ELECTIVE COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE NAME: CONSUMER PROTECTION

COURSE NUMBER: 8858

PROFESSOR: Popper

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: Contracts, torts, civil procedure

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: n/a

COURSE BOOKS: Professor’s materials provided at cost

METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE:
Open-book exam at end of semester; possible mid-term exam.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:
Overview of federal and state consumer protection laws and remedies for private civil actions and through governmental agencies.

COURSE CONTENT:
Beginning with an in-depth study of common law fraud and contract principles in the consumer context, the course progresses through current common law remedies as well as legislative solutions for consumer protection, including federal and state “uniform deceptive acts and practices” statutes and regulations, and the wide array of federal and state laws covering false advertising, telemarketing, warranty, identity theft, credit abuse, collection abuse, healthcare fraud, and predatory/discriminatory lending practices. Teaching methods include classroom lecture and discussion of cases and casebook problems, class participation in problem-solving using actual consumer complaints, investigation of local area practices adversely affecting consumers, and guest speakers such as consumer law experts and consumer victims.

COURSE OUTCOMES: This course focuses on the specific common law causes of action and federal/state statutes that practitioners use in solving and litigating consumer issues; after completing the course, students will have a working knowledge of how to solve and litigate many different consumer issues.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES:
Consumer protection is a rewarding practice area, but all lawyers should be familiar with the consumer issues their clients will face and the wide variety of remedies available in the state and federal statutes. Please include Course Outcomes (A new category Dean Suni has asked to be included in the forms). Re that category, some faculty have asked for examples, here is what I have provided: