

Business& 201 – Business Law
Fall Quarter 2014

Hours and Location:

Monday and Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. - 7:40 p.m.

C 165

Office hours by appointment

Instructor:

Nicholas Price

J.D., Harvard Law School

B.A., University of Washington, Seattle

Member, Washington State Bar Association

The instructor is a lawyer licensed to practice in Washington State, but neither the course, nor lectures, nor anything else related to the course constitutes legal advice.

This course only presents an overview of business law and does not provide adequate tools for you to appropriately analyze real-world legal situations. Lawyers spend their entire careers focusing on the material we'll survey during single course sessions.

Individuals should therefore seek the advice of licensed and qualified legal counsel and enter into an attorney-client relationship when seeking legal advice.

Mandatory Coursebook:

Cross, Frank B., and Roger LeRoy Miller. *The Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases*, 8th ed. South-Western/Cengage Learning.

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the American legal system and the laws impacting businesses. The course will also introduce students to the analytic approaches lawyers utilize; lawyering requires more than mere rule memorization. Lawyers must often apply new laws to unique situations where no clear answer exists.

Students will be responsible for the assigned reading, attending class, in-class exercises, journaling, weekly quizzes, and writing assignments, as described below.

Each class period will briefly review the assigned reading and prior material, but will primarily focus on the *application* of those legal concepts to real-world situations; it is therefore crucial that students attend class and complete the reading *prior* to attending class.

All updates to this course will be posted on Canvas—you are responsible for regularly checking this course's Canvas page!

Course Goals:

After completing this class, you should be able to:

- Learn and employ critical thinking processes.
- Converse in basic legal concepts and selected areas of law impacting business transactions.
- Understand and apply correct legal terminology.
- Recognize ethical issues in business, including their legal implications.
- Reason clearly, responsibly, and succinctly when faced with legal problems and questions.

E-Mail Etiquette*:

Please *only message me on Canvas*--I set aside time specifically to respond to Canvas messages. Messaging me on Canvas will ensure the quickest possible response. You should use professional-grade, typo-free writing when drafting Canvas messages. Your attention to detail reflects your professionalism; I don't take typos personally, I just want to prepare you for the real world. You should also employ the below conventions in this course and the business world.

Please include in Canvas message subject lines: 1) an identification of both the class; and 2) the matter (example: "BUS 201 — Week 3 Quiz; NOT "question"). Most professionals receive dozens—if *not hundreds*—of e-mails every day. The subject line provides an opportunity to summarize your request and allows the reader to appropriately triage your question.

Also, if you do not receive a reply from me within 48 hours (longer on weekends/holidays), it could mean that, for whatever reason, I did not receive your message. If I do not respond, please feel free to send me another message to ensure that I've received your message.

You are responsible for confirming receipt of any message. Consequences for any glitches resulting from not following these or any other instructions are your responsibility--you are training for a career in business and should act as if every responsibility is your own.

Grades will be awarded as follows:

GRADE	POINTS	PERCENTAGE
A	4.0	92-100
A-	3.7	90-91
B+	3.3	88-89
B	3.0	82-87
B-	2.7	80-81
C+	2.3	78-79
C	2.0	72-77
C-	1.7	70-71

D+	1.3	68-69
D	1.0	62-67
F	0.0	BELOW 62

Academic Integrity:

If you choose to cheat, steal, or plagiarize, then you will receive a zero for the assignment. You might also receive a failing grade for the course.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying answers on exams, glancing at nearby exams, turning in assignments or papers that have been used in other classes, and giving or receiving help during an exam. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, purchasing or selling notes, assignments, or examination materials.

Stealing includes, but is not limited to, using the text, notes, exams, library books or other personal property of others without their permission.

Plagiarism is presenting the words, ideas, and/or work of others as your own. It includes, but is not limited to, using other's papers as one's own and including parts of published works without giving credit where credit is due.

Late Policy:

All assignments are due on the dates specified below unless you are notified otherwise. Assignments must be submitted by 11:00 a.m. on their due date and will be docked 10% for each day they are late. This class runs on a tight schedule, and I take deadlines seriously. I uniformly enforce the late policy as a matter of fairness to your classmates.

If you are experiencing difficulties comprehending or completing the material, are experiencing personal hardship, or otherwise need to make any other arrangements, please contact me as soon as possible. *In order for me to grant an exception to the standard grading policies, you must e-mail me BEFORE the due date of the particular assignment with documentation of an excuse (e.g., a doctor's note, etc.).*

Affirmation of Inclusion:

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

Code of Honor:

By being a student in this course you acknowledge that you are a part of a learning community at Bellevue College that is committed to the highest academic standards. As a part of this community, you pledge to uphold the fundamental standards of

honesty, respect, and integrity, and accept the responsibility to encourage others to adhere to these standards.

Accommodations:

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment, and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact DRC as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc., please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call at 425-564-2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Application information and other helpful links are available at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc.

Public Safety:

The Bellevue College Public Safety services provide personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425-564-2400. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/> for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements, and critical information in the event of an emergency.

Declaring Your Business Major:

If you intend to and have not already done so, declare your business major. Make sure you have consulted with an advisor and laid out your courses. Please visit the Business Transfer website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/business/transfer/default.htm>.

Assignments and Grade Weight:

In-class journaling, exercises, and participation—10%. Class attendance is mandatory. We will complete in-class journaling and group exercises in addition to lecture. Additionally, I will reward students who regularly participate. You can earn full participation points by asking thoughtful questions or making insightful comments, whether in class, during office hours, or in your emails.

Weekly reading and quizzes—20%. Weekly quizzes will cover the prior week's material and are NOT cumulative. Specifically, the quizzes will cover the prior week's reading and other material that I will occasionally post. The first quiz will not be given until the second week of class. You should read all the assigned reading and focus

on **bolded terms** to be successful on your quizzes. Quizzes will be conducted on Canvas and *must be taken during the assigned dates*.

2-page legal memo. First draft—5%; final draft—15%. Students will complete a 2-page legal memo describing the background of a case to a non-legal audience, and then argue why the outcome was fair or unfair. The memo must describe an abundance of complex legal information and arguments; the assignment therefore exercises written clarity and brevity. Details will be discussed during class and on the Canvas pages.

Students are encouraged to utilize the [Writing Lab](#) resources.

4-6 page course-end project—30%. Students will complete a 4-6 page essay detailing the major legal issues that often confront a certain business community, such as retailers, websites, etc. The project is designed to introduce students to the legal problems they might eventually confront as business people. Details will be discussed during class and on the Canvas pages.

Students are encouraged to utilize the [Writing Lab](#) resources.

Course-end common final—20%. The Business Program utilizes a common final. Details will be discussed during class. The test will be administered during finals week.

Reading Assignments:









































Unless otherwise specified, the reading assignments are from *The Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases*. The page numbers mark the start of the chapter--*you are responsible for reading the entire chapter*. I will discuss practical takeaways and conceptual highlights during class—so please attend!

* These e-mail etiquette policies are borrowed in part from Dr. Michael S. Brown.

[View Progress](#)[Create a Module](#)









Background and Foundations of American Law



  The Court System--pg. 28	Sep 24			...
  Business and Its Legal Environment--pg. 2	Sep 24			...
  Constitutional Law--pg. 98	Sep 29			...
  Alternative and Online Dispute Resolution--pg. 57	Oct 1			...
  Administrative Law--pg. 117	Oct 1			...
  The Court System	Oct 5 10 pts			...
  Business and Its Legal Environment	Oct 5 10 pts			...
  Administrative Law	Oct 5 10 pts			...
  Alternative Dispute Resolution	Oct 5 10 pts			...
  Constitutional Law	Oct 5 10 pts			...

Business Entities



  Sole Proprietorships, Franchises, and Partnerships--pg. 379	Oct 6			...
  LLCs, LPs, and Corporations--pg. 402; pg. 417	Oct 8			...

☰	Q Sole Proprietorships, Partnerships, and Franchises	Oct 12	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q LLCs and LLPs	Oct 12	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q Corporations	Oct 12	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾

☰ ▾ Contracts and Sales



☰	A+ Contract Formation--pg. 184	Oct 13		✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	A+ Contract Performance, Breach, and Remedies--pg. 213	Oct 15		✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	A+ Sales, Leases, and E-Contracts--pg. 233	Oct 20		✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q Contract Formation	Oct 19	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q Contract Performance and Breach	Oct 19	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q Sales	Oct 26	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾

☰ ▾ Torts, Strict Liability, and Product Liability



☰	A+ Torts and Cyber Torts--pg. 268	Oct 22		✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	A+ Strict Liability and Product Liability--pg. 294	Oct 27		✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q Strict Liability and Products Liability	Nov 2	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾
☰	Q Torts	Oct 26	10 pts	✓	⚙️ ▾

⋮ ▼ Criminal Law



⋮  [Criminal Law and Cyber Crime--pg. 137](#)

Oct 29



⋮  [Criminal Law](#)

Nov 2 10 pts



⋮ ▼ Property



⋮  [Intellectual Property and Internet Law--pg. 308](#)

Nov 3



⋮  [Property Law](#)

Nov 5



⋮  [Intellectual Property](#)

Nov 9 10 pts



⋮ ▼ International Law



⋮  [International Law in the Global Economy--pg. 163](#)

Nov 10



⋮  [International Law](#)

Nov 16 10 pts



⋮ ▼ Employment and Agency Relationships



⋮  [Agency--pg. 450](#)


Nov 12 0 pts












⋮  [Employment Relationships--pg. 474](#)



Nov 17 0 pts



⋮	 Employment Discrimination--pg. 493	Nov 19			⋮
⋮	 Employment Discrimination	Nov 23 10 pts			⋮
⋮	 Agency	Nov 16 10 pts			⋮
⋮	 Employment Relationships	Nov 23 10 pts			⋮

⋮	▼ McDonald's Hot Coffee Memo				⋮
⋮	 2-Page Legal Memo Version 1	Nov 16 100 pts			⋮
⋮	 2-Page Legal Memo Final Version	Nov 30 100 pts			⋮

⋮	▼ Course-End Project				⋮
⋮	 Course-End Project	Dec 7 100 pts			⋮

⋮	▼ Investor Protection and Ethics				⋮
⋮	 Investor Protection and Corporate Governance--pg. 627	Nov 24			⋮
⋮	 Ethics and Business Decision Making--pg. 76	Nov 26			⋮
⋮	 Ethics	Nov 30 10 pts			⋮
⋮	 Investor Protection and Corporate Governance	Nov 30 10 pts			⋮

