BLAW 205-Summer 2020
Legal Environment of Business
Online Extended Summer
May 11-June 22
3 credit hours
Dr. Roxane DeLaurell

Contact information: Oaks Discussion Boards.
Email: delaurellr@cofc.edu

Office Hours: I will be checking discussion boards on Oaks and email daily. Please allow for a 24 hour response time.

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.

What you will be doing:

This course is asynchronous which means there are no scheduled meeting times. It is divided up into weekly segments. The class is live from May 11 to June 22: six weeks. Each week will cover a different topic through slide lectures, discussion board participation, selection of current event articles by you and the weekly think, an assignment I will post to Oaks for you to analyze and critically think about the concepts you have learned that week. This is what a week will look like:

1. listen to the lecture while viewing the powerpoint slides,
2. ask questions on the discussion boards,
3. upload a daily brief during your assigned week and answer the questions we ask,
4. comment and ask questions of the daily briefs uploaded by your classmates,
5. complete the Weekly Think and upload it to the Oaks dropbox by the due date.
How you will be graded:

**Final Grade 100% = 50% Weekly Thinks + 20% Daily Brief + 30% Discussion**

Discussion Boards:

Your discussion board participation is critical for me to evaluate your knowledge of the material and how you are applying it. This participation will be based not only on frequency, you should comment in some form at least two times a week to get a passing grade, but on quality and on your ability to link the class material to your comments. A grading rubric is posted to Oaks.

Daily Briefs:

You will be assigned a week on the syllabus where you must select a news article published within the last two weeks that deals with a business law issue. You should pick one that you are interested in: this allows you to customize the educational experience to your specific interests. You will write up a paragraph summary of the article telling us 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 discussion boards under your name. It is best to upload as a pdf or word document. We will all comment and ask questions. You will try to answer the questions we raise. You will be graded on the summary and on your ability to answer questions about your daily brief. A grading rubric is posted to Oaks.

Weekly Thinks:

Each week you will find an assignment link to a question designed around the week’s lecture material. You will write up an analysis of this question and upload it to the Oaks dropbox. 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 lecture material. Your ability to analyze and apply the lecture material is critical to learning. You will complete six of these and they will be averaged for 50% of your final grade. A grading rubric is posted to Oaks.

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
What I ask of you:

You should have sophomore standing to be in this class.

This is an online discussion based course so we are all expected to be considerate of our classmates, polite in our language and tolerant of all viewpoints. Please exercise good netiquette. **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.

As this is a self-paced course with weekly deadlines, 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 this course is online exclusively everything you need can be found on the Oaks site so please check it regularly.

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 Monday May 11**

**May 11-15:** Week One  
Read Syllabus, Introductions,  
Business and the Constitution: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs:  
Discussion Boards  
Weekly Think

**May 18-22:** Week Two  
Court System and Dispute Resolution: Lecture Slides  
Daily Briefs:  
Discussion Boards  
Weekly Think
May 25-29: Week Three
Torts and Product Liability: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Discussion Boards
Weekly Think

June 1-5: Week Four
Contracts: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Discussion Boards
Weekly Think

/*******JUNE 8 DEADLINE TO WITHDRAW*******

June 8-12: Week Five
Intellectual Property: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Discussion Boards
Weekly Think

June 17-22: Week Six (LAST WEEK)
Corporations and Business Forms: Lecture Slides
Daily Briefs:
Discussion Boards
Weekly Think

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THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE AND GRADES ARE DUE TO THE
REGISTRAR BY JUNE 25 SO YOU WILL HAVE UNTIL JUNE 22 TO TURN IN
YOUR FINAL WEEKLY 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

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 and discussion boards on Oaks thus challenging you to communicate effectively. You will engage in work designed to exercise analytical skills and problem-solving ability through your Weekly Think assignments.

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