

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

BLAW 20003 Legal Environment of Business

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Covers the legal business environment as it affects the consumer, employees, investors, government regulations, business ethics, marketing practices, and international transactions. (ACTS: BLAW 2003)

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Understand legal concepts and theories that are practical to everyday business.
2. Become familiar with legal language & theories as they relate to business.
3. Describe the origins and structure of the U.S. Legal System.
4. Be able to describe the litigation process and alternative dispute resolution.
5. Compare and contrast constitutional, statutory, administrative, and common law.
6. Understand the basic law of contracts, torts and property as it relates to business.
7. Understand the regulatory environment in which businesses operate.
8. Be able to apply agency concepts to business environment.
9. Develop an ability to comprehend basic legal reasoning.
10. Apply critical thinking to the legal implications present in business activities.
11. Understand the importance of ethical conduct in business.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills - Students will apply problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, demonstrate comprehension of terminology, facts, methods, processes, and

patterns of organization by paraphrasing or summarizing information and recognizing irrelevant information.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate through reading, listening, writing, working collaboratively, and presenting oral briefs. Students will recognize the organization of ideas and the actual and implied relationships within and between conceptual statements, determine the validity of an argument, and draw logical inferences and conclusions.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will analyze personal and societal prejudices and be receptive to a diversity of students, cultures, and ideas.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The legal environment
- B. Courts, litigation, and alternative dispute resolution
- C. Constitutional, statutory, administrative, & common law
- D. Intentional and business torts
- E. Negligence and strict liability
- F. Contracts
- G. Agency relationships and employment law
- H. Lifecycle of a business
- I. Real property and landlord-tenant
- J. Personal property and bailments
- K. Intellectual property