

Lassen Community College Course Outline

BUS-22 Business Law

3.0 Units

I. Catalog Description

An introduction to the legal system with emphasis on business transactions. Topics include contracts, sales, torts, agency relationships, and commercial paper. A fundamental understanding of legal procedure, sources of law, law classifications, dispute resolution, and social/ethical considerations of law. This course has been approved for online, hybrid and correspondence delivery. This course may use a free Open Educational Resource textbook.

Recommended Preparation: Successful completion of ENGL 105 or equivalent multiple measures placement.

Transfers to both UC/CSU
General Education Area: B
C-ID BUS 125
51 Hours Lecture
Scheduled: Fall

II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable, Take 1 Time
Grading Option: Graded or Pass/No Pass
Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable
TOP Code: 050100

III. Course Objectives

A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the legal framework that surrounds contemporary U.S. business.
2. Identify and explain the major constructs of contract law.

B. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain the historical development of the law, operation of the court system and sources of commercial law.
2. Explain the social, political and ethical implications of the law and their application to actual and hypothetical business transactions.
3. Distinguish between torts and crimes and describe the purpose of criminal and tort law.
4. Evaluate when a promise is enforceable, the elements of a contract, performance, and the remedies available in the event of breach.
5. Distinguish between contracts governed by the Uniform Commercial Code and those governed by the common law of contracts.
6. Analyze cases. Identify issues and apply the appropriate legal rules to the fact patterns to reach defensible legal conclusions.

7. Perform legal research, to include evaluating and interpreting a court citation and locating a court case on an assigned topic.
8. Categorize the types of government agencies, powers and functions, controls through congressional action, executive action, and the courts.
9. Differentiate the relationship between state and federal systems, jurisdiction, and the importance of alternate dispute resolution methods to the participants.
10. Demonstrate how cases progress through the court system from problem, to filing, to trial, and appeal.
11. Appraise the relationship between law and ethics.
12. Describe the various agency relationships and the duties and liabilities of agents and principals.
13. Describe the Constitutional basis for federal governmental regulation of business, including limits of government power.
14. Explain a corporation's legal structure and differentiate it from other forms of business organization, the meaning of limited liability for the owners; describe the relationship of the various stakeholders.

IV. Course Content

- A. Introduction to Law
 - i. Classifications (equity, common law, etc.)
 - ii. Sources of and reasons for law
 - iii. Administrative agencies
- B. Court Systems
 - i. State and Federal court systems
 - ii. Jurisdiction
 - iii. Methods for alternate dispute resolution
 - iv. Progress of a case through the court system
 - v. Role of judge, jury, lawyers, and parties
 - vi. Appellate process
 - vii. Types of motions, rulings, judgements
 - viii. Enforcement of judgements
- C. Law and Ethics
 - i. Corporate social responsibility
 - ii. Stakeholder relationships
 - iii. Ethical decision-making
- D. Contracts
 - i. Common law
 - ii. Uniform Commercial Code
 - iii. Classification
 - iv. Contract terms and elements
 - v. Enforcement, breach, and remedies
 - vi. Third person beneficiary contracts
 - vii. Assignment of contracts
- E. Agency Relationships
 - i. Creation
 - ii. Duties of agents and principals
 - iii. Liabilities (tort and contract) of agents and principals
- F. Torts
 - i. Intentional torts

- ii. Negligence
- iii. Business torts
- iv. Strict liability
- v. Tort reform
- vi. Proposals
- G. Criminal Law
 - i. Basics of criminal law
 - ii. How crimes affect business
- H. Business Organization
 - i. Sole proprietorships
 - ii. Partnerships
 - iii. Limited partnerships
 - iv. Limited liability partnerships
 - v. Limited liability companies
 - vi. Corporations
 - vii. Corporate structure and governance
- I. U.S. Constitution as it applies to business activities

V. Assignments

A. Appropriate Readings

1. The Wall Street Journal
2. Business Week
3. Money
4. U.S. News and World Report
5. California Law Review

B. Writing Assignments

Written analysis of selected case studies.

C. Expected Outside Assignments

Students will analyze the legal and social environment in business and present these in case studies.

D. Specific Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking

Students will interpret contract laws in the written analysis of selected case studies.
Students will interpret the laws of Personal Property and bailments in the written analysis of case studies.

VI. Methods of Evaluation

Traditional Classroom Evaluation

Oral and written analysis of case studies, quizzes, tests, comprehensive final examination, papers (Issue, Rule, Application, and Conclusion IRAC)

Online Evaluation

A variety of methods will be used, such as: research papers, asynchronous and synchronous discussions (chat/forum), online quizzes and exams, postings to online website and email communications.

Correspondence Evaluation

Same as face to face with the exception of the desired use of proctored exams and exclusion of participation in classroom activities. Students will be expected to complete assignments and activities equivalent to in-class assignments and activities. Written correspondence and a minimum of six opportunities for feedback will be utilized to maintain effective communication between instructor and student.

Hybrid Evaluation

A combination of traditional classroom and online evaluations will be used. Traditional Classroom: exercises/assignments, objective examinations and essay examinations. Online delivery: exercises/assignments, online quizzes and exams, essay forum postings, and chat rooms.

VII. Methods of Delivery

Check those delivery methods for which, this course has been separately approved by the Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee.

Traditional Classroom Delivery **Correspondence Delivery**

Hybrid Delivery

Online Delivery

Traditional Classroom Delivery

Lecture, discussion

Online Delivery

Participation in forum based discussions. Online exercises/assignments contained on website. Web based video vignettes with discussion paper, email communications, postings to forums, online lecture notes and web links will compromise the method of instruction.

Correspondence Delivery

Assigned readings, instructor-generated typed handouts, typed lecture materials, exercises and assignments equal to face to face instructional delivery. Written correspondence and a minimum of six opportunities for feedback will be utilized to maintain effective communication between instructor and student.

Hybrid Delivery

A combination of traditional classroom and online instruction will be utilized. 17 hours will be taught face-to-face by the instructor and the other 34 hours will be instructed online through the technology platform adopted by the District. Traditional class instruction will consist of exercises/assignments, lectures, visual aids, and practice exercises. Online delivery will consist of exercises/assignments, lecture posts, discussions, adding extra resources and other media sources as appropriate.

VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies

Kubasek, N. K., Brennan, B. A., & Browne, M. N., *The Legal Environment of Business: A Critical Thinking Approach*, 8th ed., (2017), Pearson, Print ISBN: 9780134074030, 0134074033, eText ISBN: 9780134129365, 0134129369

Or

Open Educational Resource text, student will be able to access book online or may request a printed copy from the book store for a fee.

Lau, T. & Johnson, L., *The Legal and Ethical Environment of Business*, Saylor Foundation (4/2019). ISBN 13: 9781936126583, <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/the-legal-and-ethical-environment-of-business>

IX. Discipline/s Assignment

Business, Administration of Justice, Law

X. Course Status

Current Status: Active
Original Approval Date: 5/15/1990
Revised By: Andy Rupley
Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 10/01/2019
Review for IPR, no changes recommended: 10/19/2021