



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2023	Instructor Name:	Beckley
Course Title & #:	BUS 126--Business and the Legal Environment	Email:	jeff.beckley@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20068	Webpage:	Canvas
Classroom:	411	Office #:	203B
Class Dates:	13 Feb – 9 Jun	Office Hours:	On-Campus: M: 8:55-9:40a; T: 3:20-4:20p; W: 9:10-9:40a; R: 5:45-6:30p; Online: W: 3-4p
Class Days:	MW	Office Phone #:	(760) 355-6324
Class Times:	11:20a – 12:45p	Emergency Contact:	Tisha Nelson, Dept. Secretary, 760-355-6161
Units:	3	Class Format:	Face-to-Face

“The only legal certainty is the certainty of legal change. What makes law, it’s study and practice, qualitatively unlike most other things that human beings do is that we can never be sure of anything.”

-Justice E. Peters, Conn. Supreme Court

“The life of the law has not been logic: it has been experience.”

-Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

“Law is not justice and a trial is not a scientific inquiry into truth. A trial is the resolution of a dispute.”

-Edison Haines

Course Description

An introduction to the legal environment of business. The following topics are covered: sources of the law, judicial systems, administrative law and governmental regulation, crimes and torts, protection of intellectual property, contracts, commercial paper, agency, labor law,

legal forms of business organization, securities regulation, consumer and environmental law, warranties and product liability, bankruptcy, real property law and international law.

Collaborative learning and the team approach are used in doing the legal research, reading and understanding court opinions and writing brief of cases. (C-ID BUS 120)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

N/A

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Evaluate and analyze three distinct legal case problems and communicate the results demonstrating writing competencies at the college level.(ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
2. Identify, define, appropriately apply and analyze the five elements of a contract in a simulated factual situation based on an actual legal case. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Identify, define, appropriately apply and analyze the four elements of negligence in a simulated factual situation based on an actual legal case. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define law.
2. Identify sources of the law.
3. Describe the impact of the Constitution on business and write a report.
4. Describe courts, judicial process, and alternative resolution of disputes.
5. Recognize crimes and criminal procedure.
6. Recognize business and individual torts.
7. Recognize the impact of law on computer technology.

8. Explain how intellectual property is protected.
9. Recognize the role of ethics and social responsibility in the world of business.
10. Explain the role of Administrative Agencies, Administrative Law and anti-trust law.
11. Explain the various classifications of contracts.
12. Explain the requirements needed to have a valid contract.
13. Explain the kinds of commercial paper, parties, and negotiability.
14. Student will explain the relationships between Principal and Agent.
15. Student will explain how an agency is terminated.
16. Describe the various laws that affect the labor-management relationships.
17. Identify the various forms of legal forms of business organization and franchising.
18. Describe the elements of securities regulation.
19. Explain the laws that protect business and consumers from unfair and deceptive trade practices.
20. Describe environmental law.
21. Explain theory of product liability.
22. Explain implied warranties and limited warranties under federal law.
23. Describe bankruptcy law, bankruptcy court, and the various proceedings.
24. Explain the nature of real property and real estate law.
25. Explain the fundamentals of international law.
26. Identify the methods that facilitate international commercial transactions.
27. Student will explain legal principles and doctrines followed in resolving international commercial disputes.
28. Collaborate with other student in doing legal research, in reading and understanding court opinions, and writing brief of cases.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

The course textbook is *Fundamentals of Business Law*. It is published by pressbooks.com. It is an open source textbook and is free to use. The text, and many other course materials, are available on the course website on Canvas.



Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Class activities will primarily consist of lecture and group discussion activities. Assignments will include reading of the textbook and other relevant material, and analysis of legal cases and problems. This will be done both in-class and through out-of-class reading and homework assignments that will be distributed throughout the semester. This class will use the course website on Canvas to distribute information, resources and course materials.

There will be three Exams throughout the course of the semester. These exams will occur approximately every 5 weeks and will focus on material recently studied.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

<u>Course Grading</u>		<u>Scale</u>
Exam 1	50	A = 252 - 280
Exam 2	50	B = 224 - 251
Exam 3	50	C = 196 - 223
Take-Home Exam	30	D = 168 - 195
<u>Homework</u>	<u>100</u>	
Total	280	

Notes on Exams: Exams will consist of short answer questions and essay questions. Students will need to provide a Blue Book, a Scantron (100), and a # 2 pencil for each exam.

Once an exam has started, students may not leave the classroom until they have finished the exam. There will be no make-up exams.

Note on Take-Home Exam: The Take-Home Exam will consist of extended essay questions with problems requiring legal analysis to resolve. This exam will be assigned in the latter



portion of the course. Students will have approximately 2 weeks to complete the exam. Details to follow.

Note on Homework: Homework will consist of student analysis of legal case problems, including briefing a case. There will be **two kinds of homework: (1) out-of-class class homework (OC); and (2) in-class homework (IC).** OC can be accessed online on the course website on Canvas. There will be due dates for OC and it must be turned in on the date assigned to receive credit. OC will not be accepted late. IC will usually be due the day it is assigned. IC cannot be made up.

Course Policies

IVC ATTENDANCE POLICY

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. After the first week's drops for nonattendance and nonparticipation, it is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.

Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped. However, as noted above, it is ultimately the student's responsibility to drop a class.

Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Other Course Information

Classroom etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.

Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind

when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to “cite a source” correctly, you must ask for help.

- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Week 1	Introduction
Week 2	Chapter 1
Week 3	Chapters 2, 3
Week 4	Chapter 4
Week 5	Chapter 7
Week 6	Review,



	Exam 1
Week 7	Review, Chapter 8
Week 8	Chapter 8
Week 9	Chapter 9
Week 10	Chapter 9, 14
Week 11	Chapter 14
Week 12	Review, Exam 2
Week 13	Review, Chapters 10/12
Week 14	Chapters 10/12
Week 15	Chapters 10/12, Review
Week 16	Final Exam

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****