THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
SOULES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Fall 2024

COURSE NUMBER: **BLAW 3301.060**
COURSE TITLE: **BUSINESS LAW & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**
INSTRUCTOR: **TAMMY W. COWART, J.D., Professor of Business Law**
CLASS MEETING: **Online; Exams will be available per the syllabus**
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*Welcome to Business Law & Social Responsibility online! This is a fun course, but it is more difficult online. 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 (proctored) exams. If you were taking this course in person, you'd be in class 2.5 hours per week, plus spend time to prepare and complete assignments. The online version is no different in terms of your involvement! This is a very active online course, so you should plan on spending **6-8 hours per week** on activities related to this course for reading, watching lectures, and completing weekly assignments. If you do not have that amount of time to devote to this course, please consider taking it at another time.*

As a student in an online course, you are expected to have access to the internet at all times! Make sure you address any issues with computer problems immediately, as they are not an excuse for any delays in meeting deadlines and expectations for the course. This includes access to ProctorU during exams.

REQUIRED TEXT:
   1) **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.

   2) **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. 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.

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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	**7 hrs.**
Total	**37.5 hrs**

Student Evaluation:

Your course grade will be based on Exams and your Attendance/Participation as follows:

1. Four Exams (100 points each)	400
2. Quizzes (12 @ 10 pts each)	120
3. Syllabus Quiz	20
3. Legal Project	20
4.Participation/Discussion Bd.	40
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 (400 pts.): Four semester exams will be given, each worth 100 points. Each exam will contain approximately 35 objective/multiple-choice questions and 3 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. Some of the exams are proctored, and you may not use any materials for those exams-just your brain. For other exams, you may use your notes that you have prepared from the chapter readings. *Use of any generative AI tools (ChatGPT, Bing AI, or Bard) are not allowed to complete this or any other assignment. Those tools, while useful to gain some basic legal information, do not know the very particular legal elements we will cover in this class and will not generate correct answers! Use of AI will be considered plagiarism.* **Use of AI, Google or other search engines, or discussing exam questions with other students is cheating and may result in failing the course and/or other scholastic dishonesty disciplinary actions.** __**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.**__

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. During proctored exams, 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. ProctorU staff reviews and flags exam activity for suspicion of cheating, and lighting and sound issues will cause a cheating flag.

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. 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. Syllabus Quiz (20 pts): You must complete a syllabus quiz over the policies in this syllabus and Canvas. Your agreement to these policies and successful completion of the quiz will be graded.

4. 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.

5. 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 200-300 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 75-100 words in length.

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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.

I want you to be successful in this course! I've taught this course online for many years, so here are my <u>best tips</u>. You can successfully navigate this course by doing the following each week:
1-Read (at least skim) the chapters at the beginning of the week. This is very important!
2-Listen to my lectures 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 <u>both</u> 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.

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	Topic	Read	Due	Exam
1	Introduction	Read Syllabus; Watch Intro video; Read Chp. 1-Intro to Law	**Introduction DB**/ FlipGrid; **Syllabus quiz**	
2	Ethics & Social Responsibility	Read Chp. 2-Business Ethics & Social Responsibility	**Quiz 1-due Sun. 9/8**	

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3	Court Systems & ADR	Chp. 3-Judicial System & Chp. 4-Managing Disputes	**Quiz 2-due Sun. 9/15**	**Exam 1 (1-4)-due Mon. 9/16**
4	Constitutional Law & Administrative Law	Chp. 5- Bus & Constitution & Chp. 6-Administrative Law	**Quiz 3-due Sun. 9/22**	
5	White Collar Crime	Chp. 8-Business Crime	**Quiz 4-due 9/29; DB Post Due**	
6	Torts & Environmental Law	Chp. 9-Business Torts & Chp. 10-Environmental Regulation	**Quiz 5-due 10/6**	**Exam 2 (5-10)-due 10/7**
7	Contract Law	Chp. 11-Contract Intro & Formation	**Quiz 6-due 10/13; DB Response due**	
8	Contract Breach & Remedies	Chp. 12-Contract Performance & Remedies	**Quiz 7-due 10/20**	
9	Advertising Liability & Antitrust Law	Chp. 13-Product Advertising & Chp. 14-Antitrust	**Quiz 8-due 10/27**	
10	Intellectual Property	Chp. 15-Business & Intellectual Property Law	**Quiz 9-due 11/3**	**Exam 3 (11-15)- due 11/4**
11	Agency Law	Chp. 16-Management of Employee Conduct	**Quiz 10-due 11/10; DB Post due**	
12	Business Entities	Chp. 17-Forms of Doing Business & Chp. 18-Securities Law	**Quiz 11-due 11/17**	
13	Employment Law	Chp. 19-Mgmt of Employee Welfare	**DB Response due**	
14	Employment Discrimination	Chp. 20-Employment Discrimination	**Quiz 12-due 12/8;Legal Project Due**	
15	Final Exam			**Final Exam (16-20)**