Contracts II Syllabus
(as of Dec. 20, 2023) (subject to change)

Spring 2024
Tuesday & Thursday, 1:30 to 2:45
Room 202
Law 512-3 Section 1

Prof. Drennan
wdrennan@siu.edu
Office: Room 220
314-943-4683 (cell)

Required Materials: SAME AS CONTRACTS I

As in Contracts I, we will also cover a significant amount of “Bonus Material”

Writing Assignments: We will have one or more writing assignments during the semester. One writing assignment will be designated as our writing-across-the-curriculum and bar-assessment assignment. Satisfactory completion of the writing-across-the-curriculum assignment is required to be eligible to take the final exam and complete the course.

Attendance Policy: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Under the Rules of the School of Law, a first year student may not accumulate absences in a course numbering in excess of twice the credit hours for the course during the semester. Thus, because we meet twice a week, the maximum number of absences in this course is four (4) classes. The Rules provide for three options if a student accumulates absences in excess of the allowable number. The professor may recommend that: (a) the student be given the lowest possible grade; (b) the student be given a “W”; or (c) the student be allowed to continue in the course with a grade reduction.

Midterm Exam, Final Exam & Grading: There will be a midterm exam that will constitute 10% of the grade for the course. Also, there will be a final exam (at the end of the semester) constituting 90% of the grade for the course. The midterm will be during the week of Monday, March 4 to Friday, March 8, but the exact day and time of the midterm had not been set when this Syllabus was prepared. The final exam will be during the standard exam period (April 30 to May 10), but the exact day and time of the final exam had not been set when this Syllabus was prepared. Both the midterm exam and the final exam will be closed book exams.

Course Description: This course continues the study of contract law from Contracts I. After studying certain implied terms (during the first week), we will study various situations in which courts refuse to enforce agreements that satisfy the basic elements of
contracts we studied in Contracts I. Courts may refuse to enforce an otherwise valid agreement between the parties because of the incapacity of a party (for example because the party is a minor or lacks the requisite mental capacity), or because of duress or undue influence, the unconscionability of the bargain, or because the deal violates public policy. Also, there can be situations when a court will permit a party to fail to perform the duties it agreed to in a contract, for example because of mistake, changed circumstances, or contractual modifications. We also will study the rights and duties of third parties, consequences of nonperformance, anticipatory repudiation, damages, and the duty of good faith in contract performance and enforcement.

Office Hours: Wednesdays from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, and by appointment (may be by phone or zoom).

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: We ask that you become familiar with Emergency Preparedness at SIU. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, on the Emergency Preparedness at SIU website, and through text and email alerts. To register for alerts, visit: http://emergency.siu.edu/.

DISABILITY POLICIES. SIU Carbondale is committed to providing an inclusive and accessible experience for all students with disabilities. Disability Support Services coordinates the implementation of accommodations. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but have not yet obtained approval, please contact DSS immediately at 618-453-5738 or disabilityservices.siu.edu. You may request accommodations at any time, but timely requests help to insure accommodations are in place when needed. Accommodations and services are determined through an interactive process with students and may involve consideration of specific course design and learning objectives in consultation with faculty. Please send approved accommodations to your faculty through the DSS online portal.

SALUKI CARES and COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS). The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-2461, or siucares@siu.edu, http://salukicares.siu.edu/index.html. Associate Dean Angela Upchurch (aupchurch@siu.edu or (618) 536-8314) is available at the School of Law to help students access university resources. Additionally, counseling services are available through CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) / Student Health Services / SIU). A counselor is at the law school every Wednesday from noon until 4:30 pm in Room 268 for drop-in appointments.

Safety and Awareness Facts and Education: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: http://safe.siu.edu
Recording of Classes: Students and the professor may record classes from their regular location in the classroom, unless the professor announces in class that this policy has changed. Recordings of the class may not be shared with persons who are not enrolled in this class without the professor’s prior consent. The professor may share recordings with members of the Law School’s IT department or as otherwise necessary.

Plagiarism: Plagiarizing another’s work, in whole or in part, is a violation of the Honor Code and can lead to serious penalties, including expulsion. An Honor Code investigation must also be reported to the Bar Examiners, even if you are cleared of any violation. The Honor Code defines plagiarism as: passing off another’s ideas, words, or work as one’s own, including written, oral, multimedia, or other work, either word for word or in substance, unless the student author credits the original author and identifies the original author’s work with quotation marks, footnotes, or other appropriate designation in such a way as to make clear the true author of the work.

Workload Expectation: The American Bar Association standards for accrediting law schools contain a formula for calculating the amount of work that constitutes one credit hour. According to ABA Standard 310(b)(1), “a ‘credit hour’ is an amount of work that reasonably approximates: (1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.” This is a 3-credit hour course, meaning that we will spend two 75-minute blocks of time together each week (a 75-minute block each Tuesday and Thursday). ABA Interpretation 310-1 states that 50 minutes satisfies for an hour of classroom instruction, but an “hour” for out-of-class work is 60 minutes. The amount of assigned reading and out of class preparation should take you a minimum of 3 hours for each class session and 6 hours for the week. All told, applying the ABA standard to the number of credits offered for this class, you should plan on spending a minimum of 9 hours per week (3 in class and 6 preparing for class) on course-related work.

Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Determine whether a seller has made express or implied warranties in a transaction.
- Analyze the probable results when a minor, or a person who lacks mental capacity, or has questionable capacity because of drugs or alcohol, signs a contract.
- Explain when an otherwise valid contract will be unenforceable because of (i) economic duress, (ii) undue influence, (iii) misrepresentation or nondisclosure, (iv) unconscionability, (v) mistake, or (vi) public policy.
- Argue persuasively whether a party’s failure to perform a contract will be legally excused because of impossibility, impracticability, or frustration of purpose.
- Advice a client regarding the client’s obligations under a contract when the other party has breached the contract or indicated that it will breach the contract.
- Analyze the rights and responsibilities that third parties might have under a contract.
- Quantify the monetary damages recoverable in a breach of contract lawsuit and identify the other remedies that might be available.
- Describe when the implied obligations of good faith and fair dealing might apply and the potential consequences.
• Evaluate contract law’s success or failure in providing consumers and merchants access to justice regardless of economic power through doctrinal regimes, such as warranty law, unconscionability, excuse due to lack of mental capacity, and more.

Attachments incorporated by this reference: SIU School of Law Syllabus Attachment and the University Syllabus Attachment

Contracts II – Spring 2024

Projected Reading Schedule as of Dec. 20, 2023 (subject to change) All page references are to the Knapp Casebook (9th ed. 2019) unless otherwise indicated. The Bonus Material will be posted.

Class #1: Tuesday, January 16, 2024: Review of Syllabus; Implied Terms pages 481 to 492 top (including Wood v. Lucy, Lady Duff-Gordon and Leibel v. Raynor Mfg.)
• Bonus Material for Class #1 (one page).

Class #2: Thursday, January 18, 2024: Warranties pages 546 to 557 top (including Bayliner Marine)
• Bonus Material for Class #2 (on warranties, including Ferragamo v. Mass. Bay Transp. Auth., 481 N.E.2d 477 (Mass. 1985) and Shaffer v. Victoria Station, 588 P.2d 233 (Wash. 1978)).

Class #3: Tuesday, January 23, 2024: Avoiding Contract Enforcement—minors and their capacity to contract [Note: On this topic, it may be better to read the cases from the bonus material (Halbman and Webster Street Partnership), because they represent the majority position, before you read the Dodson case in the Casebook.]
• Bonus Material for Class #3 (including Halbman v. Lemke, 298 N.W.2d 562 (Wis. 1980) and Webster Street Partnership, Ltd. v. Sheridan, 368 N.W.2d 439 (Neb. 1985) both regarding the majority rules for minors);
• Casebook pages 571-578 middle (including Dodson v. Shrader on non-majority approaches for minors)

Class #4: Thursday, January 25, 2024: Avoiding Contract Enforcement cont.—mental incapacity; 579-591 top (including Sparrow);
• Bonus Material for Class #4—regarding incapacity due to drugs or alcohol – Gonzalez v. Jurella, 2015 WL 9943596;
• begin discussion of duress 591 to 601 middle (including Totem Marine)

Class #5: Tuesday, January 30, 2024: Avoiding Contract Enforcement—completion of discussion of duress; undue influence, 601 middle to 610 middle (including Odorizzi v. Bloomfield School District); beginning discussion of misrepresentation 610 & 611;
• Bonus Material for Class #5 (including Halpert v. Rosenthal, edited version of 267 A.2d 730 (R.I. 1970) (regarding innocent misrepresentation)) and Jordan
v. Knafel, significantly edited version of 880 N.E.2d 1061 (Ill. App. 2007) (regarding fraudulent misrepresentation)

Class #6: Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024: Avoiding Contract Enforcement—continued discussion of misrepresentation and then covering nondisclosure: pages 611 bottom to 632 middle (including Syester v. Banta and Hill v. Jones);

• Bonus Material for Class #6 (briefly discussing haunted house stories)

Class #7: Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024: Lawyers Professional Ethics, 632 middle-638 middle (including Park 100); Avoiding Contract Enforcement-Unconscionability; basic principles, 638 bottom-650 middle (including Williams v. Walker-Thomas Furniture);

• Bonus Material for Class #7 (including case on unconscionability and price—Ahern v. Knecht (edited version of 563 N.E.2d 787 (Ill. App. 2002)); MERELY SKIM material on unconscionability and arbitration agreements, 650 middle to 664 top (including Higgins)

Class #8: Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024: Consumer Protection Legislation 677 top—680 top; Avoiding Contract Enforcement-public policy and covenants not to compete, 680-695 top (including Valley Medical);

• Bonus Material for Class #8 (including Jordan v. Knafel, edited version of 823 N.E.2d 1113 (Ill. App. 2005) (this time regarding the “public policy” doctrine and blackmail)

Class #9: Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024: Justification for Nonperformance-Mutual Mistake, 719-730 middle (including Lenawee County Bd. of Health v. Messerly);

• Bonus Material for Class #9 (including case on mistake of fact v. mistake of law—edited version of United States v. Williams, 2014 WL 3537046 (S.D. N.Y. 2014), and additional note on Michael Jordan case as a “mistake” case?)

Class #10: Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024: Unilateral Mistake; pages 730 middle to 741 (including BMW Financial v. Deloach)


Class #11: Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024: Impossibility, Impracticability, and Frustration, 741 bottom to 757 (including Hemlock Semiconductor)

• Bonus Material for Class #11 (including Aluminum Company of America v. Essex Group, 499 F. Supp. 33 (Penn Dist. 1980))

Class #12: Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024: Impossibility, Impracticability, and Frustration cont. 757 bottom to 768 middle (including Mel Frank Tool & Supply)

• Bonus Material for Class #12 (including – River Phoenix Estate, Wasserman Theatrical Enterprise, Board v. Elaine Lukaszewski)
Class #13: Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024: Contract Modification, 771 middle-789 bottom (including *Alaska Packers* and *Kelsey-Hayes Co*);
  - Bonus Material for Class #13 (one-third of a page)

Class #14: Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024: Assignment and Delegation of Contractual Rights and Duties 1115 middle-1134 middle (including *Herzog v. Irace* and *Sally Beauty v. Nexxus Products*)
  - Bonus Material for Class #14 (one page)

Class #15: The dates for Midterm week have been announced as Monday, March 4 to Friday, March 8, but the date and time for our midterm exam had not been set when this Syllabus was prepared. We will count our midterm exam as Class #15.

Class #16: [FOR THE MAKE-UP CLASS FOR MIDTERM WEEK, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT A LINK TO A RECORDING WILL BE EMAILED TO ALL STUDENTS IN THE CLASS AFTER THE PROF RECORDS THE MAKE-UP CLASS.] Rights and Duties of Third Parties 1093-1114 top (including *Vogan* and *Chen* cases).

**SPRING BREAK—Saturday, March 9 to Sunday, March 17**

Class #17: Tuesday, March 19, 2024: Consequences of Nonperformance—Express Conditions, 803 to 818 (including *enXco Development*)
  - No Bonus Material for Class #17

Class #18: Thursday, March 21, 2024: Express Conditions continued, 818 bottom to 827 (including *J.N.A. Realty*)
  - Bonus Material for Class #18 (including a case on waivers—*Savre Auto Repair v. Santoyo*, 865 N.W.2d 419 (N.D. 2015))

Class #19: Tuesday, March 26, 2024: Material Breach 829 top; pages 841 bottom to 849 middle (including *Sackett v. Spindler*)
  - Bonus Material for Class #19 (including modified version of *Jacob & Youngs*, 129 N.E.2d 889 (N.Y. 1921) (Cardozo, J.), and *Health Related Services, Inc. v. Golden Plains Convalescent Center, Inc.*, 806 S.W.2d 102 (Mo. Ct. App. 1991))

Class #20: Thursday, March 28, 2024: Anticipatory Repudiation, 849 middle to 867 middle (including *Truman L. Flatt & Sons Co* and *Hornell Brewing Co v. Spry*)
  - No Bonus Material for Class #20

Class #21: Tuesday, April 2, 2024: Expectation Damages, 873-895 top (including *Crabby’s Inc.* and *Lukaszewski*)
• No Bonus Material for Class #21

Class #22: Thursday, April 4, 2024: Expectation Damages cont. 895 to 901 (including American Standard v. Schectman); Restriction on the Recovery of Expectation Damages-Foreseeability, 902 to 921 (including Hadley v. Baxendale and Florafax)
• No Bonus Material for Class #22

Class #23: Tuesday, April 9, 2024: Restriction on the Recovery of Expectation Damages-Mitigation 921 bottom to 941 middle (including Rockingham County v. Luten Bridge Co. and Maness v. Collins);
• Bonus Material for Class #23: (including Chicago Coliseum Club v. Dempsey, 265 Ill. App. 542 (1932))

Class #24: Thursday, April 11, 2024: Nonrecoverable Damages: Attorney Fees, Mental or Emotional Distress, and Punitive Damages, 948 middle to 957 bottom (including Zapata); Casebook pages 968 to 971 middle (notes #4 through #6, and the “Comment” on punitive damages after the Casebook’s version of Erlich v. Menezes)
• Bonus Material for Class #24 (including edited and re-organized version of Erlich v. Menezes from the version in the Casebook);

Class #25: Tuesday, April 16, 2024: Agreed Remedies 1069 middle to 1086 top (including Barrie School);
• Bonus Material (including Vanderbilt Univ. v. Dinardo, 174 F.3d 751 (6th Cir. 1999))

Class #26: Thursday, April 18, 2024: Specific Performance 1045 middle to 1059 middle (including City Stores);
• Bonus Material (including Channing v. Penn State and Dallas Cowboys Football Club v. James B. Harris); Quizzing -- End of Semester Challenge?

Class #27: Tuesday, April 23, 2024: Bonus Material for Class #27: (including Perfect Tender Rule & Right to Cure, plus Moulton Cavity & Mold Inc., 396 A.2d 1024 (Me. 1979)); Quizzing—End of Semester Challenge?
• No Bonus Material for Class #27

• No Bonus Material for Class #28

Final Exam: The date and time of the Contracts II final exam had not yet been announced when this document was prepared.

[Title of Document: Contracts II Syllabus Spring 2024 Dec. 20, 2023]
SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT
SIU SCHOOL OF LAW – Spring 2024

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: We ask that you become familiar with Emergency Preparedness @ SIU. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, on the Emergency Preparedness @ SIU website, and through text and email alerts. To register for alerts, visit http://emergency.siu.edu/.

DISABILITY POLICY. SIU Carbondale is committed to providing an inclusive and accessible experience for all students with disabilities. Disability Support Services coordinates the implementation of accommodations. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but have not yet obtained approval, please contact DSS immediately at 618-453-5738 or disabilityservices.siu.edu. You may request accommodations at any time, but timely requests help to ensure accommodations are in place when needed. Accommodations and services are determined through an interactive process with students and may involve consideration of specific course design and learning objectives in consultation with faculty. Please send approved accommodations to your faculty through the DSS online portal.

SALUKI CARES and COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS). The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students, and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-2461, or siucares@siu.edu, https://salukicares.siu.edu/. Associate Dean Angela Upchurch (aupchurch@siu.edu or (618) 536-8314) is available at the School of Law to help students access university resources. Additionally, counseling services are available through CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) | Student Health Services | SIU). A counselor is at the law school every Wednesday from noon until 4:30pm in Room 268 for drop-in appointments.

SAFETY AWARENESS FACTS AND EDUCATION Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: http://safe.siu.edu
IMPORTANT DATES:

Semester Classes Begin: .................................................. 01/16/2024
Last day to add full-term course (without Dean’s signature): .... 01/21/2024
Last day to withdraw from the University with a full refund: ...... 01/25/2024
Last day to drop a full-term course for a credit/refund: .......... 01/28/2024
Last day to drop a full-term course (W grade, no refund): ........ 03/31/2024
Final examinations: .......................................................... 05/06/2024-05/10/2024

Note: Please verify the above dates with the Registrar calendar and find more detailed information on deadlines at http://registrar.siu.edu/calendars. For add/drop dates that apply to shorter-than-full-term courses, please look at the Schedule of Classes search results at http://registrar.siu.edu/schedule/index.php.

SPRING SEMESTER HOLIDAYS:
Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday 01/15/2024
Spring Break 03/09/24-03/17/24
Total Solar Eclipse (classes cancelled) 04/08/24

DIVERSITY: Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s goal is to provide a welcoming campus where all of our students, faculty and staff can study and work in a respectful, positive environment free from racism and intimidation. For more information visit: http://diversity.siu.edu. Additional informational flyer.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: SIU Carbondale is committed to providing an inclusive and accessible experience for all students with disabilities. Disability Support Services coordinates the implementation of accommodations. If you think you may be eligible for accommodations but have not yet obtained approval please contact DSS immediately at (618) 453-5738 or https://disabilityservices.siu.edu. You may request accommodations at any time, but timely requests help to ensure accommodations are in place when needed. Accommodations and services are determined through an interactive process with students and may involve consideration of specific course design and learning objectives in consultation with faculty.

MILITARY COMMUNITY: There are complexities of being a member of the military community and also a student, and military and veteran related developments can complicate academic life. If you are a member of the military community and in need of accommodations please visit Veterans Services at http://veterans.siu.edu.

STUDENT MULTICULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER: The Student Multicultural Resource Center serves as a catalyst for inclusion, diversity and innovation. As the Center continues its work, we are here to ensure that you think, grow and succeed. We encourage you to stop by the Center, located in the Student Services Building Room 140, to see the resources available and discover ways you can get involved on the campus. Visit us at https://smrc.siu.edu/.

SALUKI CARES: The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIUC will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For information on Saluki Cares: Call (618) 453-2461, email salukicares@siu.edu, or http://salukicares.siu.edu/.

SAFETY AWARENESS FACTS AND EDUCATION: Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: http://safe.siu.edu.

SIU COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS): Mental health counseling services are available by calling CAPS at (618) 453-5371. CAPS offers confidential same-day services and ongoing counseling. For after hours crisis care, students are encouraged to call 988, 911, or present to their nearest emergency room.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY (Undergraduate Only): Students who officially register for a session must officially withdraw from that registration in a timely manner to avoid being charged as well as receiving a failing grade for those classes. An official withdrawal must be initiated by the student, or on behalf of the student through the academic unit, and be processed by the Registrar’s office. For the proper procedures to follow when dropping courses and when withdrawing from SIUC visit: http://registrar.siu.edu/students/withdrawal.php.

SIUC’S EARLY WARNING INTERVENTION PROGRAM (EWIP): Students enrolled in courses participating in SIUC’s Early Warning Intervention Program may be contacted by University staff during a semester. More information can be found at the University Core Curriculum’s Overview webpage: https://corecurriculum.siu.edu/for-faculty/.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: We ask that you become familiar with Emergency Preparedness at SIU. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, on the Emergency Preparedness at SIU website, and through text and email alerts. To register for alerts visit: http://emergency.siu.edu/.

CATALOGS:
catalog.siu.edu
gradcatalog.siu.edu - Graduate policies often vary from Undergraduate policies. To view the applicable policies for graduate students, please refer to the graduate catalog.

CENTER FOR LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES:
Tutoring: https://cliss.siu.edu/
Math Labs: http://math.siu.edu/courses/course-help.php

WRITING CENTER: http://write.siu.edu/

PLAGIARISM: See the Student Conduct Code: http://srr.siu.edu/student-conduct-code/
INCOMPLETE POLICY (Undergraduate Only): http://registrar.siu.edu/grades/incomplete.php
REPEAT POLICY: http://registrar.siu.edu/students/repeatclasses.php

MORRIS LIBRARY HOURS: https://libcal.lib.siu.edu/siu-hours/
ADVISEMENT: http://advisement.siu.edu/
SIU ONLINE: https://online.siu.edu/