This is a survey of the economic analysis of the law and of legal institutions. Topics covered include property, transactions costs and the Coase theorem, copyrights, torts and negligence, punishment and deterrence, control of illegal drugs and gun control.

**Prerequisite:** Economics 2A


**Course Requirements and Grading:**

- Class Participation: 20%
- Short Exams: 20%
- Term paper: 25%
- Final exam: 35%

If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.

I. Introduction to the Economic Analysis of Law
   Cooter, Chapter 1

II. Review of Some 2a Basics
   Cooter, Chapter 2. Note: Chapter 2 covers, and we will use, some concepts not covered in Econ 2a. These will be covered in class and you will have ample opportunity to absorb them.

III. Overview of Legal Institutions
   Cooter, Chapter 3.

IV. Property
   A. Basic Concepts
      Cooter, 71-82
   B. The Coase Theorem and transactions costs.
      Cooter, 82-98
   C. Mechanisms for protection of property
      Cooter, 98-106

V. Public goods and protection of natural resources
   Cooter, 106-110; 120-126
   Cooter, 150-174
Wednesday, October 10: First Short Exam (in class)

VI. Intellectual Property

A. Patents

Cooter, 128-135


B. Copyrights

Cooter, 135-138


Wednesday, October 31: Term Paper Proposal (one page) due in class

VII. Torts and Negligence

A. Economics of liability

Cooter, 287-328

B. Damages

Cooter, 345-355

C. Policy issues and tort law reform

Cooter, 355-371

Wednesday, November 19: Second Short Exam (in class)

VIII. Crime and Punishment

A. Economic theory of crime and punishment

Cooter, 427-454

B. Deterrence

Cooter, 455-478

C. Drugs

Cooter, 479-484

D. Guns

Cooter, 484-489

Monday, December 10: Term Paper due in class (last class meeting)