BUSN311

Course Summary

Course : BUSN311 **Title :** Law and Ethics in the Business Environment
Length of Course : 8
Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course develops skills for inquiry into the business environment from a legal and ethical perspective. Students explore the relationships between modern business and the environment, in addition to the ethical issues that arise when diverse interests intersect. Relevant topics will include contracts, commercial law (sales, secured transactions and creditors remedies), forms of business entities (including limited liability companies and corporations), agency, employer-employee relationships, real property concepts, bankruptcy, and negligence and strict liability concepts. Students will examine corporate governance and business ethics, with emphasis on case studies.

Course Scope:

Law and Ethics in the Business Environment is designed to address the complex decisions that will confront business managers and owners as they balance the legal system and a desire to improve society. This course provides a global view of issues, challenging the student to put aside personal feelings, judging the merits of the situation based on the facts and existing law. Students will learn how to review statutory and constitutional law and examine and understand business's ability to operate within our society.

Objectives

Course Objectives:

- CO1 Define the legal environment that is applicable to the business world.
- CO2 Review basic business law concepts
- CO3 Describe the litigation system in the United States
- CO4 Apply legal concepts to business scenarios
- CO5 Analyze the differences between major forms of intellectual property protection, and current ethical issues that arise under intellectual property law
- CO6 Identify antitrust issues in business decisions
- CO7 Analyze what a contract is, how a contract is formed, the types of law that govern contracts, the elements of common-law contract formation, and defenses to contracts
- CO8 Identify various forms of business structure
- CO9 Evaluate employment laws affecting business

- CO10 Define the ethical environment that is applicable to the business world.
- CO11 Identify means to avoid alter ego liability
- CO12 Evaluate how the Sarbanes Oxley Act applies to business.

Outline

Week 1: Introduction to Law

Topic(s)

Introduction to Law and Ethics in the Business Environment

Course Objective(s)

CO1 Define the legal environment that is applicable to the business world.

CO2 Review basic business law concepts

CO3. Describe the litigation system in the United States

Learning Materials

Week 1 Lesson and Required Readings

Activities and Assessments

Week 1 Introduction Discussion

Week 2: Intellectual Property and Antitrust

Topic(s)

Intellectual Property

Antitrust

Course Objective(s)

CO4 Apply legal concepts to business to business scenarios

CO5 Analyze the differences between major forms of intellectual property protection, and current ethical issues that arise under intellectual property law

CO6 Identify antitrust issues in business decisions

Learning Materials

Week 2 Lesson and Required Readings

Activities and Assessments

Week 2 Discussion Forum

Week 2 Quiz

Week 3: Corporate Structure and Contracts

Topic(s)

Contracts

Corporate Structure

Course Objective(s)

CO7 Analyze what a contract is, how a contract is formed, the types of law that govern contracts, the elements of common-law contract formation, and defenses to contracts

CO8 Identify various forms of business structure

Learning Materials

Week 3 Lesson and Required Readings

Activities and Assessments

Week 3 Discussion Forum

Week 4: Business Law and Ethics

Topic(s)

Introduction to Corporate Ethics, Bankruptcy

Course Objective(s)

Week 4:

- CO1 Define the legal environment that is applicable to the business world.
- CO2 Review basic business law concepts.
- CO10 Define ethical environment that is applicable to the business world.

Review course Weeks 1 through 4 for Midterm.

Learning Materials

Week 4 Lesson and Required Readings

Review Weeks 1 through 4

Activities and Assessments

Midterm Exam

Week 5: Developing the Corporate Culture

Topic(s)

Developing the Corporate Culture

Course Objective(s)

- CO9 Evaluate employment laws affecting business
- CO10 Define the ethical environment that is applicable to the business world.

Learning Materials

Week 5 Lesson and Required Readings

Activities and Assessments

Week 5 Discussion Forum

Week 5 Assignment.

Week 6: Corporate Ethics

Topic(s)

Corporate Ethics

Course Objective(s)

CO10 Define ethical environment that is applicable to the business world.

Learning Materials

Week 6 Lesson and Required Readings

Activities and Assessments

Week 6 Discussion Forum

Week 6 Quiz

Week 7: Liability

Topic(s)

Alter Ego

Sarbanes Oxley

Course Objective(s)

CO11 Identify means to avoid alter ego liability

CO12 Evaluate how the Sarbanes Oxley Act applies to business.

Learning Materials

Week 7 Lesson and Required Readings

Activities and Assessments

Week 7 Discussion Forum

Week 7 Assignment (Course Paper)

Week 8: Course Review.

Topic(s)

Final Exam Week

Course Objective(s)
Learning Materials

Week 8 Lesson. Review the materials from weeks 1-7.

Activities and Assessments

Final Exam

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %

Materials

Book Title: Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Please visit http://apus.libguides.com/er.php to locate the course eReserve.

Author: No Author Specified

Publication Info:

ISBN: N/A

In addition to the eReserve, Required Readings for the course are listed in the Lessons under Addtional Readings. Other readings may be assigned in Discussions, Assignments, and otherwise by your instructor during the course. Students are responsible for **ALL assigned readings**, from all sources and locations provided to them for this course, and are also encouraged to do their own research for assigned projects.

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole format for papers and for citation and reference style used in written assignments and exam essays, and other assigned work submitted as part of coursework to the School of Business.
- As of April 2020 the School of Business is utilizing APA 7th Edition.
- Please note that APA formal citation style is <u>not</u> required in Discussions in the School of Business.

Tutor.com

APUS students are offered up to 10 free hours of assistance at Tutor.com. The APUS Library link is here: https://www.apus.edu/apus-library/resources-services/multimedia/tutor-com.html Tutor.com™ offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com™ also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring

hours and is also available 24/7.

Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed with each assignment.
- Generally speaking, if arrangements are not made in advance, a late penalty of up to 10% will be assessed for any assignment submitted past the due date. No work will be accepted past the final day of class, unless prior arraignments have been made with the instructor.
- As a working adult, your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

Turnitin

Assignments are automatically submitted through TurnItin.com, which will produce a report of similarity to sources and other valuable feedback.

Grading Rubrics

Grading rubrics are utilized by instructors for Discussions and most Assignments. Performance requirements stated in the rubrics should be reviewed and utilized as guidance for completing your work.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite. Also using your own work from prior courses, even the same course, or other venues, violates the plagiarism policy.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

The Syllabus is a Course Guide. Course content and specific requirements for individual assignments may vary from the Syllabus outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class. Pay close attention to Course Lessons, Announcements, Assignments and Forum instructions and other directions from your professor.

Communicating in Discussions

- Discussions are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Discussion responsoes must be substantial and posted according to the days and times as provided in the forum instructions. Refer to the forum grading rubric for guidance.

- "Substantial" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.

- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes and exams may consist of a variety of question types, such as true/false, multiple choice, matching, fill in the blank and essay questions. There is one submission for each quiz/exam. Therefore, allocate time to complete your quiz. Weekly quizzes must be submitted by midnight Eastern Time, Day 7 of the assigned week. Technical problems should be immediately reported to your professor. Classroom Support may be needed for assistance. Late quizzes or exams will not be accepted without prior instructor approval. Review the late policy posted for the Course.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy

- Extension Requests

- Academic Probation

- Appeals

- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.