



Legal Environment of Business
BSAD340
Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Legal and regulatory compliance is a critical consideration for all business activities in the United States. Learners examine the relationships among individuals, partnerships, and corporations, as they apply to law. Contracts, consumer law, and the legalities of employer-employee relationships are examined. Legal considerations relevant to global initiatives are explored. Prerequisite: HUM 201. Prior study of professional communication recommended.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Cross, Frank. (2015). *The legal environment of business: text and cases* (9th ed.). Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning.

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each program of study that are in line with the institutional outcomes of critical thinking, ethical reasoning, leadership, communication, and career preparation. Course outcomes support program outcomes and are listed below.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Explain the origins and philosophy of the basic foundations of law as they apply to the function of business.
2. Differentiate legal principles and procedures specific to different forms of business organizations.
3. Distinguish among the major types of laws (e.g. contract, property, consumer, sales, and employment) relevant to the business environment and their impact on business strategies and operations.
4. Assess the role of ethics in various aspects of law, including employer-employee, consumer and corporate business structures, and contracts.
5. Evaluate the impact of the Internet on business law, including e-commerce, e-contracts, e-signatures, and digital banking.
6. Analyze the role laws play in the corporate and financial sectors of business, including acquisitions, investors and shareholders, and bankruptcy.
7. Summarize the legal considerations relevant to global initiatives and making decisions.

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	6	120	12%
Short Answer Assignments	3	75	7.5%
Reflective Journals	3	75	7.5%
Essays	4	150	15%
Case Study Analyses	4	180	18%
Debate Paper	2	150	15%
Global Operations Memorandum & Presentation (Mastery Assignment)	1	250	25%
Total Points		1000	100%

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Cross, Chapters 1, 2, 5 and 17-19 • Read Chapters 1, 2, 5 and 17-19 PowerPoints • Read the article, "The U.S. Legal System" (2016) • View video (8:55): "The Sources of American Law" (2013) • View video (1:02): "Due Process of Law" (2013) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 Introduction • Unit 1 Discussion • Unit 1 Short Answer • Unit 1 Reflective Journal • Unit 1 Essay: Business Structures
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Cross, Chapters 9-10, 13, and 26 • Read Chapters 9-10, 13, and 26 PowerPoints • Read "Protecting the Benefit of a Seller's Bargain in Real Estate Contracts" (2014), Sections I & II, pp. 1-9 • View video (1:45): "Elements of a Contract" (2014) • For more information about the UCC, see "Uniform Commercial Code-Full Text" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2 Discussion • Unit 2 Case Study Analysis: Caveat Emptor • Unit 2 Reflective Journal: eContracts • Unit 2 Debate Paper: Strict Liability
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Cross, Chapters 4 and 21-22 • Read Chapters 4 and 21-22 PowerPoints • Read the article, "Employment Discrimination: Overview" (2013) • Read the article, "Rights When Working for Multinational Employers" (2016) • View video (10:57): "The Social Responsibility of Business" (2015) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3 Discussion • Unit 3 Short Answer • Unit 3 Essay: Employment Law • Unit 3 Reflective Journal
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Cross, Chapters 7, 12 and 15 • Read Chapters 7, 12 and 15 PowerPoints • Read "The Responsible Web: How Tort Law Can Save the Internet" (2014) • View video (12:46): "Electronic Signatures ESIGN Origins Understanding Laws and the Affects" (2016) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4 Discussion • Unit 4 Short Answer • Unit 4 Case Study Analysis: Torts • Unit 4 Essay: E-Commerce
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Cross, Chapters 16 and 27-28 • Read Chapters 16 and 27-28 PowerPoints • Read "Riddle of Shareholder Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility" (2015), Section IV, pp. 27-44 • View video (1:27): "What is an Antitrust Law? Why is it Important" (2013) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5 Discussion • Unit 5 Debate Paper • Unit 5 Case Study Analysis • Unit 5 Essay: Investor Protection

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Cross, Chapters 3 and 8 • Read Chapters 3 and 8 PowerPoints • Read “The Case for Writing International Law into the U. S. Code” (2014), Intro. and Sections I & II, pp. 1-30 • View video (0:57): “The Importance of Studying International Business” (2014) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 6 Discussion • Unit 6 Case Study Analysis • Unit 6 Global Operations Memorandum and Presentation (Mastery Assignment)

VII. [Other Policies and Requirements](#)

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.