

AECN 256: AGRICULTURAL LAW

Instructor: Professor Aiken. *Office:* 103D Filley Hall. *Office hours:* by appointment. *Email:* daiken@unl.edu (preferred method of communication outside of class). *Phone:* 2-1848 (can leave a message 24 hours/ day). *Secretary:* Mrs. Pam Holmes 2-1913, 207 Filley Hall. If you need to take a makeup exam, you will take it from Mrs. Holmes in 207 Filley.

Text: Aiken, *Nebraska Agricultural Law* (1998). Available from UNL Extended Education & Outreach at 21st & Vine Street. \$53.50 with the yellow coupon through September 11, 2009; \$67.41 without the yellow coupon.

Class attendance & preparation. This course is a traditional lecture-style course. Lecture notes are available on Bb and should be brought to class. If you miss a lecture or do not attend a lecture, you are responsible for obtaining the class notes from another student, not from Professor Aiken. Professor Aiken may need to miss an occasional lecture in order to present an extension program--such absences will be announced in class (if possible), by email (always), and on Bb.

Bb course materials. Course materials are accessed via Bb. Under the course documents page you will find lecture notes and powerpoint overheads for all chapters grouped by exam, as well as the hour exams from last year. The lecture notes focus on the most important topics and update your text with changes where appropriate. Print out the lecture overheads and bring them to class. Be sure to mouse click in the Web frame that has the notes or overheads questions before you print them; otherwise you may print a different frame. **Working out the review questions is worth the effort--most exam questions come straight from the chapter review questions.**

Exams. Three hour exams will be given during the semester plus an optional final exam. The hour exams are traditional closed-book exams which include fill in the blank, short answer, multiple-choice and true-false questions (up to 100 questions per exam). No hour exam grades are dropped. Students have one week after the exams have been returned to discuss exam grade changes. After this date hour exam grades will not be changed. Graded exams not picked up in class will be discarded after one week. The final exam is optional; it will not replace your lowest hour exam score but will count simply as a fourth hour exam. The final will not be counted if it would lower your semester grade.

Honors credit. Students wishing to take the course for honors credit must prepare a 15+ page research paper on a topic proposed by the student and approved by the professor. You must submit the paper topic no later than exam 1, a detailed paper outline no later than exam 2 and a complete finished draft of the honors paper no later than exam 3. A tentative grade will be assigned to the draft paper as well as suggestions for revisions if the student would like to improve the grade. The revised paper must be submitted at the final exam. The paper will be graded and will be figured into your course grade as an extra hour exam. Each day you are late for any of the deadlines (topic, outline, paper, and revisions if any) will cost you one percentage point (1%) per day that you are late from your honors paper final grade.

Grading policy. Semester grades are awarded as follows:

A+	96.00-100	B+	86.00-88.99	C+	74.00-78.99	D	59.00-63.99	P/NP grading	
A	92.00-95.99	B	82.00-85.99	C	69.00-73.99	F	0-58.99	P	69.00-100
A-	89.00-91.99	B-	79.00-81.99	D+	64.00-68.99			NP	0-68.99

Email etiquette: PLEASE indicate that you are in **AECN256** (or simply **256** or **ag law**) in your email subject line. In addition, please put your name in the email. Often student email names give no discernible indica-

tion of what the student's legal name is, e.g. HuskerFan1986@hotmail.com. Finally, if you are responding to an email from me please include the original email message that you received in your email to me, so that I will understand your email (otherwise I may not!).

Reading Assignments. Assignments are to *Nebraska Agricultural Law*. **Students are also responsible for any update materials to the text that are available on BlackBoard.**

Aug 25: course overview
 Aug 27: ch 1: legal system 1-14
 Sep 01: ch 1A: politics & the legal system.
 Sep 03: ch 2: contracts 15-25
 Sep 08: ch 3: torts 26-33
 Sep 10: ch 4-5: ag labor & employment 35-52
 Sep 15: ch 6-7: sales & product liability 53-69
 Sep 17: ch 8-9: real estate sales & finance 71-88
 Sep 22: ch 10: secured transactions 89-106
 Sep 24: ch 11: farm products rule 107-115
 Sep 29: ch 12-13: farm bankruptcy & mediation 117-135

Oct 01: **exam 1**, ch. 1-13, pp. 1-135

Oct 06: ch 14-15: business planning & partnerships 137-151
 Oct 08: ch 16, 18: corporations & cooperatives 153-161, 173-175; exam 1 returned
 Oct 13: ch 19-20: leases & production contracts 177-193
 Oct 15: ch 21: estate planning 195-209
 Oct 16: last day to change to/from P/NP
 Oct 20: fall break (no class)
 Oct 22: ch 22: wills & probate 211-218

Oct 27: **exam 2**: ch 14-22, pp. 137-218

Oct 29: ch 23: property rights 219-240
 Nov 03: ch 24: feedlots 241-262; exam 2 returned
 Nov 05: ch 25-26: fence laws & property taxes 263-286
 Nov 10: ch 27-28: NRDs & drainage 287-301
 Nov 12: ch 29-30 ag chemicals 303-325
 Nov 13: last day to withdraw from course
 Nov 17: env liabilities; global warming & agriculture 327-331
 Nov 19: ch 31: surface water law 333-339
 Nov 24: ch 32: ground water law 341-354
 Nov 26: Thanksgiving holiday (no class)
 Dec 01: California livestock production restrictions

Dec 03: **exam 3**: ch 23-32, pp. 219-354

Dec 08: no class
 Dec 10 exam 4 returned

Dec 18: **optional final exam** (made up of questions from exams 1-3) Friday 7:30-9:30 a.m. @ PS199
 (you may take the exam earlier by appointment)
