BLAW 205- Section 3  
Fall 2020  
Legal Environment of Business  
Online with Synchronized Meetings  
12:15 TR  
(Zoom at 12:30)  
3 credit hours  
Dr. Roxane DeLaurell 

Contact information: delaurellr@cofc.edu

Office Hours: By Zoom Mondays 1-3, info is on Oaks page, or email for an appointment.

Text material: All text material will be provided on Oaks. There is no required textbook but should you like to have reference material a recommended textbook is available online at https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/business-law-and-the-legal-environment The authors are Don Mayer, Daniel Warner and George Seidel. The book is open source and free for your use in this class. Please respect the rules of open source in your use of the text.

How things will work:

This course is online with scheduled meeting times to be held by Zoom on TR at 12:15. All material, assignments, links and due dates will be posted to Oaks. You must know how to use Oaks: please contact itservicedesk@cofc.edu for help. The course is divided up into seven topics. Each topic will be covered in two weeks with final work being done after Thanksgiving. Voice thread lectures are posted to Oaks and are to be viewed by you on your own schedule. Zoom meetings will be used for questions, presentation of daily briefs and any discussion. At the end of a zoom session I will call on two or more of you at random to give us a take away: this will serve as an attendance incentive as no formal roll will be taken. Once we complete a topic I will assign a Big Think which you will answer in a word document which you will upload to Oaks. In summary this is what you will be expected to do for this course:

1. listen to the voice thread lecture while viewing the powerpoint slides on your own schedule,
2. ask any questions you might have about the material or anything else during the zoom sessions,
3. upload a daily brief to Oaks and present it to the class during your assigned zoom session answering any questions we ask,
4. complete the seven Big Thinks and upload them to the Oaks dropbox by the due dates, and
5. Check your email and Oaks page regularly.

How you will be graded:

Final Grade 100% = 70% Big Thinks+30% Daily Brief

Daily Briefs:

You will be assigned a zoom session on the syllabus. You must select a news article published within the prior two weeks that deals with a business law issue and present it to the class for discussion. You should pick an issue that interests you: this allows you to customize the educational experience to your specific interests. You will write up a summary (no longer than one page) of the article stating where you found it and why it is important to business law: what are the important issues it raises. You will upload the summary to the Oaks assignment dropbox. It is best to upload as a pdf or word document. You will present that article to the class on your assigned day for questions and discussion. You will be graded on the summary, presentation and on your ability to answer questions about your daily brief. This will count 30% of your final grade. I will do several daily briefs at the start of the semester to serve as a model. A grading rubric is posted to Oaks.

Big Thinks:

When we complete a topic you will find an assignment link to a question designed around the topic’s lecture material. You will write up an analysis of this question and upload it to Oaks. It should be no longer than two pages and should be a pdf or word document. I will grade these and provide feedback. This write up is designed to show that you can apply the substantive material. Your ability to analyze and apply the material is critical to learning. You will complete seven of these and they will be averaged for 70% of your final grade. A grading rubric is posted to Oaks.

Grading Scale:

95-100 =A, 90-94 = A-,
What I ask of you:

You should have sophomore standing to be in this class.

This is an online course with zoom meetings so please exercise good zoomiquette: turn your microphone off when not speaking and raise your hand when you wish to speak. We are all online and using technology so the odds of something going wrong are high: let’s be patient and if you have any problems or questions let me know and with the help of IT we should be able to work them out. We are all expected to be considerate of each other, polite in our language and tolerant of all viewpoints. Bad behavior will suffer a grade penalty.

We all have protectable property interests in the work we produce for this course, you and me. The Oaks site and its contents are protected and cannot be used for any purpose other than class work without getting the written permission of all participants as well as the College.

Please manage your time wisely so that you can meet all deadlines. Late work will suffer a grade penalty.

You should have an active College e mail account which you check regularly. Since the course material is online everything you need can be found on the Oaks site so please check it regularly. Zoom sessions will be accessed through Oaks.

If you anticipate the need for any type of special accommodation inform me as soon as possible so that accommodation can be reached. You are responsible for supplying the necessary documentation in support of any accommodation.

Schedule of Events: Semester begins Tuesday Aug. 25

Aug 25: Introduction to course
Syllabus review,

Aug. 27: Business and the Constitution: Lecture Slides
Sept. 1: Business and the Constitution: Lecture Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

Sept. 3: Business and the Constitution: Lecture Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

Sept. 8: Business and the Constitution: Lecture Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell
Big Think 1: Due Sept. 13

Sept. 10: Business and the Constitution: Lecture Slides
Big Think 1: Due Sept. 13

Sept. 15: Sources of Law and Court System and Dispute Resolution: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:

Sept. 17: Sources of Law and Court System and Dispute Resolution: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:

Sept. 22: Sources of Law and Court System and Dispute Resolution: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Big Think 2: Due Sept. 27

Sept. 24: Sources of Law and Court System and Dispute Resolution: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Big Think 2: Due Sept. 27
LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW

Sept. 29: Ethics and Social Responsibility: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:

Oct. 1: Ethics and Social Responsibility: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Oct. 6:       Ethics and Social Responsibility: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs: 
Big Think 3: Due Oct. 11  

Oct. 8:       Ethics and Social Responsibility: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs: 
Big Think 3: Due Oct. 11  

Oct. 13:      Torts and Product Liability: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs:  

Oct. 15:      Torts and Product Liability: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs:  

Oct. 20:      Torts and Product Liability: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs: 
Big Think 4: Due Oct. 25  

Oct. 22:      Torts and Product Liability: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs: 
Big Think 4: Due Oct. 25  

Oct. 27:      Contracts: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs:  

Oct. 29:      Contracts: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs: 
Big Think 5: Due Nov. 8  

Nov. 3:       Election Day, No class  

Nov. 5:       Contracts: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs: 
Big Think 5: Due Nov. 8  

Nov. 10:      Intellectual Property: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs: Key, Miele

Nov. 12: Intellectual Property: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:

Nov. 17: Intellectual Property: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Big Think 6: Due Nov. 22

Nov. 19: Intellectual Property: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Big Think 6: Due Nov. 22

Nov. 24: Corporations: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:

Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 1: Corporations: Lecture Slides
Big Think 7: Due Dec. 10

Dec. 3: Last class
Big Think 7: Due Dec. 10

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THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE. YOU WILL HAVE UNTIL THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 (scheduled final exam date) TO TURN IN YOUR FINAL BIG THINK.

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](http://www.cofc.edu/generaldocuments/handbook.pdf)

**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 you the ability to recognize and gage ethical issues involved in making a strategic business decision. This course will give you a necessary tool for critical thinking in identifying and evaluating problems and opportunities faced in the business environment. You will communicate through article selection, summary and discussion thus challenging you to communicate effectively. You will engage in work designed to exercise analytical skills and problem-solving ability through your Big Think assignments.

The professor reserves the right to alter this syllabus should it be necessary.