

Monfort College of Business
Semester Course Syllabus

(2009-2010)

COURSE PREFIX/TITLE: BAFN 231--Legal Environment of Business

Sem. Hrs. 3
Ed. Cap. 55

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Emphasizes public law, regulation of business and various relationships that exist within society, government and business such as: economic regulation, social regulation, laws impacting labor-management issues and environmental concern.

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Acquire knowledge of the basic elements and terminology of business law and learn to use its language as a medium for expressing answers to legal problems.
2. Familiarize the student with the kinds of situations in which business managers must recognize legal problems.
3. Develop the technique of applying legal knowledge to the solution of these problems.
4. Impress upon the student the advisability of learning how best to avoid legal problems, rather than learning through experience. This approach can be loosely characterized as "preventive law."
5. Establish a basic foundation from which accounting majors can successfully complete professional examinations and certifications.
6. Acquire knowledge of the interdisciplinary approach to the study of business and its environment including the interaction of laws, ethics, and social change.
7. Familiarize the students with administrative regulation.
8. Obtain a working knowledge of business competition and the impact of antitrust laws on competition.
9. Obtain knowledge of business and labor laws including the law of employment as well as union-management relations.
10. Establish a basic understanding of consumer protection with an emphasis on products liability.
11. Acquire knowledge of the business and its environment including social responsibility, business ideology, environmental issues, and future challenges in the business-society relationship.

COURSE TOPICS:

Approx.
50 Min.
Periods

Topics Covered

Description

8	Introduction	The powers and functions of court, litigation and other methods of conflict resolution. Ethical approaches and problem solving.
6	Private Law Principles	Torts in the business environment, products and service liability.

Approx.

50 Min.

Periods

Topics Covered

Description

6	Public Law and Business	Constitution and business, the bill of rights in business, and administrative law.
8	Business Conduct	Liability of business organizations and managers, international transactions.
5	Individual Protection	Worker protection, consumer protection, and investor protection.
6	Group Protection	Employment discrimination, labor law, unfair labor practices.
<u>6</u>	Protecting Society	Anti-trust law (Sherman and Clayton Act), environmental laws and pollution control.
45	Total	

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Examination(s), homework, projects and quizzes as needed.

TYPE OF GRADING: Letter

SUGGESTED TEXT AND/OR SUPPLEMENTS: (Note: These books are only suggested. Prior to purchasing books and other materials, students need to check with the class instructor for their book and class material choices.)

Clarkson, K. W. (2008). *Business law text and cases, legal, ethical, global, and e-commerce environments*, (11th ed.). South-Western.

ASSESSMENT STATEMENT: The Monfort College of Business may collect data in this course that will be used to assess student progress toward our program learning goals and objectives. Individual student performance information will be kept confidential; however, this data may be disseminated in an aggregate form to professional groups and through research publications. If you do not wish your performance in this class to be included in research about overall student performance (beyond the accreditation process), please inform your instructor in writing of this intent.

COMPUTER UTILIZATION: Students are encouraged to use the College's computing facilities to complete their assignments. The student computer labs in Kepner Hall provide support for word processors, spreadsheets, databases, writing-style checkers, and presentation graphics. Internet and e-mail access are available in the labs. Student consultants are on duty at the labs to assist with these applications.

LIBRARY UTILIZATION: Students are encouraged to use the Michener Library collections and online subscription information resources to supplement readings and to complete assignments. Library databases include *Business Source Premier*, *Business & Company Resource Center*, *LexisNexis*

Academic, and many others available at <http://library.unco.edu/articlefinder.htm>. The business reference librarian, Annie Epperson holds regular Kepner office hours. Find her contact information at <http://www.unco.edu/library/personnel/epperson.htm>. Lexis/Nexis is also an excellent source for case law.

GLOBAL DIMENSION COVERAGE: Global dimensional issues such as the use of foreign subsidiaries by American corporations and the need to focus on choice of law issues when creating those foreign subsidiaries as well as the resolution of contract disputes by compulsory arbitration will be discussed.

ETHICAL DIMENSION COVERAGE: Ethical considerations such as the interplay between minimum legal conduct required by statute or case decisions and the reoccurring conflict of self interest of the firm and greater public interest in safety of design and use of products is presented for student's consideration.

DISABILITY STATEMENT: Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES:

Each student is required to review and become familiar with the following classroom technology guidelines: <http://www.mcb.unco.edu/Technology/Classroom%20Technology%20Guidelines.pdf>

Food is not allowed in classrooms. Only drinks in a container with a screw top lid are allowed.

KENNETH W. MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS STATEMENT

The Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Cheating, plagiarism, illegitimate possession and disposition of examinations, alteration, forgery, or falsification of official records and documents, and similar acts or the attempt to engage in such acts are grounds for disciplinary action. This action can include the following in addition to any University disciplinary action:

1. A failing grade for a particular assignment.
2. A failing grade for a particular course.
3. Suspension from the College of Business Administration.
4. Expulsion from the College of Business Administration.

Students are expected to complete all prerequisites for a business class prior to the first day of class. Students may not concurrently enroll in a class and its prerequisite(s) unless it is expressly stated in the bulletin that the class is a co-requisite. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the Director of the School offering the class.

Students must submit original works for assignments required in this class. This includes term papers, cases and other course requirements. A student who submits a work that was previously submitted to another class without prior approval from the instructor is in violation of this policy. A student who violates this policy may receive a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the class, and face termination of his/her business degree program.

MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS STUDENT CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

UNC communities. Accordingly, MCB expects all students to behave in a professional manner and adhere to high ethical standards in every business class and in every activity connected with the Monfort College of Business. This professional behavior is required not only in the classroom but also in all MCB-related interactions such as e-mails, conferences and use of technology.

MCB students should exhibit respectful behavior in classes. This behavior includes arriving on time to class, staying in class until the lecture ends, having the discipline to stay engaged in class, turning-off or silencing cell phones and pagers while in class, refraining from text-messaging, and avoiding coming to class wearing clothing that is unduly provocative or has written messages that are rude, insensitive or obscene. MCB students should engage in respectful behavior in all activities where they act directly or indirectly as a representative of the MCB. Respectful behavior creates a more desirable, civilized, and productive learning environment, and it models behavior that is both productive and pleasant when students transition from the classroom to the workplace.

MCB students should master and apply the fundamental skill of preparing and sending class or university related e-mails that are properly written, show professionalism and communicate a clear message. E-mails containing profanity, spelling mistakes, punctuation errors, or poor composition evidence sloppiness and show disrespect to the recipient. MCB students should use proper forms of address when communicating orally or in writing with faculty or staff (i.e., Dr. Smith, Professor Jones, Ms. Abbot, etc.). If a student does not know how to address a faculty member, he or she should ask.

This code of professional conduct complements, but does not replace, the Honor Code of the Monfort College of Business or the Honor Code of the University.