ELECTIVE COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE NAME: CONSUMER PROTECTION

COURSE NUMBER: 8858

PROFESSOR: Popper

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES:
Contracts, torts, civil procedure

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES:
n/a

COURSE BOOKS:

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, 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.

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.