

BLAW 205-Section 3
Fall 2021
Legal Environment of Business
Online with Synchronized Meetings
Zoom Sessions TR (12:30 pm)
3 credit hours
Dr. Roxane DeLaurell

Contact information: deLaurellr@cofc.edu

Office Hours: After each zoom session or email for an appointment.

Oaks is HQ for everything course related. Check it regularly.

Text material: All text material will be provided on Oaks/HQ. There is no required textbook but should you need reference material a 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. It has chapters that cover each of the topics in this course. Please respect the rules of open source in your use of the text.

How things will work:

This course is a hybrid course with scheduled meeting times to be held by Zoom on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30 pm. The class begins August 24 and the last session meets December 2.

All material, assignments, links and due dates will be posted to Oaks/HQ. 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 approximately two weeks. Voice thread lectures or “v-casts” on the topics are posted to Oaks/HQ under content and are to be listened to by you on your own schedule. Power-points on each topic are also provided.

Zoom sessions will be used for questions, discussion of material, and presentation of **daily briefs**. **Daily briefs** are assigned on the syllabus. Check the syllabus and make sure that you are available on your assigned date. After each topic I will assign a **Big Think** which you will answer in a word or pdf document and upload to the assignment dropbox

provided on Oaks/HQ. You will write seven **big thinks** with the last one due on the day the final exam is scheduled, Dec. 13. There is no comprehensive final.

In summary this is what you will be expected to do for this course:

1. listen to the voice thread lectures or ‘v-casts’ on the topic, they are all posted to Oaks
2. view the power-point slides for each topic, they are all posted to Oaks and refer to the text if needed,
3. ask any questions you might have about the material or anything else during the zoom sessions,
4. upload a **daily brief** to Oaks/HQ and present it to the class during your assigned zoom session answering any questions from the class and the professor,
5. complete the seven **Big Thinks** and upload them to Oaks/HQ by the due dates,
6. Check your email and Oaks/HQ regularly.

Your Weekly Schedule:

Tuesday: Zoom session 12:30 pm

Thursday: Zoom session 12:30 pm

Every other week a **Big Think** will be due by 11:00 pm on Sunday.

This fall session begins Tuesday August 24 and the last zoom session is Thursday December 2. The final **big think** is due December 13. Grades are due to the registrar by December 15.

Oaks/HQ:

Your Oaks page for this course is where you can find everything you need. That is why I am calling it HQ, go there first and if you cannot find the answer e mail me. Under the **content** tab you will find links to the voice threads (v-casts), the power-points and **big thinks**. You can also find this syllabus which details the schedule and provides a link to the open source text. Rubrics can also be found there. If you look on the righthand side of Oaks/HQ you will see a calendar of events. You can click on those events to take you to the zoom sessions, assignments, etc. You should manage your time by checking that part of the page regularly for due dates. Under the **grades** tab you will find the assignments

link for uploading your work. I will be using the gradebook so you should be able to view your grades and any feedback that I provide.

Final Grade:

(100%) = 70% Big Thinks+30%Daily Brief

Daily Briefs:

You will be assigned a zoom session to present your **daily brief**. You will find your last name beside a date under the schedule of events in this syllabus. You must select a news article published within the prior month that deals with a business law issue and present it to the class for discussion on that date. 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 assignment drop box **before** class begins, late work will be penalized. Please upload as a pdf or word document. Your camera must be turned on when you make this presentation. You will be graded on the written summary, presentation and on your ability to answer questions. 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:

After each topic you will find an assignment link to a question designed around that topic's material. The purpose of the assignment is to show that you understand the material and can apply it. You will write an answer and upload it to Oaks/HQ. It should be no longer than two pages and should be a pdf or word document. I will grade these and provide feedback. 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. The last one will be due December 13, the day scheduled for a final exam in this class, so it will serve as the final exam. A grading rubric is posted.

Rewrites:

You will be allowed to rewrite **two** of the first six **big thinks**. Once you receive your graded **big think** with comments you can rewrite it and resubmit to the same assignment dropbox, you will have until December 7 to submit your rewrites. This will give you time to choose which of the first six you want/need to rewrite. **You can only rewrite two big thinks**. I will grade the rewrite and enter the higher grade. This will allow you to improve your grade on that specific assignment. You must submit a **big think** which will be graded and returned in order to submit a rewrite. **A rewrite cannot make up for missed work.**

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,
63-60 = D- ,59 and below = F

What I ask of you:

This is a hybrid 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.

The only time you are **required** to turn on your camera is when presenting **daily briefs**, and when answering roll during the first two weeks. I will only take roll then so as to certify that you are in the class. This is reported to the registrar's office.

We all have protectable property interests in the work we produce for this course, you and me. The Oaks/HQ 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. If you are having problems let me know or contact student services on campus. Late work will suffer a grade penalty.

You should have an active College e mail account which you check 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.

If you are experiencing any issues which can impact your participation and performance in this class, please contact me as soon as possible. It is better to discuss these issues as they arise and work them out as soon as possible.

Schedule of Events: Semester begins Tuesday August 24

T-Aug 24: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Introduction to course , V-cast
Roll
Syllabus review.

Module One: How regulatory power is shared between the federal government and the states.

R-Aug 26: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Business and the Constitution: V-cast, Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

T-Aug 31 Zoom: 12:30 pm
Business and the Constitution: V-cast, Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

R- Sept 2: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Business and the Constitution: V-cast, Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

T- Sept 7: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Business and the Constitution: V-cast, Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

R- Sept 9: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Business and the Constitution: V-cast, Slides
Daily Brief: DeLaurell

Big Think 1 Due Sept. 12 by 11:00 pm

Module Two: Where law comes from, how it can be changed and how to enforce it

T-Sept 14: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Sources of Law, Court System and Dispute Resolution

Daily Briefs:

R-Sept 16: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Sources of Law, Court System and Dispute Resolution

Daily Briefs:

T-Sept 21: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Sources of Law and Court System and Dispute Resolution

Daily Briefs:

R-Sept 23: Zoom: 12:30 pm
Sources of Law and Court System and Dispute Resolution

Daily Briefs:

Big Think 2 due Sept 26 by 11:00 pm

Module Three: Define ethics and apply it to decision making.

T-Sept 28: Zoom 12:30 pm
Ethics and Social Responsibility

Daily Briefs:

R- Sept 30: Zoom 12:30 pm
Ethics and Social Responsibility

Daily Briefs:

T- Oct 5: Zoom 12:30 pm
Ethics and Social Responsibility

Daily Briefs:

R- Oct 7: Zoom 12:30 pm
Ethics and Social Responsibility

Daily Briefs:

Big Think 3 due Oct 10 by 11:00 pm

Module Four: Torts are the types of civil wrongs that we can sue each other over.

T- Oct 12: Zoom 12:30 pm
Torts and Product Liability: V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

R-Oct 14: Zoom 12:30 pm
Torts and Product Liability: V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

T-Oct 19: FALL BREAK

W-Oct 20: Mid Term Grades Due

R-Oct 21: Zoom 12:30 pm
Torts and Product Liability: V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

Big Think 4 due Oct 24 by 11:00 pm

Module Five: Contracts are the promises and agreements we make which are legally enforceable.

T- Oct 26: Zoom 12:30 pm
Contracts V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

R- Oct 28: Zoom 12:30 pm
Contracts V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

F- Oct. 29: Last day to withdraw

T- Nov 2: Zoom 12:30 pm
Contracts V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

R- Nov 4: Zoom 12:30 pm
Contracts V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

Big think 5 due Nov 7 by 11:00

Module Six: Creativity, how we define and protect it.

T- Nov 9: Zoom 12:30 pm
Intellectual Property V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

R- Nov 11: Zoom 12:30 pm
Intellectual Property V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

T-Nov 16: Zoom 12:30 pm
Intellectual Property V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

R-Nov 18: Zoom 12:30 pm
Intellectual Property V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

Big Think 6 due Nov 21 by 11:00 pm

Module Seven: The corporate form

T- Nov 23: Zoom 12:30 pm
Corporations V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs: _____

R- Nov 25: HAPPY THANKSGIVING

T-Nov 30: Zoom 12:30 pm
Corporations V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

R-Dec 2: Zoom 12:30 pm
Corporations V-cast, Slides

Daily Briefs:

T-Dec 7: Reading Day- **Rewrites Due**

M-Dec 13: Big think 7 Due by 11:00pm

W- Dec 15: Grades due to registrar by noon.

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE. YOU WILL HAVE UNTIL MONDAY December 13 (scheduled final exam date) TO TURN IN YOUR FINAL BIG THINK; LOAD ON OAKS/HQ. MUST BE TURNED IN BY 11:00 pm.

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 presentation, 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.