

**Note – The following is a comprehensive list of courses offered by the Department of Business Government and Society. The semester in which a specific course is *most likely* to be offered is noted.**

**LEB 380.14 - Intellectual Property** - Offered in Fall

*Description:* In our information economy, nothing is more important for business than protecting and exploiting intellectual property. This course covers trade secrets, trademarks, copyrights, and patents, giving managers the knowledge to develop and implement strategies to protect their own intellectual property, and to avoid the staggering liability that can result from infringing on the IP of other companies.

**LEB 380.4 - Law for Finance** - Offered in Spring

*Description:* This course could be called “The Law of Securities Regulation.” It studies the broad legal environment within which securities are issued and traded, including such matters as insider trading, mergers & acquisitions, venture capital, private equity funds, hedge funds, initial public offerings, securities fraud, shareholder rights and the like. Legal responsibilities and liabilities of investment bankers, stock analysts, hedge fund managers, auditors, and other professionals are studied. The legal ramifications of the recent Wall Street bailout will come up as will the future of world financial regulation. Sarbanes-Oxley will get a mention or two. The course is quite helpful for the Series 7 and other professional certification exams. Ethical dimensions of these issues are not ignored.

**LEB 380.26 - Law for Entrepreneurs** - Offered in Spring

*Description:* All entrepreneurs face a raft of difficult legal issues, including how to protect their intellectual property, how to hire and retain employees, how to raise capital without violating SEC rules, how to extract wealth from their company without being sued, etc. During this class students take an idea and learn how to protect it, build a business around it and grow that business while minimizing legal and regulatory risks.

**LEB 380.31 - Energy Law** - Offered Fall

*Description:* This course will introduce students to the legal issues facing energy companies (energy generating as well as energy service companies) in a deregulating, although not fully deregulated, world. Topics will include the (de)regulation of generation, wholesale transactions, and retail service, as well as environmental regulation of energy production and the contractual and other legal issues governing the commercial market for energy. The ongoing push to develop cleaner energy sources, as well as recent events involving renewable energy, the BP oil spill, shale gas development, the California energy markets, etc. will make this a darned interesting course. Professor David Spence has done substantial research in this area. He has taught at Harvard Law School, as well as the law schools at Cornell and Vanderbilt. He does substantial teaching in UT's executive education program for ExxonMobil, Petrobras, Shell Oil and other energy companies.

**BGS 380 - Law & Economics of Capital Markets and Financial Intermediation** - Offered in Fall

*Description:* This course uses economic analysis to enable students to understand the institutional workings of the securities and investment business and its legal regulation (especially recent developments therein). Focal topics include securities trading and market regulation, banking and shadow banking, securitizations and asset-backed securities, broker-dealer duties and conflicts, and investment advisers and investment company regulation.

**BGS 380C - Strategic Corporate Communication** - Offered in Fall

*Description:* Reputational capital is more important for firms than ever before. This course studies a corporation's efforts to lead, motivate, persuade and inform its various constituencies, including investors, employees, communities, and governments. It encompasses public relations, investor relations, employee relations, community relations, media relations, labor relations, and government relations.

**BGS 381 - Law, Ethics, and Corporate Social Responsibility** - Offered Fall and Spring

*Description:* This is a new class covering the intersection of business ethics and law. Its premise is that a complete business education includes the development of a sophisticated and nuanced understanding of the legal, ethical, and political contexts of business. In today's global economy, this understanding needs a comparative and international perspective and must take into account how culture affects the legal and ethical expectations in different countries. The course aims to equip businesspeople in all areas with an ability to navigate the differing ethical, legal, and cultural expectations of the environments in which they will do business. The material will be taught primarily through class discussion and group and individual exercises.

**BGS 382 - Corporate Political Strategy** - Offered in Spring

*Description:* The ability to strategically shape a firm's political and regulatory environment is critical to economic success in today's highly regulated business environment. This course studies how the political and regulatory environment enables and constrains business activity and how individual firms and groups of firms can effectively lobby, create industry associations, make campaign contributions, submit amicus briefs to the Supreme Court, and engage in other political activity to gain competitive advantage.

**BGS 380D - Strategic Corporate Social Responsibility** - Offered in Fall

*Description:* This course explores different ways that firms are becoming socially responsible, and evaluates the extent to which different types of social responsibility are strategic. The goal of the course is for students to learn how to evaluate and successfully implement strategic CSR initiatives, which are often more complicated than traditional market-based corporate strategies because they require managers to successfully engage with actors in the non-market environment.

**LEB 380.3 - Law of Commercial Real Estate Finance and Development** - Offered in Fall

This course covers the legal framework for commercial real estate finance and development, including basic real estate law concepts, legal aspects of financing techniques and instruments, subdivision land-use controls, and environmental regulation of real estate development. Ethical dimensions are covered where appropriate.

**LEB 380.7 - Corporation Law** - Offered in Summer

*Description:* This course examines the various business entities such as partnerships, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships, but with an emphasis on corporations. Students will learn how these entities are formed and governed, determine which entity may be appropriate for a certain types of business, and examine agency law to determine how employees create profits and liabilities. Finally, students will examine the relationships between the owners of a business such as the shareholders and the managers business such as the officers and at the duties and liabilities imposed on those managers.