

COURSE SYLLABUS
BUSINESS LAW 308: BUSINESS
ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCY,
AND EMPLOYMENT LAW
Professor Zucker
Fall 2009

Office: JH 4235
Telephone: (818) 677-3964
Office Hours: tba

Student Learning Outcomes of the Undergraduate Program

Classes are taught using the Socratic method with its goal of participatory learning and the development of reasoning skills. This active learning process requires students to articulate their analysis, to develop and defend positions, to think critically and to engage in problem-solving. Students learn to formulate an effective legal analysis by synthesizing information, identifying legal issues, distinguishing relevant from irrelevant facts, using facts and law to support argument, reasoning by analogy, and reaching conclusions based on analysis. In addition, students in all courses study ethical issues in a business context, with actual topics dependant on course content.

Course Description

Study of the role of law in business including the study of legal institutions and their role in facilitating and regulating business. Includes agency and employment law, the various forms of business organizations and securities law.

Course Text

The text for the course is BUSINESS LAW: THE ETHICAL, GLOBAL AND E-COMMERCE ENVIRONMENT, 14th ed., Mallor *et al.*, (2010). The textbook is available hardcopy at the campus bookstore and elsewhere. It is also available at a discount online at <https://ebooks.primisonline.com/eBookstore/CustomEBooks.jsp>. Select "Business Law II".

Class Preparation, Attendance, and Case Briefs

It is absolutely vital that you prepare each assignment in advance for each class meeting. Every assigned case must be briefed in writing and on separate paper. Directions on briefing cases will be given during the first week of class.

You will be called at random throughout the semester to discuss your briefs. It is crucial that you are prepared to discuss your brief. You must attend class. You will not be able to learn the course material or develop the skills needed unless you attend regularly.

Ten percent (10%) of your final course grade is based upon class attendance and professionalism. In addition, if you miss more than four class sessions, your final grade in the course will be reduced one level. For example, if your total points equate to a “C” for the semester (including the 10% component for participation/attendance), it will be reduced to a “C-” if you miss more than four class sessions. **If you miss more than 50% of the total class sessions, you will receive an “F” in the course.**

Exams and Grading

The exams will consist of multiple-choice and/or essay questions. Attendance and professionalism is worth **10%** of the course grade. There will be a project due at the end of the semester worth **10%** of the course grade.

Grade Determination

As shown above, your final grade in the course will be decided as follows:

Midterm	30%
Final	50%
Participation//Professionalism	10%
Semester Project	10%
	<hr/>
TOTAL	100%

Except in the most extraordinary circumstances, there will be no make-up exams. If for some reason you must miss an exam, you should arrange to take this course another semester.

Grades are determined by a careful process designed to ensure fairness. Therefore, grades will not be changed unless there has been a clerical or computational error.

Grading System

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Weighted Grade Points</u>
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0- 59

This grading system utilizes plus/minus grades.

Policy on Cheating

Cheating (or any form of academic dishonesty) on exams, homework assignments, or in relation to any aspect of the grading process will not be tolerated. Please read and familiarize yourself with the section of the 2006-2008 CSUN Catalog entitled "Student Conduct" found at pages 535-538 prior to the next class session. Unless I state otherwise, everything that you turn in for course credit (i.e., exams, briefs, courtroom visit write-up) should represent your own work.

Class Sessions

Class sessions will typically include:

- An opportunity for questions regarding material from the previous class session
- Lecture
- Discussion

Learning objectives for class sessions:

In presenting case briefs and answering the professor's questions regarding the case, students will develop their oral communication skills as well as their ability to apply concepts learned in the course to situations arising in the business environment. In-class group exercises are designed to increase students' understanding of the course material, and to develop the ability to make effective decisions in business that will prevent liability and enforce rights.

Assignments, Mallor, 14th ed.

Date	Class topics	Work due
8/25	Welcome, overview, review of court system, civil procedure, briefing	None.
9/1	Agency	Read ch. 35 Brief Eisenberg, PC ¹ 1, 3
9/8		Ch. 35: brief Abkco, PC 4, 5, 6 & 9
9/15		Read ch. 36 Brief Treadwell, PC 2, 8
9/22		Ch. 36: brief PC 9, 10, 11

¹ "PC" refers to the problem cases at the end of each chapter. Ignore any questions given by the editors. Instead, these should follow IRAC format, with your analysis based on readings.

9/29	Employment Law	Read ch. 51 Brief Darco, Becknell, PC 3 & 4 WA ² : <u>Using Lexis</u> , locate <i>Miller v. Dept. of Corrections</i> (2005) 36 Cal. 4 th 446. Brief it. Turn in your hardcopy brief along with the first page of <i>Miller</i> . WA assignment goal: (1) to learn to use Lexis, (2) to see changes to California law
10/6		Ch. 51: brief TBG & Cisco, PC 2, 6, 10, 11
10/13	Midterm	
10/20	Business Organizations	Read ch. 37. Brief PC 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10
10/27	Partnerships	Read ch. 38. Brief Moren, PC 4, 5, 7 & 10
11/3		Read ch. 39. Brief Schwartz, PC 1, 4, 6 & 8 Read ch. 40. Brief Katris, PC 2, 3 & 8
11/10	LLCs, LLPs, LPs, Corporations	Read ch. 41. Brief Hildreth, PC 4, 8 & 9
11/17		Read ch. 42. Brief Coyle, PC 3, 5, 9, & 10
12/1		Read ch. 43. Brief Brehm, Guth, U.S. v. Jensen, PC 1, 3 & 7
12/8		Read ch. 44. Brief Dodge, Zapata, Brodie, PC 9.
Final exam given on the day and at the time and place listed in SOLAR		

² “WA” refers to writing assignments. These are due, hardcopy at the start of class. They are credit/no credit.