

# **COURSE SYLLABUS BUSINESS LAW I BBG 231**

**Professor: Ben Boutaugh**

**Office Location: Wheaton Hall, Room 313**

**Office Hours: T/TH 8:30-9:30 am; TH 5:30-6:30 pm or by appointment with the professor**

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**\*\*The Professor reserves the right to change this syllabus at any time.\*\***

## **Course Description**

An in-depth study of the legal rights and obligations of business organizations in the conduct of their business dealings. Topics covered include constitutional law, the legal system, sources of law, Courts, torts, agency and real & personal property, and introduction to contract law.

## **Scope of course**

Topics include the following: Nature of law; Legal System; Court Procedure; Alternative Dispute Resolution; Torts, Criminal Law, Employment law; Intellectual property; Real/Personal property; and Business Formation.

## **Importance of Course in program:**

BBG 231 provides an introduction to the United States legal system and its relationship to the business environment. Further, it gives business students the legal foundation to be effective business people by providing them with working knowledge of legal concepts and terminology.

## **Course objectives**

- Discuss the nature of the law and of the U.S. legal system, the functions and sources of law, and legal reasoning.
- Identify law-related business problems that may necessitate consultation with legal counsel and provide assistance to counsel to expedite the resolution of the problems.
- Discuss tort law and its functioning to deter certain behaviors and to compensate injured parties.

## **Course outcomes**

- Discuss the U.S. legal system through participation in class discussion, text and supplemental readings.
- Exhibit comprehension of course topics and concepts including, but not limited to legal reasoning and case analysis through completion of readings, assignments, and examinations.
- Recognize when the services of an attorney are required.
- Having working knowledge of legal concepts and terminology.

## **Textbook**

Text: Miller and Jenz, *The Essentials: Business Law Today* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.) Cengage Advantage

Access to the Internet is required. Middlesex Community College provides computer facilities that include access to the Internet, and access to Microsoft Office application software products. Students who do not have their own computers will find adequate facilities available for their use.

All students must have a Banner ID number to access college computer facilities. Instructions will be given in the efficient use of the extensive electronic library holdings.

All students may be required to complete other readings from periodicals, newspapers, and the Internet as a supplement to the required textbook readings.

**Several hours** per week of computer time are required for students to complete assignments prepare for online discussions.

**Preparation and Study Time:** You must prepare for each class by reading all assigned material and completing all homework activities prior to class. This course requires students to spend a significant amount of time outside of the classroom in individual and/or group study. At least one - two hours should be spent studying outside of the class for every hour spent in the classroom. Students who regularly prepare for class tend to successfully achieve their academic goals.

**Online Participation:**

Students should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate reflective and critical thinking skills, which show the ability to ask necessary questions and critique exiting viewpoints, including their own.
- Offer a unique and relevant perspective on class discussion.
- Respond to existing discussions and begin new trends of discussion, advancing and extending the concepts and ideas of the class.
- Respond to opposing viewpoints and opinions.

**Use of Computer Resources**

All resources and facilities of Data Processing Labs, including computer classroom sites, are to be used solely for the legitimate and authorized academic and administrative purposes. Any unauthorized or illegitimate use of the computer systems, resources, and/or facilities will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including but not subject to criminal prosecution in accordance with Section 53a-250, et seq., of the General Statutes.

**Online Course Etiquette**

Online students shall:

- Never post material that is not your own without properly citing.
- Never post harassing, threatening or embarrassing comments.
- Never post material that is harmful, abusive, sexually explicit, vulgar, offensive or potentially offensive.

Each student is expected to contribute meaningfully to online class discussions. The wide range of interests and experiences held by class members will reflect the diversity of today's business organizations. We can all learn more from each other than from the instructor alone. The professor will evaluate each student's participation and contribution to the class. Your grade for class participation will be based on the content and quality of participation (rather than frequency), and initiatives to enrich discussions. See online participation rubric.

**Evaluation methods**

Discussion Participation	45%
Written Assignments	35%
Paper	20%

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100%

\*Refer to Course Catalog for Grade points/Letter grade.

**Final Grades will be determined by applying the percentages listed above to the graded work submitted to meet course requirements. All graded work returned to the student must be retained for the entire semester. In the event a student disagrees with the grade they EARNED and the grade that was RECORDED, the student must produce all graded work to support the contention that a grade was calculated incorrectly. Failure to produce all work graded/returned will result in the instructor's grade book to be considered accurate.**

**IMPORTANT COLLEGE POLICIES!! PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!**

For information about the college's policies and procedures regarding academic honesty, accessibility/disability services, attendance, audio-recording in the classroom, grade appeals, plagiarism, religious accommodations, weather and emergency closings, and more, please go to the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/](http://www.mxcc.edu/catalog/syllabus-policies/) or scan the QR code with your smart phone. Also, please become familiar with the policies regarding nondiscrimination, sexual misconduct, and general student conduct at the following website: [www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/](http://www.mxcc.edu/nondiscrimination/). Page



**Non-Discrimination Statement:**

Middlesex Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, national origin, marital status, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, learning disability or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or genetic information in its programs and activities. In addition, the College does not discriminate in employment on the additional basis of veteran status or criminal record.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding non-discrimination policies and practices:

- Primary Title IX Coordinator  
Dr. Adrienne Maslin  
Dean of Students/Title IX and Section 504/ADA Coordinator  
[amaslin@mxcc.edu](mailto:amaslin@mxcc.edu); 860-343-5759; Founders Hall Room 123|