HISC 131: Science, Technology and Law  
Spring Quarter 2011  
Prof. Tal Golan  
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Modern society has become increasingly dependent on science and technology. Exploring various case studies, from expert scientific evidence such as fingerprints and lie-detectors, to technological feats such as biotech and the internet, we will examine how science, technology and law interact to maintain progress, rationality and social order in modern society.

**Time and location:** TuTh 9:30-10:50 in Solis #110  
**Professor Golan Office hours:** Tu 11-12, or by appointment. H&SS bldg room 4044  
**Teaching Assistant:** Kris Nelson  
krisnelson@ucsd.edu  
Office Hours: TBA

**Week 1**  
**Introduction**  
Mar 29  
Introduction  
Goldberg, Steven, *Culture Clash: Law and Science in America*, 1-25.

Mar 31  
History  

**Week 2: Scientific Evidence**  
Apr 5  
What Makes Evidence Scientific? The case of Fingerprints  

Apr 7  
What Makes Evidence Unscientific? The case of the Lie-Detector  

**Week 3: Visual Evidence**  
Apr 12  
Differentiating between good and bad science  
US Supreme Court Opinion in Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Apr 14  
Photographs: what you see is what you get?  
Jennifer Mnookin, The Image of Truth

**Week 4: Medicine and law**  
Apr 19  
Imaging technologies  

Apr 21  
Insanity Defense + Malpractice  
Reading TBA (check on the website)
Week 5  Regulation
Apr 26  Questions of life and death
    Jasanoff, Science at the Bar, 163-203
Apr 28  Regulation:
    Sheila Jasanoff, Science at the Bar, pp 69-92

Week 6  Mid-Term Exam
May 3  Tort
    Peter H. Schuck, Agent Orange on Trial, excerpts
May 5  Midterm Exam

Week 7  Society
May 10  Eugenics
    Davenport, Eugenics (1910)
May 12  Religion

Week 8  Economy
May 17  Patents
    Daniel Kevles – The Gene Patent Controversy
    The Gene Patent Controversy - 2010 update
May 19  Biotech

Week 9  Technology
May 24  Pharmaceutical
    David Healy, Shaping the intimate, Social Studies of Science (April 2004)
    34:219–245
May 26  Internet

Week 10  Future Challenges
May 31  Global Warming
    Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency
Jun 2  What have we learned

Final examination: Date and Location TBA
**Course Policies**
- Full attendance in all classes is expected of all students.
- Students are required to read the assigned readings and submit their comments online before each meeting, by 9 a.m.
  - The comment should be no longer than half a page.
  - The comments will be read and checked, but not graded.
  - Late submission will not be accepted.

**Grades**
 Attendance + weekly commentaries on the assigned readings: 20%.
- Mid-term: 40%
- Final exam: 40%

**Bibliography**

Required Books:

* All other readings will be posted in the