



Soules College of Business
BLAW 3301-060 (Summer 2025)
Business Law and Social Responsibility

COURSE SYLLABUS (Revised 04.30.2025)

COURSE INFORMATION

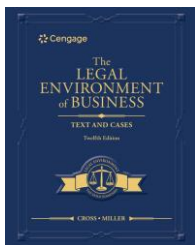
Course Title: Business Law and Social Responsibility
Course Number: BLAW 3301.060 (50397)
Credit Hours: 3
Classroom: Online Delivery. This course will be presented as an *asynchronous* online course. *Note: asynchronous instruction takes place when the instructor posts recorded lectures and makes assignments that students will then complete on their own schedules, subject to deadlines imposed by the instructor.* There may be a couple of times during the course where you are invited to join live sessions in Zoom or Teams, where important information may be presented by me and you will have an opportunity to ask questions.

INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Kevin T. White, Assistant Professor of Business Law
Phone: (903) 565-6568
Email: kevinwhite@uttyler.edu
Office: COB 350.16
Office Hours: Because this is an online class, there are no set office hours. But I am always available for a phone or Zoom or Teams office visit—please reach out to me by email or through the Canvas messaging platform. Or I can meet you in person in my office.
Communication: Email is the best way to contact me, but you can also communicate with me through Canvas.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Textbook ***The Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases***
by Frank B. Cross, Roger LeRoy Miller | 12th Edition (Cengage 2025)



ISBN: 9780357985823 (eBook)
ISBN: 9780357985700 (Hardback)

The campus bookstore does not have this yet, so you will need to buy directly from Cengage or some other source. I recommend the eBook.

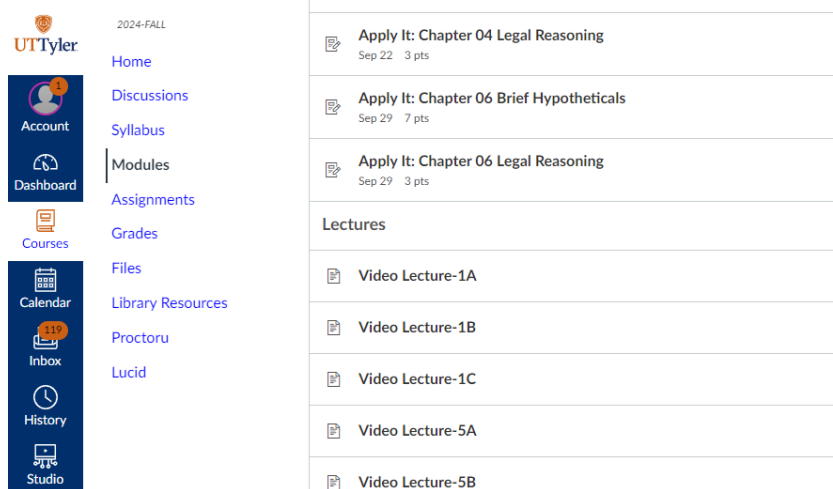
NOTE: Law is a discipline of language and there is no avoiding it—you will have to read!!!!

Supplemental Materials I may also assign or distribute supplemental materials, which may include cases, statutes, administrative regulations, articles or excerpts from periodicals. **CHECK CANVAS** frequently for additional readings. I may also point you to some outside links for other materials or

information of interest. Don't worry--you don't have to memorize the information in the supplemental materials. But chances are, if you ignore the supplemental materials, you won't get as much out of this course.

Lecture Videos

I have posted or will post in Canvas recorded lectures for most if not all of the material covered in this course. The best way to find it is by Module. Go into the Module you are in and scroll down to "Lectures". There you will find links to the lectures. The lectures correspond to the chapter in the textbook. So, Lecture-1A is the first recording for chapter 1 material, Lecture-1B is the second, and so on.



The screenshot displays the Canvas LMS interface. On the left is a navigation menu with icons and labels for Home, Discussions, Syllabus, Modules, Assignments, Grades, Files, Library Resources, Proctoru, Lucid, Calendar, Inbox, History, and Studio. The main content area shows a list of assignments and a section titled 'Lectures'. The assignments listed are 'Apply It: Chapter 04 Legal Reasoning' (Sep 22, 3 pts), 'Apply It: Chapter 06 Brief Hypotheticals' (Sep 29, 7 pts), and 'Apply It: Chapter 06 Legal Reasoning' (Sep 29, 3 pts). The 'Lectures' section lists 'Video Lecture-1A', 'Video Lecture-1B', 'Video Lecture-1C', 'Video Lecture-5A', and 'Video Lecture-5B'.

CANVAS & PATRIOT MAIL

Announcements, notifications, assignments, due dates, supplemental materials, class updates, changes in the course schedule, grades and more will be posted on or accessible through Canvas. Additional notifications will be sent to your Patriot email address. **You are expected to regularly check Canvas and your Patriot email for notifications about this class.**

COURSE OVERVIEW/LEARNING OUTCOMES

- A. **Course Overview.** 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.
- B. **Learning Outcomes.** By the end of the course, it is expected that you will understand how the law (in the various legal areas we will cover) impacts individuals, organizations, and society. You will be able to use analytical and critical problem solving skills to apply the legal concepts you learn in this course to a myriad of fact situations. Broadly speaking, some of the learning outcomes for this course are:

Module 1: Foundations of U.S. Legal System

1. Explain the primary sources of law and how they affect business decisions.
2. Distinguish between civil and criminal law, and between substantive and procedural law.
3. Describe how the U.S. Constitution impacts business regulation and individual rights.
4. Analyze the roles of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches in shaping business law.
5. Compare litigation and various forms of alternative dispute resolution, including mediation and arbitration.
6. Identify the stages of a civil lawsuit from filing to appeal, including key procedural rules.

Module 2: Civil and Criminal Liability

7. Identify the elements of common torts and explain defenses to tort claims.

8. Explain strict liability and product liability theories and their implications for manufacturers and sellers.
9. Describe different categories of intellectual property and methods of legal protection.
10. Analyze how criminal law applies to business, including corporate and white-collar crime.
11. Discuss legal challenges and protections related to cybercrime in a business context.

Module 3: Contracts and Business Organizations

12. Identify the elements of a valid contract and explain how contracts are formed electronically.
13. Evaluate issues related to contract performance, breach, and remedies.
14. Explain the differences between legal and equitable remedies for breach of contract.
15. Compare limited liability business forms (LLCs, LLPs, S-Corps) and their advantages for entrepreneurs.
16. Describe how corporations are formed, funded, and governed under business law.
17. Analyze securities law, including the role of the SEC, investor protection, and insider trading regulations.

Module 4: Business Relationships and Government Regulation

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REQUIRED WORK

- A. Examinations. There will be four (4) exams, including the final exam. None of the exams will be cumulative, meaning they will only cover material presented in that module. The exams will be made up of multiple choice and true/false questions. Each of the exams is worth 100 points, and together, the exams are worth 400 points, or 80.00% of your grade. *The exams must be taken during the date windows specified in the Course Schedule.* If, due to illness or other compelling reasons beyond your control, you are unable to take an exam during the specified time, you should contact me (in advance if possible) to make other arrangements for taking the exam.

Online Exam Proctoring: LockDown Browser & Respondus Monitor

To ensure academic integrity during online exams, this course requires the use of LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor. These tools help create a secure testing environment by restricting access to external resources and monitoring exam sessions through webcam recordings.

Requirements for Online Exams

LockDown Browser:

- You must install LockDown Browser before starting the exam.
- This browser prevents access to other websites, applications, or resources during the test.
- Once the exam begins, you will be locked into the testing environment until you submit your answers.

Respondus Monitor:

- This tool uses your webcam to record during the exam.
- You must complete a startup sequence, including an environment check, before starting the test.
- Ensure you have a working webcam, microphone, and stable internet connection.
- Failure to follow monitoring procedures may result in zero credit for the exam.

Exam Expectations:

- You must complete exams in a quiet, well-lit location.
- No other devices, books, notes, or external resources are allowed unless explicitly permitted.
- You must remain within the webcam's view at all times.
- Any suspicious activity (e.g., looking away frequently, leaving the frame, or communicating with others) may result in further review and potential academic penalties.

Technical Issues:

- It is your responsibility to ensure that LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor are installed and functional before the exam.
- If you experience technical difficulties, contact Canvas Support or Respondus Support immediately and notify me as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity:

- Violations of the proctoring guidelines may be considered academic misconduct and subject to disciplinary action under the university's academic integrity policy.
- Any suspected violations will be reviewed, and appropriate penalties may apply, including a zero on the exam or further academic consequences.
- By remaining enrolled in this course, you agree to comply with these proctoring requirements.
- For more information, see this file.

<https://web.respondus.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/RLDB-QuickStartGuide-Instructure-Student.pdf>

- B. Discussion Board. The online discussion board is a vital component of this course, designed to foster a collaborative learning environment. It provides a platform for students to engage in meaningful discussions, share insights, and deepen their understanding of the course material.

Participation Requirements:

Prompts: For each of the four (4) modules, there will be a discussion prompt that I will post, or four (4) prompts total. You are required to respond to the discussion prompt for each module. Your post must be made by the date specified.

Quality of Posts. I can't keep you from using ChatGPT or other generative AI, but ultimately, I want **YOUR original thoughts**. Points will be deducted for posts that, in my sole judgment, demonstrate an overreliance upon generative AI. Your posts should be original, thoughtful, relevant, and demonstrate a clear understanding of the topic.

Etiquette: Maintain a respectful and professional tone in all posts and responses. Hateful, disrespectful, inflammatory, or inappropriate comments (in my sole discretion) will not be tolerated.

Your posts are worth 15 points each or 60 points total for all four (4) posts.

- C. Capstone Video. By the end of the semester, you will be required to record and upload a video of you that is about 2-3 minutes in length. More instructions will be given in the assignment. The video will be worth 40 points of your grade. By submitting the video, you give me and UT Tyler the irrevocable right and license to download, store, and use the video for any and all lawful purposes related to this course.
- D. Reading Assignments. Naturally, you are expected to read each of the chapters assigned in the Course Schedule. It is okay to read ahead. There is a bunch of reading in this course, some of it more interesting than others. Many of the concepts have to be digested before they are understood. **Don't get behind**—it is too hard to catch up with this much material!
- E. Grade Allocation. Your grade is allocated as follows:

Item	Points	% of Grade
Examinations	400	80.00%
Discussion Board	60	12.0%

Capstone Video	40	8.0%
Total	500	100.0%

F. Grade Determination.

<u>Points</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
450+	90-100%	A
400-449.9	80-89%	B
350-399.9	70-79%	C
300-349.9	60-69%	D
0-299.9	0-59%	F

G. Extra Credit. Extra credit may be given in my sole discretion.

COURSE POLICIES

- A. Late Work. **Do your work on time!** Late work is generally not accepted.
- B. Exams. **Take your exams when given!** Exams will be administered online during specific windows of time. Makeups will be allowed only for compelling reasons, in the discretion of the instructor.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, although artificial intelligence (AI) tools are cool, I want to see your own work. Unless the instructions for the assignment expressly permit, generative AI (like ChatGPT) or other AI-empowered tools may not be used to assist you in any work assignments for this course.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES & INFORMATION

Important UT Tyler policies and information may be found at:

https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/47144/pages/university-policies-and-information?module_item_id=2409600

I would like to emphasize this one:

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct. The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

STUDENT RESOURCES

Resources to assist you in this course and other resources available for UT Tyler students may be found on Canvas at:

https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/47144/pages/student-resources?module_item_id=2409598

COURSE SCHEDULE

The initial Course Schedule will be distributed separately and may be amended periodically through Canvas notification. Look to Canvas for more detailed information.

AMENDMENTS TO SYLLABUS

I reserve the right to amend and revise this Course Syllabus and/or the Course Schedule--but will give notice of any amendment.