

BUS110 | Business Law

Course Text

Barnes, A. J., Dworkin, T. M., & Richards, E. L. (2024). *Law for business*, 15th Edition. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education. ISBN: 9781265676100

The text is provided digitally as part of the course enrollment. Students may find used, new, or rental print copies by searching for the ISBN.

Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the legal principles influencing business operations and decision-making. The course covers key topics such as contracts, sales, business ethics, corporate social responsibility, and government regulation. Students will explore the foundational concepts of law and legal reasoning, delve into specific areas like intellectual property and employment law, and examine the structure and management of business organizations. This course is essential for understanding businesses' legal environment, equipping students with the knowledge to navigate complex legal challenges in today's dynamic business world.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze the fundamental principles of law and legal reasoning and their application to business operations.
2. Evaluate various methods of dispute settlement, including litigation, arbitration, and mediation, in the context of business disputes.
3. Assess the role of business ethics, corporate social responsibility, and their integration into legal decision-making processes.
4. Explain how the U.S. Constitution and criminal law impact business practices and corporate governance.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of contract creation, performance, and enforcement including offer, acceptance, consideration, and remedies for breach.
6. Identify and differentiate between intentional torts, negligence, and strict liability, and assess business implications.
7. Analyze the legal protections available for intellectual property, including patents, trademarks, and copyrights, and their importance in business.

8. Examine key employment laws and regulations, including the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees.
9. Compare various business organizations, such as partnerships and corporations, and understand their legal structure and management.
10. Evaluate the impact of government regulations, including antitrust laws, consumer protection, and environmental regulations, on business operations.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to take Business Law.

Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest, truthful and responsible manner. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication and academic misconduct. Failure to comply with the Academic Integrity Policy can result in a failure and/or zero on the attempted assignment/examination, a removal from the course, disqualification to enroll in future courses, and/or revocation of an academic transcript. Penalties for academic integrity violations can be retroactively applied upon discovery, and at our discretion.

Course Completion Policy

In order for a course to be considered complete, **all required coursework must be attempted, submitted, and graded.** Required coursework consists of graded assignments. Any Academic Integrity Policy violations may prevent a course from being considered complete.

Course Evaluation Criteria

Your score provides a percentage score and letter grade for each course. A passing percentage is 70% or higher.

There are a total of 1000 points in the course:

Topic	Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
3	Graded Exam 1	75	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7	Case Study Presentation: Legal Analysis of Torts	150	5, 6
8	Graded Exam 2	75	6
9	Midterm Exam	150	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
12	Graded Exam 3	75	7, 8
16	Graded Exam 4	75	8, 9
17	Reflective Essay: Personal Reflection: Insights and Applications of Business Law Principles	150	1, 3, 7
17	Final Exam	250	All

Course Roadmap *Graded items in **bold*****Intro | Introduction and Getting Started****Subtopics**

- Welcome
- Academic Honesty

Assignments

- Course Overview Video
- Academic Honesty and Integrity Lesson
- Statement of Academic Honesty and Integrity (required)

Topic 1 | Introduction to the Legal System & Judicial Process**Subtopics**

- The Nature of Law
- Classifications of Law
- Constitutional Foundations
- Sources of Law
- Legal Reasoning
- Law and Orderly Change
- Jurisprudence
- Preventative Law
- State Courts
- Federal Courts
- Litigation
- The Adversary System
- Civil Procedure
- Appellate Procedure
- Alternative Dispute Resolution

Assignments

- Chapter 1: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 1 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study: Stewart v. Justice
- eTextbook: Chapter 1: Law and Legal Reasoning
- Chapter 2: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 2 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study: California v. Texas
- eTextbook: Chapter 2: Dispute Settlement
- Topic 1 Presentation
- Pathfinder: Means of Dispute Settlement
- Topic 1 Practice Quiz

Topic 2 | Ethics & Constitutional Law**Subtopics****Assignments**

- Predominant Ethical Theories
- The Law as a Corporate Control Device
- Defining Ethical Corporate Behavior
- The Corporate Governance Agenda
- Stakeholder Theory
- Guidelines for Ethical Decision Making
- State Regulation of Business
- Federal Regulation of Business
- Constitutional Checks on Governmental Power
- Administrative Agencies
- The Nature of Crimes
- The Essentials of Crime
- Criminal Procedure
- Laws Regulating Business Crimes
- Cybercrime

- Chapter 3: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 3 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study: State ex rel. Hunter v. Johnson & Johnson
- eTextbook: Chapter 3: Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Chapter 4: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 4 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study: South Dakota v. Wayfair
- eTextbook: Chapter 4: Business and the Constitution
- Chapter 5: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 5 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Royal Truck & Trailer Sales & Service v. Kraft
- eTextbook: Chapter 5: Criminal Law and Procedure
- Topic 2 Presentation
- Topic 2 Practice Quiz

Topic 3 | Understanding Torts & Legal Liabilities

Subtopics

- Introduction to Torts
- Interference with Personal Rights
- Interferences with Property Rights
- Interferences with Economic Relations
- Negligence
- Res Ipsa Loquitur
- Strict Liability
- Current Issues

Assignments

- Chapter 6: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 6 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Rockland Farm v. White's Ferry Inc.
- eTextbook: Chapter 6: Intentional Torts
- Chapter 7: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 7 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study AMTRAK v. Cimarron Crossing Feeders

- eTextbook: Chapter 7: Negligence and Strict Liability
- Topic 3 Presentation
- Pathfinder: Intellectual Property Rights
- Topic 3 Practice Quiz
- **Graded Exam 1**

Topic 4 | Contracts & Offers

Subtopics

- What is a contract?
- Why have contracts?
- How has Contract Law developed?
- The Uniform Commercial Code
- UCC Article 2
- Contracts for the International Sale of Goods
- Types of Contracts
- Quasi Contract
- Promissory Estoppel
- What is an Offer?
- What terms are included in offers?
- How long do offers last?
- Special Offer Problems
- Cyber-Contracts

Assignments

- Chapter 9: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 9 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Hagman v. Swenson
- eTextbook: Chapter 9: The Nature and Origins of Contracts
- Chapter 10: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 10 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Groce v. American Family Mutual Ins. Co.
- eTextbook: Chapter 10: Creating a Contract: Offers
- Topic 4 Presentation
- Topic 4 Practice Quiz

Topic 5 | Agreement & Consideration

Subtopics

- What is an Acceptance?
- Common Manifestations of Assent
- Who can accept an offer?
- Cyber-Contracts
- The Idea of Consideration
- Solving Consideration Problems
- Rules of Consideration
- Other Exceptions Where Consideration is Not Required

Assignments

- Chapter 11: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 11 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study SDK Troy Towers LLC. v. Troy Towers Inc.
- eTextbook: Chapter 11: Creating a Contract: Acceptances
- Chapter 12: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?

- The Big Picture: Chapter 12 Pre-Read Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Margeson v. Artis
- eTextbook: Chapter 12: Consideration
- Topic 5 Presentation
- Topic 5 Practice Quiz

Topic 6 | Mutual Assent & Contractual Capacity

Subtopics

- Contracts by Minors
- Contracts by Mentally Impaired and Intoxicated Persons
- Misrepresentation
- Fraud
- Mistake
- Duress
- Undue Influence

Assignments

- Chapter 13: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 13 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Magee Community Center LLC v. Perkins
- eTextbook: Chapter 13: Capacity to Contract
- Chapter 14: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 14 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Winthrop v. Deck
- eTextbook: Chapter 14: Voluntary Consent
- Topic 6 Practice Quiz

Topic 7 | Illegality

Subtopics

- The Effect of Illegality
- Contracts to Commit Illegal Acts
- Contracts Made Illegal by Statute
- Contracts Contrary to Public Policy

Assignments

- Chapter 15: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 15 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study HVAC Specialist Inc. v. Dominion Mechanical Contractors Inc.
- eTextbook: Chapter 15: Illegality
- Topic 7 Presentation
- Topic 7 Practice Quiz

- **Case Study Presentation: Legal Analysis of Torts**

Topic 8 | Contract Performance & Legal Remedies

Subtopics

- The Statute of Frauds
- Contracts Covered by the Statutes of Frauds
- Interpreting Contracts
- The Parol Evidence Rule
- Conditions
- Standards of Performance
- Excuses of Nonperformance
- Discharge
- Remedies

Assignments

- Chapter 16: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?Choice
- The Big Picture: Chapter 16 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Freeman Holding v. FNBC Bancorp
- eTextbook: Chapter 16: Form and Meaning of Contracts
- Chapter 18: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 18 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Serio v. Copeland Holdings LLC
- eTextbook: Chapter 18: Contract Performance and Remedies
- Topic 8 Presentation
- Pathfinder: Contracts and Their Elements
- Topic 8 Practice Quiz
- **Graded Exam 2**

Topic 9 | Midterm Exam

Subtopics

- Complete the Midterm Exam

Assignments

- Midterm Preparation Guide
- **Midterm Exam**

Topic 10 | Warranties & Product Liability

Subtopics

- Historical Development of the Law
- Warranties
- Exclusions and Modifications of Warranties
- Who Benefits from a Warranty?

Assignments

- Chapter 20: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 20 Pre-Reading Learning Hints

- Federal Trade Commission Warranty Rules
- Negligence
- Strict Liability

- eTextbook: Case Study: Denny v. Ford Motor Co.
- eTextbook: Chapter 20: Warranties and Product Liability
- Topic 10 Presentation
- Topic 10 Practice Quiz

Topic 11 | Agency & Employment

Subtopics

- Creation of an Agency
- Types of Agents
- Duties of Agents to Principals
- Duties of Principals to Agents
- Enforcement of Liabilities between Principals and Agents
- Termination of Agent's Powers
- International Agent Agreements
- The Agent's Authority to Bind the Principal on Contracts
- Related Contractual Liability Issues
- Principal's Liability for Acts of Subagents
- Contract Liability of the Agent
- Liability for Torts and Crimes
- Historical Background of Employment Laws
- Health and Safety Legislation
- Wages and Pensions
- Collective Bargaining and Union Activities
- Discrimination in Employment
- Employment at Will
- Employee Privacy

Assignments

- Chapter 23: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 23 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study: Sosa v. Onfido
- eTextbook: Chapter 23: The Agency Relationship—Creation, Duties, and Termination
- Chapter 24: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?Choice
- The Big Picture: Chapter 24 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study JMB Manufacturing v. Child Craft
- eTextbook: Chapter 24: Liability of Principles and Agents to Third Parties
- Chapter 25: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 25 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Stanton v. Jarvis Christian College
- eTextbook: Chapter 25: Employment Laws
- Topic 11 Presentation
- Topic 11 Practice Quiz

Topic 12 | Business Organizations

Subtopics

- Factors to Consider in Choosing Forms of Business Organization

Assignments

- Chapter 26: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?

- Making the Choice
- Limited Liability Companies
- Limited Liability Partnerships
- Franchising
- Creation of a Partnership
- Management and Authority of Partners
- Property of Partnerships
- Partners' Rights and Duties
- Duty of Loyalty and Good Faith
- Enforcement of Partnership Rights and Liabilities
- Death of the Partnership
- Dissolution and Winding Up
- Continuation
- Distribution of Assets
- Limited Partnerships
- Limited Liability Limited Partnership

- The Big Picture: Chapter 26 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study KDN Management v. WinCo Foods
- eTextbook: Chapter 26: Which Form of Business Organization?
- Chapter 27: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 27 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Capital Equity Group v. Ripken Sports Incorporated
- eTextbook: Chapter 27: Partnerships
- Topic 12 Presentation
- Topic 12 Practice Quiz
- **Graded Exam 3**

Topic 13 | Corporations

Subtopics

- Nature of a Corporation
- The Preincorporation Process
- Incorporation
- Defective Incorporation
- Piercing the Corporate Veil
- Close Corporations
- Termination of the Corporation
- The Board of Directors
- Officers of the Corporation
- Duties of Directors and Officers
- Liability for Torts and Crimes
- Financing the Corporation
- Becoming a Shareholder
- Shareholders' Meetings
- Rights of Inspection and Preemptive Right
- Dividends
- Shareholder Rights in Extraordinary Corporate Transactions
- Lawsuits by Shareholders
- Shareholder Liability
- Transfer and Redemption of Shares

Assignments

- Chapter 28: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 28 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Taylor v. Taylor
- eTextbook: Chapter 28: Formation and Termination of Corporations
- Chapter 29: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 29 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Segal v. Genitrix
- eTextbook: Chapter 29: Management of the Corporate Business
- Chapter 30: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 30 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Guidry v. Savoie
- eTextbook: Chapter 30: Financing the Corporation and the Role of the

Shareholders

- Topic 13 Presentation
- Topic 13 Practice Quiz

Topic 14 | Real Property

Subtopics

- Scope of Real Property
- Rights and Interests in Real Property
- Co-ownership of Real Property
- Acquisition of Real Property
- Transfer by Sale
- Public Controls on the Use of Land
- Leases and Tenancies
- Execution of a Lease
- Rights, Duties, and Liabilities of the Landlord
- Rights, Duties, and Liabilities of the Tenant
- Termination of the Leasehold

Assignments

- Chapter 34: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 34 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Francini v. Goodspeed Airport
- eTextbook: Chapter 34: Real Property
- Chapter 35: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 35 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Morris v. Holmes
- eTextbook: Chapter 35: Landlord and Tenant
- Topic 14 Presentation
- Topic 14 Practice Quiz

Topic 15 | Bankruptcy

Subtopics

- Bankruptcy Proceedings
- Liquidation Proceedings
- Avoidance of Liens
- Preferential Payments
- Discharge in Bankruptcy

Assignments

- Chapter 44: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 44 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study In re Rogers (Wallace v. Rogers)
- eTextbook: Chapter 44: Bankruptcy
- Topic 15 Presentation
- Topic 15 Practice Quiz

Topic 16 | Government Regulations

Subtopics

Assignments

- Procedural Aspects of the Sherman Act
- Sections 1 & 2 of the Sherman Act
- The Clayton Act
- The Robinson-Patman Act
- Limits on Antitrust
- Federal Trade Commission Act
- Consumer Credit Laws
- Consumer Product Safety Act
- Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
- Lemon Laws

- Chapter 45: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 45 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study Apple v. Pepper
- eTextbook: Chapter 45: The Antitrust Laws
- Chapter 46: Pre-Reading: What Do You Think?
- The Big Picture: Chapter 46 Pre-Reading Learning Hints
- eTextbook: Case Study AMG Capital Management LLC v. FTC
- eTextbook: Chapter 46: Consumer Protection Laws
- Topic 16 Presentation
- Topic 16 Practice Quiz
- **Graded Exam 4**
- Preparing for Your Proctored Final Exam

Topic 17 | Review & Final Exam

Subtopics

- Complete all course assignments
- Submit the End of Course Survey

Assignments

- **Reflective Essay: Insights & Applications of Business Law Principles**
- Final Exam Preparation Guide
- **Graded Final Exam**
- End of Course Survey

Related Courses

BUS106: Business Ethics

MAT150: Business Statistics

BUS105: Business Communications