

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER**

**SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

**FALL 2021**

**COURSE NUMBER:           BLAW 3301.003**

**COURSE TITLE:             BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**INSTRUCTOR:                J. MATT ROWAN, J.D.**

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

**The Legal Environment of Business, Text and Cases, 11<sup>th</sup> Ed., by Cross/Miller, Cengage Learning, 2020. This course will require MindTap from Cengage.**

*You can 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. Cengage Unlimited costs \$119.99 for one semester (four months), \$179.99 for a multi-term (12 months), or \$239.99 for multi-term (24 months) subscription. You also get a print rental when you activate MindTap. You’ll pay \$7.99 + free shipping. You also have the option to purchase a loose-leaf version of your textbook, which you can keep. You can purchase instant access to Cengage Unlimited in the bookstore (ISBN-10: 0357129768) or at [www.cengage.com](http://www.cengage.com).*

*You can also purchase the access to MindTap and eBook only (ISBN -10: 0357129768) in the bookstore or at the Cengage website.*

**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.

**CLASS MEETING: Tuesdays, 6:00-8:45 pm**

**CLASS LOCATION: Room 212, Soules College of Business**

**TEACHING METHOD: Lecture, case analysis, and class discussion.**

**OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday after class or by appointment**

**E-MAIL: [jrowan@uttyler.edu](mailto:jrowan@uttyler.edu)**

**COURSE INFORMATION: [www.uttyler.edu](http://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.

**You are expected to check Canvas for notifications about this class.**

**Important Information about CoVid Protocols and UT Tyler's commitment to your health and safety:**

- *Information for Classrooms and Laboratories:* Students are expected to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code \(Links to an external site.\)](#) 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, digestive issues (e.g. nausea, diarrhea), or a higher than normal temperature should stay at home and are encouraged to use the [UT Tyler COVID-19 Information and Procedures \(Links to an external site.\)](#) website to review protocols, check symptoms, and report possible exposure. 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](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).

**STUDENT EVALUATION**

Your course grade will be based on exams, assignments, and your attendance/participation as follows:

1.		
	1. Four Exams (100 points each)	<b>400</b>
	2. Assignments (10 @ 10 points each)	<b>100</b>
	3. Participation	<b>15</b>
	<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>515</b>

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

A = 471-515 points

B = 410-470 points

C = 358-409 points

D = 306-357 points

1. **Exams:** Three semester exams and a final exam will be given, each worth 100 points. Each exam will contain 50 multiple-choice 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. For the multiple choice questions, you will be asked to select the best answer among several and analyze the issues in a hypothetical situation.

**You are required to bring a Scantron 882 answer sheet to each exam.**

Neither the semester exams nor the final will be comprehensive. At the end of the semester, your highest exam grade will replace your lowest exam grade.

**You must be present for exams. If you miss an exam, you must contact me within 24 hours of the exam to schedule a make-up exam. If you miss an exam and do not make it up, the grade for that exam will be zero, and it will not be replaced with your highest exam grade.**

2. **Assignments:** There will be ten assignments given prior to each exam 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 announced on Canvas. **Late submissions will not be accepted.**

3. **Attendance/Participation:** Credit for class participation may be gained by discussing cases and concepts from the text and by participating in class discussions. **You may also be specifically asked to discuss a particular case in class with no prior notice. Your preparation (or lack of preparation) to discuss a case will be noted and considered in determining your participation grade.** Also, you may receive some participation credit for attendance upon signing the roll at the beginning of class and after the break and attending **ALL** of class. Additional participation credit will be assigned by the instructor's subjective assessment of your approach to the class and course work, industry and preparation for class, meaningful oral participation during class, punctual attendance, and quality of written work. **Likewise, participation points will be deducted for lack of attention; disruption of class by coming**

**late or leaving early; disruption by texting or chatting with your neighbor; or for cell phone/laptop/tablet use during class.** Your participation grade at the end of the semester will be comprised of the percentage of classes you have attended and participation credit given for participation and discussion of cases.

**IF YOU ONLY ATTEND THE FIRST CLASS AND EVENINGS WHEN EXAMS ARE GIVEN, YOU WILL RECEIVE NO POINTS FOR PARTICIPATION.**

### **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
		Chapter 1: Law & Legal Reasoning
	31	Chapter 4: Courts & Alternative Dispute Resolution
		Chapter 5: Court Procedures
September	7	Chapter 2: Business & the Constitution
		Chapter 3: Ethics in Business
	14	<b>_Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)</b>
		Chapter 6: Tort Law
	21	Chapter 12: Formation of Traditional and E-Contracts
	28	Chapter 13: Contract Performance, Breach, and Remedies
		Chapter 8: Intellectual Property Rights
October	5	<b>_Exam 2 (Chapters 6, 8, 12, 13)</b>
	12	Chapter 10: Criminal Law and Cyber Crime
	19	Chapter 19: Agency Relationships
		Chapter 16: Small Businesses & Franchises

	26	Chapter 18: Corporations
November	2	Chapter 17: Limited Liability Business Form
	9	<b>Exam 3 (Chapters 10, 16, 17, 18, 19)</b>
	16	Chapter 20: Employment Law
		Chapter 21: Employment Discrimination
	23	<b>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</b>
	30	Chapter 24: Consumer Protection
		Chapter 27: Antitrust Law
December	7	<b>Final Exam (Chapters 20, 21, 24, 27)</b>