Syllabus for Wills, Trusts and Estates (text: Dukeminier, Sitkoff (9th Edition))

Attendance: A sign-in sheet will be circulated in each class. Please make sure that you sign the sheet for each class.

To provide background, the following materials should be read (i.e., perused) within the first several weeks of the semester: Section A of Chapter 5; Section A, B and D of Chapter 6; Section A of Chapter 7; and Sections A and B of Chapter 8. We will study this material across the semester.

First Class

Read pp. 1-35 (note that we will discuss Shaw Family Archives in a later class, i.e., after we complete our discussion of Shapira (p.28)).

We will have a policy discussion regarding testamentary freedom.

Be prepared to discuss Hodel v Irving (p.28) in the first or second class.

After completing the discussion of Hodel, we will discuss Shapira (p.5).

In subsequent classes, we will continue through the casebook. We will examine section B and section C in Chapter 1.

We will then cover Chapter 2 in its entirety.

We will cover Chapter 4 in its entirety, taking it up before chapter 3.

We will cover Chapter 3 in its entirety.

We will cover sections A and B of Chapter 5 (to the extent not previously covered).

We will cover Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 if time permits.

We will conclude with the last several classes focusing on future interests and the rule against perpetuities. A handout will be provided. For students who want more background, Chapter 13 and Chapter 14 should be read.