



Minzu University of China
BUS 203 Introduction to Business Law
Summer 2020

Basic Information

Class hours: Monday through Thursday, 2 hours each day

Discussion: Friday, 1 hour (60 minutes)

Review Section: Saturday, 1 hour (60 minutes)

Office Hour: 2 hours (According to professors' teaching plan)

Field trip: According to professors' teaching plan

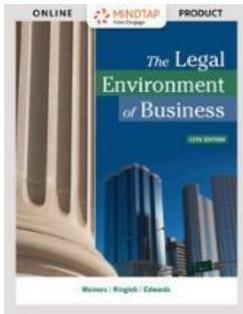
Credit: 4

Total contact hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Instructor: Alberto Salazar

Textbook

Meiners, Ringleb & Edwards, *The Legal Environment of Business* (Cengage 2018 13th ed.) E- Resources [e-book, study aids, app] for the semester. ISBN 9781337095525



Course Objectives

This course is not intended to prepare students to be attorneys. It is to give business managers a better sense of how to steer clear of legal jeopardy and when to call a lawyer. We will study the American legal system, with an emphasis on common law rules and federal statutes which affect the business environment, and briefly compare systems in China, Europe, and other continents. Cyberlaw and the effect of social media and electronic devices and technology are also explored. If feasible, students will take a field trip to a courthouse and observe the proceedings. Students will come to see the law and legal systems in a way different than they see them now.

Course goals include:

1. Achieving understanding of the nature, function, and practical operations of the legal system as well as of the societal forces that shape the law.
2. Practicing the skill of legal reasoning.
3. Enhancing analytical and critical thinking skills.
4. Improving communication skills and the ability to persuade others.
5. Increasing understanding of legal rules that impact business by restricting or facilitating business operations, and the important legal issues facing international business today.
6. Seeing the interrelationship of ethics, legality, and business decisions.



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Presentation, Quizzes, Final Examination, and Grading

The course Teaching Assistant (TA) will lead a discussion section every Friday on the material to be quizzed and the articles in the blogs, and report to the Professor. The TA will lead a review section every Saturday. The course grade will be based on a presentation, quizzes, and a final examination.

Final Examination: This examination has questions from all chapters we cover during the course. It may include true-false, multiple-choice, short answers, and essays. It will be given during the fifth week of class. You will have two hours to complete it.

Course Credit Distribution

Presentation 20%	Quizzes 60%	Final Examination 20%
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Grading Scale

97-100 A+	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	67-69 D+	Below 60 F
94-96 A	84-86 B	74-76 C	64-66 D	
90-93 A-	80-83 B-	70-73 C-	60-63 D-	

The grade of C or above is considered Credit if you take this course as Credit/No Credit.

Classroom, Honesty, and Attendance Policy

- Attending all class meetings is required. Students are responsible for the assignments and class content if they miss class. We cover a lot of material quickly so don't miss class.
- Students are encouraged to raise their hand and ask questions at any time during the class.
- Cheating may result in serious consequences.
- There is no make-up for the final examination.

ASSIGNMENTS AND CLASS SCHEDULE

Presentations

Towards the end of our course, each student will create a brief written presentation of a legal case concerning the legal environment of business. It will be a PowerPoint, or Prezi (to be discussed in class) to illustrate your presentation.

To learn about Prezi, an entertaining alternative to PowerPoint, and to apply for a free basic account, go to <https://www.prezi.com>. Then:

- On the top menu, click **Pricing**
- On the next page, on the top menu, left side, click **Basic**
- On the next page, left side Basic square, click **Continue**
- On the next page, fill in your information.
- Click the **Create your free Basic account** button at the bottom

The Professor will provide samples of good presentation slides. The presentation is worth 20% of your course grade.

Presentation Article Selection

You will select an article from one of the blogs described below which you find interesting. It must concern a legal issue covered in the course.

Then you will send the Professor an email with the link to your article. Articles will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.



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Light-hearted, humorous, or unusual articles are good for presentations, but they *must* relate to some aspect of the law we study in our course.

To find articles for your presentation, follow the instructions below. Go here:

<http://legalblogs.findlaw.com/>

Under **Legal Blog Network**, scroll down to the right-hand column **Legal News**. **At the beginning of each week, click on these links to the blogs:**

[Celebrity Justice](#) Celebrities & The Law Blog

[Legal Grounds](#) News with an Attitude Blog [Legally Weird](#) Legal Curiosities Blog [Tarnished Twenty](#) Sports Law Blog

Each site also has **Archives** you can search for presentation articles. There are hundreds of articles. Scroll down to the bottom of any blog page and click **Archives**.

Find articles about cases concerning the law we cover in our course. Select several articles you would like to present on, in case your first choice has already been taken.

When the Assignment below calls for it, email the Professor a link to the article you wish to make your presentation on.

Review the samples the Professor will provide to use as models for your presentation. It does not need to be long to be good.

Textbook Assignments and Quizzes

At the end of every chapter in the text:

Review the *Summary*

Answer all *Review and Discussion Questions*

Define all *Terms to Know*

➤ **Don't forget:** At the beginning of each week, click on the links above and read the blogs.

Week One

Professor's Introduction: *The Relationship Between Ethics and the Law*

Chapter 1: The Modern Environment of Business

Chapter 2: The Court System

Chapter 3: Trials and Resolving Disputes

Quiz #1 on Chapters 1, 2 and 3

Week Two

Chapter 12: Business Organizations

Quiz #2 on Chapter 12

Chapter 6: Elements of Torts

Quiz #3 on Chapter 6

Chapter 7: Business Torts

Quiz #4 on Chapter 7

Week Three

Chapter 10: Contracts

Quiz #5 on Chapter 10



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Chapter 8: Real and Personal Property Chapter 9: Intellectual Property

Quiz #6 on Chapters 8 and 9

Week Four

➤ **Email the Professor the link to the blog article you want to present on.**

Chapter 14: Agency and the Employment Relationship

Chapter 16: Employment Discrimination

Quiz #7 on Chapters 14 and 16

Field Trip to Courthouse

Week Five

➤ **Email the Professor your Presentation slides.**

Chapter 18: Securities Regulation

Chapter 22: The International Legal Environment of Business

Quiz #8 on Chapters 18 and 22

Final Examination