

Introduction to European Union Transnational Law

Tasha Willis (*University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Texas, Director, Mediation Clinic, Director, ADR, Associate Clinical Professor*)

Introduction to European Union Transnational Law

The aim of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of how the European Union uses the law as a means to achieve market objectives through national and international business transactions .To this end the class will examine the basic components lawyers need to know when preparing to draft contracts involving EU member states. These include:

- ***the emergence of the European Economic Community***
- ***how the European Union is administered/governed by the four main institutions***
- ***the sources and general principles of the European Community law***
- ***how European Community law is integrated at a national level***
- ***the contributions of the Court of Justice to this process***
- ***how European community law is enforced at both a national and European level***

Structure of the Course

-) **E-Commerce and Dispute Resolution**
-) ***Disputes Arising from E-Commerce Transactions***
-) **Growth in E-Commerce**
-) **Two Types of E-Commerce**
-) **Computer Information Transactions – Foreign Websites**
-) **International E-Commerce Disputes**
-) **Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments**
-) **B2B Transactions**
-) **E-Commerce Disputes Muddy the Water**
-) **Determining Governing Law**
-) **Characteristic Performance Theory**
-) **Characteristic Performance Theory**
-) **Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments**
-) **Defendant's Domicile**
-) **E-Commerce Obligation and the EU**
-) **Distinguishing Between B2B and B2C**
-) **Computer Information Transaction**
-) **Trouble Shooting E-Commerce Issue**
-) **Determining Governing EU Law – E-Commerce**
-) **Characteristic Performance**
-) **UCITA in the United States**

-) **Self-Governance**
-) **Arbitration Clauses and International Arbitration**
-) **Main Features of International Arbitration**
-) **Neutrality and Enforceability of Arbitration Awards**
-) **Distinguishing Between B2B and B2C**
-) **European Union Law - EU-US Trade and Investment Agreement**
-) **EU Trading – World Leader**
-) **WTO**
-) **EU Transport Challenges**
- EU Transport Policy**
- Fair and Open Exchange**
-) **Road Transportation**
-) **Air Transport**
-) **Railways**
-) **Transparency in EU Trade Negotiation**
- Better access to the US market— *Market access***
-) **Cutting Red Tape and Costs – Without Cutting Corners**
- *Regulatory cooperation***
-) **New rules - to make it easier and fairer to export, import and invest— *Rules***
-) **Trade and Investment Agreement**
-) **Regulatory Issues and Non-Tariff Barriers**
-) **Intellectual property rights (IPR)**
-) **Incoterms**
-) **Rules for Any Transport**
-) **Rules for Sea and Inland Waterway Transport**

Assessment system within the Course

*** 30 points is envisaged for attendance**

*** 15 points for written exam and 15 points for active participation within the class**

*** 40 points for performance on an essay exam that allow students to use class PowerPoints and their notes.**



Tasha Willis

Director, Mediation Clinic

Director, ADR

Associate Clinical Professor

tlwillis@central.uh.edu

J.D., South Texas College of Law

B.A., University of St. Thomas

Tasha L. Willis is ADR Director, Mediation Clinic Director, and Associate Clinical Professor (B.A. University of St. Thomas, J.D. South Texas College of Law, LL.M. in International Transactional Practice and ADR). Professor Willis specializes in Alternative Dispute Resolution. In 2010, she was appointed to the Board of the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association and currently serves as the secretary to the board. Willis also serves as an Educational Board Member for the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.

Prior to joining the Clinic, she served for the Honorable Frank G. Evans in the Frank Evan's Center for Conflict Resolution at South Texas College of Law where she developed an international mediation externship program in Guyana, Jamaica and Panama. She has also conducted mediation training courses in China, Guyana, Jamaica and Panama. In addition, she served as an arbitrator for City of Houston Affirmative Action Compliance Program and hosted the American Bar Association Regional Client Counseling, Mediation and Negotiation Competitions. Previously, Prof. Willis was the Executive Director for Resolution Forum, Inc., a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, which provided pro-bono and sliding scale alternative dispute resolution services, taught basic and advanced alternative dispute resolution training and hosted five Annual Institutes for Responsibility Dispute Resolution. She also served as Law Clerk for the Honorable John A. Coselli, Jr. in the 125th Civil District Court in Houston, Texas for four years.