

Course Syllabus

Course Information

<i>Prefix, Number, Section</i>	ACCT 2301.002
<i>Title</i>	Business Law
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2025 8/25/2025 – 12/9/2025
<i>Day & Time</i>	Monday & Wednesday 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
<i>Location</i>	JSOM 12.206

Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Frederick Barrow, Esq.
<i>Email Address</i>	dal203513@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Hours</i>	By appointment. Willing to do meetings via Teams or in-person.

Important Dates

Exam #1	– 10/1/2025
Exam #2	– 10/22/2025
Exam #3	– 12/08/2025
Writing Assignment	– 9/10/2025

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

None.

Course Description

The law and the public policy behind our laws impact on our everyday lives. Laws are a key component to an orderly functioning society. The business community is greatly impacted by laws, public policy, and legal regulation. As future members of the business community, and as future business leaders, it is critical to have an understanding of the ways in which laws, public policy, and legal regulation impact the business environment.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- 1) Use of Critical Thinking
 - a) You should be able to understand and apply legal concepts that influence the lives and decisions of individuals and businesses on a day-to-day basis.
 - b. The course will focus on the following areas:
 - i) Introduction to Law
 - ii) Constitutional Law
 - iii) Intentional Torts and Business Torts

- iv) Negligence, Strict Liability & Product Liability
- v) Criminal Law
- vi) Contracts
- vii) Agency
- viii) Choice of Entity
- ix) Intellectual Property

2) Understanding Ethical Considerations Involved in Legal Issues

- a) You should understand the ethical issues involving legal topics that confront both individuals and businesses on a day-to-day basis.
- b) You should also understand that laws and morality do not always intersect perfectly.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Text

Title: Business Law and the Legal Environment – Standard Edition (**9th Edition**)

Authors: Beatty and Samuelson **Publisher:** Cengage Learning

Required Textbook & Access

Title: *Business Law and the Legal Environment, Standard Edition, 9th Edition*

Authors: Beatty, Samuelson & Abril (Cengage, 2022) **Publisher:** Cengage Learning

Important Note:

***You do not need the textbook for the first day of class, but there is reading for the second day of class. You may want to wait until after our first day of class to see if Option #3, Cengage Unlimited, makes the most sense for you (this will depend on what other classes of yours use Cengage). Please select the option below that works best for you.

***We will discuss the textbook options on the first day of class!

Students may access the required textbook in the following ways:

Option #1: eTextbook (Direct from Cengage at <https://www.cengage.com/>)

- Cost: **\$50.00 – \$94.99**, depending on rental duration.
- Note: Variations include Cengage **Infuse** (\$50) or **MindTap + eBook** bundles (\$148–\$158 for 6–12 months).
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Option #2: Print or Digital via UTD Bookstore

- Cost: **\$75.00 – \$489.95**, depending on new, used, or rental.
- Visit the UTD website at:
<https://www.bkstr.com/texasatdallasstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials> or the on-campus store to purchase your textbook.

Option #3: Cengage Unlimited Subscription (Recommended)

- Approx. **\$125 per term** (subscription options vary: 4 months ~\$149.99, 12 months ~\$229.99).
- Includes this textbook plus all other Cengage eBooks and learning platforms.
- Best value if you are taking multiple courses using Cengage materials.
- Learn about Cengage Unlimited: <https://www.cengage.com/unlimited/>

(Prices subject to change; please confirm with Cengage or the UTD Bookstore.)

Required Materials – None.

Class Materials

The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct (link: <https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>).

Assignments & Academic Calendar

(Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates)

Exam Format

The Exams are designed to test your knowledge from the lectures and not your ability to memorize. The goal is for you to use your knowledge in the real world.

There will be three exams. These exams will not be cumulative. All three exams will be given in the same format. The exam questions are worth 2 points apiece and will be some combination of true/false and multiple-choice. I will call time at the conclusion of the exam, and you must stop writing immediately. If you continue writing after time has been called it will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and referred to Judicial Affairs. I will only grade what is on your Scantron, and you will not be given any extra time to complete the bubbling of your Scantron after time has been called. You must be sure to complete the bubbling of your scantron before time has been called. Exams must be completed individually. Communicating with others or sharing questions/answers is strictly prohibited and considered an act of academic dishonesty.

Exam Details

- **Location/Time: JSOM 12.206** (normal classroom), during regularly scheduled class time
- Closed book and closed notes
- 50 questions – 25 true/false and 25 multiple-choice
- Full class period (approximately 75 minutes)
- #2 Pencil and Form 882-e Scantron

Exam Materials

You will need an internet-connected device to take the exam.

Late to Exam

If you attempt to start the exam after the Exam Ending Time on the day of the exam, you will be unable to take the exam, and you will receive a zero on the exam. If you foresee this being an issue, please let me know in advance if at all possible.

Timing and Submission

Once you begin the exam, you will have 60 MINUTES to complete it. When time expires, the exam will be automatically submitted if you have not already submitted it.

Make-up exams

Makeup exams are almost NEVER given. Makeup exams will only be given for very compelling reasons accompanied by verifiable documentation. I will consider the timeliness of your communication when making decisions regarding makeup exams. My contact information is on the first page of the syllabus. *Communication in advance is key.*

Use of Generative AI (example: ChatGPT)

Unless otherwise instructed, in writing, by the professor **you may use** generative AI for the following purposes:

- To assist you with ideas for your writing assignment
- To research your writing assignment topic
- To assist in your studies for the exam

Unless otherwise instructed in writing by the professor, you may not use generative AI for any purpose not listed above.

If you use generative AI for any work that you submit for a grade you must cite your use of generative AI as well as citing any primary sources that you discovered through the use of generative AI.

When citing your work you may use either MLA or APA format.

Unless otherwise instructed by the professor, in writing, you should never submit work for a grade that was written by generative AI.

Failure to follow these guidelines will be considered academic dishonesty.
<https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5017>

Writing Assignment

There will be one writing assignment assigned during the semester. You must follow the assigned rubric which can be found on eLearning. The assignment must be submitted online through eLearning by **11:59 PM Central Time on September 10, 2025**. Your assignment must be submitted in Word or PDF format.

Late assignments will receive a ZERO. Substantial points will be deducted if the required format is not followed. Be sure to follow the generative AI rules listed above. Substantial points will be deducted if the required format is not followed.

Academic Dishonesty

My recommendation to Judicial Affairs for acts of Academic dishonesty will be that you receive an F in the course. This class focuses on law and ethics, and I believe an F in the course is appropriate for acts of academic dishonesty. The importance of academic honesty and my recommended sanctions are emphasized during class, in emails, and on the exams and writing assignment.

Student Accessibility

If you are entitled to accommodations, please contact the AccessAbility Resource Center: <https://accessability.utdallas.edu/>

I am happy to work with them and with you to ensure that you have the accommodations that you are entitled to.

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COURSE TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

NOTE: All assignments are due on the date mentioned in this syllabus.

This course outline should serve as your guideline for where you should be in the completion of the materials for this course. All course information will be posted in E-Learning and it is your responsibility to keep up with the material and submit materials as requested by the time requested.

8/25/25	Intro to the Course and Syllabus discussion	No reading assignment; Chapter 1
8/27/25	Intro to Law	Chapter 1
9/1/25	NO CLASS	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY!
9/3/25	Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility	Chapter 2
9/8/25	Common Law, Statutory Law and Administrative Law	Chapter 4
9/10/25	Common Law, Statutory Law and Administrative Law; Constitutional Law	Chapter 4 & 5
9/10/25	Writing Assignment Due by 5pm	Refer to Rubric posted in E-Learning for detailed directions
9/15/25	Constitutional Law; Dispute Resolution	Chapter 5 & 6
9/17/25	Dispute Resolution	Chapter 6
9/22/25	Intentional Torts	Chapter 8
9/24/25	Intentional Torts; Negligence, Strict Liability and Product Liability	Chapter 8 & 9
9/29/25	Negligence, Strict Liability and Product Liability	Chapter 9
10/1/25	Exam 1	Chapter 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9
10/6/25	Intro to Contracts	Chapter 11
10/8/25	The Agreement: Offers and Acceptances	Chapter 12
10/13/25	The Agreement: Offers and Acceptances; Consideration	Chapter 12 & 13
10/15/25	Consideration	Chapter 13
10/20/25	Legality	Chapter 14
10/22/25	Legality; Voidable Contracts	Chapter 14 and 15
10/27/25	Voidable Contracts	Chapter 15
10/29/25	Written Contracts	Chapter 16
11/3/25	Third Parties	Chapter 17
11/5/25	Performance	Chapter 18
11/10/25	Exam 2	Chapters 11-18
11/12/25	Agency Law	Chapter 28

11/17/25	Agency Law; Employment Law	Chapter 28 and 29
11/19/25	Employment Law and Employment Discrimination	Chapter 29 and 30
11/24/25	Employment Discrimination	Chapter 30
11/24/25	No Class	Thanksgiving
11/26/25	No Class	Thanksgiving
12/1/25	Starting a Business, LLCs and other options	Chapter 31
12/3/25	Starting a Business, LLCs and other options	Chapter 31
12/8/25	Exam 3	Exam will cover Chapters 28- 31 & 41

Please note all due dates, exam dates, class policies are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

Grading Policy

EXAMS	POINTS
Exam #1	100
Exam #2	100
Exam #3	100
Other Project	
1 Writing Assignment	30
TOTAL POINTS	330

Each exam will be 50 questions. There will be 25 true/false questions and 25 multiple choice questions. The exams are not cumulative.

The writing assignment instructions are available on eLearning.

Calculation of Final Course Letter Grades

- Add up the points that you have earned on the four graded assignments (3 exams and the writing assignment)
- Divide by 330 (total points you could have earned if you were perfect on everything)
- Use the chart below to calculate your final course letter grade
- No bonus points, curves, extra credit, additional assignments, etc. are offered
- Grades of .5 or higher are rounded up to the nearest whole number. For example, an 89.5 would be rounded up to a 90 and would result in a letter grade of A.

Grading Criteria:

Percentage of Points Earned	Letter Equivalent	4.0 Scale
97.5-100	A+	4.000
89.5 – 97.4	A	4.000
88.5 – 89.4	A-	3.670
86.5 – 88.4	B+	3.330
82.5 – 86.4	B	3.000
79.5 – 82.4	B-	2.670
76.5 – 79.4	C+	2.330
72.5 – 76.4	C	2.000
69.5 – 72.4	C-	1.670
66.5 – 69.4	D+	1.330
62.5 – 66.4	D	1.000
59.5 – 62.4	D-	0.670
0 to 59.4	F	0.000

Final Course Letter Grades

Final course letter grades are assigned using the standard UTD scale. A grade of below **based solely 60% is considered failing (F)**. Final course grades are based on your performance on the 3 Exams and on the Writing Assignment. No bonus points, curves, extra credit, additional assignments, etc. are offered.

Course & Instructor Policies

(make-up exams, extra credit, late work, special assignments, class attendance, classroom citizenship, etc.)

Extra Credit

None available.

Class Attendance

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected. Students should read the assigned chapters before class. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. This course involves engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation may be documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct (link: <https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>).

Classroom Citizenship

Students should always act in a professional and courteous manner at all times, including class discussions and correspondence. Respect for diverse viewpoints is essential and expected.

Student Assessments

Success in the course requires consistent preparation, professional behavior, and your active participation. You are expected to stay current with readings and deadlines. If challenges arise, then please contact me early.

Class Recordings

Unless the AccessAbility Resource Center has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved AccessAbility Resource Center accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct (link: <https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>).

In the event, the instructor records meetings of this course, these recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

(Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.)

None.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the credit/no credit or pass/fail grading option and withdrawal from class.

Please go to <https://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus do not constitute a contract and are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.