



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**Business Honors Program
Legal Environment of Business
LEB 323H – Spring 2007**

- Instructor:* Christopher Meakin
- Meeting times:* TTH 12:30-2 p.m.
- Classroom:* CBA 4.330
- Instructor's Office:* CBA 2.316 - MBA Program Office
- Office Hours:* Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. and other times by appointment
- Email:* Christopher.Meakin@McCombs.utexas.edu
- Phone:* 471.7616. If you leave a message, please state your full name and a telephone number where you can be reached. I will return your call promptly.
- Text:* BUSINESS LAW, 8TH Edition, Allison and Prentice (Thompson 2006) and handouts.
- Grading:* Your grade will be made up of the following four components
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Class attendance and contribution | 20% |
| Research and presentation project | 25% |
| 1 st Exam | 25% |
| 2 nd Exam | 30% |

For each exam you be allowed to bring one 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper with anything you wish written on it (both front and back side) in only your own handwriting. Your full name must be written on both sides of the sheet in letters at least **this big**. Sheets that do not comply with these requirements are subject to exclusion. This sheet shall be turned in with the exam. The exams will only test your application of material covered during the period immediately preceding that exam. For example, the 2nd Exam will only test you on material we discussed after the 1st exam and before the 2nd Exam. Your final grade will be subject to a curve.

Extra Credit:

Throughout the semester I may assign extra credit exercises during class. They will not be difficult but you must be in attendance for the entire class period on the day of the assignment and on the day the assignment is due. Unless advised otherwise, the extra credit should be turned in during class in hard copy. Work without a name will be disregarded.

Research and presentation project:

You will be required to complete a group research and presentation project. You will be assigned to a group and you and your group mates are to research and teach the class about any aspect of the material we cover. Your presentation should be 20-30 minutes and be supported by a well-researched and substantive written product. The manner in which you teach us is entirely up to you as long as it is entertaining and effective. Past examples of creativity include skits, developing a website, creating a board game, and even writing several songs and cutting a CD. You will be assigned a presentation date once the topics are chosen.

The project will be explained in more detail during class. The grade for this project will have a peer review portion. The paper is due on the day of your presentation.

Attendance, Assignments, and Class Contribution:

We all must attend each class with a firm understanding of the assignment for that day and a willingness to participate in class discussions so that we each may benefit from the ideas of the others. You will be expected to be able to answer questions and ask relevant and thoughtful questions. When evaluating any individual's contribution, quantity and volume are much less important than quality and perceptiveness. At the beginning of each class a roll sheet will be circulated. If you are in your seat ready to participate at the beginning of class, please mark yourself as present with your initials. If you were not present and ready at the beginning of class and you arrive later, please mark yourself as tardy. If you leave class before it is completed please mark that event on the roll sheet. Signing the roll sheet during class is the responsibility of the student. The roll sheets will be the only measure of your attendance.

Use of Electronic Devices during Class:

No recording shall be made during class without express permission from the instructor. Computers may be used for note taking only. Under no circumstance shall students open any program (i.e. Internet Explorer, Outlook, etc.) on their computers during class for any reason other than note taking. Computers are not allowed in class during presentations by guest speakers.

Your work:

Unless you are specifically instructed to work with others, your work in this class, such as the exam sheets and extra credit assignments, shall be your own independent work.

Note:

Nothing in this syllabus displaces the overarching laws of common sense, logic, truth or humor.

Preliminary Class Schedule
(we will move at our own pace)
Spring 2007

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Please have read chapter</i>
January	18	Introduction	-
	23	Nature and sources of law and common and statutory law	1, 4
	25	Court systems and jurisdiction	2
	30	Litigation and ADR	3
February	1	Real property	Supp.
	6	Personal Property	Supp.
	8	Intellectual Property	9
	13	Intellectual Property (cont.)	
	15	Begin Contracts and the Agreement	11, 12
	20	The Agreement (cont.) and begin Consideration	13
	22	Complete Consideration	
	27	Illegality and begin Voidable Contracts	14, 15
March	1	Complete Voidable Contracts and begin Writing	16
	6	Complete Writing and Third Parties	17
	8	Exam 1	
	13	<i>Spring Break</i>	
	15	<i>Spring Break</i>	
	20	Discharge of Contracts	18
	22	Torts	8
	27	Continue Torts and begin Warranties and Products Liability	22
	29	Complete Warranties and Products	
April	3	Agency	23, 24
	5	Continue Agency	
	10	Complete Agency	
	12	Employment Law	29
	17	Continue Employment Law	
	19	Complete Employment Law	
	24	Bankruptcy	22
May	26	Continue Bankruptcy	
	1	International Business	31
	3	Exam 2	