

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for BUSN 18

BUSINESS LAW

Effective: Fall 2014

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

BUSN 18 — BUSINESS LAW — 4.00 units

A study of the legal environment of business. Covering laws and regulations impacting business transactions. Introduction to the legal process. Topics include sources of legal concepts and ethics, criminal law, torts, contracts, consumer financial transactions, environment, competition, agency, criminal law, business organizations, and judicial and administrative processes.

4.00 Units Lecture

Strongly Recommended

BUSN 40 - Introduction to Business
with a minimum grade of C
and

ENG 1A - Critical Reading and Composition
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	72.00
Total Hours:	72.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

- A. BUSN40
- B. ENG1A

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Discuss the historical development of the legal system; explain the operation of the court system and sources of commercial law;
- B. Describe the government's constitutional authority to regulate business;
- C. List and explain the different types of torts for which businesses may be liable;
- D. Explain the social, political, and ethical implications of the law and their application to actual and hypothetical business transactions.
- E. Distinguish between torts and crimes; describe the purpose of criminal and tort law.
- F. List the elements of a contract and itemize the requirements of each;
- G. Identify all of the elements of a sales contract under the UCC; detail the responsibilities attached to each; and remedies for breach;
- H. Compare and contrast the different types of alternative dispute resolution;
 - I. List the different types of agency relationships; explain the parties involved including their rights and responsibilities;
 - J. Differentiate between real and personal property and analyze the possessory rights that are attached;
- K. Identify the different forms of business organizations; compare and contrast each formation; describe the relationship to stakeholders.
- L. Identify and describe the different types of intellectual property.
- M. Detail the social, political, and ethical implications and relationship of the law to business transactions;
- N. Identify governmental agencies that regulate business; discuss the process of formation, powers, functions, and limitations;

V. CONTENT:

- A. Introduction to law and legal reasoning:
 - 1. the difference between law and ethics
 - 2. stakeholders and social responsibility
 - 3. ethical decision making
 - 4. the method of preparing a case brief
- B. Constitutional issues and their relationship to business
- C. Administrative Agencies
- D. Court systems and processes and alternatives:

1. state and federal court systems
2. jurisdiction
3. appellate review
4. alternative dispute resolution
- E. Criminal Law and its relationship to business
- F. Torts
 1. Intentional v. Unintentional
 2. Negligence
 3. Strict Liability
- G. Contracts
 1. Common Law v. the Uniform Commercial Code
 2. Classification, Terms and Elements
 3. Title, risk, and insurable interest
 4. Performance, Obligation, and Breach
 5. Remedies of the buyer and seller for breach
 6. Warranties
 7. Third Party Beneficiaries
 8. Assignment and Delegation
- H. Agency
 1. Formation
 2. Parties
 3. Duties
 4. Termination
- I. Forms of Business Organizations
 1. formation
 2. operation
 3. termination
 4. liability issues and options
- J. Nature of Personal and Real Property
 1. Ownership
 2. Bailment's
 3. Lost and mislaid property
 4. Conversion
- K. Intellectual Property:
 1. Trademarks and related property
 2. Cyber Marks
 3. Patents
 4. Copyrights
 5. Copyrights in Digital Information
 6. Trade Secrets
 7. International protection for intellectual property
- L. Environmental Law
- M. International Legal Issues

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. PowerPoint and other audio visual appropriate
- B. Small group and individual problem solving tasks which require students to debate a fact pattern and come to a consensus of the appropriate law.
- C. **Student Presentations** -
- D. Lecture and analysis of the rules and elements of law
- E. Discussion of student questions
- F. **Student Presentations** -
- G. **Audio-visual Activity** -
- H. **Lecture** -
- I. **Classroom Activity** -
- J. **Discussion** -
- K. Case and problem analysis

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Homework problems from textbook chapters which require legal reasoning and analysis utilizing IRAC.
- B. Preparation of case briefs utilizing a structured format
- C. Cumulative projects:
 1. Designed to incorporate many student outcomes into one assignment.
 2. Example project: Every year the United States Supreme Court hears many cases and makes many rulings. Pick any one of the listed cases from www.supremecourt.org listed under Opinions. Write a minimum five page IRAC analysis of the case. Discuss the legal issues, the impact of the case on society and form a conclusion based on legal reasoning.
- D. Collaborative learning
 1. Collaborative learning, done in small groups, is used to build analytical skills, heighten critical thinking, and develop legal reasoning.
 2. Example assignment: Read *Geier v. American Honda*. Identify the major legal concepts and terminology. Identify the legal issue stating it in the correct legal format. Determine the holding and identify the reasons behind the holding.

VIII. EVALUATION:

- A. **Methods**
 1. Exams/Tests
 2. Quizzes
 3. Research Projects
 4. Papers
 5. Oral Presentation
 6. Projects

- 7. Group Projects
- 8. Class Participation
- 9. Class Work
- 10. Home Work
- 11. Other:
 - a. Methods:
 - 1. Graded assignments and homework
 - 2. In-class discussion and group participation
 - 3. Chapter or topical tests and or quizzes
 - 4. Chapter terms quizzes
 - 5. Core concepts quizzes
 - 6. Preparation of case briefs
 - 7. Analysis of cases using IRAC
 - 8. Cumulative project and presentation
 - 9. Final examination

B. Frequency

- 1. Frequency
 - a. Instructors may choose how often to evaluate students through written assignments, quizzes and tests.
 - b. In a course of this intensity, however, students require frequent feedback to insure they are building on the foundation concepts and to identify quickly if there needs to be a change in their study techniques.
 - c. Homework and graded assignments should be assigned at the end of each chapter
 - d. Regular in-class discussion requiring group interaction and informal presentations
 - e. Recommend a minimum of two mid-term exams and periodical scheduled or unscheduled quizzes
 - f. One cumulative end of semester project
 - g. One final examination

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. LIUZZO , ANTHONY *Essentials of Business Law*. 8th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2012.
- 2. CHEESEMAN , HENRY *Business Law*. 8th ed., Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012.
- 3. MILLER , LEROY *Business Law Today: The Essentials*. 10th ed., Cengage Southwest, 2014.
- 4. ABBOTT , KEITH *Business Law*. 9th ed., Cengage Southwest, 2014.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Computer and Internet access
- B. Basic supplies such as paper, pencil, pens, Scantrons.
- C. Access to business publications, magazines and periodicals (i.e. USA Today, Wall Street Journal, Fortune Magazine, Harvard Business Review)