

GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS

Course: BUSN 283: Business Law
Credits: 3 Credits
Instructors: H. Terry Lackie, Adjunct Professor
Gary Bloom, Adjunct Professor



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DAYS & TIMES:

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays
2:15-3:15 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS:

By Request

TEXT:

Anderson's Business Law, Current Edition. The workbook is useful, but optional.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

BUSN 283 is a survey course which covers the traditional legal subjects that govern the operation of a private American business. The course is designed to provide the students with a basic knowledge of the nature and sources of law:

- the state and federal court system and informal dispute resolution
- business ethics and the interrelationship between social forces and the law
- the U.S. constitution as the cornerstone of the legal environment
- administrative agencies (state and federal)
- state and federal crimes
- torts, contracts, partnerships, corporations, real and personal property, insurance employment law and bankruptcy.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, the students are expected to be able to competently demonstrate knowledge of:

- the nature and sources of federal and state law
- have an understanding of tort and criminal law
- have a working understanding of contract, partnership, property, employment and agency law including how to recognize and resolve ethical dilemmas in a business setting
- be able to present coherent persuasive arguments in an oral and written format

COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE:

Week One: (September 17, 2009) **Introduction to Business Law**: overview of class objectives and instructor expectations.

Week Two: Chapters 1, 2, and 3

- Chapter One: **Nature of Law and Legal Rights**: individual rights, right to privacy. pgs 1-10
- Chapter Two: **The Court System and Dispute Resolution**: federal and state systems, court procedure, arbitration and mediation. pgs 11-31
- Chapter Three: **Business Ethics, Social Forces and the Law**: definition of business ethics, importance of ethical behavior and resolving dilemmas. pgs.32-60

Week Three: Chapters 4 and 5

- Chapter Four: **The Constitution as the Foundation of the Legal Environment:** origin, branches of government, interpretation and limitations. pgs. 61-79
- Chapter Five: **Government Regulation of Competition and Prices:** regulation of business and markets, monopolies. pgs. 80-94

Week Four: Chapters 6 and 8

- Chapter Six: **Administrative Agencies:** legislative, executive and judicial powers. pgs. 95-114
- Chapter Eight: **Crimes:** classification of crimes, white collar crimes, individual and business crimes. pgs. 137-173

Week Five: Chapters 9, 21 and 22

- Chapter Nine: **Torts:** definition, intentional torts, negligence, defenses and strict liability. pgs. 174-194
- Chapter 21: **Personal Property and Bailments:** acquisition, transfer and multiple ownership, community/separate property, bailments. pgs. 402-420
- Chapter 22: **Legal Aspects of Supply Chain Management:** warehousemen, common carriers, consignments and hotel keepers. pgs. 421-439

Week Six: Chapters 37 and 38

- Chapter 37: **Agency:** creation and termination of agency, duties, powers of agents, duties/liabilities of principals. pgs. 749-772
- Chapter 38: **Third Persons in Agency:** liability of agent to third persons, liability of principal to third persons, liability of principal for torts and crimes of agent. pgs. 773-792

Week Seven: Chapter 40

- Chapter 40: **Equal Employment Opportunity Law:** theories of discrimination, protected classes and exceptions, EEOC and remedies. pgs. 826-848
- **Review and Midterm Exam** (in class)

Week Eight: Chapters 12,13, and 14

- Chapter 12: **Nature and Classes of Contracts:** elements of contracts, express and implied contracts. pgs. 244-257
- Chapter 13: **Formation of Contracts:** offers and acceptance. pgs. 258-277
- Chapter 14: **Capacity and Genuine Assent:** mistake, undue influence. pgs. 278-297

Week Nine: Chapters 15,16 and 17

- Chapter 15: **Consideration:** general principles, moral obligation and exceptions. pgs. 298-311
- Chapter 16: **Legality and Public Policy:** effects of illegality, gambling and contracts in restraint of trade. pgs. 312-326
- Chapter 17: **Writing Electronic Forms and Interpretation of Contracts:** validity of contracts, statute of frauds, rules of construction. pgs. 327-347

Week Ten: Chapters 18, 19 and 20

- Chapter 18: **Third Persons and Contracts:** third party beneficiary contracts, assignments. pgs. 348-363
- Chapter 19: **Discharge of Contracts:** performance, impossibility of performance. pgs. 364-381
- Chapter 20: **Breach of Contract and Remedies:** anticipatory breach, cure. pgs. 382-400

Week Eleven: Chapters 20 (cont.) and 25

- Chapter 20: **Breach of Contract and Remedies:** liquidation clauses, injunction. pgs. 392-400
- Chapter 25: **Product Liability: Warranties and Torts:** theories of liability, express and implied warranties, disclaimers. pgs. 489-513

Week Twelve: Chapters 32, 33, and 34

- Chapter 32: **Nature of the Debtor-Creditor Relationship:** suretyship and guaranty, letters of credit. pgs. 636-652
- Chapter 33: **Consumer Protection:** liability under the act, areas of consumer protection. pgs. 653-678
- Chapter 34: **Secured Transactions in Personal Property:** creation of secured transactions, perfection, rights of parties in default. pgs. 679- 704

Week Thirteen: Chapters 35 and 36

- Chapter 35: **Bankruptcy:** Federal law, declaration of voluntary and involuntary petitions, administration and discharge. pgs. 705-727
- Chapter 36: **Insurance:** insurance contracts and kinds of insurance. pgs. 728-748

Week 14: Chapters 41 and 42

- Chapter 41: **Types of Business Organizations:** sole proprietorships, partnerships and corporations. pgs. 849-864
- Chapter 42: **Partnerships:** definitions, authority of partners, rights and duties of partners, dissolution. pgs. 865-891
- **Review and Final Exam** (in class)

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY:

University Policy on attendance is adhered to. Attendance is taken and class participation is required. Excessive unexcused absences will result in unsuccessful completion of the course.

GRADING STANDARDS:

The value of each component of your grade is as follows:

Attendance, participation, and homework	20%;
Mid-term exam	30%
Final exam	30%
Class presentation	20%

GRADING SCALE:

93-100%	A
90-92	A-
86-89	B+
83-85	B
80-82	B-
76-79	C+
73-75	C
70-72	C-
65-69	D
Below 65	F