

TULANE LAW SCHOOL

Office of Admission and Financial Aid

Spring 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Incoming Law Students

FROM: Susan L. Krinsky
Associate Dean

RE: Summer Reading

From time to time, I am asked for suggestions of books to read in the summer preceding law school. First, I should emphasize that you are not required, or even officially encouraged, to read anything. But you may wish to, and reading about law school itself or about famous (or even fictional) cases or commentary on the legal system can provide background for what you'll be exploring this fall. Enclosed is a list that includes books suggested to me by former and current students and faculty members at Tulane and elsewhere. I offer no warranties with respect to any of these books, and the list no doubt excludes many books (and articles) that would be very helpful.

I know that many of you are anxious to learn which casebooks you'll be using this fall. Because each instructor uses a different casebook and we won't know until school starts to which section of each course you'll be assigned, we will not have this information for you until you pick up your orientation packet on August 20th. The faculty has asked me to convey to you that it does not recommend that new law students start to read casebooks prior to the start of school, because it is not a productive activity.

The best general advice I can offer is that you are about to embark on something that requires hard work, sustained concentration, and continual synthesis and thought. Relax this summer, and be ready to work hard when school starts.

Attachment

“If-You-Feel-Like-Reading” List
Suggested—But Not Required—Leisure Reading for the Soon-to-Be Law Student

General Works About Real Cases and the Law

Bass, Jack	<u>Unlikely Heroes</u> (1990)
Boyle, Kevin	<u>Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age</u> (1965)
Bonfield, Lloyd	<u>American Law & the American Legal System in a Nutshell</u> (2006)
Carter, Dan	<u>Scottsboro: A Tragedy of the American South</u> (1969)
Curriden, Mark and Leroy Phillips	<u>Contempt of Court: The Turn-of-the-Century Lynching Trial That Launched 100 Years of Federalism</u> (2001)
Eichenwald, Kurt	<u>The Informant: A True Story</u> (2001) <i>(about the Archer-Daniels-Midland price-fixing case)</i>
Feinman, Jay M.	<u>Law 101: Everything You Need to Know About the American Legal System</u> (2000)
Fletcher, George	<u>A Crime of Self-Defense</u> (1988)
Harr, Jonathan	<u>A Civil Action</u> (1996)
Jones, Howard	<u>Mutiny on the Amistad</u> (1997)
Kluger, Richard	<u>Simple Justice</u> (1977)
Kessler, David	<u>A Question of Intent: A Great American Battle With a Deadly Industry</u> (2002)
Lewis, Anthony	<u>Gideon’s Trumpet</u> (1989)
Margulies, Joseph	<u>Guantanamo and the Abuse of Presidential Power</u> (1990)
Rivkin, Leonard with Jeffrey Silberfeld	<u>May It Please the Court</u> (1993)
Simon, Peter	<u>The Anatomy of a Lawsuit</u> (1996)
Woodward, Bob & Armstrong, Scott	<u>The Brethren: Inside the Supreme Court</u> (1981)

About Law School

- Burkhart, Ann M. and Stein, Robert Law School Success, A Guide to Studying Law and Taking Law School Exams (Nutshell Series of Thomson/West Publishing Co.) (Second Edition, 2008)
- Falcon, Atticus Planet Law School II: What You Need to Know (Before You Go), But Didn't Think to Ask...And No One Else Will Tell You (2003)
- Hegland, Kenney Introduction to the Study and Practice of Law (Nutshell Series of Thomson/West Publishing Co.) (2000)
- Nygren, Carol J. Starting Off Right in Law School (1997)
- Shapo, Helene and Shapo, Marshall Law School Without Fear: Strategies for Success (2002)
- Turow, Scott One L (1997)

Constitutional Law and History

- Currie, David P. The Constitution of the United States: A Primer for The People (2000)
- Cottrill, Robert J; Diamond, Raymond T.; Ware, Leland Brown v. Board of Education: Caste, Culture and the Constitution (2003)
- Garrow, David J. Liberty and Sexuality: The Right to Privacy and the Making of Roe v. Wade (1998)
- Powe Jr., Lucas A. The Warren Court and American Politics (2000)
- Rakove, Jack Original Meanings: Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution (1997)
- Yarbrough, Tinsley E. The Rehnquist Court and the Constitution (2000)

Legal History

- Friedman, Lawrence American Law in the Twentieth Century (2002)
- Friedman, Lawrence Crime and Punishment in American History (1994)
- Gilmore, Grant (and Collins, R.) The Death of Contract (1974)
- Hall, Kermit L. The Magic Mirror: Law in American History (1989)
- White, G. Edward The American Judicial Tradition (1988)

Mostly Philosophical and Theoretical

Llewellyn, Karl	<u>The Bramble Bush: On Our Law and Its Study</u> (1981)
Levi, Edward H.	<u>An Introduction to Legal Reasoning</u> (1962)

Fiction

Auchincloss, Louis	<u>The Partners</u> (1974); <u>Powers of Attorney</u> (1963)
Camus, Albert & Ward, Matthew	<u>The Stranger</u> (1942); “The Guest” (1957) (short story)
Christie, Agatha	<u>Witness for the Prosecution</u> (1933)
Cozzens, James Gould	<u>The Just and the Unjust</u> (1942)
Dickens, Charles	<u>Bleak House</u> (1852)
Faulkner, William	<u>Intruder in the Dust</u> (1948)
Grisham, John	<u>The Firm</u> (1991); <u>The Client</u> (1993); <u>Pelican Brief</u> (1992); <u>A Time to Kill</u> (1989); <u>The Rainmaker</u> (1995); etc.
Grafton, Cornelius Warren	<u>Beyond a Reasonable Doubt</u> (1980)
Herbert, A.P.	<u>Uncommon Law</u> (2001)
Kafka, Franz	<u>The Trial</u> (1925)
Lee, Harper	<u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u> (1960)
Melville, Herman	<u>Billy Budd</u> ; <u>Foretopman</u> (1924)
Mortimer, John	Any collection of Rumpole stories
Osborne, John Jay	<u>The Associates</u> (1979); <u>The Paper Chase</u> (1971)
Rose, R. & Sergel, S.	<u>Twelve Angry Men</u> (1949) (<i>or watch the DVD</i>)
Roosevelt, Kermit	<u>In the Shadow of the Law: A Novel</u> (2006)
Shakespeare, William	<u>Merchant of Venice</u> (1600); <u>Measure for Measure</u> (1623)
Toole, John Kennedy	<u>A Confederacy of Dunces</u> (1980)
Traver, Robert	<u>Anatomy of a Murder</u> (1958) (<i>or watch the DVD</i>)
Turow, Scott	<u>Presumed Innocent</u> (1989); <u>The Laws of Our Fathers</u> (1998); and others

Business Practice

Burrough, Bryan and John Helyar	<u>Barbarians at the Gate: The Fall of RJR Nabisco</u> (1991)
Cozzens, James G.	<u>By Love Possessed</u> (1957)
Lederman, Lawrence	<u>Tombstones: A Lawyer's Tales from the Takeover Decades</u> (1992)
Malone, Michael S.	<u>Going Public: MIPS Computer and the Entrepreneurial Dream</u> (1992)
Morris, Charles R.	<u>The Trillion Dollar Meltdown</u> (2008)
Solmssen, Arthur R. G.	<u>The Comfort Letter</u> (2002)

Sports Law

Lewis, Michael	<u>The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game</u> (2006)
Snyder, Brad	<u>A Well Paid Slave: Curt Flood's Fight for Free Agency in Professional Sports</u> (2006)
Weiler, Paul C.	<u>Leveling the Playing Field: How the Law Can Make Sports Better for the Fans</u> (2001)

Criminal Law and Procedure

DVD	The Wire
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Environmental Law

Barry, John	<u>Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How it Changed America</u> (2006)
Commoner, Barry	<u>The Closing Circle</u> (1971)
Diamond, Jared	<u>Collapse</u> (2006)
Lazarus, R. & Houck, O. (eds.)	<u>Environmental Law Stories</u> (2000)
McKibben, Bill	<u>The End of Nature</u> (1999)
McPhee, John	<u>The Control of Nature</u> (1990)
Paton, Alan	<u>Ah, But Your Land Is Beautiful</u> (1996)
Sax, Joseph	<u>Defending the Environment</u> (1971)
Wilson, Edward	<u>The Diversity of Life</u> (1992)

Others

Bell, Derrick	<u>And We Are Not Saved</u> (1989) <u>Faces At The Bottom of the Well</u> (1993)
Dershowitz, Alan	<u>The Best Defense</u> (1983)
Epstein, Cynthia Fuchs	<u>Women In Law</u> (1993)
Goldsmith, Jack	<u>The Terror Presidency</u> (2007)
Hare, Cyril	<u>Tragedy at Law</u> (1991)
Hill, Anita F. & Jordan, Emma C., (eds.)	<u>Race, Gender, and Power in America</u> (1995)
Irons, P.	<u>The Courage of Their Convictions</u> (1990)
Kennedy, Randall	<u>Race, Crime, and the Law</u> (1998)
Kunen, James	<u>How Can You Defend Those People: The Making of a Criminal Lawyer</u> (1985)
Redman, Eric	<u>The Dance of Legislation</u> (1973)
Scalia, Antonin and Garner, Bryan	<u>Making Your Case: The Art of Persuading Judges</u> (2008)
Walton, Kimm A.	<u>Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams</u> (2 nd edition, 2008)