



University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

BUS 230 Business Law

Term: May 28 – June 28, 2018

Instructor: Jiefeng Lu

Home Institution: University of International Business and Economics

Email: lujiefeng@uibe.edu.cn

Class Hours: Monday through Thursday, 120 minutes each day

Office Hours: TBD

Discussion Session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 66 contact hours (45 minutes each)

Credit: 4 units

Course Description:

In today's rapidly-evolving and globalized business world, in which commerce crosses so many national and international boundaries, an understanding of the numerous applicable legal issues is crucial. This course provides an introduction to international business law from a practical and realistic, very modern perspective.

We will cover the essentials of contract law, intellectual property protection, torts, criminal law applicable to business, equal employment opportunity, and the key examples of Business Organizations, including corporations, general partnerships, limited partnerships, and sole proprietorships. We will also study the international aspects of business law, including the key fair trade and WTO/GATT principles. In addition, this course will focus on specific, business-oriented legal topics such as e-commerce, cyber piracy, and the Uniform Commercial Code.

Course Goals:

This course will provide a sound foundation for understanding and appreciation of all aspects of Business Law at a college level. The goal of this course is to furnish students with the basic foundation, information, and analytical tools necessary to grasp the fundamental concepts central to the study of Business Law, including the legal considerations important to contemporary businesses and business transactions.

Required Text:

There is one required textbook for the course, which may be supplemented from time to time with additional materials from Professor Lu. The textbook is:

Business Law, 8th Edition or later, by **Cheeseman** (published in 2013 by Prentice Hall/Pearson).



ISBN-10: 0132890410

ISBN-13: 9780132890410

Required course materials:

There are no required course materials apart from the above text. From time to time, Professor Lu will supplement the textbook with online and printed materials. It is absolutely essential that you read all of the assigned textual material and think about how each chapter’s material connects to the other material covered in the course. There is no substitute for preparation!

Attendance:

The attendance of every student at all class sessions is mandatory. There will be limited exceptions based on formal written permission of the professor.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be determined as follows: **25 percent for the midterm exam**, which will be held on Thursday of the third week; and **50 percent for the final exam**, which will be held on Friday of the final week. Professor Lu also reserves **25 percent** of the total grade for purposes of incorporating **classroom attendance** and **quality of participation** into the determination of each student’s grade in the course. Our classroom sessions are designed to be **highly interactive**, with a large component of direct participation and active discussion from every student.

Grading Scale:

Grades will be in conformity with the standard scale used in all UIBE courses. Professor Lu has discretion to make adjustments as needed.

A	90-100	C+	72-74
A-	85-89	C	68-71
B+	82-84	C-	64-67
B	78-81	D	60-63
B-	75-77	F	below 60

Class Rules:

Any academic misconduct of any type, including plagiarism or cheating on an exam, will automatically trigger: (1) expulsion from the course; (2) the issuance of a failing grade for the course, (3) the issuance of a formal report about the student’s misconduct to the student’s home university, and (4) any other disciplinary or administrative action deemed appropriate by Professor Lu and the leaders of this University.

Students are expected to do **all** the readings for the week in their entirety before class meets on each Wednesday. In addition to reading the assigned material, you are required to think about the material and analyze it in comparison to other subjects under consideration. This will greatly enhance the value and quality of our classroom sessions. Use of cell phones, social networks, and any other electronic communication, games, or internet devices in class for anything other than official classroom purposes is strictly prohibited.



Course Schedule:

NOTE: Our actual pace may be faster or slower than indicated on this schedule. We will spend more time on some chapters and subjects than on others. KEEP UP WITH OUR CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS AND READ AHEAD ACCORDINGLY. IT IS BETTER TO READ AHEAD AND BE READY THAN TO FALL BEHIND AND BE UNPREPARED FOR OUR CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS!

WEEK ONE:

Chapter 1: Legal Heritage and the Digital Age

- Contemporary business environment
- Importance of legal system to business
- Internet, e-commerce, and digital advancements

Chapter 2: Courts and Jurisdiction

- The nature of judicial process
- The meaning of jurisdiction
- In personam and in rem jurisdiction
- Long-arm statutes

Chapter 3: Judicial, Alternative, and E-Dispute Resolution

- Mediation, arbitration, and ADR
- Advantages of informal resolution
- Costs of litigation
- Advantages and disadvantages of various ADR forms

Chapter 4: Torts and the Business World

- Negligence and the elements of a tort cause of action
- Duty of Care in negligence cases
- Products Liability, including design defects, product defects, failure to warn, and inadequate instructions
- Intentional Torts, including interference with business relations, defamation, hacking of competitor's databases
- Strict liability
- Jurisdiction and proof of causation in Products Liability cases, including market share liability

Chapter 7: Intellectual Property and Cyber Piracy

- What is Intellectual Property and why does it matter?
- Copyright
- Patents
- Trademarks
- Trade Secrets

Chapter 8: Criminal Law and Cyber Crimes

- Common crimes in business
- Fraud
- Tax evasion
- Environmental crimes
- Embezzlement

WEEK TWO:

Chapter 9: Nature of Traditional and E-Contracts

- The elements of a legal, enforceable contracts



- Importance of contracts and the varieties of contracts in business
- Requirements and output contracts
- Covenants not to compete
- Non-disclosure contractual clauses
- Offer
- Acceptance
- Concurrence
- Consideration
- Legality of object
- Capacity to enter into contractual relationships
- Chapter 10: Agreement
 - Meeting of minds
 - Mistake
 - Rejection and counter-offer
 - Agency law and the law of fiduciary responsibility
- Chapter 11: Consideration and Promissory Estoppel
 - Adequacy of consideration
 - Alternatives to consideration
- Chapter 12: Capacity and Legality
 - Age
 - Mental competence
 - Intoxication
 - Disability
- Chapter 13: Genuineness of Assent and Undue Influence
 - Fraudulent inducement
 - Deception
 - Coercion

WEEK THREE:

- Chapter 6: The Law of Property in Business Situations
 - Ownership interests in real and personal property
 - Creation, invention, discovery, and acquisition by purchase or trade
 - Rights and responsibilities of property owners
 - Power to exclude, right of fair use, right to convey, duty of care to invitees and licensees
 - Future interests in property
 - Comparison to Intellectual Property
- Chapter 14: Statute of Frauds and Equitable Exceptions
 - Importance of writing
 - History of Statute of Frauds
 - Exceptions
- Chapter 15: Third-Party Rights and Discharge
- Chapter 16: Remedies for Breach of Traditional and E-Contracts
 - Breach of contract
 - Rescission
 - Restitution
 - Specific performance
- Chapter 17: E-Commerce and Digital Law



MID-TERM EXAM

Chapter 34: Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and General Partnerships

Business organizations other than corporations

Features of each type

Advantages and disadvantages

WEEK FOUR:

Chapter 35: Limited Partnerships and Special Partnerships

Distinctions and similarities

Process

Comparison to corporations

Chapter 36: Corporate Formation and Financing

Definition of corporation

Legal status

Requirements of formation

Procedural aspects

Advantages and disadvantages of the corporate form

Chapter 37: Corporate Governance and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act

Chapter 38: Corporate Acquisitions and Multinational Corporations

Mergers

Acquisitions

International issues

Chapter 39: Limited Liability Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships

Importance of LLC and LLP forms

Procedures and processes

Chapter 42: Ethics and Social Responsibility of Business

Ethics in business

Importance of social responsibility

Diversity of cultures

Controlling legal authority

WEEK FIVE:

Chapter 43: Administrative Law and Regulatory Agencies

Growth of administrative law

Dealing with regulatory agencies

Chapter 44: Consumer Protection and Product Safety

Chapter 45: Environmental Protection

Major environmental statutes

International environmental protection

Climate change

Chapter 46: Antitrust Law and Unfair Trade Practices

Chapter 30: Negotiable Instruments and Security for Debt

Holders in due course

Forms of negotiable instruments

Corporate debentures

Mortgages, liens, and other debt instruments

Effects of debt and security for duty on ability to convey property



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Chapter 32: Labor Law and Collective Bargaining

Labor unions

Workers' rights

Collective bargaining

Right to work laws

Chapter 33: Equal Opportunity in Employment

Discrimination in the workplace

Sexual harassment

Whistleblower protection

Chapter 54: International and World Trade Law

FINAL EXAM