

COURSE OUTLINE **Business Law I**

Course Description

BA 115. Business Law. 3 hours credit. This course will enable the student to explore the evolution of law, the judicial system, and contract law. The student will use analysis principles to analyze business law case studies.

Course Relevance

The principles learned in this course will allow the student to understand the legal system of the United States and apply it in a business setting. The student can apply the analysis principles learned to everyday situations.

Required Materials

Liuzzo, A., Bonnice, J., *Essentials of business law*. New York, NY: McGraw Hill

* - For complete textbook information, refer to <http://www.butlercc.bkst.com>

Learning Outcomes

The intention is for the student to be able to:

1. Describe the evolution of law.
2. Explain the judicial system.
3. Describe the formation of contracts.
4. Analyze business law cases.

Learning PACT Skills that will be developed and documented in this course

Through involvement in this course, the student will develop ability in the following PACT skill area(s):

Analytical Thinking Skills

1. Critical thinking
 - Through the evaluation of case studies that apply to multiple laws, the student will develop critical thinking skills.

Major Summative Assessment Task(s)

These learning outcome(s) and the Learning PACT skill(s) will be demonstrated by:

1. Preparing a four to six page paper on a company (approved by the instructor) that has dealt with a legal issue discussed in class. The paper shall outline the legal issues and the steps taken to resolve the issue, including any court cases or alternative dispute resolution.

Course Content

- I. Skills or Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
 - A. Comprehend legal concepts, principles and theories

B. Appraise case studies

Learning Units

- I. Legal and social environment of business
 - A. Nature and sources of law
 - 1. Constitutional law
 - 2. Common law
 - 3. Jurisdiction
 - B. Ethics
 - 1. Relationship between law and ethics
 - 2. Whistleblowing
 - C. Criminal law
 - 1. Felony
 - 2. Misdemeanor
 - 3. Business related crimes
 - D. Tort law
 - 1. Defamation
 - 2. Libel and slander
 - 3. Negligence
 - 4. Liability
 - E. Administrative law
 - 1. Function of administrative agencies
 - 2. Criticism of administrative agencies
- II. Contracts
 - A. Nature and classes of contracts
 - 1. Elements of enforceable contracts
 - 2. Types of contracts
 - B. Offer and acceptance
 - 1. Requirements for a valid offer and valid acceptance
 - 2. Termination of an offer
 - C. Mutual agreement
 - 1. Defective agreements
 - 2. Fraud
 - 3. Misrepresentation
 - 4. Duress
 - 5. Unconscionable contracts
 - D. Consideration defined and explained
 - E. Competent parties
 - 1. Capacity to contract
 - 2. Minors' enforceable contracts
 - 3. Mentally incompetent parties
 - F. Legal purpose of contracts
 - 1. Illegal agreements
 - 2. Restraints of trade
 - G. Form of contracts

1. Types of contracts that must be in writing
 2. Statute of frauds
 3. Parol evidence rule
- H. Operation of contracts
1. Third parties to a contract
 2. Assignment of rights
- I. Discharge of contracts

Learning Activities

Learning activities will be assigned to assist the student to achieve the intended learning outcomes through class discussion, class lecture, case studies, and other activities at the discretion of the instructor.

Grade Determination

The student will be graded on learning activities and assessment tasks. Grade determinants may include the following: daily work, quizzes, chapter or unit tests, participation, case studies and other activities as determined by the instructor.