Development of a Topics Course for Construction Law

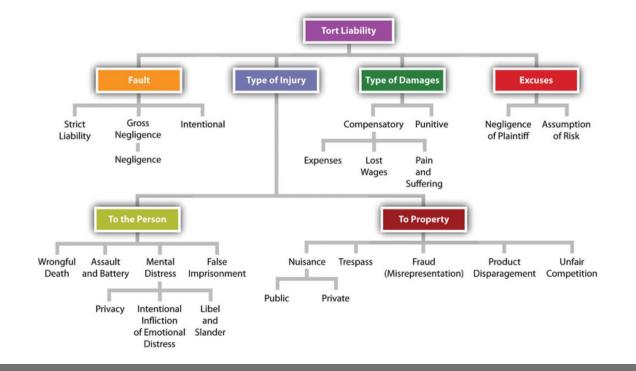


The Cal Poly Construction Management program is designed to prepare students heading into the construction industry for daily management tasks. With construction comes many legal aspects integrated into a project's operations. Though the curriculum includes a contract law course, a gap exists with a minimal number of classes that address the array of legal matters the construction industry must be versed in. Working with faculty member, Thomas Kommer, J.D., there is a need for a course that expands on these varying legal topics. In order to determine the specific topics that would impactfully benefit and educate Cal Poly Construction Management students, interviews were performed with both construction and legal professionals. Once the topics were established, I performed literary reviews to define the topics and benefits of adding this to our curriculum. This paper identifies the benefit from a topics course that dives deeper into construction law topics including real property law, professional licensing and insurance law, tort law with respect to negligence and willful conduct, labor law and employment law, and criminal law.

Key Words: Construction Law, Project Management, Legal, Preparation, Advanced Course

Course Topics:

- **1. Real Property Law**
- 2. Professional Licensing & Insurance Law
- 3. Tort Law w/ Respect to Negligence & Willful Conduct
- 4. Labor Law & Employment Law
- 5. Criminal Law



Cal Poly Construction Management courses that include lessons on legal practices and proceedings:

- CM 334 Construction Law
- Bus 207 Legal Responsibilities of Business
- CM 443 Management of the Construction Firm



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