

REEDLEY COLLEGE

BA 18 BUSINESS AND THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

Fall 2015

M 6:00 -9:50PM

ROOM: BUS 43

INSTRUCTOR: SHERMAN DIX sherman.dix@reedleycollege.edu

OFFICE HOURS: TBD

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Business and the legal environment Vol. 1 & 2

BASIC SKILLS ADVISORIES: Eligibility for English 125 and 126
(A, CSU, UC)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This business law course will cover the following topical areas: sources of law, ethics in law, criminal law, tort law, contract law, agency, business structures, and international law with a major emphasis on contracts. This course requires case study discussions and written briefs.

COURSE OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: identify the proper court in a legal controversy, demonstrate understanding of legal terminology and theory through class discussion of specific cases, prepare a brief based on fact patterns given, evaluate a contract for loopholes, and compare alternative methods of dispute resolution.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In the process of completing this course, students will: match legal terms to definitions, distinguish between civil and criminal law, recall specific torts and elements, recall specific crimes and elements, discuss types of contracts, requirements, and exceptions, and determine proper jurisdiction of court.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Regular attendance is expected. Business Law is a cumulative discipline. This means if you do not attend a class you will likely not understand the material presented at the next class. You are responsible for all material presented which you miss. Moreover, the attached schedule is tentative and events beyond my control may require me to modify it. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with schedule changes. These changes will be announced in class. There will be **NO MAKE-UP TESTS, ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES, ETC.** unless there has been **A MAJOR CATASTROPHY OR YOU ARE PART OF A SCHOOL FUNCTION** and only if the instructor is notified **IN ADVANCE.**

Class activities and participation are mandatory. It is expected that you will do the reading before class and be prepared to discuss the chapter during class. A student with more than **THREE ABSENCES** may be dropped from the course. If you are habitually tardy or leave class early, your participation grade will be affected.

EXAMS: There will be a total of 6 examinations including a Final examination (which is not comprehensive). **ALL EXAMINATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** Exams will consist of any or all of the following question types: multiple choice, short answer, true/false, fill-in the blank, and essay.

CASE REVIEWS (In Class Exercise): There will be 5 case review projects in class during the semester. This is a group exercise and is meant to increase your

understanding of the material. The dates for these reviews are outlined on the syllabus and there will not be any makeup exercises.

WRITTEN REPORT: There will be one written report (5 pages) on a major court case and its effects on businesses. The cases are pre-selected and will be discussed later in the semester.

QUIZZES: There will be 25 short (5 questions each) quizzes each after a chapter in the text. These quizzes are intended to help you retain the information we cover in class and the text. Quiz breakdown (Syllabus Quiz, 23 Chapter Quizzes, Taking the course review)

GRADING: The total number of points you accumulate over the semester will determine your grade.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| EXAM 1 | = | 100 points |
| EXAM 2 | = | 100 points |
| EXAM 3 | = | 100 points |
| EXAM 4 | = | 100 points |
| EXAM 5 | = | 100 points |
| FINAL EXAM | = | 100 points |
| CASE REVIEWS (5) | = | 150 points |
| QUIZES | = | 250 points |
| REPORT | = | 100 points |
| <u>PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE</u> | = | <u>100 points</u> |
| TOTAL | = | 1,200 points |

A = 90% or better of possible points

B = 80% or better of possible points

C = 70% or better of possible points

D = 60% or better of possible points

F = Less than 60% of possible points

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: The general objectives of the writing assignments are to encourage you to think and communicate clearly in writing and to express business law thoughts clearly, coherently, concisely and sensibly. You will be required to apply concepts that you have learned in class to real world situations.

For your papers to be graded, **THEY MUST BE TYPED AND HANDED IN ON TIME.** Well-written papers include focus, logic, organization, and ideas that are well developed and supported. They are grammatically correct with proper punctuation and spelling. Poorly written assignments will be marked "unacceptable" and will be returned to you without credit.

Emphasis is on your thought process and your ability to convey these thoughts clearly. Well-written papers are most often achieved only after a great deal of editing and revision. Grades will reflect the quality of both the content and the presentation of your writing.

All written assignments must include the following information on a COVER SHEET: Name of Instructor, Course Name and Code, Title of Paper, Student Name, Student Number, and Due Date.

Please site your references using APA or MLA Citation Style.

DROP POLICY: If you decide to drop this course, **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FILLING OUT ALL OF THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK.** For more details on dropping a class, please refer to the admissions and records office, the Reedley College catalogue or the Reedley College Class Schedule. The final drop date for full term Fall 2015 classes is October 16th.

CONDUCT: PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. IF YOU ARE SUSPECTED OF PLAGIARIZING OR CHEATING, YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO FOR THE RESPECTIVE ASSIGNMENT, EXAM, ETC. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE YOU WILL FAIL THE COURSE.

CLASS DISRUPTIONS: If you have cell phones, etc. please turn them off unless there is a verifiable reason that necessitates otherwise. A ringing cell phone will negatively affect your participation points and you will be asked to leave class.

APPAREL: If you are wearing any sunglasses, please take them off unless they are necessary for medical reasons.

ACCOMMODATIONS: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation, or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE; SUBJECT TO CHANGE

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| PART 1 Foundations of American Law | Chapters 1-3 |
| PART 2 Torts | Chapters 6-8 |
| PART 3 Contracts 1 | Chapters 9-13 |
| PART 4 Contracts 2 | Chapters 14-18 |
| PART 5 Sales: The Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) | Chapters 19-22 |
| PART 6 Ethics | Chapters 4, 5, 46 |

THIS SYLLABUS AND THE ACTIVITIES FOR THE COURSE ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS THE INSTRUCTOR DEEMS NECESSARY.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Aug 17 | Introduction, Review syllabus, Ch.1 & 2, Quiz Syllabus Ch. 1 & 2 |
| Aug 24 | Ch. 3, Exam 1 Review Quiz Ch. 3 |
| Aug 31 | Exam 1 , Case Review 1 |
| Sep 7 | NO CLASS - HOLIDAY |
| Sep 14 | Ch.6, 7 & 8 Quiz Ch. 6, 7 & 8 |
| Sep 21 | Review Exam 2, Exam 2 , Case Review 2 |
| Sep 28 | Ch. 9 & 10 Quiz Ch. 9 & 10 |
| Oct 5 | Ch. 11, 12 & 13 Quiz Ch.11, 12 & 13 |
| Oct 12 | Review for Exam 3 Exam 3 , Case Review 3 |
| Oct 19 | Ch. 14 & 15 Quiz Ch. 14 & 15 |
| Oct 26 | Ch.16, 17 & 18 Quiz Ch.16, 17 & 18 |
| Nov 2 | Review for Exam 4, Exam 4 , Case Review 4 |
| Nov 9 | Ch. 19 & 20 Quiz Ch. 19 & 20 |
| Nov 16 | Ch. 21 & 22 Quiz Ch. 21 & 22 |
| Nov 23 | Review for Exam 5, Exam 5 , Case Review 5 |
| Nov 30 | Ch. 4, 5 & 46 Quiz Ch. 4, 5 & 46 |
| Dec 7 | Final Exam Review & Final Report Workshop |
| Dec 14 | FINAL EXAM 6:00 – 9:50 PM Hand in Report |