Oil, Gas, and Mineral Rights

Course Description

This course focuses on the ownership, exploration, and accessing of subterranean resources. It looks at the development of oil, gas, and mineral law and discusses applicable common law rules including the rule of capture and the doctrine of correlative rights. The course focuses on mineral rights, subsurface rights, extractions, and the legal aspects of contracts to allow all of these.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze the legal protections of property rights that owners of subsurface mineral and petroleum resources possess;
- Identify the groundwork for dormant mineral acts under the law;
- Articulate the functions and necessity of granting clauses and habendum clauses in mineral leases;
- Describe how mineral leases differ from other real property leases;
- Explain how the federal government manages private exploration and extraction of publicly managed natural resources.

Final Exam

Grades and credit recommendations are based solely on a final exam. When students are ready to take the final exam, they should register for a LawShelf account (or simply log in, for those with existing accounts). Go to the video-course page and click “Take the Final Exam” and pay the exam fee, where applicable. Students will be given instructions on how to take the exam. All exams are proctored by the Voice Proctor® proctoring system. An overview of the system is provided here and it requires no training or learning curve. Grades of 70% or above are considered passing grades and qualify for recommended transfer credit.

The final exam is based on the video course modules. Additional resources detailed in this syllabus are helpful for background and for building greater understanding of the course materials. Inquiries can be made through the LawShelf Contact form on our website by clicking the “email us” button that appears at the bottom of most LawShelf pages. Transcripts can be ordered via Parchment, as detailed on our website.
Case Studies
Many LawShelf video courses include case studies. These do not necessarily teach new material but are meant to demonstrate how the materials covered in the course are applied by various courts. Concepts covered in the case studies are covered on the final exam, so make sure to watch the case studies before taking the exam. However, it is unnecessary to memorize the facts and details of the cases covered in these case studies.

Self-Quizzes
Video-course modules and case studies feature self-quizzes that consist of practice questions on the materials covered in the videos. These questions are presented for the benefit of the student and are important to review before taking the final exam because they are similar in style and substance to the questions on the final exam. These quizzes are not graded or monitored and there is no record of how students answer these questions. Students may answer these questions as many times as they like and are encouraged to keep re-taking the quizzes until they have mastered all the questions.

Study Guide

Introductory Video
These videos provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Interests in Real Estate: Easements: Creation, Scope, and Termination
https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/easements-creation-scope-and-termination

Courseware Readings
These courseware readings provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Read the following sections of “Foundations of Law” courseware:
The following chapters under Real Property:

Acquisition of Real Property
Acquisition by Adverse Possession
Contracts for the Sale of Real Property
The Closing and Real Property Deeds

Rights and Duties Inherent in the Ownership of Real Property
Subterranean Caves and Lateral Support
Oil and Gas and other Natural Resources
Water Rights of Real Property Owners
Video Course Modules

These videos constitute the main part of the course and are they sources of the questions on the final exam.

Oil, Gas and Mineral Rights Course Overview

Fundamental Issues in Mineral Rights Ownership - Module 1 of 5

Legal Issues in the Conveyance of Subsurface Rights - Module 2 of 5

Mineral Rights Leases: Form and Function - Module 3 of 5

Oil, Gas and Mineral Contracts and Transactions - Module 4 of 5

Oil, Gas and Mineral Extraction on Public Lands - Module 5 of 5