

1102B203

Introduction to Business Law

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Time: May 10, 2021-June 11, 2021

Office Hours: 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

Contact Hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Credits: 4

Course Description

In today's rapidly-evolving and globalized business world, in which commerce crosses so many national and international boundaries, an understanding of the numerous applicable legal issues is crucial. This course provides an introduction to international business law from a practical, and realistic, very Modern perspective. The goal is to furnish students with the information and Analytical tools necessary to grasp the legal considerations important to Contemporary businesses and business transactions.

In addition to providing a general introduction to the American legal system, this course will focus on specific business-oriented legal topics such as contracts, e-commerce, corporations, partnerships, intellectual property, international/world trade law, cyber piracy, and the Uniform Commercial Code.

Required Textbook(s)

Dynamic Business Law: The Essentials, 5th Edition. By Nancy Kubasek. ISBN 97980078023842.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Course Objectives

Students are expected to achieve by the end of the course.

- Describe the various sources of the law.
- Name three different classifications of the law.
- Identify the components of a legal case.
- List the main Federal and Florida state courts.
- Outline court procedure in a civil case.
- Distinguish between the various kinds of torts.
- Define a contract.
- Describe the various classifications of contracts.
- Analyze a situation to determine the elements necessary for a contract.
- Successfully apply contract principles in an online, e-contract environment.
- Distinguish between employees and independent contractors, and determine the circumstances under which agents may bind principals.
- Understand how various business forms are created and dissolved, and identify which business form is appropriate in a specific situation.

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts in this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

A Table of the schedule is on the following page.

Week		Chapter	Topic	Exams	Appellate Briefs Presentations
1	Monday	1	An Introduction to Dynamic Business Law		
	Tuesday	2	Business Ethics		
	Wednesday	3	The US Legal System		
	Thursday	4	Alternative Dispute Resolution		
	Friday	5	Constitutional Principles		
			<i>Law in Movies: The Paper Chase and Legally Blonde</i>		
			<i>Law in Movies: Supreme Revenge</i>		
2	Monday	6	International and Comparative Law		
	Tuesday	7	Crime and the Business Community		
	Wednesday	8	Tort Law		Appellate Brief 1
	Thursday	9	Negligence and Strict Liability		
	Friday	10	Product Liability		
			<i>Law in Movies: Gideon's Trumpet, 12 Angry Men, and Double Jeopardy</i>		
			<i>Law in Movies: Devil's Advocate, and My Cousin Vinny</i>		
3	Monday	11	Liability of Accountants and Other Professionals		
	Tuesday	12	Intellectual Property		
	Wednesday	13	Introduction to Contracts	Midterm Exam	
	Thursday	14	Agreement		
	Friday	15	Consideration		
			<i>Law in Movies: The Firm, and Runaway Jury</i>		
			<i>Law in Movies: The Social Network, and A Civil Action</i>		
4	Monday	16	Capacity and Legality		Appellate Brief 2
	Tuesday	17	Legal Assent		
	Wednesday	18	Contracts in Writing		
	Thursday	19	Third-Party Rights to Contracts		
	Friday	20	Discharge and Remedies		
			<i>Law in Movies: The People v. Larry Flynt, and Erin Brockovich</i>		
			<i>Law in Movies: Class Action, and Liar Liar</i>		
5	Monday	21	Introduction to Sales and Lease Contracts		Presentation
	Tuesday	22	Title, Risk of Loss, and Insurable Interest		
	Wednesday	23	Performance and Obligations under Sales and Leases		
	Thursday	24	Remedies for Breach of Sales and Lease Contracts		
	Friday	25	Warranties	Final Exam	
			<i>Law in Movies: Legal Eagles, and Philadelphia</i>		
			<i>Law in Movies: The Pelican Brief, and The Rainmaker</i>		

Course Requirements

1. Students are expected to read the required readings and watch scheduled videos on the class day scheduled.
2. Class Conduct: Consistent, respectful and informed participation is expected from every student in the course.
3. I will respond to emails in a timely manner. It is best to make an appointment or speak to me after lecture.
4. It is your responsibility to keep me updated with attendance, email, etc.
5. Please check your email regularly for instructions and readings.

Grading Policy

Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Appellate Brief 1	10%
Appellate Brief 2	10%
Presentation	10%
Online Discussion	10%
Total	100%

Graded Components

- **Midterm Exam**
The midterm exam will cover all of the material covered from the start of the course through the day before the exam. It will cover black letter law as well as ask student to apply law to cases. Analysis will be key.
- **Final Exam**
The final exam will focus on the material following the midterm. Given the nature of law, this does not mean students should forget the material before the midterm. Answering the questions on later chapters often requires the foundation concepts covered in the early part of the course. So in this sense, the final is somewhat “cumulative.”
- **2 Appellate Briefs**
Students will be asked to write 2 persuasive appellate briefs, similar the kind lawyers would submit to a higher court such as the US Supreme Court for a case. The professor will provide the case and the assignment instructions.
- **Presentation**
Students will be asked to create and record a presentation on a legal topic agreed upon with the instructor. Details of the presentations will be provided by the instructor during the course.
- **Online Discussion**
Students will be asked to participate in online discussion. This will include commentary on the films viewed and on various topics. The professor will participate in the “blog” chatting as well. The intent is to facilitate discussion and interaction, focused on business law and cases we study.

Late Policy

Students are asked to submit all materials according to the schedule and due dates. To maintain fairness for those students who do submit on time, we will deduct 10 percentage points from any grade for every day the item is late.

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.