BLAW 205-02: The Legal Environment of Business

Spring 2022 Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

Credit Hours: 3

Course Overview: The Legal Environment of Business is a survey course covering fundamental legal and ethical principles relevant to business practice.

Course Catalog: For more information on the business law curriculum at the College of Charleston School of Business, see the course catalogue here: http://catalog.cofc.edu/

Program Objectives: For information on the School of Business mission and learning goals, click here: http://sb.cofc.edu/officeofthedean/facultyresources/mission.php

Course Prerequisites: Sophomore standing

Course Location and Time: BLAW 205-02 Beatty Center 115; T/R 10:50 am – 12:05 pm

FACULTY INFORMATION

Professor: Richard L. Kilpatrick, Jr.

Office Location: JC Long Building 311

Office Hours: T/R 9:30 am – 10:30 am or by appointment

Phone: (843) 953-3374

Email: kilpatrickrl@cofc.edu
COURSE MATERIALS

Primary materials

Lecture notes, activities, and other materials posted on Oaks.

Supplemental textbook

Mayer, Warner, and Siedel, BUSINESS LAW AND THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT, (Saylor 2012). This textbook is available as a free and open-access document at the following link: https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/business-law-and-the-legal-environment

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course will be delivered in person, with some activities conducted online via the Oaks platform. It will utilize lectures, textbook and case readings, activities, and discussion board posts. Some activities for the course are ungraded, but they provide critical opportunities for self-study and feedback.

Note that the textbook for the course is for use only as a supplement to the other materials provided on Oaks. The tentative course outline below indicates chapters that cover similar material to those found in the lectures and activities, but in preparation for quizzes and exams, primary attention should be given to the materials posted on Oaks rather than the textbook.

GRADE CRITERIA

Grades for the course are determined by student performance on 5 online quizzes, 3 online exams, and 1 current event presentation/discussion board post.

Exams

Each exam is worth 25% of the final grade. These exams use a combination of multiple-choice and discussion formats. The final exam is not cumulative—it covers the material from Part III of the course.

Quizzes

Each online quiz is worth 3% of the final grade. The 5 quizzes are cumulatively worth 15% of the final grade. Quizzes use a combination of objective assessment tools, such as multiple-choice, matching, etc.

Current Event Discussion Board Post

The current event presentation and discussion board post is worth 10% of the final grade. Instructions and an example for the current event discussion will be posted on Oaks.
Letter Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94% - 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90% - 93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87% - 89%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>84% - 86%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>80% - 83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77% - 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74% - 76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70% - 73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% - 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0% - 59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COURSE POLICIES

Exam Dates

Exams for this course will be administered online on the Oaks platform. Exam dates are listed below in the course outline. Students must take exams on the scheduled date and time. A student who does not take an exam on the scheduled date and time will receive a “zero” for that exam. **Make up exams are not available.** The sole exception is an extraordinary and legitimate emergency as determined by the Professor’s sole discretion. In such circumstances, the emergency must be properly documented and the student must inform the Professor immediately and prior to the exam. The circumstances are analyzed on a case-by-case basis by the Professor with possible consultation of the Department Chair or other administrator. Legitimate emergencies do not include employment obligations, schedule conflicts, minor illnesses, or other similar circumstances.

Computer and Internet Access

Consistent computer and internet access is required to complete this course. Exams, quizzes, and other assessments will be delivered online via the Oaks platform.

Attendance

There is no attendance grade or record for this course.

Extra Credit

There is no extra credit for this course.
CofC Honor Code and Academic Integrity Statement

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 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 both by 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 a 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 via a cell phone or computer), 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://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honorsystem/studenthandbook/index.php

Reasonable Accommodation Statement:

The College of Charleston abides by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see an administrator at the Center of Disability Services/SNAP (843) 953-1431.

Syllabus Amendments

The policies and information contained in this syllabus are subject to amendment at the sole discretion of the Professor.
TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

Part I: Law and Dispute Resolution in the United States

Week 1: January 10 – January 14
The Constitution and Federalism (Chapters 1, 4)

Week 2: January 17 – January 21
The Constitution and Federalism (Chapters 1, 4)

Week 3: January 24 – January 28
The Court Systems (Chapter 3)

*Quiz 1 (open January 27-January 30)

Week 4: January 31 – February 4
The Court Systems (Chapter 3)

Week 5: February 7 – February 11
Civil Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (Chapter 3)

*Quiz 2 (open February 10 – February 13)

Week 6: February 14 – February 18
Civil Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (Chapter 3)

*Exam 1 (open February 17 only)

There is no class meeting on exam day

Part II: Torts and Business Entities

Week 7: February 21 – February 25
Negligence (Chapter 7)

Week 8: February 28 – March 4
Intentional Torts (Chapter 7)

*Quiz 3 (open March 3 – March 6)
Week 9: March 7 – March 11
Spring Break – no class meetings

Week 10: March 14 – March 18
Products Liability (Chapter 20)

*Quiz 4 (open March 17 – March 20)

Week 11: March 21 – March 25
Vicarious Liability and Business Entities (Chapters 38, 39, 41, 42, 43)

*Exam 2 (open March 24 only)

There is no class meeting on exam day

Part III: Contracts, Employment Regulation, and Business Ethics

Week 12: March 28 – April 1
Contracts (Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)

Week 13: April 4 – April 8
Contracts (Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)

Week 14: April 11 - April 15
Contracts (Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)

*Quiz 5 (open April 14 – April 17)

Week 15: April 18 - April 22
Employment Law and Business Ethics (Chapters 50, 51)

Final Exam Period:
The dates for final exams are assigned by CofC. See the following link for the exam schedule: https://registrar.cofc.edu/pdf/exam-schedule-spring2022.pdf

*Final Exam (open April 28 only)