

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER  
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
Fall 2023

**COURSE NUMBER:** BLAW 3301.060  
**COURSE TITLE:** BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY  
**INSTRUCTOR:** TAMMY W. COWART, J.D., Associate Professor of Business Law  
**CLASS MEETING:** Online; Exam will be available per the syllabus  
**OFFICE & PHONE NUMBER:** COB 350.15; 566-7217 (office)  
**E-mail:** [tcowart@uttyler.edu](mailto:tcowart@uttyler.edu)

**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 \$111 in the bookstore or at the Cengage website - MindTap for Cross/Miller's The Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases, 1 term Instant Access ISBN: 9780357129791. Visit [cengage.com/start-strong](http://cengage.com/start-strong) for step-by-step registration instructions and information videos. Just select *MindTap/Canvas*.**

**To Register:** To access your course materials, sign into Canvas and navigate to this course. Click Modules then Ebook & MindTap-Business Law & Social Responsibility. 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.

**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. Five Exams (80 points each)	400
2. Quizzes (12 @ 10 pts each)	120
3. Legal Project	20
<u>4. Participation/Discussion Bd.</u>	<u>40</u>
Total Points Possible	580

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

A = 519-580 points
B = 461-518 points
C = 403-460 points
D = 345-402 points

**1. Exams (400 pts.):** Five semester exams will be given, each worth 80 points. Each exam will contain approximately 30 objective/multiple-choice questions and 2 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. 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. If I verify cheating during an exam, you will receive a 0 on the exam and be automatically referred to Student Affairs on an academic violation. I will recommend an F for the semester.**

**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 (120 pts.):** This course includes weekly quizzes to ensure you fully understood the assigned readings. There will be 12 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 are open book/open note and will require you to find and use information discussed in the text. Each quiz 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. Legal Project (20 pts):** 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. This is a fun, scavenger-hunt type project. You will need to search and complete the requirements for the one you choose.

**4. Participation/Discussion Board (40 pts.):** Because this is an online class, our interactions and community-building practices are even more important than in a face-to-face course. I expect all students to participate actively in class discussion, respond to others' posts, and complete tasks on time. The class will be divided into groups and each group will be assigned to a business law topic. Students will monitor and post to their assigned board topic as well as one other board. To gain full credit, you must make at least **two substantive original posts (10 pts. Ea.)** and at least **three substantive responses (5 pts. Ea.)-one to your topic and two to other**

**topics.** You must also post to our **class introduction board (5 pts.)**. Posts should be respectful, reference course content and resources, and relevant to the topic. Postings which are irrelevant, disrespectful, or which violate any provision of the terms of use of UT Tyler will result in point deductions. Original posts should be 150-250 words in length, contain an outside reference about the topic (citation and link), and apply the posted material to a concept from class. Responses should specifically reference the post material, add substantively to the post, and be 50-75 words in length.

**Writing Resources for Students:**

[www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/](http://www.uttyler.edu/writingcenter/)  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl>

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. To apply ethical theories to business situations.
2. To differentiate between legal theories.
3. To outline basic legal procedures.
4. To identify constitutional issues in the law.
5. To apply theories of tort law to fact scenarios.
6. To compare and contrast types of intellectual property protection.
7. To understand principles of criminal law.
8. To compare the legal requirements of various business forms.
9. To apply principles of agency law.
11. To describe requirements of various administrative agency laws, including labor, employment, consumer and antitrust.

**Reading Assignments and Course Schedule:**

Listed below are the reading assignments and course schedule for this semester. Changes will be posted to Canvas as needed.

<b>Week-Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Read</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Exam</b>
1	Law & Legal Reasoning	Read Syllabus & Chp. 1	Introduction/ FlipGrid; Syllabus quiz	
2	Constitutional Law	Chp. 2- Business & the Constitution	<b>Quiz 1-due Sun.</b>	
3	Court Systems & Procedures	Chp. 4- Courts & Alternative Dispute Resolution Chp. 5- Court Procedures	<b>Quiz 2-due Sun.</b>	<b>Exam 1 (1-2;4-5)</b>
4	Business Ethics & Intellectual Property	Chp. 3- Ethics in Business Chp. 8- Intellectual Property Rights	<b>Quiz 3-due Sun.</b>	
5	Tort law	Chp. 6- Tort Law	<b>Quiz 4-due Sun.</b>	<b>Exam 2 (3, 6, 8)</b>
6	Contract Formation	Chp. 12- Formation of Traditional and E-Contracts	<b>Quiz 5-due Sun.</b>	
7	Contract Breach & Remedies	Chp. 13- Contract Performance, Breach & Remedies	<b>Quiz 6-due Sun.</b>	
8	Agency	Chp. 19- Agency Relationships	<b>Quiz 7-due Sun.</b>	<b>Exam 3 (12, 13 &amp; 19)</b>
9	Small Businesses	Chp. 16- Small Businesses & Franchises	<b>Quiz 8-due Sun.</b>	
10	Limited Liability Businesses	Chp. 17- Limited Liability Business Forms	<b>Quiz 9-due Sun.</b>	
11	Corporations	Chp. 18- Corporations	<b>Quiz 10-due Sun</b>	<b>Exam 4 (16-18)</b>

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12	Employment Law	Chp. 20- Employment Law & Chp. 21- Employment Discrimination	<b>Quiz 11-due Sun.</b>	
13	Antitrust Law	Chp. 27- Antitrust Law	<b>Quiz 12-due Sun.</b>	
14	Consumer Law	Chp. 24- Consumer Protection	<b>Legal Project &amp; Discuss. Bd.</b>	
15	Study for Final Exam			<b>Final Exam (20- 21, 24 &amp; 27)</b>