THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
SPRING 2019

COURSE NUMBER: BLAW 3301.001
COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
INSTRUCTOR: TRACI L. KENNER, J.D.

REQUIRED TEXT: The Legal Environment of Business, Text and Cases, 10th Ed., by Cross/Miller, Cengage Learning, 2018. 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 9780357700006) or at www.cengage.com

You can also purchase the access to MindTap and eBook only (ISBN 9781337093842) 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: Monday 6:00-8:45 pm

CLASS LOCATION: Room 111, Soules College of Business

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

OFFICE HOURS: Monday after class or by appointment

E-MAIL: tracikenner@uttyler.edu

COURSE INFORMATION: 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.
**STUDENT EVALUATION:**
Your course grade will be based on exams, assignments, and your attendance/participation as follows:

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

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

- A = 461-515 points
- B = 410-460 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 40-45 multiple-choice questions and up to five short answer 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. 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 two or three 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.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>Introduction &amp; Syllabus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 1: Law &amp; Legal Reasoning</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday (NO CLASS)</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Chapter 2: Courts &amp; Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
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<td>Chapter 3: Court Procedures</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>Chapter 4: Business &amp; the Constitution</td>
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<td>Chapter 5: Business Ethics</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)</strong></td>
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<td>Chapter 6: Tort Law</td>
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<td>Chapter 12: Formation of Traditional and E-Contracts</td>
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<td>Chapter 13: Contract Performance, Breach, and Remedies</td>
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<td>Chapter 8: Intellectual Property Rights</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 2 (Chapters 6, 8, 12, 13)</strong></td>
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<td>Chapter 10: Criminal Law and Cyber Crime</td>
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<td>Spring Break (NO CLASS)</td>
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<td>Chapter 19: Agency Relationships</td>
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<td>Chapter 16: Small Businesses &amp; Franchises</td>
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<td>Chapter 18: Corporations</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>Chapter 17: Limited Liability Business Forms</td>
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<td>Chapter 28: Investor Protection &amp; Corporate Governance</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 3 (Chapters 10, 16, 17, 18, 19, 28)</strong></td>
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<td>Chapter 27: Antitrust Law</td>
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15 Chapter 20: Employment Law  
Chapter 21: Employment Discrimination  

22 Chapter 24: Consumer Protection  
Chapter 25: Environmental Law  

29 Final Exam (Chapters 20, 21, 24, 25, 27)  

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  

EMERGENCY EXITS AND EVACUATION: Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.  

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. Competencies to be demonstrated in this course include:  
1. Computer-based skills:
A. Word processing: preparation of assignment papers
B. Internet search skills: completion of assignments

2. Written communication skills:
   a. Report organization: Preparation of assignment in appropriate format and analysis
   b. Referencing: Use of proper reference of sources in assignments

3. Problem solving (critical thinking):
   A. Conceptual thinking: Use precedent and stare decisis to analyze legal issues in assignments and discussion board posts.
   b. Creativity and innovation: Use precedent and stare decisis to analyze legal issues in assignments and discussion board posts. Formulate ways to prevent legal problems.

4. Ethical issues in decision making and behaviors: Discuss ethical problems and missteps in cases presented in class and develop ways to prevent ethical conflict in similar scenarios.

5. Personal accountability for achievement: Students must monitor grade progress and all projects must be completed on time. No make-up work is allowed.

6. Competence in basic business principles:
   a. Competence in major field and grounding in other major core areas: There is broad coverage of general business topics (described in more detail below), as well as some discussion of marketing issues in consumer law, management and accounting issues in discussion of business organizations, and finance issues in securities law and corporate law.
   b. Awareness of international as well as domestic implications of business decisions: Discuss and analyze cases involving international jurisdiction issues and antitrust issues with international implications. Relate international perspective to business organizations.
   c. Understanding and appreciation of strategic impact of business decisions: Compare and contrast tax and liability issues in various business organizations; discuss various administrative agencies and their important impact on all business organizations.

C. Outcomes for students to successfully complete this course include: Mastery of the above objectives as demonstrated by satisfactory completion of questions on each of five exams; successful completion of required assignments.