

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
FALL 2021**

COURSE NUMBER: BLAW 5340.060
COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE
INSTRUCTOR: TAMMY W. COWART, J.D., Associate Professor of Business Law
OFFICE & PHONE NUMBER: COB 350.15; 566-7217 (office)
OFFICE HOURS: Tue/Thu 11:00am-2:00pm; Mon/Wed 10:00am-1:00pm (or by Appointment)
E-mail: tcowart@uttyler.edu
Course Information: www.canvas.uttyler.edu

Literally EVERYTHING in this class will be posted on Canvas. Check the Canvas course site regularly for class updates and changes in the course schedule.

CLASS MEETING: Online

REQUIRED TEXT:

- 1) **Strategy, Law, and Ethics for Business Decisions, 1st Ed. By Ladwig & Siedel, West Academic (2020)**
ISBN: 9781642426106. AND (available for purchase or rent at UTT Bookstore)
- 2) **Annual Editions: Business Ethics, 28th Ed. By Eric Teoro, McGraw Hill (2020) ISBN**
13:9781259883255. (available for purchase or rent at UTT Bookstore)

Other required materials: Webcam

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A study of ethical problems in business and the foundations for decisions involving ethical issues. Topics include ethical concepts, personal integrity, individual conscience and company loyalty and responsibility conflict, as they impact on the decision process in the functional areas of business.

TOPICS COVERED:

Strategy, Law & Ethics Framework	3.5 hrs.
Ethical Decision Making	3.5 hrs.
Contracts	3.5 hrs.
Product Liability	3.5 hrs.
Regulatory Structures	8 hrs.
Intellectual Property	8 hrs.
Employment Issues	8 hrs.
Total	38 hrs

Student Evaluation:

Your course grade will be based on Exams and Assignments as follows:

1. Mid-Term & Final Exams (75 pts ea)	150
2. Compliance Project	150
3. Text Case Questions (5 @ 20 pts. Ea)	100
4. Discussion Boards (10 @ 20 pts. Ea)	200
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: Two exams will be given, each worth 75 points. Each exam will contain multiple-choice questions and short essay questions. These questions will require you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of substantive law and ethics terminology, as well as the ability to apply the law or ethical theories to analyze specific fact situations. Students will be asked to select the best answer among multiple choice answers. None of the exams are comprehensive.

Exams will be available from Sunday afternoon until approximately 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.

MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL NOT BE GIVEN WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL.

2. Compliance Management Project: You will complete a legal and ethical compliance analysis for a new business- a coffee shop. The project will be completed in 5 parts over the course of the semester. For each topic/part, you will discuss the legal risks, ethical risks, and strategic issues in a brief written report. These parts will be combined into a final report which you will submit. You will also record a 10-minute presentation using Zoom or Studio in Canvas and post it to Canvas for us to watch. You will be graded on both your final paper and the presentation. Rubrics and detailed instructions will be provided in advance.

3. Text Case Questions: There will be assigned Cases from the Strategy, Law & Ethics text. From the assigned cases, you will choose 5. Prepare a response addressing the questions in the cases and evaluating proper strategy. You will record your response by video and submit it on Canvas. It will be graded for completeness and depth of your answers. Due dates for cases will be posted in Canvas. You should plan to complete them throughout the semester. There will be no make-ups and no late submissions allowed.

4. Article Discussion Boards: Articles from Annual Editions: Business Ethics will be assigned reading throughout the semester. A Discussion Board will be available in Canvas for each article. You must choose 10 articles and participate in the Discussion Boards for those. A question or issue regarding the article will be posted. 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 original post (10 pts ea) and two substantive responsive posts (5 pts ea) for that article – so up to 20 points. (At the end of the semester, you want to have 10 posts and 20 responses.) Postings on the discussion board which are irrelevant, disrespectful, or which violate any provision of the terms of use of UT Tyler will result in point deductions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

A. KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE INCLUDE:

1. To apply frameworks to strategic problems.
2. To understand basic contract theory and how it impacts business.
3. To understand product liability law and how it impacts business.
5. To understand employment law and how it impacts business.
6. To understand intellectual property law and its impact on business.
7. To analyze legal regulations and the impact on business.
8. To apply ethical constructs to business problems.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY CORE VALUES

- PROFESSIONAL PROFICIENCY
- TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETENCE
- GLOBAL AWARENESS
- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- ETHICAL COURAGE

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.

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>

Reading Assignments and Course Schedule:

Listed below are the weekly assignments and course schedule for this semester. You are responsible for the reading and other assignments on the week listed.

August	23	Introduction Video/Read Syllabus Text Chp. 1 – Meet the Three Pillar Model Article: How VW Paid \$25 Billion for Dieseldgate
	30	Text Chp. 2 – The Key Chasm: Closing the Gap Article: Corporate America Needs to Get Back to Thinking about More than Just Profits
September	6	Text Chp. 3 – Ethics: Icing on the Strategy-Law Pillar Cake Article: Creating an Ethical Culture
	13	Ethics Continued Article: Everyday Ethics: Tougher than you Think
	20	Text Chp. 4 – Transform Product Liability into Product Innovation Article: Designing Honesty into Your Organization Compliance Project – Part 1 -Product Liability Issues
	27	Text Chp. 5 – Use Employment Law to Attract and Retain the Best Business Talent Article: Dozens of Companies are Using Facebook to Exclude Older Workers
October	4	Employment Law Continued Article: Hiring Character Article: Sexual Harassment Training Doesn't Work Compliance Project – Part 2- Employment Issues
	10-11	Mid-Term Exam
	11	Text Chp. 6 – Use Government Regulation to Develop New Business Models Article: Opting to Blow the Whistle or Choosing to Walk Away
	18	Regulation continued Article: Using Behavioural Ethics to Improve Your Ethics Program Compliance Project – Part 3-Regulatory Issues
	25	Text Chp. 7 – Use Your Intellectual Property to Create Shareholder Value Article: The Murky Ethics of Data Gathering in a Post-Cambridge Analytica World
November	1	IP Continued Article: As Data Gets Bigger, so do the Risks Compliance Project – Part 4-IP & Privacy Issues
	8	Text Chp. 8 – Develop Contracts that Create Value for Both Sides Article: Fiduciary Principles: Corporate Responsibilities to Stakeholders
	15	Text Chp. 9 – Use Dispute Resolution Processes for Value Creation Article: The Four Principles of Conscious Capitalism Compliance Project – Part 5-Contractual Issues
	22	Thanksgiving Break
November	29	Compliance Project/Presentations – Due Thursday December 2nd

Business Ethics and Compliance - BLAW 5340.060
Online

December **6-7** **Final Exam**