

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER  
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
Fall 2021

**COURSE NUMBER:** BLAW 3301.061  
**COURSE TITLE:** BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY  
**INSTRUCTOR:** TAMMY W. COWART, J.D., Associate Professor of Business Law  
**CLASS MEETING:** Online; Exams will available per the syllabus

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

- 1) **The Legal Environment of Business, Text and Cases, 11<sup>th</sup> 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 350.15; 566-7217 (office)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Email or Call to make an appointment

**E-mail:** [tcowart@uttyler.edu](mailto:tcowart@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. 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. Quizzes (10 @ 10 pts each)	100
3. Project	25
<u>3. Participation/Discussion Bd.</u>	<u>25</u>
Total Points Possible	550

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

A = 492-550 points
B = 437-491 points
C = 417-436 points
D = 327-416 points

**1. Exams:** Four semester exams will be given, each worth 100 points. Each exam will contain approximately 35-40 objective/multiple-choice questions and 2-3 essay 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, except for Exam 4. 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 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. Quizzes:** 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.**

**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/Discussion Board:** Credit for class participation may be gained by participating in the class discussion board. The class will be divided into groups and each group will be assigned to a topic. Students will monitor and post to their assigned board topic. Posting is mandatory for your assigned topic. Points will be assigned for your thoughtful, meaningful, and relevant postings to the discussion board. To gain full credit, you must make at least one substantive original post (10 pts. Ea.) and at least three substantive responses (5 pts. Ea.). At least 1 response must be to another topic. Postings which are irrelevant, disrespectful, or which violate any provision of the terms of use of UT Tyler will result in point deductions.

**Student Standards of Academic Conduct**

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

**Writing Resources for Students:**

[www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/](http://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. This is an online class, so you may complete the assigned chapters at your own pace. However, the schedule below is a suggested and reasonable schedule to complete the required coursework on time.

August	23	Introduction & Syllabus; Chp. 1 – Law & Legal Reasoning
	30	Chp. 2 - Business & the Constitution Chp. 4 – Courts & Alternative Dispute Resolution Quiz 1 due 9/5
September	6	Chp. 5 – Court Procedures Chp. 3 – Ethics in Business Quiz 2 due 9/12
	12-13	<b>Exam 1 (Chps. 1-5) ProctorU</b>
	13	Chp. 6 – Tort Law Quiz 3 due 9/19

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	20	Chp. 8 – Intellectual Property Rights Chp. 10-Criminal Law Quiz 4 due 9/26
	27	Chp. 12 – Formation of Traditional and E-Contracts Chp. 13 – Contract Performance, Breach, and Remedies Quiz 5 due 10/3
October	3-4	<b>Exam 2 (Chps 6, 8, 10, 12-13)</b>
	4	Chp. 19 – Agency Relationships Quiz 6 due 10/10
	11	Chp. 16 – Small Businesses & Franchises Chp. 17 – Limited Liability Business Forms Quiz 7 due 10/17
	18	Chp. 18 – Corporations Quiz 8 due 10/24
	24-25	<b>Exam 3 (Chps. 16-19) ProctorU</b>
	25	Chp. 21 – Employment Discrimination Quiz 9 due 10/31
November	1	Chp. 20 – Employment Law Chp. 25 – Environmental Law
	8	Chp. 24 – Consumer Protection Quiz 10 due 11/14
	15	Chp. 27 – Antitrust Law
	22	Thanksgiving Break
	29	<b>Legal Research Project and Discussion Board – Due 12/3</b>
December	6-7	<b>Exam 4 (Chps. 20-21; 24-25; 27)</b>