

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
FALL 2020

COURSE NUMBER: BLAW 3301.060, 061
COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
INSTRUCTOR: TAMMY W. COWART, J.D., Associate Professor of Business Law
CLASS MEETING: Online; Exams will available on Sundays and Mondays per the syllabus

REQUIRED TEXT:

- 1) **The Legal Environment of Business, Text and Cases, 11th Ed. By Cross/Miller.** Cengage Learning, 2021. This course **will require MindTap from Cengage.** You can purchase the access to MindTap and ebook only (ISBN 9780357129791) for \$100 in the bookstore or at the Cengage website.

OR

- 2) **You can also choose to purchase MindTap through Cengage Unlimited—a digital subscription service designed to save money. (If you purchase Cengage Unlimited, you can access *any* Cengage materials you're using across all of your courses AND other ebooks, study guides, and reference materials.)**

The materials required for this class—and any other classes using Cengage products—are included in ONE Cengage Unlimited subscription. For \$119.99 per semester, you get access to ALL your Cengage eTextbooks and online homework in ONE place. Four FREE hardcopy textbook rentals are also available for select titles, just pay \$7.99 S&H each. More information is at <https://www.cengage.com/c/the-legal-environment-of-business-text-and-cases-11e-cross/9780357129760PF/>

Note: You only need to purchase one Cengage Unlimited subscription to add any Cengage eTextbook or online homework for other classes to your dashboard at no additional cost.

Visit [cengage.com/start-strong](https://www.cengage.com/start-strong) for step-by-step registration instructions and videos. Just select *MindTap/Canvas*.

Registering

To access your course materials, sign into Canvas and navigate to this course. Click Modules then Business Law & Social Responsibility Text/MindTap. From there, create your Cengage account or sign in to an existing one and follow the instructions to complete the registration process.

Other required materials: Webcam and ProctorU proctoring account

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to the legal environment of business, legal reasoning, and historical perspective. The influence on economic activity by regulatory agencies in their pursuit of public policy goals is stressed. This course also includes an introduction to business and professional ethics.

UT Tyler Honor Code: Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

OFFICE & PHONE NUMBER: COB 312.08; 566-7217 (office)

OFFICE HOURS: Email or Call to make an appointment

E-mail: tcowart@uttyler.edu

Course Information: www.uttyler.edu - ALL GRADES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC. WILL BE POSTED ON CANVAS. Check Canvas for Assignments, Due Dates, class updates and changes in the course schedule. Additional notifications will be sent to your Patriot email address. **You are expected to check Canvas and your Patriot email for notifications about this class.**

TOPICS COVERED:

General Legal Principles	12 hrs.
Ethics	2.5 hrs.
Business Organizations	16 hrs.
Administrative Agencies	<u>7 hrs.</u>
Total	37.5 hrs

Student Evaluation:

Your course grade will be based on Exams and your Attendance/Participation as follows:

1. Four Exams (100 points each)	400
2. Assignments (10 @ 10 pts each)	100
3. Project	50
<u>3. Participation</u>	<u>50</u>
Total Points Possible	600

Grades will be determined based on your total number of points earned, as follows:

A = 537-600 points
B = 477-536 points
C = 417-476 points
D = 357-416 points

1. Exams: Four semester exams will be given, each worth 100 points. Each exam will contain approximately 40 objective/multiple-choice questions and 2-3 short answer questions. These questions will require you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of substantive law and terminology, as well as the ability to apply the law to or analyze specific fact situations. None of the exams will be comprehensive. **I EXPECT YOU TO TAKE EXAMS DURING THE SCHEDULED TIME. IF YOU MISS AN EXAM, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT UP.**

Exams will be available from Sunday morning until Monday evening on the days designated in the syllabus. You will complete the entire exam on Canvas, and it will be timed. There will also be multiple versions of the exam. You are not permitted to use your textbook, notes, or any other resources on the exams. Copying any questions/answers on an exam or discussing exam questions with other students is considered cheating and may result in failing the course and/or other scholastic dishonesty disciplinary actions.

You will be required to use ProctorU to access and complete two of the exams. Beyond the cost of initial equipment needed (e.g. a camera for your computer), there will not be any additional cost for proctoring. You will need to create a ProctorU account and install the ProctorU extension before attempting any assessment. Webcams are available at Walmart or Amazon for \$10-15. You are not permitted to use your textbook, notes, or any other resources on the exams. During your exam you are not permitted to leave the computer (bathroom breaks, etc.), you must take the exam in a quiet room, and you must have good lighting and sound.

To create a ProctorU account, follow the ProctorU tool within Canvas. Please make sure you are using the current version of Chrome or Firefox and download the ProctorU extension available at <http://bit.ly/proctoruchrome> or <https://www.proctoru.com/firefox>.

In order to use ProctorU, you will need the following:

- High-speed Internet connection
- Webcam (internal or external)
- Windows, Mac, or Chrome Operating System
- Up-to-date Chrome or Firefox browser and ProctorU extension installed
- Valid photo ID
- Quiet environment to take your assessment

You can visit the Test Taker Resource Page for additional information at <https://bit.ly/ProctorMe>

2. Assignments: There will be 10 quiz assignments given during the semester. The assignments will be posted and completed on the Mind Tap platform and should be submitted before the date specified in the assignment posting. The Assignments will all be different and will require you to find and use information discussed in the text. Each assignment is worth 10 points. Notice of the Assignments and due date will be posted on Mind Tap and posted on Canvas. **Late submissions will not be accepted. An optional extra credit quiz will be offered at the end of the semester. Completion of this quiz will replace your lowest quiz grade.**

3. Project: Project options will be provided to allow you to further research and investigate a particular aspect of a legal concept we cover in class. Sign-ups will be provided in Canvas with specific instructions for each project. Students must sign up and complete the project before the due date at the end of the semester.

4. Participation: Credit for class participation may be gained by participating in the class discussion board on YellowDig. The class will be divided into groups and each group will be assigned to a topic. Students will monitor and post to their assigned YellowDig board topic. Posting is mandatory for your assigned topic. Points will be assigned for your thoughtful, meaningful, and relevant postings to the YellowDig discussion board. To gain full credit, you must make at least two substantive original posts (10 pts. Ea.) and at least six substantive responses (5 pts. Ea.)-two to your topic and 4 to other topics. Postings which are irrelevant, disrespectful, or which violate any provision of the terms of use of UT Tyler will result in point deductions.

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories

Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by [Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations](#). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

<http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>

Writing Resources for Students:

www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl>

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

A. KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE INCLUDE:

1. To apply ethical theories to business situations.
2. To understand basic legal theory.
3. To apply basic legal procedure.
4. To understand constitutional issues in the law.
5. To apply theories of tort law.
6. To demonstrate knowledge of intellectual property laws.
7. To understand principles of criminal law.
8. To compare the legal aspects of various business forms.
9. To understand corporate shareholder issues.
10. To apply principles of agency law.
11. To understand administrative agency laws.

B. OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THIS COURSE INCLUDE: Mastery of the above objectives as demonstrated by satisfactory completion of questions on each of four exams; Successful completion of required assignments.

C. Reading Assignments and Course Schedule:

Listed below are the reading assignments and course schedule for this semester. You are responsible for the reading assignments on the dates listed even if the class discussion has not kept pace.

August	24	Introduction & Syllabus; Chp. 1 – Law & Legal Reasoning
	31	Chp. 2 - Business & the Constitution Chp. 4 – Courts & Alternative Dispute Resolution Quiz 1
September	7	Chp. 5 – Court Procedures Chp. 3 – Ethics in Business Quiz 2
	13/14	Exam 1 (Chps. 1-5) ProctorU
	14	Chp. 6 – Tort Law Quiz 3
	21	Chp. 8 – Intellectual Property Rights Chp. 10 – Criminal Law and Cyber Crime Quiz 4
	28	Chp. 12 – Formation of Traditional and E-Contracts Chp. 13 – Contract Performance, Breach, and Remedies Quiz 5
October	4/5	Exam 2 (Chps. 6, 8, 10, 12-13)
	5	Chp. 19 – Agency Relationships Quiz 6
	12	Chp. 16 – Small Businesses & Franchises Chp. 17 – Limited Liability Business Forms
	19	Chp. 18 – Corporations Quiz 7
	25/26	Exam 3 (Chps. 16-19) ProctorU
	26	Chp. 21 – Employment Discrimination Quiz 8
November	2	Chp. 20 – Employment Law Chp. 25 – Environmental Law
	9	Chp. 24 – Consumer Protection Quiz 9
	16	Chp. 27 – Antitrust Law Quiz 10
	20-22	Exam 4 (Chps. 20-21; 24-25; 27)

Business Law & Social Responsibility - BLAW 3301
Online

December 1-4 **Optional Extra Credit Quiz;
Final Project; YellowDig Due**