERE 7309 Communication Law**

Credits: 3

Study and analysis of mass media law. The principal subjects to be studied include the following: Freedom of expression of the press and the limits on government regulation; legal problems arising from communications, particularly defamation and protection of privacy; problems in news gathering, specially reporter's privilege and access to information.

**DERE 7395 The Social Responsibility of Lawyers.**

Credit: 1

Through an analysis of twelve cases studies, the course will look at the social responsibility of lawyers in a variety of professional roles.

**DERE 7505 Legal Medicine.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: Criminal Law (DERE 7015), Torts Law (DERE 7006)

Survey of the present state of medical science and the scientific method of medicine. Analysis of trauma, emphasizing its possible legal consequences. Psychiatric and legal considerations. Preparation of the medical aspects of a case, including expert testimony. Government regulation of medicine. Medical aid programs. Malpractice and civil rights problems in this area.

**DERE 7506 Criminal Law and Psychiatry.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Criminal Law (DERE 7015)

A study of the relation between Criminal Law and human behavior, both normal and pathological. Analysis of the stages in the development of human behavior with emphasis on experience that might lead to mental illness affecting social behavior. The course intends to provide a better understanding of the conceptual terminology between lawyers and psychiatrists.

**DERE 7507 Criminology.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Criminal Law (DERE 7015)

A philosophical inquiry into criminological theory. Discussion of etiology and punishable conduct under two principal headings, criminal anthropology (taking the individual as a starting point), and criminal sociology (focusing on the social context).

**DERE 7508 Personal Property Guarantees.**

Credits: 4

Prerequisite: Obligation and Contract Law (DERE 7016)

Study of personal property guarantees: liens, buying and selling of accounts, financial documents, and consignments. Examination of laws governing the rights, responsibilities, and remedies available to debtors and creditors. Analysis of rules relating to priority-conflict problems. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the rules; prospects for making rules more consistent with other pertinent laws.

**DERE 7509 Legislation on Restrictive Practices in Competition.**

Credits: 3

Federal antitrust laws are studied in two-fold: 1) their general structure, content, and general interpretation as well as their direct application to Puerto Rican trade and trade between the United States and Puerto Rico; 2) their significance as precedents in Puerto Rican legislation which is examined simultaneously by studying the different forbidden practices. Analysis of the problems of unlawful competition from the point of view of private law (used as a basis for studying the unfair competitive methods) and public law (analyzed in light of Federal Trade Commission laws and state legislation)

**DERE 7515 Admiralty Law.**

Credits: 2

Federal and Commonwealth admiralty jurisdiction. General Substantive Law, International and statutory law. Maritime liens, claims of seamen and similar persons. Responsibility of vessel and its limitations. Collision claims, limitation of liability of owners. Selected special topics (shipment of goods, charter of vessels, salvage, marine insurance, and other specialized topics).

**DERE 7516 Insurance Law.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Obligation and Contract Law (DERE 7016)

The theory of insurance, with particular emphasis on the problems of Puerto Rico. The Puerto Rican Insurance Law will be studied, as well as Puerto Rican and United States jurisprudence in the field of insurance.

**DERE 7517 Trusts.**

Credits: 2

Study of Anglo-American trusts and their possibilities in civil law jurisdictions.

**DERE 7518 Taxation.**

Credits: 4

General principles of taxation. Jurisdiction and limitations under the Federal, state, and insular systems. Substantive and procedural aspects of property, inheritance and income tax laws, and excises in Puerto Rico.

**DERE 7519 Accounting and the Law.**

Credits: 2

Sources, nature, and presentation of financial data. Interpretation and use of accounting forms with special reference to the legal profession. The general principles of accounting are introduced as a general background for the proper interpretation of financial information.

**DERE 7520 Corporate and Partnerships Taxation.**

Credits: 3

Study of the principal aspects of the taxation of corporations and partnerships and their stockholders and partners in Puerto Rico. The various aspects are covered through a casebook, supplemented with the Puerto Rico Internal Revenue Code, judicial decisions, and practical problems.

**DERE 7526 Legislative Process.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law (DERE 7018)

Comparative study of the United States Congress and the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as governmental institution. An exhaustive analysis of the structure, composition, and functions of various divisions of the legislative branch. Modern techniques and methods of legislation. Analysis of the methodology of the drafting of legislative bills in attention to particular issues concerning Puerto Rico.

**DERE 7527 Social Legislation (Employment Law).**

Credits: 3

The study of federal legislation related to wages and hours and its interaction with other employment legislation from Puerto Rico and the United States. Includes an analysis of such topics as illegal dismissal, maternity leave, closing hours, and procedural issues related with the enforcement of social legislation in these areas, among other.

**DERE 7528 Judicial Administration.**

Credits: 3

Administrative aspects of the judicial branch in Puerto Rico, including planning, budget, human resources administration, organization, and methods, as those relate to the methodology and functional concepts of public administration.

**DERE 7529 Labor Arbitration.**

Credits: 2

Prerequisite: Labor Law (DERE 7535)

Study of the legal principles applicable to labor controversies in Puerto Rico. Analysis of Federal and local legislation. Analysis of federal and state statutory provisions. Drafting of arbitration and complaint clauses. Preparation and solution of controversies at the arbitration level.

**DERE 7530 Bankruptcy.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Obligation and Contract Law (DERE 7016)

Study of the basic principles contained in the Federal Bankruptcy Code and its application to business and individuals in Puerto Rico. The course examines the jurisdictional aspects, the creditor and debtor rights, the settlement under Chapter 7, and the commercial and individual reorganization under Chapters 11, 12, and 13. Study and analysis of the diverse processes in bankruptcy, including the initiation of voluntary and involuntary cases, automatic suspension, of collection efforts the use and alienation of estate property, the assumption or rejection of contracts, the annulment of estate property transfers, exempt property and other subjects of our community interest.

**DERE 7535 Labor Law.**

Credits: 4

Study of the historical development of the discipline as way to of understand its present problems. Comparative analysis of the intent of both the National Labor Relations Act and the Labor Relations Act of Puerto Rico. Special attention is given to problems related to collective bargaining, representation, and labor and management activities in labor disputes. Collective bargaining, statutory and contractual conflicts, and the relationship of unions to their members.

**DERE 7537 Extraordinary Remedies.**

Credits: 2

Analysis of the Special Legal Procedures Act. Study of the origin, functioning, and judicial interpretation of the writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warrant, certiorari, injunctions, prohibitions, and inhibitions.

**DERE 7538 Sociology of Law.**

Credits: 2

A study of the law as an instrument of social control and as social product. Legal system is analyzed in order to identify what is distinctively legal, and to examine some of the reciprocal interrelationships of law and society. The course includes sociological research on particular sociological problems within the community, aimed at obtaining practical and concrete understanding of the impact of the law upon a community and of the effect of social circumstances upon the law.

**DERE 7539 Natural Resources Legislation.**

Credits: 3

A study of problems regarding natural resources; the existing administrative and legal structure in existence for the conservation and use planning of these resources, the adequacy of these mechanisms, and recent legal tendencies in this field.

**DERE 7540 International Environmental Law.**

Credits: 3

Exploration, from an international perspective, of emerging environmental and natural resources law, such as the application of international and environmental law for the protection of the air and the atmosphere, bio-diversity, territorial and wildlife resources, marine and fresh waters, and the growing human population. Examination of diverse legal doctrines including interpretation of international treaties and the implementation of recent laws and agreements affecting efforts to manage, preserve, restore, and protect the environment.

**DERE 7545 History of Puerto Rican Law.**

Credits: 3

The beginnings of Puerto Rican law as far back as the structure of Indian law. Judicial institutions and constitutional development in Puerto Rico during the nineteenth century, constitutional changes embodied in the 1897 constitution of Puerto Rico as an autonomous nation, and the administration of justice and law during the period of U.S. military government from 1898 to 1900, ending with a detailed study of the historical origins of the provisional Court of the United States in Puerto Rico.

**DERE 7546 Special Contracts.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Obligation and Contract Law (DERE 7016)

Contract typification. Pre-contracts, options and promises. Contracts of sale and barter. Leases and loans. Contracts of mandate and deposit. Aleatory contracts. Conducts over goods as a result of marriage. Arbitration agreements. Debt collection. Unjust enrichment.

**DERE 7547 International Private Law.**

Credits: 3

Conflict of law. The selection of the law to be applied in cases which involve more than one legal system. Puerto Rican doctrines. Conflicts in jurisdiction, competence, marriage and divorce law, tutorship, property law, estates, contracts, statutes of limitation, enforcing foreign judgments, torts, etc.

**DERE 7548 History of Civil Law.**

Credits: 3

A study of the systems of law which originate in Roman Law and from which the Puerto Rican legal system is derived. Difficulties it faced in its Spanish evolution. Contact with the common law in Puerto Rico and its transformation as a result of that contact. Potential future developments in view of Puerto Rican reality.

**DERE 7557 International Organizations.**

Credits: 2

Study and analysis of the structure and decision-making processes of the major international organizations, in the context of their political functions. The role of law in

everyday international practice and other alternative ways of solving international problems. Special consideration will be given to the following areas: peace agreements, collective security, regional treaties and organizations, arms regulation, economic and social cooperation, and the development of international law.

**DERE 7559 Urbanism and Planning.**

Credits: 3

Property rights and the problems of development. Special legislation to regulate development. Alternative techniques and methods to achieve economic and social objectives through planning, legislation, and regulation.

**DERE 7566 Law and Poverty.**

Credits: 3

Analysis of the principal obstacles most important problems faced by the poor which have or may have a legal remedy, as a basis for the discussion of the causes which impede the access of the poor to legal action those remedies. As consumers, tenants, citizens, and as beneficiaries of social and welfare legislation, the poor face problems which have legal solutions, but which at present are not solved through the legal processes. A study will be made of the problems and applicable statutes as well as the system short comings in order to identify more effective solutions.

**DERE 7567 Elements of Common Law in the United States.**

Credits: 3

Panoramic view of contracts of real estate property, trusts, and successions in U.S. law.

**DERE 7568 Roman Law.**

Credits: 3

A historical survey of the institutions of Roman Law. *Ius fas, boni mores, Ius civile* and *Ius praetorium, Ius gentium*. Analysis of some institutions such as: the person (capacity, gender, marriage) the thing (ownership possession and other property rights) contracts. Successions legal scheme Justinian Roman Law: The idea of the system.

**DERE 7569 Comparative Law.**

Credits: 3

A comparison of methods, and norms. Comparison of systems and the benefits of such as effort. Comparison and universality of law. Puerto Rico's special interest in comparative law. Comparative Law special interest in the case of Puerto Rico. Comparison of legal institutions. Comparison in terms of infrastructural schemata.

**DERE 7570 Therapeutic Jurisprudence.**

Credits: 3

Survey of the main tenets of therapeutic jurisprudence. A legal perspective that sees the law norms, legal procedures, and the roles of lawyers and judges as a potential therapeutic agent. Study of the impact of the law on emotional life and on psychological well-being. Law reform measures are discussed, as well as how lawyers, judges, and others may apply existing laws in a more therapeutic manner.

**DERE 7575/7579 Forensic and Appellate and Practice.**

Credits: 2

Prerequisites: Civil Procedure (DERE 7017), Evidence (DERE 7026)

Preparation and presentation in Mock Court of individually assigned cases.

**DERE 7578 The History of Puerto Rican Constitutional Law.**

Credits: 3

A historical and legal study of the constitutional and political development of Puerto Rico. Constitutional historical development in Spain and Puerto Rico from 1808 to 1818. The US-Puerto Rico relations from 1898 to the descolonization process at the UN and its impact in Puerto Rican constitutional law. Exhaustive study of literature and bibliography.

**DERE 7585 Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility.**

Credits: 3

Using methods devised from psychology, the course tries to explore the attitudes and problems generated in lawyers brought about by conflicts inherent to the practice of law.

**DERE 7588 Law Review I (First Semester).**

Credit: 1

Work on Law Review on writing and research.

**DERE 7589 Law Review II (Second Semester).**

Credit: 1

Work on Law Review on writing and research.

**DERE 7590 Seminar: Topics in Corporate Law.**

Credits: 2

Complex topics in corporate law: corporate financing; organization of the corporation; responsibilities of shareholders and directors; mergers, restructurings and dissolutions; comparative corporate law; corporate law in general. The specific topic to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7595 Sports Law.**

Credits: 3

The study of sports regulation in Puerto Rico and the United States, including the rights and limitations of participants in sports activities.

**DERE 7597 Seminar: Topics in Administrative Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of complex topics in administrative law. The seminar will address the laws and procedures related to certain administrative agencies as well as their exercise of delegated power and judicial review; immigration problems; regulation of institutions; processes or products of the private sector; law, planning and urbanism; comparative administrative

law; general problems in administrative law. The specific topic to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write at least one extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times as long as a different topic is studied in the seminar.

**DERE 7600 Seminar: Topics in Criminal Law.**

Credits: 2

Complex topics in criminal law: General Theory of Criminal Law: misdemeanors and felonies, penal systems, administration of criminal law, comparative criminal law, and Criminal Law in General. The specific topic to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7610 Regulation of Depository Institutions.**

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: DERE 7027 or 7116, 7036

The study of federal and Puerto Rican laws and regulations governing depository institutions. Study of categories of depository institutions, and their regulators regarding their established and traditional banking activities. Analysis of legislative and administrative proposals to authorize nontraditional banking activities and to recognize new categories of depository institutions.

**DERE 7620 Seminar: Topics in Bankruptcy Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of complex topics in bankruptcy law: creditor and debtor laws in general, reorganization through Chapter 11, rehabilitation of individuals under Chapter 13; bankruptcy planning. The specific topic to be studied will be announced in advance students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7630 Seminar: Topics in Commercial Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of complex topics in commercial law: commercial contracts, commercial financing, international business relations, insurance in general, property and contingency insurances, life insurance, negotiable bonds, comparative commercial law, regulation of financial markets, and commercial law in general. The specific theme to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7640 Seminar: Topics on the History of Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of relevant issues in the history of law: Roman-German law, history of constitutional law, history of common law, and general issues in the history of law. The specific theme to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7667 Seminar: Topics in the Theory of Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of relevant developments in the theory of law; Discussion of philosophical and juridical works; mayor schools of thought or legal currents; the judicial process, law and literature; ethics, morals, and justice in the legal profession; law and social theory; feminism; theory of law in general. The specific issue to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7669 Law and Literature.**

Credits: 3

Study of the relationship between law and literature. Study of the differences between the lawyer and the artist in relation to their respective approaches to certain human problems and phenomena.

**DERE 7676 Seminar: Topics on Environmental Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of relevant issues in environmental law: specialized legislation for environmental protection; economic development and environmental protection; methods, processes, and remedies in the protection of natural resources, ecology, and the environments comparative environmental law; international environmental law; environmental law in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7678 Seminar: Topics on Civil Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of relevant issues in civil law: family and personal law; laws for minors; domestic violence; property law; contracts; successions; torts; private international law; the preliminary title of the civil code; comparative civil law; mortgage law; intellectual property; civil law in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7680 Seminar: Issues in Constitutional Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues in constitutional law: the organization of state powers; freedom of expression, religion, press, and other individual liberties; the separation of church and state; comparison and contrasting of the constitutions of Puerto Rico and the United States; due process of law; First Amendment equal protection under law; constitutional theory; institutions and processes of legislative power; comparative constitutional law; federalism and constitutional structure; selected problems in constitutional law; constitutional law in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7686 Seminar: Issues in International Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues in international law: customary law and treaty laws between states; international economic transactions; international protection of human rights; states, and Caribbean nations and peoples; political and economic community; fundamental concepts of international law; international law in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7687 Seminar: Issues in Evidence Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues in evidence law: privileges; documental and testimonial evidence; scientific evidence; expert testimony; comparative evidence law; trial law in general. The specific issues to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7688 Seminar: Topics in Criminal Procedure.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues regarding criminal procedure: constitutional protections during the criminal procedure, criminal procedure under Puerto Rican and U.S. rules; observance of sentences and prisoner rights; comparative criminal procedure; criminal procedure in general. The specific issues to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7689 Seminar: Issues in Taxation.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues regarding tax law: individual income tax; corporate and shareholder tax; estate and gift tax; fiscal policy, comparative tax law; taxation in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7690 Seminar: Issues in Advanced Legal Research.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues regarding law: empirical legal research; regulations of professional conduct; comparative legal systems; world legal traditions and legal system; advanced legal research in general. The specific topic to be studied will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7695 Seminar: Issues in Consumer Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues in consumer law: procedural and substantive protection of consumer goods and services from private enterprise; price regulation; distribution of resources and availability of credit; specialized consumer protection legislation; consumer laws in general. The specific issues to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7696 Seminar: Issues in Labor Law.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues in labor law: organization of labor unions; collective bargaining; non-union worker guarantees; unemployment; labor legislation in various legal systems; labor organization of the public sector; comparative labor law; employment: problems, legislation, public policy; Labor law in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7697 Seminar: Issues in Civil Procedure.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues regarding civil procedure: first instance proceedings; appeals; administration of justice; alternative methods of dispute resolution; comparative civil procedure; civil procedure in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7698 Seminar: Law and Society perspectives.**

Credits: 2

Study of issues addressed through the law and society perspectives: The effects of law on poverty, social security programs and the rights of the beneficiaries, housing, health, mental health, social change, the elderly, education, technology, and society in general. The specific issue to be addressed will be announced in advance. Students will be required to write an extensive paper. The seminar may be repeated a maximum of four times with a different topic each time.

**DERE 7730 Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods.**

Credits: 2

Study of modern tendencies to develop and adopt methods other than the judicial trial for the resolution of disputes. These methods, commonly called ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution), include arbitration and mediation (in the areas of labor, commerce, international relations and family disputes), negotiation and settlement, and others.

**DERE 7991, 7992, 7993, 7994 Special issues in Private Law.**

Credit: 1

Analysis of several aspects of private law of special or current interest.

**DERE 7995 Legal Practice Workshop.**

Credits: 2-4

Provides students with the practical legal environment to experience the dynamics of the legal profession. During the summer, students are assigned to judges, government agencies, legislative committees, private lawyers, or the Legal Aid Clinic.

**DERE 7996, 7997, 7998, 7999 Special Issues in Public Law.**

Credit: 1

Analysis of several aspects of private law of special or current interest.