**LAW 3215 CONSUMER LAW AND PROTECTION**

**Course Description**

The course covers aspects of consumer protection. It covers itself with setting and enforcement of standards for consumer products. It discusses the regulatory framework and institutions concerned with consumer protection.

**Course Content**

The major concerns of the course will be the scope and nature of consumer law and protection, approach of courts to consumer protection, institutions and mechanisms for consumer protection (including the Uganda National Bureau of Standards – UNBS) as part of the regulatory framework, fraud and unfair or deceptive sales practices, product quality and the consumer, counterfeiting, customs control and smuggling, competition law and policy and the consumer, consumers in cyberspace and the future of consumer law and protection in Uganda. Examples will be drawn from other jurisdictions at the national, regional and international levels.

**Course Objectives**

1. To enable students to grasp and understand the protection of consumers within the national legal order.
2. To enable students to understand the background and history of consumer protection laws and movements, consumer protection in the East African context, institutional mechanisms such as the Bureau of Standards, SGS, international aspects of consumer protection, especially under the WTO as part of the international mechanisms in consumer protection.
3. To enable students to undertake comparative examinations of approaches and situations to consumer protection in Statutes in other countries, particularly in the Commonwealth and use these approaches to bolster their knowledge of the Ugandan situation.

**Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course, the students should be able to:

1. Understand the historical development of consumer protection laws ;
2. Explore the relationship between consumer protection laws and torts law and sale of goods law;
3. Understand obligations of business persons (natural and artificial) and the rights of consumers; and
4. Identify best practices of consumer protection frameworks from national, regional and international perspectives.

**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.

An examination will be given at the end of the semester to be marked out of 70 marks.