

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for BUSN 18

BUSINESS LAW

Effective: Fall 2010

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

BUSN 18 — BUSINESS LAW — 4.00 units

A study of the legal environment of business. Covering laws and regulation affecting business decisions including legal concepts and cases in areas of ethics, employment, contracts, consumer transactions, competition, agency, business torts and crimes, and business organizations.

4.00 Units Lecture

Strongly Recommended

ENG 1A - Critical Reading and Composition

Grading Methods:

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. ENG1A

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. Discuss the history and background of the legal environment of business;
- B. Compare the different venues for dispute resolution;
- C. Describe the government's constitutional authority to regulate business;
- D. Analyze the different types of torts for which businesses may be liable;
- E. Discuss a contract and understand all of its elements;
- F. Identify all of the elements of a sales contract and the responsibilities attached;
- G. Test for different types of agency relationships and understand their rights and responsibilities;
- H. Identify the different types of business organizations;
 - I. Analyze all of the benefits and disadvantages of a partnership;
 - J. Articulate the pros and cons of forming a corporation;
- K. Differentiate between real and personal property and understand the possessory rights that are attached;
- L. Identify and describe the different types of intellectual property.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Introduction to law and legal reasoning:
 1. the difference between law and ethics
 2. the method of preparing a legal brief
- B. Courts and alternative dispute resolution:
 1. the difference between the US court systems, state and federal
 2. appellate review
 3. alternative dispute resolution
- C. Constitutional issues and their relationship to business
- D. Torts
- E. Contracts
- F. Sales
 1. Uniform Commercial code
 2. sales contract formation
 3. title risk and insurable interest
 4. performance and obligation
 5. remedies of the buyer and seller for breach
 6. sales warranties

- 7. product liability
- 8. e-commerce
- G. Agency Formation and Duties
- H. Forms of Business Organizations
 - 1. nature
 - 2. formation
 - 3. operation
 - 4. termination
 - 5. liability issues and options
- I. Nature of Property
 - 1. joint ownership of property in the business forum
 - 2. joint tenancy
 - 3. tenancy in common
 - 4. relevant community property issues
 - 5. bailment's
 - 6. lost and mislaid property
 - 7. conversion
- J. Intellectual Property:
 - 1. Trademark and related property
 - 2. Cyber Marks
 - 3. Patents
 - 4. Copyrights
 - 5. Copyrights in Digital Information
 - 6. Trade Secrets
 - 7. International protection for intellectual property

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

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

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Homework problems from textbook chapters which require legal reasoning and analysis. B. Cumulative project: 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 analysis of the case, the legal issues, the impact of the case on society and form a conclusion based on legal reasoning. C. Collaborative learning 1. Collaborative learning, done in small groups, can be used to build analytical skills and legal reasoning. 2. Example assignment: Read *Geier v. American Honda*. Identify the major legal concepts and terminology. Identify and state the legal issue is correct legal format. Determine the holding and identify the reasons behind the holding.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests
- 2. Quizzes
- 3. Papers
- 4. Projects
- 5. Group Projects
- 6. Class Participation
- 7. Home Work
- 8. 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. Cumulative project and presentation
 - 7. 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*. 7th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2010.
- 2. Cheeseman, Henry R *Business Law*. 7th ed., Pearson Prentice Hall, 2010.
- 3. Ashcroft, John and Janet Ashcroft *Law for Business*. 17th ed., Cengage Southwest, 2011.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

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

