

Syllabus for Business Law (BUS-110)

Instructor

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Course Description

Welcome to our Business Law course! This course provides an introduction to the legal and regulatory environment of business, emphasizing the United States legal system. We will discuss contracts, personal property, litigation, antitrust, labor agreements, discrimination, environmental protection and international trade and law. The objective of the course is to provide the student with a practical knowledge of legal principles and issues that arise in business. Businesses are subject to employment and contract disputes, negligence claims, regulatory compliance, and other legal issues, yet many business owners and managers are ill-equipped to identify legal risks before they arise. This course provides students with the basic knowledge to formulate effective strategies that prevent problems from occurring or, at least, from spiraling out of control. While litigation is an inevitable cost of doing business, it is controllable. Students will develop the ability to spot potential legal problems and manage risks, enhancing their marketability to the businesses that employ them, and enhancing their effectiveness as business decision-makers and entrepreneurs.



Program Learning Goals (PLGs) for MVS School of Business & Economics Program

The MVS School has six stated Program Learning Goals: (1) Critical Thinking; (2) Oral Communication (3) Written Communication; (4) Collaboration; (5) Conduct (Ethics); and, (6) Competency in Discipline.

Learning Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Describe the major components of the U.S. legal system (PLG-6);
- Write analyses of cases related to business organizations and their legal environments (PLG-1), (PLG-3) and (PLG-6);
- Perform research and present oral and written analyses of different laws and regulations and of their impact on business organizations (PLG-1), (PLG-2), (PLG-3), (PLG-4), (PLG-6), and;
- Identify, conceptualize, and suggest solutions for businesses to address their legal environment (PLG-1), (PLG-5) and (PLG-6).

Required Texts

Foundations of the Legal Environment of Business 3e

By: Marianne M. Jennings

South-Western College Pub, 3rd Edition (January 1, 2015)

ISBN-10: 130511745X – ISBN-13: 978-1305117457

Course Approach

Classes will consist of lectures, group exercises, and classroom discussions of court cases and current events. Students are expected to actively participate in these activities. As a result, this class requires substantial student preparation. Students will discuss their responses to assigned work and apply what they have learned to hypothetical and real situations. There will be three tests. Students will be responsible for checking Blackboard each week for announcements, changes, clarifications and assignments, and for coming to class

with homework completed on the date due. Assigned homework is weighted towards the first half of the semester, and the second half of the semester will generally focus on group presentations.

Course Policies

Attendance and participation credit will be recorded for each class. If you cannot attend, you will lose class participation credit for that class. Please see the Student Guidebook (available at www.csuci.edu/studentaffairs/procedures-policies.htm) and the CSU-CI Policies webpage (available at www.csuci.edu/legal) for campus-wide policies applicable to this and all CSU-CI courses including policies on academic dishonesty and accommodations available for students having disabilities.

Grading

The final grade for this course will be based on a total of 100 points, as follows:

Points	Date	Description
36	Mar 1 Apr 12 May 17	Tests. Three (3) tests will be offered covering selected portions of the readings as noted on the schedule. Test will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions. Each test will be worth 18 points (or 18% of your grade.) <i>Your top two tests will be counted.</i>
15	Various see Schedule	Quizzes. Six (6) quizzes will be offered throughout the semester. Quizzes are open book and taken prior to the start of class time and can be found on the course CI-Learn (Canvas) site. Each quiz is worth three (3) points. <i>The top five (5) quizzes will be counted.</i>
10	Various see Schedule	Current Event Presentation. Each student, as part of a team, will be responsible for the presentation of a current event topic discussion. In conjunction with the presentation, the team will prepare a three page write-up of the topic. The topical discussion should be related to the subject matter of the chapter we are working on at the time of the presentation. This assignment is worth 10 points.
15	Various	Case Briefs. Five (5) cases will be assigned to be briefed as described in Exhibit 1.1 on pages 7-8 of our textbook. Each brief will be worth three (3) points.
10	Nov 27	Project. Each team will draft documents for the formation of a California corporation or partnership. Details of this project will be discussed in class.
14	Each Class	Class Participation. Points will be awarded for participation in class discussions, your responses when serving as the chapter subject matter expert (SME), no points can be awarded for those sessions when you are absent.

Course grades will be curved, but the following scale should serve as an approximate guide:

A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	below 60

Letter grades will include “plus” and “minus” designation as may be appropriate. Please note that because of the application of a curve to grading, achieving a certain score, such as 90, may not guarantee an A-.

Readings and Assignments (schedule of assignments subject to change with notice):

Week	Date	Discussion	Assessment	SME Team	Current Event
1	25-Jan	Introduction & Syllabus; Writing a Case Brief			
2	1-Feb	Ch-01: Introduction to Law Ch-02: Business Ethics and Social Responsibility			
3	8-Feb	Ch-03: The Court System and Dispute Resolution	Brief-01	A	E
4	15-Feb	Ch-04: Business and the Constitution	Quiz-01	B	J
5	22-Feb	Ch-05: Administrative Law Ch-06: International Law	Quiz-02 Brief-02	C	K
6	1-Mar	Review	Exam #1 (Chapters 1-6)		
7	8-Mar	Ch-07: Business Crime Ch-08: Business Torts	Quiz-03	D E	B
8	15-Mar	Ch-09: Environmental Regulation and Sustainability	Brief-03	F	C
9	22-Mar	Spring Break			
10	29-Mar	Ch-10: Contracts and Sales: Introduction and Formation Ch-11: Contracts and Sales: Performance and Remedies	Quiz-04 Brief-04	G	F
11	5-Apr	Ch-12: Business Marketing and Products: Ads, Safety, and Consumer Sales	Quiz-05	H	G
12	12-Apr	Review	Exam #2 (Chapters 4-9)		
13	19-Apr	Ch-13: Business Competition: Antitrust Law Ch-14: Business and Intellectual Property Law	Brief-05	I	H
14	26-Apr	Ch-15: Agency Law Ch-16: Governance and Structure: The Law of Business Associations	Quiz-06	J	I
15	3-May	Ch-17: Governance and Regulation: Securities Law Ch-18: Business and Employees: Employment Regulation		K	A
16	10-May	Ch-19: Business and Employees: Employment Discrimination	Project		D
17	17-May		Exam #3 (Chapters 12-16)		