

**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Department of General Business and Finance**

Course Syllabus Fall 2017

Course Number: BUAD 2301
Course Title: Business Legal Environment
Prerequisites: None
Professor: Bennie L. Schiro
Phone: (936) 642-2401
Email address: bls025@shsu.edu
Office: N/A
Office Hours: M 5:15-6. In addition, I am available to meet with you by appointment if the posted office hours are not convenient for you. Please contact me so that we can schedule a mutually convenient time to meet.

Communication with the Professor:

The most efficient and convenient means to ask questions or schedule appointments is via email

Required Texts:

West's Business Law, 12th Edition by Clarkson, Miller, and Cross. West Publishing Company. ISBN: 9780538470810, or consider the condensed version.

Course Description:

This course covers legal environment from a "preventative law," practical perspective. Specific subjects include: litigation, alternative dispute resolution, torts, business organizations, real and personal property law including asset protection-estate planning, and administrative law. The course provides an introduction to environmental law, consumer law, securities law, and human resources management law (labor law).

Course Objectives:

At the end of the course the student will be able to:

- Develop and recognize legal problems.
- Recognize when federal and state laws impinge on personal and professional decision-making.
- Develop the analytical thinking process through the application of legal concepts in the resolution of legal disputes.

- Have the ability to research current law, rules and regulations related to specific disputes.

Topics Covered:

Civil Litigation Processes and Procedures
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Criminal Law
Tort Law
Property Rights and Responsibilities
Bailments
Real Property Issues
Probate, Trust & Estate Planning
Agency Law
Forms of Organizing Businesses
Ethics
Employment Law
Environmental Law
Insurance Law

Religious Holy Days Policy:

Students who are absent from class for observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within one (1) week of returning to class. The student, not later than the 15th calendar day after the first day of the semester must notify the instructor of each scheduled class day that he/she would be absent for a religious holy day.

Handicapped Student Policy:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, Student Life program or activity. Handicapped students may request academic assistance when needed from a Committee for Continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the Lee Drain Building Annex, or by visiting www.shsu.edu/syllabus.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance in this class is expected as is stated in the Sam Houston State University catalog. **Absences in excess of three (3) hours will result in a failure.** There are no excused/unexcused absences, you are either here or you are not.

Also, those who miss a substantial number of classes will penalize themselves by missing material that will be discussed in class that may not appear in the text, and over which the class will be tested. In this class you are encouraged to

attend every class even if you are late. Please do not hesitate to come to class. You will be penalized for arriving to class late (see next paragraph), but you will still have access to all testable information.

I will take attendance of the class via a roll sheet. If you are not in your assigned seat when attendance is taken, you are considered “late” for that period. Three “lates” will result in one (1) absence.

This system is automatic. No “permission” is given to miss a class – this system permits a reasonable number of absences for sickness, etc. It is not necessary to inform me if you plan or cannot attend class on a given day. **However, if you need to leave class early please inform me prior to class.**

Classroom Policies:

In order to facilitate a positive classroom environment, please observe the following:

- Class will start promptly at the assigned time.
- Do not cause disruptions in class or you will be asked to leave.
- This is a professional environment, but I will allow you to wear hats in class as long as there are no problems. You will have to remove them for exams.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be based on the following:

Three (3) Exams: 100 points/300 points total

Total Possible Points for all assignments 330

Your grade is determined on a percentage of 300 points whether you complete any extra credit or not.

89.5% +	= A
79.5% – 89.499%	= B
69.5% – 79.499%	= C
59.5% – 69.499%	= D
<59.5%	= F

- If class participation and reading preparation decline I reserve the right to have random quizzes. The quizzes will be handed out at the beginning or end of the class period. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. If quizzes are used there will be a quiz average added to the three exams above for a fourth test grade. There will be no make up on class quizzes.

- **STRICT POLICY ON EXAMS!** If you miss an exam for any reason, you will be required to take a comprehensive final examination during finals week. The comprehensive final will be weighted heavier to compensate for the missed exam. It will count as TWO exams. If you miss more than one exam, you will receive an F in the course.
- If you arrive **LATE** for an exam: If you arrive after the first person has handed in their exam you will **NOT** be allowed to take the exam. You will have to take a comprehensive final. As stated above, if you miss more than one exam, you will receive an F in the course.
- For exam purposes you are responsible for all material in the text as well as all material discussed in class.

Legal Environment 2301: Reading and Examination Schedule

Warning: This schedule is tentative and changes can be expected. Changes will be announced verbally in class.

Class	Date	Chapter- Business Law	Notes
1	08/28/17	Syllabus, policies, questions, etc. Chapter 1 – Intro to Law	
	09/04/17	Labor Day	No Class
2	09/11/17	Chapters 2&3 Courts and ADR, Court Procedures	
3	09/18/17	Chapter 4 Constitutional Authority & Chapter 6 Torts	
4	09/25/17	Chapters 7&8 – Negligence, Intellectual Property	
5	10/02/17	Exam 1	
6	10/09/17	Chapter 9 Criminal Law	
7	10/16/17	Chapter 32 Agency	
8	10/23/17	Chapters 33&36– Liability to third parties, Sole Proprietorships	
9	10/30/17	Exam 2	
10	11/06/17	Chapter 39 Corporations	
11	11/13/17	Chapters 40&41 Corporations	
12	11/20/17	Chapters 42&49 Corporations,	
13	11/27/17	Chapters 52&52 Real Property & Wills	
16	12/04/17	FINAL EXAM	