INSTRUCTOR: JOHN F. MARTIN
331 JC LONG
953-2071
martinj@cofc.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday ---10:00 AM – 11:00 AM;
Tuesday, Thursday, --- 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM;
Tuesday --- 5:15 PM -6:00 PM (North Campus)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Legal Environment of Business is designed to introduce students to the legal framework within which businesses must operate; to provide students with an awareness of the legal limitations and consequences of strategic business decisions, and to introduce students to the social and ethical implications and responsibilities of businesses operating within this framework.


GRADING: Two non-cumulative tests and other writing assignments with a combined point total of 100

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>64-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 or Below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAKE-UP TESTS: Make up tests will not be given except in extenuating circumstances. If a make up exam is permitted, it will be scheduled at a time convenient to the instructor.

HONOR CODE: All students are expected to adhere to the College of Charleston honor code. This includes recording attendance.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand the structure and functioning of the legal system as it relates to business.

2. To understand the fundamental principals underlying torts, contracts, property, business organizations, regulatory law and ethics.
3. To develop an approach to legal and ethical decision-making and problem-solving which enhances the individual’s ability to apply dynamic principals of law to everyday situations in society.

SCHEDULE
(subject to modification due to breaks, holidays or weather related class cancellations)

Week 1 The Nature and Sources of the Law (Ch 1)
Week 2 Ethics, Social Forces and the Law (Ch 3)
Week 3 The Constitution, Government Regulation and Administrative Law (Ch 4, 5 and 6)
Week 4 The Court System and Dispute Resolution (Ch 2)
Week 5 Contract Law - Part 1 (Ch 11 - 14)
Week 6 Contract Law – Part 2 (Ch 15 - 19)
Week 7 Intellectual Property (Ch 9)
Week 8 Loose ends, review, Test 1
Week 9 Torts and Products Liability (Ch 8 and 24)
Week 10 Sale of Goods (Ch 20 – 23 and 25 – 26)
Week 11 Employment Law and Agency (Ch 36 - 39)
Week 12 Employment Law and Agency (Continued)
Week 13 Forms of Business (Ch 40)
Week 14 Debtor – Creditor Relationships (Ch 31-35)
Week 15 Loose ends, review, Test II

NOTES:

1. All work is to be completed under the College of Charleston Honor Code and is to be done individually unless directed otherwise. I do not expect you to “reinvent” the wheel. Thus, all assignments can be completed using any resources that you can find. I do require that you properly cite any resources used. I will not tolerate plagiarism. You can find the complete Honor Code at: Studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php – READ IT.
2. Absences of ten (10) percent or more of scheduled class meetings will result in the loss of a full letter grade for each ten percent missed or any part thereof after the first 10 percent is missed. The computation is performed after your final average is computed. For example, a student who has an 86 average and excessive absences (15%) will receive a D for the course. To be considered present, you must arrive on time and stay for the entire class absent prior permission to arrive late or leave early.

3. You are expected to read your assignments prior to class and participate. I am not trying to turn you into a lawyer. My goal is to make you a better manager or owner to make you aware of how many legal and ethical issues you may face in business. I expect you to be aware of current events as they are often the basis for in class discussion and critical analysis.

4. Two of the objectives in this course are to improve your oral and written communication skills. Thus, all work will be graded accordingly. Please take pride in what you do, say, and write.

5. This course is difficult and requires thorough reading BEFORE class. If you get behind, it will be difficult to catch up. It is a course based on a precise vocabulary and the use of flash cards is highly recommended. The folks in the College Skills Lab can be helpful resources.

6. If you anticipate the need for any special accommodation during the course of the semester, it is incumbent upon you to tell me the first week of school so that your accommodation can be properly addressed. If you have a documented disability and have been approved to receive accommodations through SNAP, please come and discuss this with me during my office hours.

7. Class time will be divided and generally informal in nature. Because of the required work in this class, I will give you time to do outside research. On the first day of a new topic or chapter, I will lead a discussion and/or ask questions. You are expected to come to class having already read the assignment for the day. Some days, we will have class discussions involving application of the principles already discussed or assigned. Class attendance is expected. I reserve the right to drop (WA) a student with excessive absences.

8. While I do not fail many people, I do not “give” many “A’”s. This is not a course upon which to improve your GPA. Your grade will reflect the quality (not quantity) of your effort and your understanding of the material. You should participate in your learning by “digging” out more information than what will be given in class. I will use “pop” tests, class participation, writing assignments and e-mails on borderline grades or when I feel that the class is not properly preparing.

9. Cell phones must be off when class begins. If your phone rings, I will confiscate the phone. You may take notes with your computer, however you must e-mail your notes to me within 5 minutes of the end of lecture. I want you to treat this class as if you are at work in a professional setting.
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS LEARNING GOALS

- **Effective Communications:** Students will write professional documents that are technically correct and concise and make effective presentations utilizing technological tools and ability utilizing relevant discipline specific knowledge.

- **Ethical Awareness:** Students will recognize and be able to appraise ethical dilemmas involved in business decisions and competently engage in discourse aimed at resolution of these dilemmas utilizing relevant discipline specific knowledge.

- **Global Awareness:** Students will recognize and examine the global implications of business decisions while evaluating and integrating innovative applications of these implications utilizing relevant discipline specific knowledge.

- **Problem Solving Ability:** Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills in identifying and evaluating problems and opportunities in the business environment and apply analytical techniques to formulate creative solutions utilizing relevant discipline specific knowledge.