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TEXT: The Legal and Ethical Environment of Business

Cross/Miller/Mann/Roberts - Thomson/Southwestern

The College of Business Administration complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodation for qualified students with disability.

If you have an established disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and would like to request accommodation, please see me as soon as possible.

SYLLABUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE ON SHORT NOTICE: STAY CONNECTED

WEEK BEGINNING

August 30	<p>HO 1 Introduction To The Legal System Chapters 1 and 4, Introduction to Law, Business Ethics and Civil Dispute Resolution</p> <p>HO 2 Legal Process and The Resolution of Disputes - Alternative Dispute Resolution Chapter 2</p>
September 8	<p>HO 2 Legal Process and The Resolution of Disputes - Alternative Dispute Resolution Chapter 2</p> <p>HO 3 Tort Law - Duties and Liabilities for Products and Services - Negligence - Res Ipsa Loquitur - Bigham and Escola cases: WebCT Chapter 12</p>
September 13	<p>HO 3 Tort Law - Duties and Liabilities for Products and Services - Negligence - Res Ipsa Loquitur - Bigham and Escola cases: WebCT Chapter 12 (p284-end)</p> <p>HO 4 Tort Law - Warranties and Strict Tort Product Liability Chapters 11 (pp261-265) and 22 (very back of book)</p>
September 20	<p>HO 5 Tort Law - Defamation, Emotional Distress, Invasion of Privacy, and Harm to Economic Interests - Lewis case: WebCT Ch 12, (pp 277-284)</p>
September 27	EXAM ONE
October 4	<p>HO 6 Administrative and Constitutional Law - BARLOW case WebCT Chapter 6</p> <p>HO 7 Constitutional Law - WICKARD, LOPEZ and MORRISON cases: WebCT Chapter 5</p>
October 11	<p>HO 7 Constitutional Law - WICKARD, LOPEZ and MORRISON cases: WebCT Chapter 5</p> <p>HO 8 Part I Employment Discrimination and Labor Relations Chapter 21</p>

October 18	HO 8 Part I Employment Discrimination and Labor Relations Chapter 21 HO 8 Part II Employment Discrimination and Labor Relations Chapters 21 and 20
October 25	HO 9 Part I Antitrust - Sherman Section I - Chapters 26 and 27 HO 9 Part II Antitrust - Sherman Section II, FTC Section 5, Clayton Sections 2,3,7 Chapters 26 and 27
November 1	EXAM TWO
November 8	HO 10 Contract Law - Offer and Acceptance Lucy, Peterson, Lefkowitz, Glover, Owen cases: WebCT Chapters 9, 10 and Chapter 19(back of book)
November 15	HO 11 Contract Law - Third Parties - Chapter 16(back of book)
November 22	HO 12 Contract Law - Consideration, Options, Firm Offers and Requirements Contracts Contract Law - Chapter 12 and Chapter 19 p 355(back of book) HO 13 Contract Law - Performance Chapter 17(back of book)
November 29	EXAM THREE
December 6	Winding Up
December 13	Final Exam for select persons given according to the University Final Exam Schedule

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The objective of BLAW 3430 is to increase awareness and understanding of the legal process to better enable you to influence the legal process as appropriate to facilitate accomplishing personal, business and institutional objectives. Further you will become better able to anticipate and avoid legal problems, as well as better able to respond to unavoidable legal controversy. Thinking and reasoning skills will also be enhanced.

The course will involve a study of legal rules, concepts, and procedures. The legal process will be considered in the context of historical, social, economic, and political forces as well as ethical values responsible for the evolution of law.

ETHICAL DIMENSIONS

The legal process is composed of rights and duties/responsibilities. Ethics is concerned with “right behavior” which involves a balance between rights and duties/responsibilities. The legal process includes mechanisms whereby balances can be achieved between rights and duties. The mechanisms are considered respecting the various subject matters covered in the course.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURE

Classroom presentation will focus on DEFINING, EXPLAINING AND APPLYING legal rules, procedures and concepts utilizing hypothetical as well as real examples focusing on HANDOUTS and HANDOUT CASES.

CLASS POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE WebCT

HANDOUTS AVAILABLE WebCT

THIS WILL BE A HANDOUT DRIVEN COURSE. The HANDOUTS will identify rules, procedures and concepts, as well as examples of application that you will be responsible to know for exams. The HANDOUTS WILL assist you in a step by step process of acquiring knowledge and understanding of the legal process. Study should begin with HANDOUTS since EXAMS will be based on HANDOUTS.

SHORT QUIZZES

To assist you in assessing your progress in understanding course topics, including increasing critical thinking and awareness skills, 10 or more Short Quizzes usually composed of 4 multiple choice questions, approximately five minutes in length, will be administered during the semester. Your grade if you miss one question will be 80. If you miss two questions your grade will be 60. If you miss three or more your grade will be 40. If you miss a Short Quiz your grade will be 0. Short Quizzes may not be announced in advance. At least one Short Quiz grade will be dropped. The average of the remaining Short Quizzes will amount to 25 percent of your course grade. Short quizzes missed cannot be made up.

Please keep a record of your Short Quiz grades and which questions you missed. The scantrons will be retained in the office. Check your grades on WebCT and let us know of any errors. To prevent a late semester traffic jam, I am imposing a one month Statute of Limitations on notifying the TA or me of grading errors. The one month will run from the date the Short Quiz was given.

EXAMS

THREE OBJECTIVE MULTIPLE CHOICE EXAMS COUNTING 75 PERCENT OF YOUR GRADE will be administered during the semester as specified on the syllabus. NOTE: IF YOU BECOME AWARE OF A CONFLICT OR A PROBLEM PRIOR TO AN EXAM, CHECK WITH THE INSTRUCTOR ABOUT TAKING THE EXAM EARLY. Make up exams will be given during DEAD WEEK. THE FORMAT FOR MAKE UP EXAMS MAY BE DIFFERENT. Please check with the instructor for details. Make every effort to be present for the scheduled exams.

COURSE GRADE

YOUR COURSE GRADE WILL BE DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS:

EXAM ONE	25 Percent
EXAM TWO	25 Percent
EXAM THREE	25 Percent
SHORT QUIZ AVERAGE	25 Percent
THE ABOVE TOTAL	100 PERCENT.

WebCT

<http://webct.unt.edu>

Handouts, Power Point Presentations, Cases, and Useful Links will be provided on the WebCT. Grades will also be posted on WebCT. Access is available at <http://webct.unt.edu>. Your username and password will be required to get into WebCT. The Webct facility at UNT will provide individual passwords based on your enrollment in the course that I will make available to you. Cases noted on Handouts will ONLY be available on WebCT.

HOW TO STUDY

Exams will require you:

- (1) to know the definition of a rule or concept or
- (2) to identify a rule or concept from a definition given or
- (3) to identify a rule or concept that would be applicable to real world type circumstance. The idea is to further careful thinking and analysis skills so that you will be a more aware and articulate individual.

Study the HANDOUTS. Learn the concepts and rules on the HANDOUTS. Exam questions will be based on material in the HANDOUTS. Read assigned pages in the text for alternative presentation of assigned material.

To properly prepare for an exam:

1. Study Handouts
2. Study Power Point Presentations
3. Write out definitions of terms and concepts from Handouts on a sheet of paper FROM MEMORY.

Questions on the exam will be based on Handouts, cases and classroom presentation. Where differences exist between the text and material presented in class, the material presented in class will be considered the answer for exam purposes.

Please feel free to ask questions of me during office hours or at other arranged times when the HANDOUTS, class presentations, cases or the text leave you confused. Investments of time and effort on your part are required, but sometimes you may need an extra assist. We are here to assist you so that you can successfully complete BLAW 3430.

TEXT BOOK

Materials assigned in the text provide additional information to assist you in responding to questions on the HANDOUTS. The text will also provide alternate or additional explanations that will facilitate you in gaining an understanding of the legal process.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Please be respectful of your peers during class. Do not engage in talking, whispering or other behavior that makes it difficult for others to follow what is occurring during class, or that is inappropriate during the administration of short quizzes or exams. Failure to comply may result in you being assigned a different seat or otherwise confronted. Please try to refrain from departing class during proceedings. Such is disruptive and disconcerting to your peers. Please try to discipline your feelings and emotions influencing early departure. We all have times when we are not tuned in to the session.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Class attendance is not required. However regular attendance SHOULD ENHANCE YOUR PERFORMANCE IN BLAW 3430. CLASS ATTENDANCE WILL ENABLE YOU TO ASK QUESTIONS ON ASSIGNED TOPICS AND HANDOUTS AS WELL AS GAIN EXPERTISE IN APPLYING LEGAL CONCEPTS. Class attendance will also result in your awareness of information for SHORT QUIZZES. NOTE THAT SHORT QUIZZES COUNT 20 PERCENT OF YOUR GRADE.

SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

BLAW 3430

EXAM ONE

1. Chris purchased a chicken sandwich from The Sandwich Shop
Three hours later Cris became very ill. As the result of a trip to his doctor's office Chris learned that his problems were due to the chicken sandwich.
 - a. Chris has a claim under the Doctrine of Stare Decisis
 - b. Chris has a claim for intentional tort given the facts above
 - c. Chris has a claim for implied warranty of merchantability given the facts above
 - d. Chris has a claim for express warranty of fitness given the facts above

2. A Writ of Certiorari
 - a. requires a vote of 4 U.S. Supreme Court Justices
 - b. is a means of obtaining review in the U S Supreme Court
 - c. both of the above
 - d. remands a case from the U. S. Supreme Court to a federal trial court

3. The doctrine requiring courts to utilize past decisions/precedent in deciding cases is.
 - a. The doctrine of res ipsa loquitur
 - b. The doctrine of stare decisis
 - c. The doctrine of forum non conviens
 - d. The doctrine of separation of powers

Question 1 requires you to apply a legal concept to a hypothetical circumstance.

Question 2 requires you to know a definition.

Question 3 requires you to identify a legal concept from a definition given.

SEATING CHART

A seating chart will be prepared. You will sign for the seat where you are sitting on the day the chart is passed out. Advance notice will be given of seating chart day. Seating Chart will be used to return exams. Exercise your right of choice and choose your seat early. PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS NOT AN EFFORT TO DEPERSONALIZE YOU, BUT TO FACILITATE ORDER. I also reserve the right to take roll using the seating chart to take note of early departures.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Use of notes, books or other innovative means to prompt or assist you in taking an exam or short quiz will not be condoned. Included are looking at another persons answers, allowing another student to look at your answers, or otherwise requesting, participating or sharing information. Violations will result in failing grade on the exam or quiz. Violations will be reported to the appropriate academic dean as well as the Dean of Students Office. The purpose is to assure that YOU RECEIVE FULL CREDIT FOR YOUR EFFORTS AND THAT EVERY STUDENT HAS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ON EXAMS. Please report any suspicious activity immediately to the instructor or the teaching assistants to facilitate the maintenance of this policy.