This course is an introduction to the legal system in which businesses and individuals operate and covers fundamental legal principles pertaining to business transactions. Topics include sources of law and ethics, contracts, torts, agency, criminal law, business organizations, judicial and administrative processes, courts and their jurisdiction, warranties, product liability, and employment. UC credit limitation: maximum credit of one course for Business G108 and G110.
GE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS MET:
Degree Applicable
   AA Degree Applicable
   AS-T Degree Applicable

COURSE LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:

1. outline the philosophical foundations, sources, and trends of American law.
2. construct the constitutional authority of federal and state government to regulate business.
3. diagram the process for litigating criminal and civil cases.
4. demonstrate an ability to analyze the facts relating to various business and personal transactions; anticipate potential legal problems and determine whether professional legal services should be sought.
5. evaluate the legal, ethical, political, and social role of business enterprise in contemporary national and international transactions.
6. Demonstrate a general understanding of the basic legal rights and duties involved in the areas of substantive law.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Outline the philosophical foundations, sources, and trends of American law.
2. Summarize the constitutional authority of federal and state government to regulate business.
3. Diagram the process for litigating criminal and civil cases.
4. Analyze the facts of various business and personal transactions, anticipate potential legal problems, and determine when to seek professional legal services.
5. Evaluate the legal, ethical, political, and social role of business in national and international transactions.
6. Explain the social, political and ethical implications of the law and their application to actual and hypothetical business transactions.
7. Distinguish between torts and crimes; describe the purpose of criminal and tort law.
8. Distinguish between contracts governed by the Uniform Commercial Code and those governed by the common law of contracts.
9. Analyze cases. Identify issues and apply the appropriate legal rules to the fact patterns to reach defensible legal conclusions.
10. Utilize the internet to research legal issues.
11. Perform legal research, from evaluating and interpreting a court citation to locating a court case on an assigned topic.
12. Categorize the types of government agencies, powers and functions, controls through congressional action, executive action, and the courts.
13. Appraise the relationship between law and ethics.
14. Describe the Constitutional basis for federal governmental regulation of business, including limits of government power.
15. Explain a corporation’s legal structure and differentiate it from other forms of business organization; describe the relationship amongst stakeholders of a corporation.

COURSE CONTENT:
LECTURE CONTENT:

A. INTRODUCTION TO LAW
   1. Classifications of law (equity, common law, etc.)
   2. Sources of and reasons for law
   3. Administrative agencies

B. STATE AND FEDERAL COURT SYSTEMS
   1. Jurisdiction
   2. Methods for alternate dispute resolution
   3. Progress of a case through the court system
   4. Role of the judge, jury, lawyers, and the parties
   5. The appellate process: types of motions, rulings, judgments, and enforcement of judgments

C. Law and ethics
   1. Corporate social responsibility
   2. Stakeholder relationships
   3. Ethical decision making

D. Contracts under the common law and Uniform Commercial Code
   1. Classification
   2. Contract terms and elements
   3. Performance
   4. Enforcement
   5. Breach
   6. Remedies
   7. Third person beneficiary contracts
   8. Assignment of contracts

E. Agencies
   1. Creation of an agency relationship
   2. Duties of agents, principals
   3. Liabilities (tort and contract) of principals and agents

F. Torts and crimes
   1. Torts distinguished from crimes
   2. Intentional torts
   3. Negligence
   4. Business torts
   5. Strict liability
   6. Tort reform
   7. Proposals

G. Basics of criminal law
   1. How crimes affect business

H. Forms of business
   1. Sole proprietorships
   2. Partnerships, limited partnerships, and limited liability partnerships
   3. Limited liability companies
   4. Corporations
   5. Corporate structure and governance
   6. Application of the U.S. Constitution to business activities.

I. Application of the U.S. Constitution to business activities

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

A. Lecture:
B. Online:
C. Independent Study:

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:
COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading Assignments

A. Textbook  
B. Cases and case studies  
C. Online resources  
D. Articles in newspapers, trade journals, and periodicals

Out-of-class Assignments

Assigned textbook readings, study of supplemental readings, outlines, report writing

Writing Assignments

1. Papers  
2. Case briefs

METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Midterm Exam  
Final Exam  
Short Quizzes  
Written Assignments  
Essay Examinations  
Objective Examinations  
Report  
Projects (ind/group)  
Problem Solving Exercises  
Oral Presentations  
Skills Demonstration

Demonstration of Critical Thinking:

• Case brief submissions  
• Papers (IRAC). Note: IRAC stands for Issue, Rule, Application, Conclusion.

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:

• Case brief submissions  
• Papers (IRAC). Note: IRAC stands for Issue, Rule, Application, Conclusion.

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:

TextBooks:


LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include: Print Materials  
Non-Print Materials  
Online Materials  
Services  
Comments:

Attachments:

Attached Files