

# Welcome to Torts!

Please find your seat according to the seating chart available at the front of the room.

# Agenda

1. Syllabus highlights
2. What is a tort?
3. Small group exercise: Litigating your first torts case

# Syllabus highlights

# Logistics

# Contact information

Colin.Doyle@lls.edu

Office: Burns 315

Telephone: 213-736-1148

# Class schedule

Monday, 10:10am - 11:50am

Robinson Moot Courtroom

Wednesday, 10:10am - 11:50am

Robinson Moot Courtroom

Friday, 10:10am - 11:50am

Robinson Moot Courtroom

# Open office hours

Tentative Schedule:

Fridays from 12:00pm to 1:30pm

Outside the Robinson Moot Courtroom

# Reading Assignments



# Class Policies

Attendance

Preparation and participation

No laptops or electronics

# Recordings & Slides & Notes

Video

Audio with transcripts

Slides

Designated notetakers

# Classroom Norms

Professionalism

Generosity

We can give each other  
the opportunity to be wrong.

We can disagree with ideas,  
not with people.

# Accommodations

Contact Student Accessibility Services in the Office of Student Affairs.

I want this class to be accessible for you.

# Exams and Grading

Midterm Exam: 25%

Final Exam: 75%

# Questions about the syllabus



# What is a tort?

And why do I have to take this class?

# In-Class Exercise

On a Tuesday afternoon, Thomas Jenner lost control of the car he was driving and crashed into the side of a bicycle shop. His car went through the wall of the bicycle shop, injuring the owner of the bicycle shop, Maxine Hammontree. It turns out that Thomas Jenner had a history of epilepsy. On this day, he lost control of his car because he had an epileptic seizure and became unconscious. Jenner has no memory of the incident. He remembers driving, and then he remembers being pulled from the vehicle by EMT's. Jenner reports that prior to the accident there were no warning signs that he was about to have a seizure.

Jenner first began receiving treatment for epilepsy fifteen years ago. He regularly takes anti-seizure medication and has done everything his doctors have advised him to do to address his epilepsy. As a result of his condition, he needs a doctor to sign off yearly with the DMV for him to have a license. His doctor has signed off with the DMV. Many new cars have automatic collision avoidance systems that can help prevent these kinds of accidents from occurring. The car will automatically brake to prevent a forward collision from happening. Thomas Jenner was driving a 2020 GM Spark that did not have this anti-collision system as an available feature.

# The Questions

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# The Driver

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# The Doctor

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?

# The Car Manufacturer

Why should this defendant be held liable or not held liable?

What remedy does the defendant owe Ms. Hammontree?

What would you like to know that wasn't in the fact pattern? Why?