

**UNIVERSITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD**  
**School of Professional Studies**  
**BLW 3317 Legal Aspects of Business**  
**COURSE OUTLINE**

**See Instructor Section of Blackboard Course for More Information**

**Overview of the Course**

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the pervasiveness of law in the conduct of business. The course requires extensive use of the internet in general and Blackboard in particular. Topics included are consistent with the course description above and will consist of current cases where appropriate. While the course is primarily a lecture course, classroom discussion is encouraged and welcome. The assessment consists of graded examinations, essays, and classroom discussions. Requirements essential to the course: This course includes a large body of knowledge that can be learned only by diligent effort on the part of the student. Students are expected to read all assigned textbook readings, case analysis, text assignments, presentations, and relevant technical writing tasks that will be used to reinforce knowledge, skills, and abilities. Research tools essential to the course: Email, worldwide web, Microsoft Office software, library holdings, the UIW intranet, and the internet.

**Study Topics:**

- legal standards to common to everyday business situations.
- compliance with the numerous laws that regulate businesses, identify available legal remedies, assist in defense of legal penalties, and avoid litigation.

**Description of the course:**

The course provides the student with foundational information about the U.S. legal system and dispute resolution, and their impact on business. The major content areas will include general principles of law, the relationship of business and the U.S. Constitution, state and federal legal systems, the relationship between law and ethics, contracts, sales, torts, agency law, intellectual property, and business law in the global context. This course may not be repeated for credit.

**This course is part of:** Associate of Arts in Business Administration, Bachelor of Arts in Administration, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Major Requirements, Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with an Administration concentration, Bachelor of Science in Leadership Studies This course may be offered in a face-to-face, blended and online format.

<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Assessments will be a combination of the following</b>
1. Describe the origins and structure of the U.S. legal system.	1. Instructor designed examinations evaluating objective and applied concepts.

2. Discuss the relationship of ethics and law in business.
3. Define relevant legal terms in business.
4. Explain basic principles of law that apply to business and business transactions.
5. Describe business law in the global context.

2. Applied technology-based weekly assignments (quiz format), problem solving exercises.
3. Discussion and participation both in course objectives and problem solving exercises.

### Course Outline

Week	Chapter Readings and Discussions	In Class and Assignments
Week #1	Chapter 1: Introduction to the Law and Legal System Chapter 2: Corporate Social Responsibility and Business Ethics Chapter 3: Courts and the Legal Process	Assignments/Class Activities (3) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development (1)
Week #2	Chapter 4: Constitutional Law and US Commerce Chapter 5: Administrative Law Chapter 6: Criminal Law	Assignments/Class Activities (3) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development (1) Submit topic for research paper/project
Week #3	Chapter 7: Introduction to Tort Law Chapter 8: Introduction to Contract Law Chapter 9: The agreement	Assignments/Class Activities (3) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development: (1)
Week #4	Chapter 10: Real Assent Chapter 11: Consideration Chapter 12: Legality	Assignments/Class Activities (3) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development (1) Submit outline of research paper/project Midterm Examination (questions from the first half of the course)

Week #5	Chapter 13: Form and Meaning Chapter 14: Third-Party Rights Chapter 15: Discharge of Obligations Chapter 16: Remedies	Assignments/Class Activities (4) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development : <b>submit draft of paper(1)</b>
Week #6	Chapter 32: Intellectual Property Chapter 38: Relationship Between Principal and Agent Chapter 39: Liability of Principle and Agent. Chapter 40: Partnerships: General Characteristics and Formation	Assignments/Class Activities (4) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development (1)
Week #7	Chapter 41: Partnership Operations and Termination Chapter 42 Hybrid Business Chapter 43: Corporations: General Characteristics and Formation Chapter 45: Corporate Powers and Management	Assignments/Class Activities (4) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Submit completed research paper/project (1)
Week #8	Chapter 50: Employment Law Chapter 52: International Law Chapter 30: Bankruptcy	Assignments/Class Activities (3) Course Materials Review and Discussion (2) Paper/Project Development (1) Final Examination (questions from the second half of the course)

Total 48 hours

Note: Each week you will notice a number in parenthesis. This is the Alternative Learning Equivalencies for this course. It is an expectation for the minimum amount of time (hours) you will spend on each topic during the week. Its primary purpose is for accreditation.

### Grading Activities Criteria and Guidelines

#### Grading Standards:

Discussion/Participation	20%
Assignments	20%
Research Paper/Project	20%
Midterm Examination	20%
Final Examination	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grading Scale:**

A	93 - 100	B-	80 - 82	D+	67 – 69
A-	90 - 92	C+	77 - 79	D	63 – 66
B+	87 - 89	C	70 - 76	D-	60 – 62
B	83 - 86	There is no C- grade at UIW		F	< 60

**A and A-** indicates a superior grasp of the subject matter of the course, initiative and originality in attacking problems, and ability to relate knowledge to new situations.

**B+, B, and B-** indicates better than average grasp of the subject matter of the course and ability to apply principles with intelligence.

**C+ and C** indicates an acceptable grasp of the essentials of the course.

**D+, D, and D-** indicates less than average performance in the course.

**F** indicates failure to master the minimum essentials of the course. The course must be repeated.

**Participation, Punctuality and Attendance: Requirements and Expectations for In-person Classes**

- Attendance: Abide by the UIW Attendance Policy as stated in the Catalog: <https://uiw.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2019-2020/Catalog/VII-Institutional-Academic-Policies/Attendance-and-Religious-Observance-Policies>
- Eating and Smoking: NOT ALLOWED in class
- Talking and Messaging using mobile devices: NOT ALLOWED in class
- Copies of homework, tests, exams, and e-mail communication: Save for your records
- Assignments and homework with due dates: Expected to be turned-in on time

**Discussion Board:**

Weekly discussions via the discussion board will allow students to explore course concepts in the context of real-world cases and/or review widely-cited articles.

Your weekly discussion will consist of your weekly postings to our discussion thread. Weekly threaded discussions have two objectives: 1) for students to demonstrate their understanding of key concepts and 2) for students to engage their peers in a conversation that examines how to apply key concepts to real-world situations. Your grade will be based on the degree to which you demonstrate learning through frequent and meaningful discussions with your peers. Each week, we will consider practical topics that warrant detailed exploration as the discussion forum component of our class.

Proactive, meaningful class participation is essential to maximizing your course potential and enable the Instructor to evaluate your comprehension of the course content fully. Further, it enhances the interest level as specific, real-world examples are discussed. Your posts should include some type of citation (a website that you found especially helpful, an article, maybe a YouTube video that relates to a topic we are discussing) in addition to textbook chapters.

You are responding not only to me but to your classmates as well, raising your own questions concerning the material, giving us more than merely four or five sentences per post, this constitutes an excellent discussion grade. Only offering your opinion without documentation will not help your grade.

**Each of us has a “voice” in this course that is to be respectful toward others’ views, opinions, beliefs, etc., and that is to be respected by others as well.**

I expect that you participate in each forum discussion on a minimum of four days each week. Make sure that you consistently engage your peers in sufficient detail. To receive a passing grade, please post your initial response by midnight Tuesday night. You must post at least 4 times in the whole week. Threaded discussions must be completed each week before midnight Sunday night. Participation for a specific week must occur in that week. Rubrics for the evaluation of discussion posts are posted to Blackboard under the Course Outline and Book tab.

**Assignments/Papers**

**All submissions (Case Studies and Paper) Grading will be:** Content 20%; Organization 20%; Communication 20%; Student critical assessment 20%; Writing 20%.

Criteria	PAPER RUBRICS				
	1 Fundamentally Deficient	2 Seriously Flawed	3 Adequate	4 strong	5 Excellent
<u>Content 20%</u>	Student failed to address the assignment	Student addresses the assignment inadequately	Student addresses the assignment with some analysis. More study and preparation required. Interviews by internet.	Student addresses most aspects of the assignment; cites relevant sources integrating them into text when appropriate	Student addresses all aspects of the assignment; cites relevant sources and evaluates their validity, effectively integrating them into text when appropriate.
Organization 20%	Student lacks organization or organizes illogically	Student displays formulaic, random, or confusing organization.	Student demonstrates adequate organization	Student demonstrates clear and coherent organization	Student demonstrates coherent and rhetorically sophisticated organization: makes effective connections between ideas.
Communication 20%	Student demonstrates lack of audience awareness	Student shows insufficient audience awareness.	Student addresses most audience needs.	Student addresses audience needs and expectations.	Student displays awareness of and a sense of purpose in communicating to an audience..
<u>Student critical assessment 20%</u>	Student displays inability to generalize, analyze or support ideas.	Student provides generalizations with inadequate support or analysis.	Student needs further practice and development. Addresses the assignment with some analysis	Student addresses the assignment thoroughly and analytically setting a meaningful task	Student addresses the assignment thoroughly and analytically setting a challenging task.
Written Report (20%)	Student paper shows an accumulation of serious and frequent errors in grammar, spelling, word choice or usage.	Student paper had multiple spelling and grammar errors. Lacked conciseness, clarity and/or conciseness.	Student paper had some spelling and grammar errors. More conciseness/clarity needed.	Student capable of further improvement in business writing skills. Practice required.	Student paper had required depth and length. Spelling and grammar were without error. Concise, impactful and easy to read.

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### [Academic Integrity Policy](#)

University of the Incarnate Word is strongly committed to the nurturing of academic excellence. The University expects its students to pursue and maintain truth, honesty, and personal integrity in their academic work. Academic dishonesty, in any form, constitutes a serious threat to the freedoms, which define an academic community. The following definitions and guidelines have therefore been established to secure the maintenance of academic integrity at Incarnate Word.

### [UIW Course Policies, Guidelines and Accommodations](#)

This course complies with all UIW academic policies and federal guidelines, including but not limited to: academic integrity, disability accommodations, pregnancy accommodations, Title IX non-discrimination, and class absences for religious observances. Current policy statements will be provided to all students through the learning management system and in information provided on the first day of class. Hyperlink takes you to Blackboard, please click on UIW Course Policies, Guidelines and Accommodations tab.