

**ONLINE BLAW 263.N01  
LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS  
SYLLABUS  
FALL 2019**

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Jill Oeding

**EMAIL:** [jmoeding@usi.edu](mailto:jmoeding@usi.edu)

**PHONE:** (812)465-1205      **OFFICE:** BE 3015

**CLASSROOM:** N/A      **CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**COURSE PREREQUISITE:** None. Student must have sophomore standing.

**CLASS DAY/TIME:** Online

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00–10:50 a.m., 1:00–2:30 p.m. and by appointment

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is a Business Core requirement for all business majors. This course is an introduction to the legal system within which business organizations operate, as well as ethical considerations and social and political influences that affect such organizations by changing the legal system.

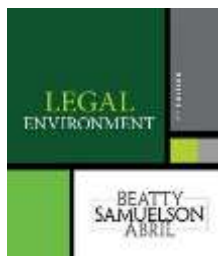
**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be expected to:

1. Recall, recognize, and describe legal terms, historical origins, institutions, law types, law sources, legal processes, and functions of fundamental laws relevant to business.
2. Identify typical legal issues that arise in the business environment and apply the appropriate law to determine the most likely legal outcome.
3. Compare and contrast legal and ethical decision making in situations relevant to businesses.
4. Recommend solutions to legal case studies.

**RCOB SKILL DEVELOPMENT:** In addition to introducing students to business law principles, this course will introduce ethical decision-making and critical thinking skills.

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES:** This course covers a broad scope of topics including ethical decision making, the primary sources of law, litigation, alternative dispute resolution, torts, contract law, property law, consumer law, antitrust law, agency law, employment law, discrimination law, and business entities. The course topics and skill development will be valuable to any business major.

**TEXT:** Title: *Legal Environment*, (7<sup>th</sup> Edition); Authors: Beatty, Samuelson, & Abril; Publisher: Cengage Learning, Inc.; Copyright dates: 2019, 2017.



Students will only need the textbook, NOT any digital access codes. Some textbook bundles automatically come with Mindtap; however, Mindtap is NOT required in this course.

Students may use one of the following three options for a textbook in this course:

- 1) Hardbound textbook - ISBN: 9781337390460
- 2) Loose-leaf textbook - ISBN: 9781337803793
- 3) Electronic textbook - Cengage Unlimited is an online product that offers unlimited access to e-books, study guides, and other materials through the publisher, Cengage. This may be a good option if you have several classes this semester that require a book published by Cengage. Information on Cengage Unlimited may be found at the following link:  
<https://www.cengage.com/unlimited/>

**COURSE EVALUATION:** The grades will be distributed **STRICTLY** based on the following scale:

90% - 100%	A
87.5% - 89.99%	B+
80% - 87.49%	B
77.5% - 79.99%	C+
70% - 77.49%	C
60% - 69.99%	D
0 - 59.99%	F

**Point System:**

One (1) Practice Exam using Proctorio: 5 points

One (1) Ethical Case Study: 75 points

Five (5) Exams: 100 points each

One (1) Business Letter: 75 points

Dr. Oeding does not automatically round up grades. *Please do not email Dr. Oeding at the end of the semester and ask for points to be given to you.* Students have the opportunity to *earn* points throughout the semester.

**PROFESSOR CANNOT GIVE LEGAL ADVICE:** The professor cannot give legal advice to students regarding specific, live controversies. Please do not ask the professor for legal advice. In this course we learn general law principles, which should not be interpreted as legal advice as to any specific, live controversy or situation.

**COURSE STRUCTURE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:** The assignments for the course are listed here. I highlighted the assignments that will be graded for points; please place the due dates for these assignments on your calendar right away. Assignments will normally be due on Mondays at noon, except in the cases of Labor Day and Fall Break. The course is organized into the following five units:

Unit	Week	Week Ending	Weekly Assignment	Unit Reading
<b>Unit 1 – Introduction to the Law, Ethics, and Dispute Resolution</b>				
1	1	Monday, Aug. 26	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Review Blackboard Course Tutorial under the Start Here tab of Blackboard.</li> <li>2) Read “How Does Multitasking Change the Way Kids Learn?”</li> <li>3) Read Chapters 1 &amp; 2 of textbook.</li> <li>4) <u>Review VoiceThread Lectures</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 1: Introduction to the Law</li> <li>- Chapter 2: Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Read “How Does Multitasking Change the Way Kids Learn?” (Posted under Unit 1 of Blackboard)</p> <p>Read the following from the textbook: Ch. 1 Intro to the Law Ch. 2 Ethics and Corp. Social Responsibility Ch. 3 Dispute Resolution Ch. 4 Common Law, Stat. Law, and Admin. Law Read Appendix A (U.S. Constitution) Ch. 5 Constitutional Law</p>
	2	Tuesday, Sept. 3 (This is the day after Labor Day)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Read Chapter 3.</li> <li>2) <u>Review VoiceThread Lecture:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 3: Dispute Resolution</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) <b>Complete Unit 1 Ethical Case Study by 12:00 noon Central Standard Time (CST) on Tuesday, September 3.</b></li> </ol>	
	3	Monday, Sept. 9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Read Chapter 4.</li> <li>2) <u>Review VoiceThread Lecture:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 4: Common Law, Statutory Law, and Administrative Law</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) <b>Take Practice Exam, so you can familiarize yourself with the format of the exams and Proctorio.</b></li> </ol>	
	4	Monday, Sept. 16	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Read Chapter 5.</li> <li>2) <u>Review VoiceThread Lecture:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 5: Constitutional Law</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) Study for exam.</li> <li>4) <b>Complete Unit 1 Exam by 12:00 noon CST on Monday, September 16.</b></li> </ol>	
<b>Unit 2 – Contracts</b>				
2	5	Monday, Sept. 23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Read Chapters 10 &amp; 11.</li> <li>2) <u>Review VoiceThread Lectures:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 10: Intro to Contracts</li> <li>- Chapter 11: Legality, Consent, and Writing</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Read the following from the textbook: Ch. 10 Introduction to Contracts Ch. 11 Legality, Consent, and Writing Ch. 12 Contract Termination and Remedies Ch. 13 Practical Contracts Ch. 14 Sales and Secured Transactions</p>
	6	Monday, Sept. 30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Read Chapter 12 &amp; 13.</li> <li>2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 12: Contract Termination and Remedies</li> <li>- Chapter 13: Practical Contracts</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
	7	Wed., Oct. 9 (This is the first day after fall break.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Read Chapter 14.</li> <li>2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chapter 14: Sales and the UCC</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) Study for exam.</li> <li>4) <b>Complete Unit 2 Exam by 12:00 noon CST on Wednesday, October 9.</b></li> </ol>	

Unit	Week	Week Ending	□ Weekly Assignment	Unit Reading
<b>Unit 3 – Torts, Antitrust, and Consumer Law</b>				
3	8	Monday, Oct. 14	1) Read Chapters 6 & 23. 2) <u>Review VoiceThread Lectures</u> - Chapter 6: Torts and Product Liability - Chapter 23: Antitrust	Read the following from the textbook:  Ch. 6 Torts and Product Liability Ch. 23 Antitrust Ch. 26 Consumer Law
	9	Monday, Oct. 21	1) Read Chapter 26. 2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> - Chapter 26: Consumer Law 3) Study for exam. 4) <b>Complete Unit 3 Exam by Midnight by 12:00 noon CST on Monday, October 21.</b>	
<b>Unit 4 – Agency, Employment, Discrimination, and Labor Law</b>				
4	10	Monday, Oct. 28	1) Read Chapters 17 & 18. 2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> - Chapter 17: Agency Law - Chapter 18: Employment and Labor Law	Read the following from the textbook:  Ch. 17 Agency Law Ch. 18 Employment and Labor Law Ch. 19 Employment Discrimination
	11	Monday, Nov. 4	1) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> - Interview Voicethread 2) <b>Complete Unit 4 Project-Business Letter by 12:00 noon CST on Monday, November 4.</b>	
	12	Monday, Nov. 11	1) Read Chapter 19. 2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> - Chapter 19: Employment Discrimination 3) Study for exam. 4) <b>Complete Unit 4 Exam by 12:00 noon CST on Monday, November 11.</b>	
<b>Unit 5 –Property, Intellectual Property, and Business Entities</b>				
5	13	Monday, Nov. 18	1) Read Chapter 25. 2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> - Chapter 25: Property	Read the following from the textbook:
	14	Monday, Dec. 2	1) Read Chapters 24 & 20. 2) <u>Review Online Lectures/Materials:</u> - Chapter 24: Intellectual Property - Chapter 20: Starting a Business: LLC and Other Options 3) Study for exam.	Ch. 25 Property Ch. 24 Intellectual Property Ch. 20 Starting a Business: LLC and Other Options
	<b>Final Exam</b>	Thursday, Dec. 5	<b>Complete the Unit 5 Final Exam between 8:00 a.m. and 10 p.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2019.</b>	

**OTHER IMPORTANT DATES IN THE COLLEGE:**

September 10	No classes – Assessment Day
September 18	CareerLink Career Fair
October 7-8	Fall Break
October 17	Accounting Extravaganza

**SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY:** This syllabus is a guide to the course and may be subject to change with reasonable advanced notice.

**ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES AND SUBMISSIONS:** **If you must be away from class during a due date, early submissions are required.** Late assignments will receive a score of zero. The professor may make an exception for an emergency situation, such as the student's hospitalization or death in the immediate family. Please complete your assignments early, so you do not have to worry about computer issues or illnesses that prevent you from getting your assignments submitted on time.

**EXAMS TAKEN THROUGH BLACKBOARD:** Exams within this course are closed-book, individual exams. Exams will be proctored by an online proctoring program called Proctorio. Please see the proctoring section below. Students shall take five (5) exams through Blackboard worth 100 points each. Each student should mark all of the exam due dates on his/her calendar to make sure he/she does not forget to take an exam, which would result in a score of a zero. Be sure to view the Blackboard Course Tutorial prior to taking the first exam. Students will have only one attempt to take each exam, and the exams will be timed. The exams are generated by Blackboard from a large pool of questions. The exams consist of multiple choice and true/false questions.

You will need to be well-prepared for exams; study for the exams as if you are taking a closed-note exam in a seated classroom. After you have done all of your homework and are studying for the exam, I recommend that you focus your attention on the notes from my lectures. **Be sure to take additional notes and note examples on the PowerPoint slides to clarify the lectures** while you are listening to the VoiceThread lectures. I recommend watching the VoiceThread lectures *after* you have completed the chapter readings. If you do not understand a particular chapter, you may need to watch the lecture and read the chapter again. If you have questions regarding the material, please feel free to email me the question(s), come to my office hours, or make an appointment with me. I want you to learn a great deal in this course and be successful!

**PROCTORING OF EXAMS:** Online exams within this course require proctoring. For online proctoring, you will be required to have a webcam (USB or internal) with a microphone when taking an exam or quiz. You will have to use Google Chrome web browser and download Proctorio Extension at the following link: <https://getproctorio.com/>. Please have your Student ID or Government Issued Photo ID ready to show at the start of the exam.

Students are strictly responsible for ensuring that they take all exams using a reliable computer and high-speed internet connection. **I highly recommend that you take the exam on a computer that has a wired internet connection rather than a wireless internet connection,** so you have less of a chance that the internet service drops while you are taking the exam.

Find a private, quiet, and comfortable location to take your exam. Depending on the settings of your exam, you may be asked to do a room scan, turning your web camera to look at the room. Please note that recordings from any private residence must be done with the permission of all persons residing in the residence. You must ensure that any recordings do not invade any third-party privacy rights and accept all responsibility and liability for violations of any third-party privacy concerns.

If you need more privacy or a stable internet connection, the library offers space with a computer for taking your proctored tests. There are two rooms (RL1011 and RL1012) available during the library's open hours on a first-come, first-served basis. You can reserve a room online up to 30 days in advance with [our booking calendar](#), which is recommended given the limited availability. For more information about the Rice Library's Proctorio/Zoom Rooms, please email [libcirc@usi.edu](mailto:libcirc@usi.edu).

Another alternative is that you may take exams offered by a live proctor. For more information on live proctoring, please see [Online Learning Exam Proctoring](#)

Setup information will be provided prior to taking the proctored exam. You do not need to schedule exams in advance; simply go into Blackboard and take the exam. For additional information about online proctoring, you can visit the [Proctorio Exam Proctoring FAQ's](#) web page.

**For remote exam proctoring, you must have:**

- Webcam with microphone
- [Google Chrome](#) & download the [Proctorio Extension](#)
- Student or government photo ID
- Reliable internet connection
- Quiet, private location
- Be prepared to scan room w/ camera

Proctorio offers 24/7 support. You may access Proctorio by calling (480) 428-4089 or (866) 948-9248, emailing [support@proctorio.com](mailto:support@proctorio.com), or chatting through Proctorio Extension

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:** All written assignments shall be submitted through Blackboard. The directions and rubrics for the written assignments will be posted on Blackboard in the pertinent unit. The rubric will permit you to review the grading criteria for that particular assignment. If you click on the assignment in Blackboard, the rubric will appear on the next screen. The Blackboard Course Tutorial under the Start Here tab shows you how to submit assignments. Late assignments will NOT be accepted. **If you must be away from class during a due date, early submissions are required.** Please do not wait until the last minute to draft your written documents because you may experience computer problems, causing you to lose the points for the assignment.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT:** Since your professors are not trained as technology experts, they will not be able to assist you with your technical needs. Please contact the Help Desk at (812) 465-1080 or send an email to [it@usi.edu](mailto:it@usi.edu) for all your technical support inquiries. **USI has a special help desk for online students.** To learn more about the USI helpdesk, please visit <http://helpdesk.usi.edu/>

- USI Blackboard Support <http://www.usi.edu/it/blackboard-online-help>  
BB On Demand for Students <http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm>



- For issues involving VoiceThread, please contact the department of Distance Learning at (812) 228-5124 or send an email to [DLHelp@usi.edu](mailto:DLHelp@usi.edu).

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** DR. OEDING HAS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY. Dr. Oeding believes that honesty is ALWAYS the best policy. Lying, cheating, stealing, telling another student what is on an exam, and taking an exam with another student are all wrong. If you are caught doing any of these things or any other breach of academic integrity, you will be given an “F” for the test or project for which you are dishonest. If the situation warrants, the professor may initiate appropriate action for you to receive an F for the entire class and impose other disciplinary action as provided for in the University Catalog. Dr. Oeding expects you to act with integrity in all situations. Dr. Oeding does not understand why anyone would risk their college education to cheat or take questionable short cuts. Developing worthwhile skills in college requires hard work! The Code of Student Behavior published in the annual web-based Student Handbook on the Dean of Students’ website (<http://usi.edu/deanofstudents/code>) defines and explains academic misconduct and disciplinary action.

**CAREER ADVISING:** The professor encourages students to see their advisor for career advising information. This is important to stay on-track in meeting graduation objectives.

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:** If you have a disability for which you may require academic accommodations for this class, please contact Disability Resources at 812-464-1961 or email Ronda Stone at [rfstone@usi.edu](mailto:rfstone@usi.edu) as soon as possible. Students who are approved for accommodations by Disability Resources should request their accommodation letter be sent to their online instructors. Due to the nature of online courses, some accommodations approved for on-campus courses may not apply. Please discuss this with Disability Resources to clarify as needed. Students who receive an accommodation letter from Disability Resources are encouraged to discuss the provisions of those accommodations with their professors before or during the first week of the semester. If you will be in an internship, field, clinical, student teaching, or other off-campus setting this semester, please note that approved academic accommodations may not apply. Please contact Disability Resources as soon as possible to discuss accommodations needed for access while in this setting. For more information, please visit the Disability Resources website at [www.usi.edu/disabilities](http://www.usi.edu/disabilities).

**TITLE IX – SEXUAL MISCONDUCT:** USI does not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment and all forms of sexual violence. If you have experienced sexual misconduct, or know someone who has, the University can help. It is important to know that federal regulations and University policy require faculty to promptly report incidences of potential sexual misconduct known to them to the Title IX Coordinator to ensure that appropriate measures are taken and resources are made available. The University will work with you to protect your privacy by sharing information with only those who need to know to ensure we can respond and assist. If you are seeking help and would like to speak to someone confidentially, you can make an appointment with a counselor in the University Counseling Center. Find more information about sexual violence, including campus and community resources at [www.usi.edu/stopsexualassault](http://www.usi.edu/stopsexualassault).

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES:** The University Division provides tutoring services through Academic Skills located in room ED 1111A. More details are provided at the following link: <http://www.usi.edu/university-division/academic-skills/tutoring>.

**ACADEMIC SKILLS:** The University Division provides tutoring services through Academic Skills located in Education Center, Room 1111, and the phone number is (812) 464-1743. More details are provided at the following link: <https://www.usi.edu/university-division/academicskills/>

**STUDENT BASIC NEEDS:** Students who have difficulty affording food on a regular basis or lack a safe place to live and believe this may affect their class performance are encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office. A list of resources can also be found at [www.usi.edu/media/5612733/financial-wellness-resources.pdf](http://www.usi.edu/media/5612733/financial-wellness-resources.pdf).

**COUNSELING CENTER:** Please consider using the Counseling Center if you are experiencing a personal challenge. Students seek assistance for a variety of reasons including the following: having difficulties adjusting to college life, struggling with depression, questioning his or her identity, experiencing difficulties with body-image, or coping with the loss of a loved one. The Counseling Center is available to provide support, guidance, and a fresh perspective. Their services are designed to help students develop the skills necessary to overcome their problems, make effective decisions, and develop the tools that will allow them to maximize their experiences at USI.