

# BA 200 BUSINESS LAW-LEGAL FOUNDATIONS

*Winter Quarter 2012*

• •

Instructor: Kevin Demone Rainge  
E-mail: kevin.rainge@bellevuecollege.edu  
Phone: 206-300-6972  
Office location: D100-C  
Office Hours: By Appt.

• •

## *Course Information*

### **Course Outcomes**

**Objectives** – At the end of this course, you should have the ability to:

- Apply an analytical process to the core legal topics
- Research and demonstrate effective legal analysis (Issue, Analysis, Rule and Conclusion) on cases or legal problems
- Apply a preventive approach to potential legal problems
- Identify an ethical issue and differentiate between ethical and unethical behavior
- Develop a cohesive argument for a legal topic in writing and in oral presentation
- Demonstrate familiarity with the court process
- Demonstrate a knowledgeable consumer's understanding of legal services
- Identify legal process and policy objectives

### **How Outcomes will be met**

**Reading Assignments** – Reading Assignments must be completed prior to the relevant class. You must be prepared to discuss the entire reading assignment in class. I may call on random individuals to answer questions related to the reading assignment.

**Budgeting Your Time**—The Social Science Division shares the expectations of the campus at large that students should plan on spending at minimum three hours outside of class for every hour in class. This class is two hours long per night, which would mean you should plan to spend at minimum six hours outside of class for one class. Students who have been away from the academic environment for an extended period of time, new to college settings, or international students should take note as this amount of time may be different than you might have expected. Preparation time may include reading (and re-



reading!) textbooks, being part of a study group, completing chapter questions and assignments, outlining the class, creating index cards, or using other method of preparing for exams, etc.

**Keys to Success in this Course** – Throughout the course, I will share my suggestions for succeeding in this course. You can take note now that reading and re-reading the assigned materials will help enhance your understanding as will reviewing your class notes. Procrastination in this class, and in the legal profession, can be deadly and is not advised. If you experience overwhelm, disorganization, procrastination, or other difficulties in studying for this course, let me know – there are many tools to combat these problems, and I am here to help you succeed!

## Grading

To receive a passing grade in this course, students must complete all of the assignments and exams. Students must submit the assignments on the due dates. The instructor will grade each student individually on a possible total score of 500 -550 points, which is structured as follows:

1. **Exams (300 points):** These two tests will be a combination of true/false, short answers, multiple choice, and essays. The exams are based on all of the assigned reading material regardless of whether or not we discuss the material in class. Tests may also cover handouts, material presented in class including but not limited to, lectures, videos, and guest lecturers. There will be no makeup exams.
  - a. Midterm 1 (100 points)
  - b. Midterm 2 (100 points)
  - c. Final Exam (100 points)
2. **Field Trip assignment (100 points):** Visit any local King County Superior Court proceeding (civil or criminal), observe the proceedings for at least two hours and write a 5 page double spaced paper describing your observations. Please see their home page for the address and directions to either court house <http://www.metrokc.gov/kcsc/>. Court sessions are available to the public Monday – Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **However, do not attend court on Fridays because there is no jury activity on Fridays.** Also, please do not attend any District or Municipal Court. Please include your thoughts on the case or cases that you observed. You may include comparisons between what you have seen on television and what you observed in real life. Use the blue pages in the telephone book or visit [www.courts.wa.gov](http://www.courts.wa.gov) to get some basic information on the courts. This assignment is due the 7<sup>th</sup> week of class.



3. **Writing Assignment (100 points):** More information on this paper will be provided by the Instructor.
4. **Class Participation & Attendance (50 points max):** is required and expected. Since this course will focus on both mastering the relevant facts and developing the analytic and advocacy skills needed to use what you know, one cannot fulfill the course requirements without attending and participating in the class discussions and presentations. In addition to the above-referenced grading criteria, I do take into account the degree and quality of your class participation when determining the final grades. Thus, class participation can only help your grade and it is highly recommended. Also, the course exams will test both familiarity with the assigned readings and topics covered exclusively in class I will take attendance at every class. If you cannot attend class due to an emergent situation, e-mail or call me *in advance*.

### Books and Materials Required

The Legal Environment of Business. Text and Cases, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. Cross , Miller. The instructor recommends a legal dictionary but it is not required.

### *Classroom Learning Atmosphere*

### Instructor's Expectation

The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with legal problems and issues that occur in our society in general. This course will provide students with a general understanding of the law and how it relates to business and our society. The course materials emphasize legal processes rather than substantive rules of law. We will attempt to cover the nature, development, and operation of law. Students will learn how the courts analyze disputes using legal reasoning and case analysis. We will also explore specific areas of law, such as, contracts, torts, constitutional law, and criminal procedure. Although this course is not limited to laws applicable to business transactions, much of this course is business related and students gain a better understanding of the interaction between law and business.

Due to the time limitations, it will be difficult to explore the various principles in-depth. Students should not expect to acquire the knowledge, skills, or experience needed to solve practical legal problems. By the end of this course, however, students should have a better understanding of how our complex legal system functions and how that system relates to business and society.

## 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 Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp>

## Division Statements

The mission of the Bellevue College Business Transfer Program is to create an exciting learning environment where high standards are set for students; innovative curriculum and great faculty creates high retention and high achievement; all students are welcome, diversity is valued and inclusion is the norm; and our graduates excel in further studies and their careers.

**Preventing Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty occurring when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.
- e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.
- f. Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

Information about Bellevue College's copyright guidelines can be found at:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/links/copyright.html>

A good resource for Plagiarism is the Writing Lab: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html>

## Student Code

“Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one’s own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and

inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at:  
[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050\\_Student\\_Code.asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp)

### **Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to:  
<https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam> .

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

### **Disability Resource Center (DRC)**

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 us 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 our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc).

### **Public Safety**

The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department’s well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, and 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>

## Final Exam Schedule

The Final will be on Wednesday 3/21/12 at our regular class time and classroom. See this link for the official final schedule:

<http://bellevuecollege.edu/classes/exams>

## Academic Calendar

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- Enrollment Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/deadlines/>. On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.
- College Calendar - <http://bellevuecollege.edu/enrollment/calendar/holidays/0910.asp>. This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

## COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS<sup>1</sup>

### Week 1 (1/2)

Class Introduction and Overview.

Chapter 1. Business and Its Legal Environment. pp. 2-27

### Week 2 (1/9)

Chapter 2. The Court System. pp. 28-56

### Week 3 (1/16)

Chapter 3. Alternative and Online Dispute Resolution. pp. 57-75

Chapter 5. Constitutional Law. pp. 98-116

**No class on 1/16**

### Week 4 (1/23)

Chapter 6. Administrative Law. pp. 117-136

**Midterm 1 on 1/25**

### Week 5 (1/30)

Chapter 12. Torts and Cyber Torts. pp. 268-293

---

<sup>1</sup> All test and assignment dates shown in this syllabus are tentative and subject to change upon notice given during class. The instructor may give additional assignments in class throughout the quarter. It is the student's responsibility to keep informed as to any announced assignments or schedule changes. If a student cannot attend a class, be sure to get any missed information from a classmate or contact the instructor.

Week 6. (2/6)

Chapter 17. Sole Proprietorship, Franchises, and Partnerships. pp. 380-401

Chapter 18. Limited Liability Companies and Limited Partnerships. pp 402-416

Week 7 (2/13)

Chapter 19. Corporations. pp. 417-447

**Midterm 2 on 2/15**

Week 8 (2/20)

Chapter 4. Ethics. pp. 76-96

Chapter 7. Criminal Law and Cyber Crime. pp. 137-162

**Field Trip assignment due on 2/22**

**No class on 2/20**

Week 9 (2/27)

Chapter 9. Contract Formation. pp. 184-212

Chapter 13. Strict Liability and Products Liability. pp. 294-307

Week 10 (3/5)

Chapter 14. Intellectual Property & Internet Law. pp. 308-330

**Legal Research Paper due on 3/7**

Week 11 (3/12)

Chapter 22. Employment Discrimination. pp. 493-512

Week 12 (3/19)

Chapter 29. Investor Protection and Corporate Governance. pp. 627-652

**Final Exam on 3/21**

**Expansion**

**A NOTE ABOUT COURSE CONTENT:** Since lawyers deal with just about every aspect of the social world, it is important that this class discuss and examine provocative and controversial material. Please be advised that when we explore controversial topics, they will always be framed within an academic context. Keeping in mind that, when we find ourselves in a space outside of our comfort zone, it's an opportunity for learning, and you may be confronted with subject matter that is difficult to watch, see, discuss, or listen to. Please note, however, that you will be responsible for any course material you miss if you choose not to participate. If you have any questions or concerns about content or climate, feel free to speak with me about it right away.

**EXPLORE THE LMC!** The Library Media Center is at your fingertips! I *strongly* encourage you to visit the LMC at least once a week, but you can also access it via the web. Talk to a Reference Librarian at the Library (D-126), by calling (425) 564-6161, or by email: [reference@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:reference@bellevuecollege.edu).

- **Main Library Media Center:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/>
- **For the LMC online catalog:** <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/catalogs.html>

- For article databases: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/periodicals.html>
- Legal research tutorial <http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/ba200/>

**For all of your written work:** Submit proofread work **only**. Work not proofread will be returned *once* for a rewrite, expected to be handed in within 48 hours. If you need help with your writing, please make use of the following student support services:

- Academic Success Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/academicsuccess/>
- Academic Tutoring Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/tutoring/>
- TRiO Student Support Services: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/TRiO/>
- Writing Lab @ BCC: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/>