**LAW 2106 NATURE AND HISTORY OF TORTS**

**Course Description**

The course introduces students to the historical, social, and economic foundations of the law of torts and discusses the nature of tortuous liability.

**Course Content**

The historical origins, development and function of the law of torts, nature of torts, distinction between civil and criminal wrongs; international invasion of interests in person and property, abuse of legal procedure, primary and vicarious liability.

**Course Objectives**

1. To enable students to understand the nature of risks to person and property over various socio-economic formations in human history.
2. To enable students to understand the evolution of and distinguish tortuous liability from pre-legal, criminal and contractual liability.
3. To enable students to understand the elements, remedies and defenses of various tortuous causes of action, especially of an intentional nature involving invasion of the integrity of person, reputation and property.
4. To enable students to appreciate the distinction between primary and vicarious liability.

**Learning Outcomes**

Students should be able:

To explain the socio-economic basis of the various remedies to the invasion of rights to the integrity to the person, and property.

To identify the ingredients of and remedies to various forms of trespass to the person and

trespass to land and goods.

* + 1. To identify the ingredients of and remedies to invasion of the right to reputations.
    2. To identify and appreciate the nature of the defences to the various forms of action.
    3. To differentiate between primary and vicarious liability.
    4. To differentiate between tortious, criminal and contractual liability.

**Methods of Instruction**

1. At the commencement of the course, students are availed with reading lists, which indicate the topics to be covered, and the respective reading materials for the respective topics. It is expected that the student uses this list in preparation for each lecture.
2. The students are introduced to each topic and guided on the principles therein. Thereafter, students will be given problem questions for discussion in class. Students are further encouraged to also formulate their problems for discussion during the lectures.

**Assessment**

1. A coursework will be administered during the coursework week to be marked out of 30 marks.
2. An examination will be given at the end of the semester to be marked out of 70 marks.