

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

BLAW 3150 BUSINESS LAW I – Spring 2020

January 2020 to May 2020
Friday Bldg. Rm. 137

Syllabus and Course Outline Spring 2020

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**Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 12:45 pm – 2:30 pm or by appointment**

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Business Law 14th Edition, Clarkson, Miller, Cross ISBN: 978130596725 (Required) - See link on canvas to download this book electronically or you can order the eBook for (\$33) <https://www.cengage.com/c/business-law-text-and-cases-14e-clarkson/>

RECOMMENDED

Business Law Workbook by Emma Lloyd Best, Esq. (Recommended)
Print: ISBN 9781524983673 (\$45) or eBook ISBN 9781524992330 (\$22.50)
<https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/business-law-workbook>

Supplemental Materials are available at [cengage.com/unlimited](https://www.cengage.com/unlimited) such as exam practice problems.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

A study of the legal setting of business and its relationship to the business firm. Topics covered include: the nature of law, criminal, and civil procedure and the court system, business ethics, courts and alternative dispute resolution, constitutional authority to regulate business, criminal law, the law of torts, contracts and sales law, product liability, intellectual property, and cyber law.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

To develop a student's ability to identify, analyze, and resolve problems typically encountered by managers within the framework of legal, regulatory, social, and ethical considerations. Students should understand why these considerations are essential to all managers who operate business enterprises. Students will also understand what is required to create and start a business including drafting contracts, policies, and filling out licenses and protecting intellectual property. The purpose of the notebook assignment is for you to understand how to apply business law practically in any business that you are a part of.

To succeed in this course, you need to attend class, participate, and take notes in class in order to make an outline of what to study for the exams. I also recommend that you do the practice problems at the end of the chapters of the textbook since the exams will

assess your knowledge of the rules of law from the textbook and how to apply rules to facts of a case. You need to work diligently with your group on the business assignments each week of the semester to put together your final notebook, which will include all the documents required to create a business from a legal perspective.

The general flow of the class will be the following:

1. A brief discussion of current legal topics by you.
2. Use the power points as an outline of the discussion topics from the book, but the class will mainly be discussion so please review the power points on your own.
3. Review practice problems from the textbook in groups.
4. Review workbook assignments, what is expected, and how it applies the rule of laws.

POLICIES:

To achieve these objectives, the following policies are adopted in this course:

1. Classroom time is used to discuss legal principles and utilize them in the analysis and resolution of legal problems presented in class.
2. All students are expected to comply with the university academic regulations concerning attendance, withdrawals, and other provisions of the catalog.
3. A student's grade is determined by averaging his / her percentage score on the four (4) tests given in the course, the company notebook and presentation, and the students attendance and participation in the class.
4. Letter grades are determined as follows:
A = 90 – 100 B = 80 - 89 C = 70 – 79 D = 60 – 69 F = Below 60
5. Students should make every effort to take exams on the dates scheduled and should contact the lecturer if an emergency arises.
6. Students must obtain permission from Lecturer to use audio recording equipment. Mobile Telephones must be "Turned Off".

Grades will consist of 250 points:

Exams = 150 points total (3 exams at 50 points each)

Final company notebook and Presentation = 100 points total (we will have a mid-semester check in to assess your progress)

Participation in class = Extra Credit

ABSENCES

Students are expected to attend every class and remain in class for the duration of the session. Failure to attend class or arriving late may impact your ability to achieve course objectives which could affect your course grade. An absence, excused or unexcused, does not relieve a student of any course requirement. Regular class attendance is a

student's obligation, as is a responsibility for all the work of class meetings, including tests and written tasks.

The authority to excuse a student's class absence(s) and to grant a student an academic accommodation (turn in a late assignment(s), provide extra time on an assignment, reschedule an exam(s) etc.) sits with the individual instructor. Students are encouraged to work directly with the instructor regarding their absence(s). A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an exam or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

PARTICIPATION:

I will conduct this class in an atmosphere of mutual respect. I encourage your active participation in class discussions. Each of us may have strongly differing opinions on the various topics of class discussions. The conflict of ideas is encouraged and welcome. The orderly questioning of the ideas of others, including mine, is similarly welcome. However, I will exercise my responsibility to manage the discussions so that ideas and argument can proceed in an orderly fashion. You should expect that if your conduct during class discussions seriously disrupts the atmosphere of mutual respect I expect in this class; you will not be permitted to participate further.

You will be allowed to pick your team members that you will work on your final notebook and presentation with and the teamwork will be part of your participation grade. There will also be in class discussions, questions, and presentations on current legal topics. The purpose of class participation is to improve your communication skills.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:

All students and the instructor are expected to engage with each other respectfully. Unwelcome conduct directed toward another person based upon that person's actual or perceived race, actual or perceived gender, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, disability, or veteran status, or for any other reason, may constitute a violation of University Policy 406, The Code of Student Responsibility. Any student suspected of engaging in such conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

DIVERSITY:

The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

It is the policy of the course to follow the *UNC Charlotte Code of Student Integrity* as set forth in the Catalog. The code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials and complicity in academic dishonesty. Students are expected to exhibit a level of personal

honor and integrity that will bring credit to themselves and the University. Students who violate the code will be punished to the fullest extent possible. In short, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated by this instructor or the Department of Finance and Business Law. Any student in possession of a Business Law I Examination (without permission) will be given an “F” in the Course. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office in Fretwell 230.

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READING ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAM SCHEDULE

May be adjusted at discretion of Lecturer

Chapters listed below are from the textbook **Business Law 14th Edition**, Clarkson, Miller, Cross and the topics in parenthesis are from the workbook **Business Law Workbook** by Emma Lloyd Best, Esq. as I show in week 1, 2, and 3 for example.

Week 1 – January 6 (semester starts on Wednesday, January 8)

Syllabus & Final Assignment Review

Chapter 1 (Law and Legal Reasoning) (14th edition)

Week 2 – January 13

Chapters 2 (Courts and ADR) & 3 (Court Procedures) (14th edition)

Brainstorming a Company Idea (workbook)

Week 3 – January 20 (No Class on Monday, January 20)

Chapters 4 (Business and the Constitution) & 5 (Business Ethics) (14th edition)

Cover page (workbook)

Week 4 – January 27

Chapters 6 (Tort Law) & 7 (Strict Liability and Product Liability) and Review

Protecting the brand / Intellectual Property (workbook)

Week 5 – February 3

Exam 1 on Chapters 1-7 on Monday, February 3 for M/W classes or Tuesday, February 4 for T/R classes and review exam

Week 6 – February 10

Chapters 8 (Intellectual Property Rights) & 9 (Internet Law, Social Media, and Privacy)
Non-Disclosure Agreement

Week 7 – February 17

Chapters 10 (Criminal Law) & 11 (Nature of Contracts)
Service Contract

Week 8 – February 24

Chapters 12 (Agreement in Traditional and E-Contracts) & 13 (Contract Consideration)
Joint Venture Agreement

Mid semester check in on the class and the company notebook

Week 9 – March 2

SPRING BREAK

Week 10 – March 9

Chapters 14 (Capacity and Legality of Contracts) & 15 (Mistakes, Fraud, and Voluntary Consent) and review
Promissory Note

Week 11 – March 16

Exam 2 on Chapters 8 - 15 on Monday, March 16 for M/W classes or Tuesday, March 17 for T/R classes and review exam

Week 12 – March 23

Chapters 16 (The Writing Requirement in Our Digital World) & 17 (Third Party Rights)
Employment or Independent Contractor Agreement

Week 13 – March 30

Chapters 19 (Breach of Contracts) & 20 (The Formation of Sales and Lease Contracts)
Creating a Business

Week 14 – April 6

Chapters 25 (Negotiable Instruments) & 32 (Agency Formation and Duties)
Compliance of the Company

Week 15 – April 13

Chapters 34 (Employment Law) & 35 (Employment Discrimination)
Standard Operating Procedures

Week 16 – April 20

Review and Exam 3 on Chapters 16, 17, 19, 20, 25, 32, 34, 35 on Wednesday, April 22 for M/W classes or Thursday, April 23 for T/R classes

Week 17 – April 27 (Last day of Classes on Tuesday, April 28)

Review Notebooks and Prepare for Presentations

Final Company Notebook and Presentation due on the day designated for the final