

Inver Hills Community College

BUS 1131: Legal Environment of Business

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Introduces business students to legal topics that impact business. This course addresses legal reasoning, legal procedures, constitutional law, torts, contracts, the sale of goods under the uniform Commercial Code, business organizations, unfair competition, consumer protection, bankruptcy and employment law.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/01/1998 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Bankruptcy: what it is and the different types of bankruptcy and when each type is used; impact of bankruptcy: 4.5%
2. Business Organizations: the characteristics of all the different types of business organizations; the advantages and disadvantages of each: 10.5%
3. Constitutional law and its impact on business: 4%
4. Consumer Protection: statutes which provide protection to consumers such as credit laws and warranty laws: 3%
5. Contracts: requirements; conditions; third party contracts; discharge; remedies: 23%
6. Criminal liability of business: 2%
7. Employment Law: employment at will; prohibitions against discrimination; legislation that effects employment (e.g. Family Medical Leave Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Labor Laws): 4%
8. Initiating a lawsuit; alternative dispute resolution: 4%
9. Intentional torts; nuisance; defamation; invasion of privacy; negligence; strict liability; products liability; business torts: 25%
10. Sales contracts under the Uniform Commercial Code; formation; types of sales contracts; performance obligations of buyer and seller, warranties; nonlitigation remedies; litigation remedies; differences from common law contracts: 9.5%
11. Trademark and Patent: what each of these are; protections they offer; enforcement of these statutes; protection against unfair competition: 6.5%
12. What is law; legal reasoning; court system: 4%

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Identify what types of law impact business (e.g. statues, case laws and administration regulations and cases)
2. Discuss how a contract is created and its legal impact
3. Discuss when common law contract rules apply to a situation rather than the Uniform Commercial Code
4. Analyze the various methods of organizing a business and the advantages and disadvantages of each method
5. Discuss unfair competition, consumer protection, bankruptcy, and employment law
6. Describe the stages of a lawsuit and analyze when alternative dispute resolution may be more effective
7. Discuss when an employer may be liable for the torts of its employees
8. Identify what types of behavior by a business and/or its employees can lead to tort liability

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted