

Legal Environment of Business 320F
Spring, 2007
Unique Number 03415
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I. Course Description. Introduction to the legal problems confronting businesses in the global environment. May not be counted toward the Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Prerequisite: Upper-division standing.

II. Text. *Business Law*, by Allison and Prentice (Eighth Custom Edition by Thompson Publishing, 2006).

III. Office Hours. By appointment only. Please set up a time for us to meet whenever necessary. Additionally, I will be available both before and after class to answer questions and you may send an e-mail to me with any questions or observations. Specific office hours will be announced after examinations so that you have the opportunity to discuss your exam with me.

IV. Examinations and Grading Policies. There will be two exams and a final exam. The exams will be given one-third and two-thirds through the semester, with the final exam being given on Saturday, May 12, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. Each exam and the final exam will count for one-third (1/3) of your grade. The exams are not comprehensive, and include multiple-choice, true-false, short answer, and essay questions. No make-up exams will be given.

Preparation for class and attendance are very important. Your attendance and ability to discuss the cases will be factors in your final grade. For example, if you have been prepared for class and able to discuss a case when called upon in class, an average grade of 88 will earn you an A for the course.

V. Important Dates.

Last day to drop the course without academic penalty: February 12, 2007

Spring Break: March 12 – 17, 2007

Last day an undergraduate student may withdraw or drop a course: March 26, 2007

Last day of class: May 4, 2007

Final examination: May 12, 2007, 9:00 a.m.

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VI. Course Outline. The following material will be covered this semester. It is not necessary to read the entire chapter; it is imperative, however, that you read and brief the assigned cases within each chapter. The relevant material will be covered in the lecture and only that material will be on the examinations.

A. Legal System

1. Law (Chapters 1 & 4)
2. Courts (Chapter 2)
3. Processes (Chapter 3)
4. Alternative Dispute Resolution (Chapter 3)

B. Contracts

1. Mutual Assent (Chapters 11 & 12)
2. Consideration (Chapter 13)
3. Capacity (Chapter 15)
4. Legality of Object (Chapter 14)
5. Interpretation (Chapter 19)
6. Defenses (Statute of Frauds, Chapter 16; Parol Evidence Rule, Chapter 16; Void/Voidable, Chapter 15)
7. Assignments and Third Party Beneficiaries (Chapter 17)
8. Remedies (Chapter 19)

C. Special Contracts

1. Sale of Goods (Chapter 20)
2. Negotiable Instruments
3. Bailments
4. Agency (Chapters 23 & 24)

D. Business Organizations

1. Sole Proprietorship
2. Partnership (Chapter 25)
3. Limited Partnership
4. Corporations
5. Limited Liability Company
6. Limited Liability Partnership

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- E. Torts and Product Liability (Chapters 8 & 21)
 - 1. Negligence
 - 2. Intentional Torts
 - 3. *Respondeat Superior*
 - 4. Joint and Several Liability
 - 5. Strict Liability
 - 6. Product Liability

- F. Criminal Law (Chapter 7)
 - 1. Elements of Criminal Responsibility
 - 2. Defenses
 - 3. State Crimes Affecting Business
 - 4. Federal Crimes Affecting Business

- G. Government Regulation of Business
 - 1. Securities Law and Regulations (Chapter 26)
 - 2. Antitrust Law and Regulations (Chapter 28)
 - 3. Employment Law and Regulations (Chapter 29)
 - 4. Environmental Law and Regulations (Chapter 30)

- H. The Role of Ethics in Business (Chapter 10)

NOTE: The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, TTY 471-4641.