

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Spring 2025

COURSE NUMBER: BLAW 3301.001
COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
INSTRUCTOR: TAMMY W. COWART, J.D., Professor of Business Law
CLASS MEETING: Mon/Wed 2:30-3:55 pm
OFFICE & PHONE#: COB 350.09; 566-7217 (office)
OFFICE HOURS: Mon/Wed 10:00-12:30; Tue/Thur 10-12:00; 1:00-3:00 (or by appointment)
E-mail: tcowart@uttyler.edu

Welcome to Business Law & Social Responsibility! This is a fun course, but it can be difficult. I want you to be prepared for the workload required to complete it. This course requires a lot of necessary reading and weekly graded assignments plus exams. We will have graded in-class activities, so it's very important to come to class and be prepared! I want you to be successful in this course! I've taught this course for many years, so here are my best tips. You can successfully navigate this course by doing the following each week:

1-Read (at least skim) the chapters before class. This is very important!

2-Attend Class(!) and take notes on the power point slides or the outlines I provide in Canvas.

(Remember that I write the essays questions...and I base them on the lectures and outlines).

3-Complete both the graded and practice worksheets in Mindtap. This will help you know whether you've mastered the material or need to review.

4-Study for the exams by learning the outline material.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Business: Its Legal, Ethical, and Global Environment, 12th Ed. By Jennings. Cengage Learning, 2022. This course will require MindTap from Cengage.

Get it from the UT Tyler Bookstore - ISBN: 9780357447680 – MindTap for Jennings Business: It's Legal, Ethical and Global Environment Printed Access Card \$115 OR purchase directly from Cengage/Mindtap for \$79.

Visit 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.

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. Academic Dishonesty is a serious offense. Plagiarism and cheating of any sort will not be tolerated, and **all incidents will be reported to the Student Affairs Office with a recommendation for a F for the semester.** I take this very seriously.

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. 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 Assignments as follows:

1. Four Exams (100 points each)	400
2. Quizzes (10 @ 10 pts each)	100
3. Legal Project	20
4. In-class activities	50
5. Participation/Discussion Bd.	50
Total Points Possible	620

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

A = 555-620 points
B = 493-554 points
C = 431-492 points
D = 369-430 points

1. Exams (400 pts.): Four semester exams will be given, each worth 100 points. Each exam will contain approximately 40 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.

YOUR EXAM WILL NOT BE GRADED IF I SUSPECT CHEATING, AND IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE REFERRED TO STUDENT AFFAIRS. If cheating is verified, I will recommend an F for the semester.

2. Quizzes (100 pts.): This course includes weekly quizzes to ensure you fully understood the assigned readings. 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 are open book/open note and will require you to find and use information discussed in the text. Completing these and other worksheets will help you prepare for the exams! 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. In-Class Activities (50 pts): We will periodically have graded in-class activities during the semester. These could be a pop quiz at the beginning of class, a small group activity, etc. You must be present, prepared, and participate according to the instructions in order to earn these points.

5. Participation/Attendance (50 pts.): Students will receive participation credit for attendance upon signing the roll at the beginning of class 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 a lack of attention, cell phone and laptop or tablet use during class. Your participation grade at the end of the semester will be comprised of the percentage of classes you attended plus participation credit given or deducted for participation and discussion of cases.

AI POLICY STATEMENT: 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. This course has specific assignments where artificial intelligence (AI) tools (such as ChatGPT or Copilot) are permitted and encouraged. When AI use is permissible, it will be clearly stated in the assignment directions, and all use of AI must be appropriately acknowledged and cited. Otherwise, the default is that AI is not allowed during any stage of an assignment.

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.

Week-Date	Monday	Wednesday	Due
1	Introduction & Syllabus	Chp. 1-Intro to Law	
2	NO CLASS	Chp. 2-Business Ethics & Social Responsibility	Quiz 1-due Sun.
3	Chp. 3-Judicial System	Chp. 4-Managing Disputes	Quiz 2-due Sun.
4	Continued	Exam 1 (Chps. 1-4)	
5	Chp. 5- Bus & Constitution	Chp. 6-Administrative Law	Quiz 3-due Sun.
6	Chp. 8-Business Crime	Chp. 9-Business Torts	Quiz 4-due Sun.
7	Chp. 10-Environmental Regulation	Continued	Quiz 5-due Sun.
8	Exam 2 (Chps. 5-10)	Chp. 11-Contract Intro & Formation	Quiz 6-due Sun.
9	Chp. 12-Contract Performance & Remedies	Chp. 13-Product Advertising	Quiz 7-due Sun.
	SPRING BREAK		
10	Chp. 14-Antitrust	Chp. 15-Business & Intellectual Property Law	Quiz 8-due Sun.
11	Continued	Exam 3 (Chps. 11-15)	
12	Chp. 16-Management of Employee Conduct	Chp. 17-Forms of Doing Business	Quiz 9-due Sun.
13	Chp. 18-Securities Law	Chp. 19-Mgmt of Employee Welfare	Quiz 10-due Sun.
14	Chp. 20-Employment Discrimination	Continued	Legal Project Due; Optional Quiz
15	Exam 4/Final (Chps. 16-20)		