

Syllabus for Business Law

Semester & Year: Fall 2013

Course ID and Section Number: BUS-18-E4191

Number of Credits/Units: 4

Day/Time: MW 06:05 PM - 08:10 PM (08-26-13 thru 12-11-13)

Location: Room HMHU 110

Instructor's Name: Andy Stunich

Contact Information: andrew-stunich@redwoods.edu (707) 442-2927.

Office location and hours: 2701 Harrison Avenue, Suite 1, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. by apt. only

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Text: Business Law Today 9th Edition by Miller and Jentz

Course Description: A survey of law and its enforcement in relationship to business activities as well as the legal relationships between business and society. Subject matter includes social forces, constitutional and statutory law, international legal environment, administrative regulations, environmental law and community planning, consumer protection, crimes (very brief coverage of crimes), torts, contracts, personal property and bailments, insurance, sales contracts, commercial paper, agency and employment, and business organizations.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand basic fundamentals of constitutional law, tort law, contract law, sales of goods contracts - Uniform Commercial Code, consumer law, secured transactions, agency, employment law, business forms, and real property law.
2. Understand red flags that point out potential legal problems in business and contract situations.
3. Learn practical solutions to dealing with common legal issues that arise in business settings.
4. Learn the potential legal and monetary consequences of failing to act prudently in common business situations.
5. Ability to spot legal issues that need to be addressed with an attorney.
6. An understanding of the civil law legal system.

Special accommodations: College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an “F” in the course.

The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:

<http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>

Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods homepage.

College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.

Classroom Policies and Class Schedule¹

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class. Material covered in class is fair game for quiz and test questions. Students learn better when they attend class and learn the material via auditory learning in addition to visual reading.

Class Reading Assignments and Subjects to be Covered: All reading assignments should be complete prior to the class covering that topic. Exigent circumstances may make this difficult at times, but it is unwise to not have as a general practice the desire to keep pace with the class. Not doing so only increases stress and makes obtainment of your grade goal more difficult.

Use of technology in classroom/ notes: As long as the use of technology is neither obtrusive nor disruptive, there are no restrictions beyond whatever restrictions are in place by the administration. I have no objections to the lecture being recorded for use by students of each semester only. Transcripts of the recordings may not be posted on-line, shared with non classmates,

¹This Syllabus is not a contract and can be changed or modified by the instructor at any time at the instructor’s sole discretion.

or used in any manner after the final exam has been taken and must be destroyed at that time. I do encourage students to share class notes or recordings with absent students.

Office Hours: You can call my secretary, Shayla Verbich, at 442-2927 to make an appointment to meet with me at any time she shows me available. I am willing to meet at my office. I am willing to meet in the classroom before class starts although complete privacy cannot be guaranteed as other people may arrive early to class.

Grading: Twenty-five (25) points are given for each quiz, 100 points for the final exam, and 25 points for the written assignment. All grading is objective as each quiz and the final exam will be true/false, multiple choice or fill in the blank. As far as attendance, I do make a subjective determination as to whether you are listening and participating. The only aspects of the course with some subjectivity in the grading are the written assignment and class participation. My goal here is for one's grade to be determined as much as possible by objective criteria only. Class attendance and participation can cause you to be subjectively bumped to the next grade level if your objective point tally is close, but class attendance/participation issues will not be used to subjectively lower your score.

Total possible points: 100 points for the final, 100 for quiz scores (4 quizzes x 25 points each), 25 points for the written assignment for a total of 225 points. A = a point total of 203-224; B = 180-202 points; C = 158-179 points; D = 135 - 178 points; F = less than 135 points. If a student is within five points of a higher grade, I reserve the right to bump the student into the higher grade based upon classroom participation that aids the educational process. No one will be subjectively lowered for lack of classroom participation.

Syllabus Schedule

8/26 Introduction - no reading assignment. Classroom discussion will constitute an introduction to business law, impact and importance of the legal environment to business, need for business persons to spot legal issues and consequences of failing to do so, cover sources and hierarchy of law; the litigation process and avoiding litigation as a business goal, external factors and influences on a business, introduction to contracts and negligence. Dangers of poorly prepared contracts and contractual decisions to businesses.

8/28 Our Legal System- 1-10 (to Classifications of Law); 72-77 (The State and federal Court Systems); 85-90 (Alternative Dispute Resolution)

9/2 Holiday

9/4 Torts- 97-119 (to Cyber Torts)

9/9 Contracts- 199 - 228

- 9/11 Contracts- 229-254
- 9/18 Contracts- 255- 275
- 9/23 Contracts- 275-292 (read Hadley v. Baxendale on 287)
- 9/25 Quiz
- 9/30 Sales -from Scope of Article 2- Sales, 301-321
- 10/2 Sales- from Perfect Tender Rule, 336-352
- 10/7 Warranties- Product Liability and Consumer Law- 358-379 (stop at Sales)
- 10/9 Quiz
- 10/14 Negotiable Instruments and Secured Transactions- 391-392 (stop at Drafts and Checks); from Promissory Notes and Certificates of Deposit, 394-409 (stop at Signature Liability); 449-459 (stop at Additional Laws Assisting Creditors)
- 10/16 Additional Laws Assisting Creditors and Bankruptcy- 459-481
- 10/21 Agency- 488-500 (stop at Liability in Agency Relationships)
- 10/23 Agency and Employment Law- 500-508 (skip Liability for E-Agents); (read Doctrine of Respondeat Superior on 505 and How Can an Employer use Independent Contractors? on 509); 514-521 (stop at Income Security)
- 10/28 Employment Law- 521-531 (stop at Employment Discrimination); Class discussion on California vacation, wage and hour laws and Labor Commissioner's Office. This is not covered in the book so it is not a good night to miss class.
- 10/30 Employment Law- 531-547
- 11/14 Business Forms- 552-568; read exhibit 19-1

- 11/16 Corporations- 574-602, Securities- 610-628 (stop at corporate governance); read materials on California Corporations Code Section 25102(f) from instructor; 632-635
- 11/18 Personal Property and Insurance- 663-670 (stop at Bailments); 677-685 (start at Insurance)
- 11/20 Real Property and Environmental Law- 691-703 (stop at Environmental Law); 710-711 (start at Hazardous Waste Disposal)
- 11/25 Intellectual Property- 126-132; 135-146
- 11/27 Quiz
- 12/2 International Law in a Global Economy - 717-735; general discussion of ramifications of globalization on American business, workers and consumers.
- 12/4 International Law in Global Economy- 724-735; general discussion of ramifications of globalization on American business, workers and consumers.
- 12/9 Final Exam - 5:30-7:30 (Note: Most students usually only need an hour or less to take the final exam)