

**BLAW 205-Fall 2017**  
**Legal Environment of Business**  
**12:15- 1:30 Beatty 320**  
**Dr. Roxane DeLaurell**

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**Office Hours:** TR 11-12, W 2-5, or by appt. Students are welcome to stop by whenever I am in my office or e mail me.

**Text material:** Anderson's Business Law and the Legal Environment, by Twomey, Jennings and Greene, 23<sup>rd</sup> edition, Cengage Publishing. ISBN:978-1-305-57511-0 or loose leaf edition ISBN: 978-1-305-87032-1. This is the textbook for all BLAW 205 sections.

Professor's powerpoint slides will be posted to oaks.

**Course Objectives:**

- (1) To introduce students to the legal framework within which businesses must operate; Global and Civic Responsibility
- (2) To provide students with an awareness of the legal limitations and consequences of strategic business decisions; Intellectual Innovation and Creativity
- (3) To introduce students to the social and ethical implications and responsibilities of business operating within this framework. Global and Civic Responsibility
- (4) To challenge students to communicate in a professional manner through verbal and written assignments using current technological tools. Communication Skills

This course will give the student a general understanding of the legal environment of business as well as the basic legal precepts and regulatory framework that impact business. Students should be able to identify basic legal issues in the business context.

## **School of Business Learning Goals:**

This course will give students the ability to recognize and be able to appraise ethical issues involved in making a strategic business decision. This course will give students a necessary tool for critical thinking in identifying and evaluating problems and opportunities faced in the business environment. Students will be asked to communicate through article presentations thus challenging them to communicate effectively. Students will engage in small group work designed to exercise their problem solving ability.

## **Grading:**

### **Daily Briefing:**

The student will be expected to read assigned material and participate in class discussions. Each class period will begin with a **daily briefing** of current events relevant to business. Students will be required to present a daily brief based on a current event article. The student will present their article and the class will discuss the business law issues raised. The student will turn in a one page summary of the article noting its source and date, explaining why the article is important to business law: articles must be current, within a week from the class period in which they are discussed. The Daily briefing will count 20% of your final grade and the subject matter will be on exams. A rubric will be provided.

### **Small Group Work:**

No more than five in class **small group** assignments will be made during the semester. This in class group work will be assigned that class period. This small group work will count 10% of your final grade. It cannot be made up.

Although there is no formal attendance policy, students are encouraged to attend not only for the in class assignments but for the benefit of lectures and discussions: students who attend class regularly get better final grades than students who do not.

## **Exams:**

Three exams will be given. The final is not cumulative. Material for exams will come from the lectures, daily briefings and in class assignments (i.e. everything that happens in class is fair game): a review will be given prior to each exam. Exams will be short answer and objective in nature with some critical thinking and application questions. The final grade will be computed as follows:

Final Grade: Exam I	20%
Exam II	25%
Final Exam	25%
Daily Briefing	20%
Small Group	10%

Grading Scale: 95-100 =A, 90-94 = A-,  
87-89= B+, 84-86 =B, 80-83 = B-, 77-79= C+,  
74-76=C, 70-73 = C-, 69-67=D+, 64-66 = D,  
60-63 = D-, 59 and below = F.

### **Policies and guidelines:**

A student should have sophomore standing to be in this class.

Students are expected to act appropriately in class. Cell phones and all electronics should be turned off. Students should be respectful of their colleagues and the forum, i.e. your conduct in class should not be disruptive.

I advise you to download the powerpoint slides of my lectures, posted on oaks, before class in the form that will assist you in taking notes; i.e. the outline view or handout view. Bring them to class and during lecture take notes on them. This will help you study for exams later on.

Students as well as the professor have an protectable interests in the classroom, so no recording of class discussions, video or audio, will be allowed without getting all the necessary permissions. No photography will be allowed without permission. The professor also reserves her copyright in her work product.

Please do not rely on extra credit to get by because I do not give extra credit. All the credit you will ever need to do well in this class is on this syllabus: read the assignments, come to class, take good notes, bring articles and participate. If you are experiencing trouble during the semester please come see me about it or e mail me if you cannot come by the office. Do not wait until the week before the final to salvage a bad semester.

Students should have an active College e mail account. These accounts can be set up to forward to other addresses but you must check for official notifications from the College.

I do **not** give make-up exams. If you miss an exam you will have to go through the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies to get an official excuse to be given some discretion for missing that exam: that discretion will depend on the nature of the excuse. If you anticipate missing an exam see me as soon as possible before that exam. **Exams are your responsibility. Do not miss an exam.**

**Final exams** will be rescheduled pursuant to the terms of the catalogue so unless it is a hardship situation, the student must provide documentation to the instructor that exigent

circumstances warrant a make up of the final exam. The instructor in consultation with the department chair will make that determination.

If a student anticipates the need for **any type of special accommodation** during the course of the semester that student must inform the professor as soon as possible so that accommodation can be reached. Students are responsible for supplying the necessary documentation during the first week of class in support of any accommodation.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed by both the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive an XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be expunged. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information stored on a cell phone), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the *Student Handbook* at <http://www.cofc.edu/generaldocuments/handbook.pdf>

## Schedule of Events: Semester begins Tuesday August 22

- Aug. 22: Introduction....  
How things will work.  
Assign DBs
- Aug 24: Example of Daily Briefing and Introduction continued.
- Aug. 29: DB: \_\_\_ Olivia M. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 4 The Constitution as the Foundation
- Aug. 31: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Chloe and Kate \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 4 The Constitution as Foundation
- Sept 5: DB: \_\_\_ Olivia W. and Alexia \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 1 Source of Law
- Sept 7: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Matthew O. and Emily A. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 1 Source of Law
- Sept. 12: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Barrett \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 2 The Court System and Dispute Resolution
- Sept. 14: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Micheala \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 2 The Court System and Dispute Resolution  
Review Exam I (Constitution and Court System and Dispute Resolution)
- Sept. 19: **EXAM 1**
- Sept. 21: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Gerald W. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 3 Business Ethics
- Sept. 26: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Jordan and Isabella \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 3 Business Ethics
- Sept. 28: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Sara and Christopher \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 12 Offer/Acceptance (Contracts)
- Oct. 3: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Emily T. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 13 Capacity/Assent (Contracts)

Oct. 5: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Christianna and Elyse \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 14 Consideration (Contracts)

Oct. 10: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Adam \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 15 Legality and Public Policy (Contracts)

Oct. 12: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Kayla and Kake \_\_\_\_\_  
Contracts cont'd

Oct. 17: FALL BREAK

Oct. 19: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Anthony \_\_\_\_\_  
Contracts- Review for Exam II (Ethics and Contracts)

Oct. 24: **EXAM II**

Oct. 26: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Gerald N. and Matthew F. \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Ch. 8 Torts and Product Liability

Oct. 31: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Grant and Dalton \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 8 Torts and Product Liability

Nov. 2: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Kirsten \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 8 Torts and Product Liability

Nov. 7: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Claire and Micheal \_\_\_\_\_

Nov. 9: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Emily L. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 40 Business Organizations

Nov. 14: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Meagan \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 40 Business Organizations

Nov. 16: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Ryan \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 40 Business Organizations

Nov. 21: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Chance \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 38 Employment

Nov. 22-26: THANKSGIVING

Nov. 28: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Max and Keely \_\_\_\_\_  
Ch. 38 Employment

Nov. 30: DB: \_\_\_\_\_ Samantha \_\_\_\_\_

**LAST CLASS REVIEW FOR FINAL (Torts, Business Organizations, Employment)**

Dec. 5(T): READING DAY

**Dec. 12(T): FINAL EXAM 12-3**

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus as needed.