



GORDON
COLLEGE

ECB 320 Course Syllabus

Course Title:	Business Law
Course Number:	ECB 320
Course Description:	This course examines the legal environment and role of courts, administrative agencies and regulatory authorities in shaping business policies and activities; law of contracts regarding individual's relationships within the business community.
Credit Hours:	4.0
Prerequisite(s):	Junior standing or permission of instructor.
Corequisite(s):	None
Instructor	Greg Isaak Voykhansky
Email/Contact	Greg.Voykhansky@gordon.edu or Canvas Inbox
Phone	774 243-0663
Office Hours	By appointment via www.calendly.com/gvoykhansky
Course Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examine the U.S. legal system, law, policy, business legal environment, and related legal terms.• Recognize the legal research process applicable to business situations including citation of legal cases, legal quotations, and analysis structure.• Illustrate the relationship of law and ethics in a business context: intent, remedies, and equity.• Define the basic elements of civil procedure applicable to business and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).• Recognize the benefits and consequences of the agency triangle and trust associations from multiple stakeholders perspectives.• Recognize the difference between the employee vs. contractor relationships and the rights and liabilities arising out of these two types of associations.• Explain the relationship of stakeholders in banking secured

**Associated
Programmatic
Outcomes**

transactions, and liabilities of parties related to negotiable instruments.

- Analyze elements of contract formation and differences between sale and service contracts in both domestic and international context.
- Define business torts, duty, standard of care, res ipsa loquitur, and assumption of risk.
- Describe the legal framework for conducting business in contemporary, digital environments and cyber-related context.
- Distinguish the pros and cons of forming different types of business associations (Corporations, LLC, LP, PC, Partnerships, Sole-proprietorship).
- Explain biblical precedent and connection to the law in making business decisions.

Undergraduate Business Administration Outcome:

Business Administration

- Students will evaluate different approaches to strategy formation and ethical decision-making in business.
- Students will explain the implications of their Christian worldview and faith for the practice of accounting, business, economics, and/or finance

Finance

- Students will demonstrate technical competence appropriate for employment in accounting, business, economics, and/or finance.

**Required
Textbook(s) and
Materials**

Prekert, J. D., Barnes, A. J., Perry, J. E., Haugh, T., & Stemler, A. R. (2022). *Business law: the ethical, global, and digital environment*. McGraw Hill Education.

ISBN10: 126073689X

ISBN13: 9781260736892

McGraw-Hill Connect is required for this course.

Course Topics and Objectives

Module 1: The Legal System and Environment for Doing Business

- Recognize the respective makers of the different types of law (constitutions, statutes, common law, and administrative regulations and decisions).
- Identify the type of law that takes precedence when two types of law conflict and describe the respective roles of adhering to precedent (stare decisis) and distinguishing precedent in case law reasoning.
- Explain the basic differences between the criminal law and civil law classifications.
- Identify the structured way of analyzing legal precedent by conducting legal research

Module 2: Trial Process and ADR

- Describe the basic structures of state court systems and the federal court system.
- Explain the difference between subject-matter jurisdiction and in personam jurisdiction, and describe subject -matter jurisdiction over a case in a federal court.
- Identify the major steps in a civil lawsuit's progression from beginning to end.
- Describe the different forms of discovery available to parties in civil cases.
- Explain the differences among the major forms of alternative dispute resolution.

Module 3: Agency and Employment

- Explain the basic principles of forming and termination of agency.
- Recognize when an agent is able to make a principal liable for wrongs committed by the agent
- Recognize when an agent risks breaching a fiduciary duty
- Identify and describe legislation that protects workers safety, health, wages, rights, and that governs unionized workforces.
- Describe employment at will doctrine and its major exceptions

Module 4: Contract Formation, Performance, and Remedies

- Define principles and requirements for formation of a contract (capacity, offer, acceptance, consideration. Modification, withdrawal, performance, breach)

- Identify contractual remedies (actual, special, statutory, incidental, consequential, specific performance)
- Distinguish between contracts for sale of goods and service contracts.
- Describe between advertisement, offer, and promissory estoppel.
- Recognize contractual terms common to most written agreements

Module 5: UCC for the International Sale of Goods, Statute of Frauds

- Recognize when UCC applies to a business transaction (sale of goods, leases, secured transaction, negotiable interest)
- Define the duties of a non-breaching party in event of the breach.
- Recognize the concepts of holder in due course, negotiable instrument, attachment, and perfection of interest as defined in UCC.
- Explain the privity doctrine
- Explain the differences between disclaimers, implied and expressed warranties.

Module 6: Crimes, Torts & Liability

- Identify main steps in criminal prosecution and basic protections afforded by the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments.
- Explain the differences among intent, recklessness, negligence, and strict liability.
- Describe the major elements that must be proven to establish a violation of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act
- Describe elements of most common torts (negligence, misrepresentation, fraud, false imprisonment, slander, trespass, and other).
- Describe the role of comparative negligence and comparative fault principles in cases in which fault on the part of the defendant and on the part of the plaintiff led to the harm experienced by the plaintiff.

Module 7: Property and Intellectual Property

- Define the concept of ownership and holding a title to property
- List the trust, split and merger of title and fiduciary duty
- Distinguish between personal property and real estate
- Describe different ways in which ownership can be temporary or permanently transferred
- Describe the concept of insurance, insurability and perils to property interests

Module 8: Business Relationships and Associations

- Compare and contrast different types of business organizations
- Describe liability of stakeholders in each type of business organization
- Identify what could constitute corporate corruption, monopoly, fair trade, deceptive practice, unfair commercial behavior
- Describe the right and powers of shareholders

Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Total Points by Category	Percentage of Overall Grade
SmartBook Chapter Readings (Selected topics)	Varies 18.75 points per Module (Module 2=8.75 points Module 8-part 1&2 = 28.75 points)	15%
Case study Assignments	Modules 1 to 7 = 45 points each Module 8 = 85 points	40%
Connect Application Based Activities; ABA (10 activities; 10-15 minutes each)	15 points	15%
Quizzes (Pass/Fail)	12.5 points	10%
YELLOWDIG Discussions	25 points	20%
	Total: 1000	Total: 100%

Grades

A student is expected to maintain the 2.00 cumulative grade point average required for graduation-unless the major department has a higher minimum cumulative GPA. A “D” grade, while sufficient to receive credit for a course, reflects performance below the minimum required for satisfactory progress or the minimal course grade required by some major departments.

Defined Numerical Grades & Letter Grade Equivalents

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	Grade Points	Meaning
A+	97-100	4.0	Exceptional
A	93-96	4.0	Excellent
A-	90-92	3.7	
B+	87-89	3.3	
B	83-86	3.0	Good
B-	80-82	2.7	
C+	77-79	2.3	
C	73-76	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	70-72	1.7	
D+	67-69	1.3	
D	65-66	1.0	Low Pass
D-	60-66	.7	
F	Below 60	0.0	

Minimum Technological Specifications

In order to participate in this course, you will need reliable access to the following:

Computer and Internet Minimum Specifications

- Windows or Macintosh (1.1GHz or faster processor, 8GB RAM)
- Please install the most recent operating system and web browser. (Chrome or Firefox are preferred)
- You may also need to install the following programs or applications: (you may need administrator access to install these on your device)
 - Respondus Lockdown Browser
 - Zoom
 - Canvas Student App
- Internet Speeds
 - Download/upload: minimum 10 Mbps, wired connection recommended.
 - Check your speed at <https://speedtest.net/>
- Video - Students may be required to use a webcam during class. Many laptops, tablets, and cell phones have webcams built in. If your device does not have this, you will need to obtain one.
- Audio - Be prepared to use a microphone for some class activities. Do not plan to use the microphone that is built into your computer. You can use an external headset, or a set of earbuds. Avoid wireless headphones if possible.

We do not support

- Taking courses or viewing videos on mobile devices
- Linux/Chromebook
- Taking quizzes or exams on mobile devices or tablets
- Beta versions of any software

For hardware discounts, check out: <https://Gordon.edu/technologydiscounts>

Course Policies and Procedures

1. **Collegiality:** This applies to your communication practice in discussions and conversations with classmates and faculty. Do not leave any questions unanswered. If a faculty or a classmate asks a question in discussion – you need to answer it. If you do not understand the question, ask for clarification.
2. **Punctuality:** Submit all assignments on time. I will accept 1(one) assignment 24 hours late without a need to justify, as long as you warn me that the assignment will be submitted late before its due time/date. All other late submissions will be assessed with a penalty of 10% per day of lateness (see Rule 5 if applicable).
3. **Questions:** The only wrong question is the one you did not ask. If it is a quick one or you need to clarify a prompt or anything in the course, send me an email: grisha.voykhansky@gordon.edu – I usually reply within 24 hours or sooner. Otherwise, schedule a meeting with me via Calendly at www.calendly.com/gvoykhansky - indicate if you want to meet via phone or on Zoom. I will send an invite before our meeting.
4. **Final Assignment:** Late FINAL assignment. No excuse! Your final Module Eight assignment is started on day 1 of the class, and by Module Eight should be mostly done organically! Follow rule #5 if applicable.
5. **Partial Completion:** Suppose you are partially done with any assignment in the Module and need additional time to complete. In that case, you can use an option to submit what you have AS LONG as you will amend your submission within 24 hours. However, if you fail to amend within 24 hours, your partial assignment WILL BE graded as is, and additional submissions will not be accepted.

Academic Policies and Procedures

Academic Assistance

The Academic Success Center serves the academic needs of all students by providing small-group support for large core courses; a Writing Center with trained, peer tutors; subject tutors for specified courses; specialized academic advising; workshops and one-on-one staff support for time management and study skills.

The ASC is dedicated to helping students develop self-awareness as learners and investigate new strategies and techniques for effective academic performance. Professional staff members are available to assist all students with issues related to academic performance and learning disabilities that affect a student's general academic progress.

To review our online resources, [click here](#). To schedule a time to discuss your academic needs with one of our team members, [complete this form](#).

Accommodations Statement

Our academic community is committed to providing access to a Gordon education for students with disabilities. A student with a disability who intends to request academic accommodations should follow this procedure:

1. Virtually meet with a staff person from the Academic Success Center (ASC) and provide them with current documentation of the disability;
2. Obtain a Faculty Notification Form from the Academic Success Center, listing appropriate accommodations; and
3. Submit this form to professors and discuss those accommodations with them, ideally within the first Module of classes.

Some accommodations need more time to arrange so communicating early in the semester is important. For more information consult the Academic Success Center webpage:

<http://www.gordon.edu/academicaccessibility> or email asc@gordon.edu

Academic Dishonesty Statement

Academic dishonesty is regarded as a major violation of both the academic and spiritual principles of this community and may result in a failing grade or suspension. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, (see Plagiarism in Student Handbook), cheating (whether in or out of the classroom), and abuse or misuse of library materials when such abuse or misuse can be related to course requirements.

Academic Integrity

Gordon College strives to graduate men and women distinguished by intellectual maturity and Christian character, committed to lives of service and prepared for leadership worldwide. Essential to the success of this educational mission is a commitment to the principles of academic integrity. Every member of the Gordon community is responsible for upholding the highest standards of honesty at all times. Students, as members of the community, are also responsible for adhering to the principles and spirit of the academic integrity policy.

Academic Dishonesty refers to activities that have the effect or intention of interfering with education, pursuit of knowledge, or fair evaluation of a student's performance are prohibited.

Cheating: using or attempting to use unauthorized assistance, material, or study aids in examinations or other academic work or preventing, or attempting to prevent, another from using authorized assistance, material, or study aids. *Examples:* Using a proxy test taker, using unsanctioned test aids, copying another's answers, using outside help, prior knowledge of test content, tampering with results.

To prevent cheating, the following measures are instituted by Gordon College:

1. Students will need to show state or school-issued identification just prior to taking the quiz or test:
2. Quizzes and tests must be taken using remote proctoring software designed to lock down the student's computer during the test so that other applications, documents, or web browser windows cannot be viewed or opened.
3. A webcam will be used to monitor the student while taking the quiz or exam. Looking away from the screen to review notes or other electronic devices will flag the student's exam

Cheating may result in a failing grade or suspension

Plagiarism: using the ideas, data, or language of another without specific or proper acknowledgment. *Example:* copying another person's paper, article, or computer work and submitting it for an assignment, cloning someone else's ideas without attribution, failing to use quotation marks where appropriate, etc.

To prevent cheating, the following measures are instituted by Gordon College:

1. Students will need to agree to the Academic Integrity Policy prior to submitting predetermined written work
2. The student's submissions will be submitted through a plagiarism and originality checker that checks the document against online journals, websites, and other student submissions in a database. A score is generated to help the student and the instructor determine potentially plagiarized materials, though this score does not necessarily indicate plagiarism has occurred.
3. Students with questionable originality reports may be asked to discuss the results with the instructor or an academic representative.

Plagiarism may result in a failing grade or suspension.

Fabrication: submitting contrived or altered information in any academic exercise. *Example:* making up data for an experiment, fudging data, citing nonexistent articles, contriving sources, etc.

Multiple submission: submitting, without prior permission, any work submitted to fulfill another academic requirement.

Facilitating academic dishonesty: knowingly helping or attempting to help another violate any provision of the academic integrity policy. *Example:* working together on a take-home exam, etc.

Unfair advantage: attempting to gain unauthorized advantage over fellow students in an academic exercise. *Example:* gaining or providing unauthorized access to examination materials, obstructing or interfering with another student's efforts in an academic exercise,

lying about a need for an extension for an exam or paper, continuing to write even when time is up during an exam, destroying or keeping library materials for one's own use, etc.

If a student is unsure whether his action(s) constitute a violation of this Academic Integrity Policy, then it is that student's responsibility to consult with the instructor to clarify any ambiguities.

Attendance and Participation Policy

For each semester hour of credit, students should expect to spend a minimum of 2-3 hours per week outside of class in engaged academic time. This time includes reading, writing, studying, completing assignments, lab work, or group projects, among other activities.

Gordon Global Online courses are designed to be asynchronous in nature. This means that while attendance in the online course room at predetermined times each week is not required, the amount of time that the student is expected to invest in the course each week remains equivalent to the on-campus version of the course. Some courses may have synchronous components. These will clearly be communicated at the start of the term and are often supplemental.

Extensions

Students are expected to manage their time independently for their academics. Each student should complete their weekly work by the due date to avoid late penalties, as determined by the professor. In the case where a student is unable to participate in the course the expected amount per week, or complete an assignment by the due date, the student should communicate proactively with the professor. If it is warranted for illness, emergency, or other reasonable purposes, the faculty may elect to grant the extension.

All written work for a given course is normally due no later than the last day of the course. The instructor has the right to grant an extension up to-but not beyond-the due date for grades. No work may be submitted after that time unless the student has submitted an Incomplete grade request form prior to the end of the semester. A final grade or an incomplete must be reported for every student. Faculty should notify the Registrar's Office of last date of participation in the course if a student stopped participating without official withdrawal.

Final Assessments

A final examination or other similar activity may be required during scheduled quad and semester final exam periods. Final examinations may not be changed due to travel arrangements or outside commitments or conflicts. However, students are not required to take more than two final exams on any given day. Students with three or more final exams on the same day may petition to have one examination time reassigned. [Contact the Registrar's Office](#). Changes are not allowed for any other reason. The Academic Programs Committee will only consider petitions demonstrating severe emergency. Students failing to take final assessments receive automatic zeroes, which are averaged into the final course grade.

Library Resources

Students have access to Jenks Library's online resources using their Gordon login. See the [Remote Library Research](#) tab on the [Remote Learning at Jenks Guide](#) for more details on what is accessible.

Questions about library resources should be directed to librarians in the Jenks Library. Librarians are available to assist you from the library reference desk, by e-mail at library@gordon.edu, or by phone (978) 867-4878.