Business 80: Legal Environment of Business

1. Course Information:

Instructor: Arthur J. Casey, Esq.
Department: Organization and Management
College of Business, San Jose State University.
Fall, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Business 80: Legal Environment of Business</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Code:</td>
<td>41945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section:</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Hours &amp; Location:</td>
<td>Mondays 6:00 PM to 8:45 PM, BBC 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours:</td>
<td>Mondays 4:45 – 5:45 (or by appointment) **I am available to meet before class, after class, or at other times by appointment. Please send an email to my address below to request an appointment. I check e-mail often.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Location:</td>
<td>BT 555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:arthur.casey@sjsu.edu">arthur.casey@sjsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred Contact: (E-mail)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:arthur.casey@sjsu.edu">arthur.casey@sjsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Home Page</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cob.sjsu.edu/casey_a/">http://www.cob.sjsu.edu/casey_a/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Course Overview, text and objectives:

a. Course Overview:

In this course we will study the nature, function and application of the U.S. legal system as it applies to the modern business environment. There is no aspect of American business that is not affected by our legal system. After studying and understanding the basic concepts and structure of our legal system we will examine and analyze its role in the development and growth of business with an emphasis on ethics and business decision making. You do not have to be a lawyer to understand the fundamentals of our legal system and its influences in business. You are not expected to have a lawyer’s knowledge and understanding of the law at the end of this course but you should have a basic understanding of the legal structure and method of analysis that influences American business today.

b. Required texts or other reading materials:


****Note: 12th edition of this book may be used however you alone are responsible for ensuring assignments match with corresponding chapters and cases in the 12th edition and there are significant changes in 13th ed.****
c. Other Reading materials:
To be handed out periodically in class or posted on Canvas

d. Student learning objectives for the course and COB Business Program Goals:

1. To acquire an appreciation of the procedural and substantive law relevant to business as listed more specifically in the “Course Calendar”
2. To develop skills in critical thinking, logic, and analysis essential to the application of business law concepts in the workplace.
3. To develop skills necessary to identify legal issues affecting business and devise an appropriate strategy to address legal issues in situations which may or may not require or permit the immediate advice of an attorney.
4. To predict legal outcomes and take appropriate action to resolve problems legally and ethically.
5. To understand how the law evolves, how the law is interpreted and enforced, the impact of the law on everyone’s lives throughout the world as well as the environment, social expectations concerning the role of the law in society, limits of the law as a problem-solving tool, and ethical alternatives to legal remedies, such as engagement in the process of alternative dispute resolution.
6. To appreciate that there are different philosophical approaches to the law and why each person’s participation in the legal process, from the making of law to respect for its enforcement, is an important responsibility and vital to meaningful participation in society.
7. To create a foundation for further study of and research in specific areas of business law.

College of Business Program Goals:
(Not all program learning goals are covered in every course)

1. Business Knowledge
   • Understand basic business principles and demonstrate discipline-specific competencies as applied to local and global environments.

2. Communication
   • Communicate ideas clearly, logically, and persuasively in oral and written format, using technology appropriately.

3. Ethical Awareness
   • Recognize, analyze, and articulate solutions to ethical issues that arise in business.

4. Leadership, Teams and Diversity
   • Comprehend the challenges and opportunities of leading and working in diverse teams and environments.

5. Critical Thinking
   • Comprehend, analyze, and critically evaluate complex and unstructured qualitative and quantitative business problems, using appropriate tools and technology.

6. Innovation
   • Recognize, analyze, and articulate strategies for promoting creativity and innovation.
3. Course requirements:

a. In Class Assignments:

Assignments must be completed in class on the same day it is assigned. **No exceptions.** In class assignments can at times be short quizzes on the reading. (13 assignments at 10 points each for a total of 130 points.) (CLO 1-7; COBP 1-6)

b. Oral/Written Project:

To be assigned in class and explained more fully through written materials found on Canvas. We will discuss this in class. Please also see Canvas for a complete description of the assignment and due dates. This assignment will have a written and oral presentation component. Students will work in groups in a maximum of four students per group. (250 points). Please note that all parts of this assignment must be completed in order to receive credit. (CLO 1-7; COBP 1-6)

c. Canvas

I use Canvas as an integral supplement to the course to make announcements, update the course calendar, post assignments and articles of interest as well as post test scores and assignment scores. **Use of Canvas is mandatory in this class.**

Please go to my web site at [http://www.cob.sjsu.edu/casey_a/](http://www.cob.sjsu.edu/casey_a/) and follow the instructions to access Canvas. Because I regularly update Canvas with scores for exams, take home writing assignments, in class assignments and extra credit, you are responsible for notifying me within two weeks of a score posting if you think a score is missing or inaccurate. If you fail to notify me of any discrepancy or missing score within two weeks of the date the score is posted, no further changes will be made.

d. Exams/Quizzes:

Quizzes will be true/false and/or multiple choice (this is subject to change). Quizzes may be given on Canvas at my discretion.

Four quizzes (4@120 points each)

Final Examination (140 Points)

The Final may be cumulative in some respects but will likely emphasize material covered later in the semester.

4. Tentative Course Calendar including assignment due dates, exam dates, date of Final exam:

Please note that the course calendar (including reading assignments and quizzes) is subject to change with fair notice. **See me at the break or end of class on August 31 and tell me a historical fact about a business in the SF Bay Area for two extra credit points. You should always check for the current reading assignment at “Announcements” on Canvas**

Week 1 (August 24) – First Day of Lecture
Introduction - review of syllabus, class overview, policies and procedures
Chapter 1 (Law and Legal Reasoning)

Week 2 (August 31) Chapters 2 (Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution) and 3 (Court Procedures) **Syllabus Signature Page Due**
**Week 3 (September 7)** Labor Day Holiday, No class scheduled

**Week 4 (September 14)** Chapters 4 (Business and the Constitution) and 5 (Business Ethics) **QUIZ ONE AVAILABLE ON CANVAS; GROUP MEMBERS AND TOPICS DUE**

**Week 5 (September 21)** Chapters 6 (Torts), 7 (Strict Liability and Product Liability) **QUIZ ONE DUE**

**Week 6 (September 28)** Chapters 8 (Intellectual Property Rights), 9 (Internet Law, Social Media, and Privacy), and 10 (Criminal Law and Cyber Crime)

**Week 7 (October 5)** Chapter 11 (Contracts-Nature and Terminology), 12 (Contracts-Agreement) and 13 (Consideration) and Chapter 14 (Capacity) **OUTLINE #1 DUE**

**Week 8 (October 12)** Chapters 19 (Breach and Remedies) and 21 (The Formation of Sales and Lease Contracts-Uniform Commercial Code)

**Week 9 (October 19)** Chapters 28 (Banking in the Digital Age) and Chapter 31 (Bankruptcy) **QUIZ TWO DUE**

**Week 10 (October 26)** Chapters 34 (Employment, Immigration and Labor Law) and 35 (Employment Discrimination and Diversity) **OUTLINE #2**

**Week 11 (November 2)** Chapters 36 (Sole Proprietorships and Franchises) 39 (Corporations Formation and Financing) and 40 (Corporate Directors, Officers, and Shareholders) **QUIZ THREE AVAILABLE ON CANVAS**

**Week 12 (November 9)** Chapters 42 (Securities Law and Corporate Governance) and 43 (Law for Small Business) **QUIZ 3 DUE**

**Week 13 (November 16)** Chapters 43 (Administrative Agencies) and 44 (Consumer Law)

**Week 14 (November 23)** Chapters 47 (Professional Liability and Accountability), 50 (Insurance) and 51 (Wills and Trusts) **QUIZ FOUR AVAILABLE ONLINE** Oral Reports

**Week 15 (November 30)** Finish Lecture-Start Oral Reports **QUIZ 4 DUE**

**Week 16 (December 7)** Last Day of Lecture **INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION PAPER DUE;** Finish Oral Reports

**Week 17 (December 14)** **FINAL: 5:15 PM – 7:30 PM BBC 104**

5. Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Class Assignments (13@10 points each)</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (4@120 each)</td>
<td>480</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Oral Report/Paper</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>140</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,000</strong></td>
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*Outline #1=20 points; Outline #2=30 points; Oral Presentation=100 points; Individual Reflection Paper=100 points*
a. Grading information:

Grading Percentage Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94% and above</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93% - 90%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89% - 87%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86% - 84%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83% - 80%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79% - 77%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76% - 74%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73% - 70%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69% - 67%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66% - 64%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63% - 60%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
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b. Extra credit:

I may from time to time offer extra credit. Extra credit assignments, if given, will be due the next class and under no circumstances accepted after that.

c. Penalty for late or missed work:

If you are absent from class, you are responsible for any changes announced in class. Please check Canvas or ask another student because I will not be able to tell you what you missed in class. Make-up examinations (applies to quizzes only as University policy applies to missed finals) or major assignments will only be allowed for good cause (e.g. serious illness, emergency, etc.) and at my complete discretion. You are responsible for contacting me to make arrangements for any make up assignment or exam. Failure to make arrangements for a make-up examination or assignment within one week of the examination or assignment will result in a failing grade for that exam or assignment. And, unless there are extreme circumstances, I expect to hear from you before the exam or before the assignment is due.

Late work will not be accepted. **There is no make-up for missed in class assignments.**

6. Classroom Conduct

Please turn cell phones off completely.
Please do not wear headphones in class.
Please do not use electronic devices of any kind during examinations.
Laptops may only be used during lecture for taking notes. (I reserve the right to disallow laptops if I feel that your laptop use has become a disruption in class.)
If you need to leave class early, please let me know beforehand. If you cannot avoid arriving late for class, please enter with as little disruption as possible.

7. Attendance

You cannot be successful in this course without attending class. You are expected to attend and participate in classroom discussion and other activities.
8. University, College, or Department Policy Information:

a) Academic integrity statement (from Office of Judicial Affairs):
Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San José State University and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on academic integrity can be found at http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf

b) Campus policy in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act:
If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with the campus Accessible Education Center http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/ to establish a record of their disability.

c) College of Business Policies and Procedures:

Eating:
Eating and drinking (except water) are prohibited in the Boccardo Business Center. Students with food will be asked to leave the building. Students who disrupt the course by eating and do not leave the building will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

Cell Phones:
Students will turn their cell phones off while in class. They will not answer their phones in class. Students whose phones disrupt the course and do not stop when requested by the instructor will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

Computer Use:
In the classroom, faculty allow students to use computers only for class-related activities. These include activities such as taking notes on the lecture underway, following the lecture on Web-based PowerPoint slides that the instructor has posted, and finding Web sites to which the instructor directs students at the time of the lecture. Students who use their computers for other activities or who abuse the equipment in any way, at a minimum, will be asked to leave the class and will lose participation points for the day, and, at a maximum, will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University for disrupting the course. (Such referral can lead to suspension from the University.) Students are urged to report to their instructors computer use that they regard as inappropriate (i.e., used for activities that are not class related).

Academic Honesty:
Faculty will make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct in their courses. They will secure examinations and their answers so that students cannot have prior access to them and proctor examinations to prevent students from copying or exchanging information. They will be on the alert for plagiarism. Faculty will provide additional information, ideally on the green sheet, about other unacceptable procedures in class work and examinations. Students who are caught cheating will be reported to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University, as prescribed by Academic Senate Policy S04-12.

Mission
The College of Business is the institution of opportunity, providing innovative business education and applied research for the Silicon Valley region.

9. APPENDIX:

- You are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, withdrawal, etc. found at [http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf](http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S04-12.pdf)

- Expectations about classroom behavior; see [Academic Senate Policy S90-5](http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/S90-5) on Student Rights and Responsibilities.

- If you do not understand the definition of plagiarism please refer to the definition which can be found at: [http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/plagarismpolicies.htm](http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/plagarismpolicies.htm)

- “If you would like to include in your paper any material you have submitted, or plan to submit, for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Integrity policy S04-12 requires approval by instructors.”
Business 80*
Instructor: Casey
Course Code: 41945
Section: 06
Fall, 2015

I have read and understood this entire syllabus.

Name: ____________________

Signature: ____________________ Date: ____________________

*Please note that no grades for you will be recorded until hard copy of this is turned in by 8/31/15.