Course Description

GENETICS AND LAW INTERSECTS MORE OFTEN THAN MOST REALIZE. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF INCREASINGLY RELEVANT AREAS WHERE INNOVATIVE GENETICS AND LAW MIX. THIS COURSE WILL EXAMINE AREAS SUCH AS DNA OWNERSHIP, ANONYMITY AND BIOMETRICS, CRIMINAL LAW, FORENSICS, HEALTH, PRECISION MEDICINE, AND INSURANCE. THE COURSE WILL PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH BOTH A WORKING UNDERSTANDING OF THE RELEVANT LAWS AS WELL AS THE RELEVANT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. THE COURSE DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY PREEXISTING KNOWLEDGE IN EITHER LAW OR GENETICS.

COURSE OUTLINE (subject to Change)

1) INTRODUCTION TO GENETICS
2) DNA FORENSICS
3) BEHAVIORAL GENETICS
4) OWNERSHIP ANONYMITY AND BIOMETRICS
5) PRECISION MEDICINE
6) HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE
7) CRIMINAL LAW AND GENETICS
8) DIRECT TO CONSUMER GENETICS TECHNOLOGIES

Course Goals

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The goal of the course is to expose the students to an area of technology that they may be unfamiliar with and show them how pervasive the technology is and will become in their lives and their careers. The course aims to provide the necessary tools such that the students can learn to apply the skills they develop in analyzing the intersection between law and genetics in other areas of technology, both existent and not-yet existent. The processes that they will acquire in assessing how a particular technology interfaces with the law will be transferable to other technology platforms as well.

Grading

EVALUATION & ASSESSMENT (subject to change)

20% participation

80% 5000 word research essay

Reading List

NA