Course Number: E M 508

Course Name: Legal Concepts for Engineering and Technical Managers

Instructor: Robert (Rob) Crick  
email: robcrick@wsu.edu

Semester Credits: 3  
Prerequisites: None

Course Description and Objectives:
This course is designed to provide the career technical or engineering manager with a general understanding and knowledge of business law and the legal environment. The course covers generally the laws of the constitution, contracts, commercial sales, business organizations, agency, employment, and labor, real estate and intellectual property, torts, crimes, government regulation, construction and government contracting, and dispute resolution, including litigation, arbitration and mediation. The course will explore the manager’s own role in the legal environment as well as the relationships between managers and their employer, other managers, other employees, project owners, prime contractors, subcontractors, and the general public.

This course is designed to educate technical and engineering managers with respect to the basic principles of law to which they are exposed in their daily work environment. The technical or engineering manager’s role in that environment will be described in detail for the purpose of preparing those individuals to fulfill their legal obligations and duties, to identify and minimize risks and liability, and to recognize when to seek legal counsel and additional assistance.

Course Topics:
- U.S. Legal System
- U.S. Court System
- U.S. Constitution
- Torts
- Consumer Protection/Product Liability/Professional Liability
- Manager Role in Dispute Resolution
- Administrative Law
- Contracts, Government Contracts and Construction Law
- Sales of Goods
- Business Organizations and Workers Compensation
- Personal and Real Property
- Intellectual Property
- Bankruptcy

Grading:
Grading will be based upon three exams, with each exam counting as 1/3 of the final grade.