This course provides an overview of American labor law, including the law relating to union organizing, collective bargaining, contract enforcement, strikes, and relations between unions and their members.

Texts:
(1) Peter DeChiara, *Text for American Labor Law Course* (available on Sakai)

Course Requirements:

Class attendance is required.

Students are required to do the reading for each class in *advance* of class and be prepared to discuss it during class. Class discussion will be based on a close reading of legal materials, so it is necessary for students to bring the assigned reading material to class.

There will be an in-class mid-term exam and an in-class second (final) exam.

Grades will be based on performance on the two exams and on class participation/attendance.

Class #1 (Sept. 13) -- Introduction to the course and to the American legal system
DeChiara, Introduction (p.1) and *New York Times* article (p.272).

Class #2 (Sept. 20)-- Historical Background of American Labor Law
Gold, Chapter 1 (pp.10-13)
DeChiara, Chapter 1 and, in the Appendix of Statutes (p.205), the excerpts of the United States Constitution, the Sherman Antitrust Act and the Norris-LaGuardia Act

Class #3 (Sept. 27) -- The National Labor Relations Act
Gold, Chapter 2 (pp.14-top of p.17), Chapter 3 (pp.36-42)
DeChiara, Chapter 2 and, in the Appendix of Statutes (p.205), Sections 1, 2 and 7 of the National Labor Relations Act. Also, look at NLRB forms (pp.212-13).
Class #4 (Oct. 4) – Defining Employee Rights under the NLRA
Gold, Chapter 4 (only pp. 28-29 “Solicitation on Company Property” section)
DeChiara, Chapter 3 and, in the Appendix of Statutes (p.205), Section 8(a) of the National Labor Relations Act

Class #5 (Oct. 11) -- Creation of the Bargaining Relationship/Preparation for Mid-Term
Gold, Chapter 3, only from p.21 (starting at “Representation Cases”) to p.23 (up to but not including “Decertification Cases”), Chapter 4, pp. 26-31 (up to but not including “Polls”)
DeChiara, Chapter 4 and, in the Appendix of Statutes (p.205), Sections 8(c) and 9(a) of the National Labor Relations Act, and NLRB Petition form (p.213)

Class #6 (Oct. 18) -- In-Class Mid-Term Exam

Class #7 (Oct. 25) -- The Collective Bargaining Process
Gold, Chapter 5 (pp.39-48)
DeChiara, Chapter 5 and, in the Appendix of Statutes (p.205), Sections 8(a)(5), 8(b)(3) and 8(d) of the National Labor Relations Act

Class #8 (Nov. 8) -- Use of Economic Weapons
Gold, Chapter 6 (pp.49-56)
DeChiara, Chapter 6

Class #9 (Nov. 15) -- Enforcement of Collective Bargaining Agreements
Gold, Chapter 7 (pp.57-59, 63-top of p.66)
DeChiara, Chapter 7 and Article XI and XII of Sample Collective Bargaining Agreement (p.215).

Class #10 (Nov. 22) -- Relationship between Unions And Employees
Gold, pp.7-9 (“Duty of Fair Representation”), pp.14-16 (“Union Security”)
DeChiara, Chapter 8 and, in the Appendix of Statutes (pp.205), Sections 101 and 102 of the Labor-Management and Reporting and Disclosure Act

Class #11 (Nov. 29) -- Public Sector Labor Law
DeChiara, Chapter 9 and sample interest arbitration award (p.244)
Interest arbitration exercise (see last two pages of DeChiara text).

Class #12 (Dec. 6) -- Labor Law Reform; Review for Second Exam
DeChiara, Chapter 10; Cowie excerpt (p.258); State of Working America slides (p.267)

Class #13 (Dec. 13) – Final Exam