**GROSSMONT COLLEGE**

**Official Course Outline**

Curriculum Committee Approval: 02/02/2021

GCCCD Governing Board Approval: 03/16/2021

**BUSINESS 125 – BUSINESS LAW: LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS**

1. **Course Number Course Title Semester Units**

BUS 125 Business Law: Legal Environment of Business 3

**Semester Hours:**

3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours 96-108 outside-of-class hours 144-162 total hours

1. **Course Prerequisite**

None

**Corequisite**

None

**Recommended Preparation**

None

1. **Catalog Description**

Legal environment of business, sources of law, constitutional bases of regulation, critical legal thinking, social and ethical influences, corporate responsibility, judicial and administrative systems, contracts, torts, agency, business organizations, bankruptcy, securities regulations, regulation of property and protection of intellectual property interests, consumer protection, antitrust law, Internet and e-commerce.

1. **Course Objectives**

The student will:

1. Analyze cases using the I.R.A.C. (Issue, Rule, Analysis, Conclusion) process by identifying issues and applying the appropriate legal rules to the fact patterns to reach defensible legal conclusions.
2. Compare and contrast the theories of jurisprudence and the classifications of law.
3. Categorize the types of government agencies, powers and functions, controls through congressional action, executive action, and the courts.
4. Differentiate the relationship between state and federal systems, jurisdiction of courts, the interaction between business managers and lawyers, and the importance of alternate dispute resolution methods.
5. Demonstrate how cases progress through the court system from problem, to filing, to trial, and appeal.
6. Describe the constitutional basis for federal government regulation of business, including limits of government power.
7. Appraise the relationship between law and ethics.
8. Describe the various agency relationships and the duties and liabilities of agents and principals as the foundation of partnerships and corporations.
9. Distinguish between torts and crimes and describe the purpose of criminal and tort law.
10. Evaluate when a promise is enforceable, the elements of a contract, performance, and remedies available in the event of breach.
11. Distinguish between contracts governed by the Uniform Commercial Code and those governed by the common law of contracts.
12. Explain a corporation’s legal structure and differentiate it from other forms of business organization, the meaning of limited liability for the owners; describe the relationship of the various stakeholders.
13. Describe the Constitutional basis for federal governmental regulation of business, including limits of government power.
14. Describe the major federal acts that pertain to antitrust, securities regulation, employment law, and environmental law.
15. Compare and contrast state and federal regulation.
16. Differentiate between the application of domestic and international legal principles.
17. Comprehend and assess the e-commerce environment.
18. **Instructional Facilities**

Standard Classroom

1. **Special Materials Required of Student**

None

1. **Course Content**
2. Topic 1: Law and the Judicial Process.
   1. Introduction to domestic and international legal environment of business.
   2. Background of the domestic legal environment; common law.
   3. Business and the court system.
   4. Sources of Law
   5. Administrative Agencies
   6. Legal Ethics
   7. Legal analysis
3. Topic 2: Business and Major Traditional Areas of Law.
   1. Torts and the protection of intellectual property.
   2. Business and product liability.
   3. Business crimes and criminal law.
   4. Business transactions: the law of contracts.
   5. Business and the law of agency.
   6. Business organizations: sole proprietorships, partnerships, limited partnerships, corporations and other forms of business organizations.
   7. Internet and e-commerce developments on the foregoing.
4. Topic 3: Regulations of Business and Public Law.
   1. Antitrust law.
   2. Labor relations law.
   3. Employment discrimination.
   4. Consumer protection.
   5. Environmental law.
   6. Securities regulation.
   7. Regulation of financial markets.
   8. Consumer credit protection.
   9. Internet and e-commerce developments on the foregoing.
5. Topic 4: Expanding World of Business Law.

The international legal environment of business.

1. **Method of Instruction**
2. Modified Socratic method: Topics introduced with questions based on the central themes of each unit, with lectures to present basic material, interspersed with questions to help students clarify, contrast and compare the rules of law and apply them to actual and hypothetical business situations.
3. In addition to examples and cases from the textbook, use of current or other familiar business law related events to illustrate that what they are learning has practical application to everyday business life, locally and worldwide.
4. Exercises in teamwork and cooperative learning.

1. **Methods of Evaluating Student Performance**
2. Essay, short answer, multiple choice and true-false quizzes and tests.
3. Oral questions on rules of law and on the facts and analyses of cases.
4. Term paper, including compilation of examples of current legal environment cases and events as presented in newspapers and periodicals, or other legal sources using I.R.A.C. (Issue, Rule Analysis, Conclusion) method of analysis.
5. Comprehensive final examination covering course content and objectives.
6. **Outside Class Assignments**
7. Read textbook.
8. Read online news sites to present current examples of business law issues.
9. Compile examples of current legal environment cases and events as presented in online news sources.
10. Research and preparation of term paper covering current legal issue or recent U.S. Supreme Court decision.
11. **Representative Texts**
    1. Representative Text(s):

Miller, Roger, L.  *Business Law Today*. 12th Edition, Boston, MA.: Cengage Learning; (2019)

* 1. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None

**Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

* 1. Identify legal issues and assess the financial and other risks affecting business.
  2. Understand key principles of the U.S. Constitution, administrative rules, and state laws and regulations and how each impacts the operation of a business for the purpose of risk avoidance, and to establish control mechanisms.
  3. Have the confidence to make sound and rational legal decisions, and to use changes in the law opportunistically.
  4. Understand how to achieve a satisfactory resolution of business disputes, and compare and contrast various means of resolution, including Alternative Dispute Resolution.