

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO
Bryan School of Business and Economics
Department of Accounting and Finance

ACC 688-01 Advanced Business Law (3 credit hours)
Tuesday/Thursday 6:00 pm - 9:45 pm, Bryan 106
Summer (First Session): May 10, 2018 to June 13, 2018

Instructor: Ryan Luft
Office Hours: By Appointment
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Course Description and Objectives:

This course will review legal principles and their application to commercial activity. We will explore legal concepts and categories in the ever and quickly changing area of business law. Students will develop skills at identifying issues and become familiar with the legal resources available to explore the issues in their alternative possibilities. It is anticipated that the course should enable the student to be able to think and think legally and have a sufficient grounding for further learning in the law if the student so desires (because of interest or necessity).

Except for the first week, I do not plan to meet on Thursday nights (see the schedule below). Instead, we will use online discussions and assignments to review the materials for that day's class.

Course Materials:

Required: *Business Law: Principles and Practices*, 9th edition, Arnold J. Goldman and William D. Sigismond (Cengage) (G&S).

Informational Materials: There are a number of business law books and textbooks and casebooks available for reference and research if needed. A good (and free) resource is [Advanced Business Law and the Legal Environment](https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/BookDetail.aspx?bookId=121), Mayer et al. (Saylor Foundation), available online at <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/BookDetail.aspx?bookId=121>.

Assignments: Students are responsible for all assigned readings and other material assigned without regard to whether the material is covered in class. *Students are expected and required to be prepared for every class (including the first class)*. The outline below is intended as a guideline and directional resource for the course. I may make modifications in content, schedule, and requirements as necessary or expedient to enhance the educational experience and learning objectives for the students.

Participation/Discussion: Active participation is a must in this course, including in class and online discussion. There will be 8 prior session "evaluations" that you will be required to complete and submit to me during each session (except for the first session), which address: (1) two key things you learned from the last session; (2) two questions you still have; (3) application of at least one thing you learned from the last session. In addition, each week, I will post one or more key discussion questions relating to the Thursday session materials. Generally, you will be required to respond to the main discussion, and then also make comments on the responses of others in the course, which furthers the discussion. Note that the quantity of responses is not as important as the quality of the responses. Meaningful posts tend to include

concrete examples from the reading, identification of key issues or implications, challenges to the material (in a respectful way) that has been posted, or suggestion of different perspectives or interpretations.

Readings: Readings are from the textbook unless otherwise noted. Additional materials for class preparation will be assigned throughout the course and posted on Canvas or given out in class.

Note: I acknowledge that there is a lot of reading. I do not expect you to read everything in detail. I suggest, instead, that you approach each Chapter as follows:

1. Review the Learning Objectives;
2. Read the Chapter Highlights;
3. Skim the main text of the Chapter to absorb the key points, figures, and tables;
4. Understand the answers to the Self Check questions throughout the Chapter;
5. Read and understand the Key Points in Chapter and Important Legal Terms at the end of the Chapter.

Session	Topic	Assignment	Location
Week 1			
1 (5/10)	Introduction to course; Discussion of syllabus; Class expectations; Course requirements; Grading; and Introduction to the law Overview of the legal system Business ethics, legal duties, and responsibilities Introduction to contracts	Read: G&S: Ch. 1-2, Appx. A and B <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	In class
Week 2			
2 (5/15)	Contracts Uniform Commercial Code	Read: G&S: 6-12, Appx. C <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	In class
3 (5/17)	<i>Required Participation on Discussion Board</i> Intellectual Property Cyberlaw Data Privacy Cryptocurrencies and Blockchain	Read: G&S: pp. 504-506 <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	Online

Week 3			
4 (5/22)	Business Structure / Selection of a Business Entity	Read: G&S: Ch. 26 <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	In class
5 (5/24)	<i>Required Participation on Discussion Board</i> Agency Employment and labor law	Read: G&S: Ch. 23, 24, 25 <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	Online
Week 4			
6 (5/29)	Civil dispute resolution Warranties and Product liability Negligence and strict liability in tort	Read: G&S: Ch. 4, 5 <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	In class
7 (5/31)	<i>Required Participation on Discussion Board</i> Constitutional law	Read: G&S: Appx. D <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	Online
Week 5			
8 (6/5)	Debtor-creditor relationships Antitrust and consumer protection Government regulation of business	Read: G&S: Ch. 34, 35 & 36 <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	In class
9 (6/7)	<i>Required Participation on Discussion Board</i> Insurance and Risk Management Overview of course and final thoughts.	Read: G&S: Ch. 37 <i>Add'l readings as shown in Canvas</i>	Online
Final Session			
10 (6/12)	<i>Final Exam (Essay format)</i>	Study!	In class

Grading Scale: A = 100-95; A- = 94-90; B+ = 89-87; B = 86-83; B- = 82-80; C+ = 79-78; C = 77-70; Below 70 = F.

Grade Determination:

- Quality of your prior session “evaluation” (see above): Total of 40 points (5 points each evaluation).
- Participation/Discussion (in class and online discussion, see above): Total of 30 points (3 points each session. Everyone gets a bonus 3 points).
- Final Exam: Total of 30 points.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to adhere to the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy on all assignments and tests: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0rFGGhJvbDHUExSZmFFaWFmb00/view>.

Occasionally, changes in the schedule or required readings may be necessary. These changes will be announced to you through Canvas. It is your responsibility to connect with Canvas to stay informed of changes.