First Assignment:
I. HOW AND WHY DO WE ALLOCATE PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS?

A. Introduction to Underlying Principles: Background Reading

This initial reading assignment is intended to stimulate your thinking about the role property rights play in society and about why our legal rules should give property rights to one claimant versus another, in situations where rights are contested.

The reading is intended to provide only a general introduction to several relevant principles. We’ll further expand our thinking as we apply these and other principles in specific legal contexts (natural resources law; initial title in the US; intellectual property law; adverse possession law).

Pp 1-8
Which of these principles for allocating property rights do you find compelling? Which do you find less compelling?

Pp 25-27 (up to but not including more detailed material)
Unpacking the bundle of sticks: what distinct rights comprise the bundle of property rights?

B. Applying the Principles: Rights to Natural Resources: Wild Animals, Oil, and Water

1. Wild Animals

Pp 8-15 (capture of wild animals)
In Pierson v Post, pay close attention to both the majority and the dissenting opinions, and consider the full range of values and principles driving the respective opinions

Pp 165-66 (note f, on the tragedy of the commons and fisheries)

Additional Notes:
Welcome "back" - in spirit if not in body. I look forward to being with you. Note that the Canvas course will be published several days before classes begin.