

**Spring 07**  
**LEB 320F**  
**Foundations of Legal Environment of Business (Business Law)**

University of Texas

**Unique Number: 03425 TTH 12:30-1:45 GSB 2.124**

**03430 TTH 2-3:15 GSB 2.124**

Professor: Mark B. Baker  
Office: CBA 5.230  
Office Hours: TTH 11-12:15 or by appointment  
Texts: Business Law Text and Cases, 7<sup>th</sup> Custom Edition; Allison and Prentice

### **Exams**

- 1) Two Exams, (30%) each and final (40%). Material tested on to be from lectures and reading (whether or not covered in class). Exams will consist of objective, essay and/or true-false questions. Only the final will be cumulative. Exams are subject to curving. Exams may be given at night (generally 8:00 - 10:00)
- 2) "Pop tests" given at the discretion of the instructor. Grades on such will be computed in students' average.
- 3) No make-ups unless instructor is notified previous to exam and he considers situation to be an emergency for student.

### **Attendance**

- 1) Not mandatory (subject to following conditions but encouraged for following reasons) a) The study of legal systems and the law is quite demanding and may require different skills than that which the student presently has.
- b) The instructor will attempt to incorporate something from each class period into the exams.

### **Classroom Participation**

Instructor will ask questions at random during class-- 1) If a student's name is called and he/she is absent 3 or more times, the grade may be lowered. 2) Instructor will note well presented oral answers and such may raise one's grade. 3) Poor classroom response may adversely affect student's grade if such grade is on the margin.

### E-mail

Emails are my least favorite form of communication and are subject to being answered at my sole discretion. I urge you to come see me personally about issues in my office hours.

**BAKER'S BUDDY SYSTEM-each one of you is responsible for finding someone in the class to rely on if you miss class, need info about assignments, etc-DON'T ASK ME!!!!**

### Assignments

Syllabus subject to change upon reasonable notice. General guide is that instructor will attempt to cover 10-15 pages of textbook in each lecture. Best idea is to stay that many pages ahead of material covered in the last class. Students are encouraged to see the instructor if he/she has any questions/problems during the term. Don't wait until the end of the term to tell me that you are having problems with the course. Good luck!

## **BAKER-STUDENT CONTRACT**

(subject to unilateral modification)

General Class and Exam Procedure -- Read Very Carefully!

### Class Procedure

- 1) Read 10-15 pages ahead every day unless otherwise instructed. Don't ask Professor what next day's assignment is. (He won't answer).
- 2) If you must arrive for class late (or leave early) please seat yourself in the back of the room.
- 3) If you miss class do not come to Professor for copy of his lecture notes -- get notes from another student first.
- 4) Before asking Professor to answer questions out of class please try to review the material and think it through on your own --then come to me.
- 5) Class is an exercise in both lecture methodology and Socratic Dialogue; therefore, professor will ask questions of student(s) and expect responses. However, students should understand that off-times questions will be asked of them that are not exactly from their reading. Responses are still required; this is an essential aspect of the Socratic method.
- 6) Professor encourages class members to enter into dialogue with him and to challenge him on whatever points they deem requires the same. Disagreement is often healthy!
- 7) If students do not understand matters being discussed by Professor, please ask for explanation during class

so that such may be clarified.

8) My door is always open to students during office hours. Please see me then unless it is an emergency -- I'll be glad to make an appointment to see you at a time convenient to all if you can't see me during office hours.

9) Students need not be afraid to see Professor as to personal matters. I am always happy to talk with you about your problems or concerns; especially when they interfere with your performance in the course.

10) I can't overemphasize how different this course is from most others you have previously taken; especially if you have not had an essay exam course before. Please take practice exams and advice given at review sessions very seriously.

## **Test Procedure**

1) Exams are given during class period or at night; time allowed is generally 60-70 minutes; each student is to bring the following to the exam:

- a) a #2 pencil (for computer form)
- b) a pen (exams must be written in ink)
- c) one or more bluebooks

2) There will generally be a review session before each exam.

3) Essay question is to be written as follows:

- a) in ink
- b) on every other line
- c) one side of page only -- 8 page limit

4) Bluebooks will be checked or exchanged before the exam, any books with writing inside will be confiscated and the owner will be subject to any and all University regulations regarding cheating.

5) Failure to follow any of the instructions on the front of the exam (ie: putting bluebook in wrong box); is automatic 5 point penalty.

6) The process of grading law exams is tedious and lengthy. Generally, it takes at least 7 days to return the exams. First thing: when you get your exam back, add up points to check our addition!

7) Because of the non-objective nature of grading essays, regrading will be handled as follows:

- a) All regrades (whatever the reason) must be re-submitted to Professor within 72 hours of their return. (No excuses)
- b) All requests for regrade must be accompanied by a written petition precisely pointing out

where grading was in error. No regrading done based upon general statements such as I deserve more points!

- c) Student must acknowledge in writing that he/she has read the grading key first -- key will be posted in place announced by Professor. d) Regrades are subject to having points taken off as well as added.

8) All exams which student would like Professor to review (not regrade) for comments must be handed into Professor within one week of its return.

9) Students are responsible for checking their exam grades. If you fail to do so within 2 weeks of return of exams, the right to see the same is waived.