

RICHARDS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS
COURSE SYLLABUS
SUMMER SEMESTER 2020 (Session I)

Course Number: BUSA 2106-E01
Course Title: Legal and Ethical Environment of Business
Instructor: Dr. Tanya Thomas
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Office phone: 678-839-4834
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E-mail Address: tthomas@westga.edu
Office Hours: By appointment
Required Text: **MindTap is required for BUSA 2106.** This Cengage subscription includes the course text, Cross and Miller, *Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases, 10th Ed.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the legal, regulatory, and ethical environment of business, considering the interrelationship and impact of political, social, cultural, environmental, technological, international, and diversity issues.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationships among the legal, social, political, ethical, cultural, international, and technological environments and their impact on business. (BBA 4, BBA 5, BBA 6)
2. Demonstrate the ability to understand and apply major areas of law affecting business in the subject matter areas covered in the course, incorporating the influence of technology, the impact of demographic diversity, and the use of appropriate quantitative techniques, within an ethical framework. (BBA 4, BBA 5, BBA 6)
3. Demonstrate the ability to analyze issues and situations having legal implications including demographic changes with accompanying diversity issues, development and use of technological innovations, social changes, the political arena, and environmental and ethical factors, and assess the consequences of courses of action. (BBA 4, BBA 5, BBA 6)
4. Demonstrate familiarity with various legal resources and the ability to use them. (BBA 4, BBA 6)
5. Demonstrate the ability to organize and present their work in an effective and professional manner. (BBA 1, BBA 3)

RELATIONSHIP OF LEARNING OBJECTIVES TO LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THE B.B.A. DEGREE IN MANAGEMENT:

Achievement of the Learning Objectives for this course will advance the student toward meeting the standards articulated in the Learning Outcomes for the B.B.A. Degree in Business Administration.

[UWG Mandatory Syllabus Policies](#) (required information for all UWG course syllabi)

PREREQUISITES: 2.0 GPA.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Delivery of information and concepts will be fully online with primary content delivery via CourseDen. Students are required complete an online orientation and take two exams. The subject matter will be

drawn primarily from the course textbook, MindTap, and current legal issues in the news. You can purchase your subscription from the link provided in CourseDen or you can just add this class if you already have a current subscription to Cengage Unlimited. **Students must purchase a MindTap subscription- this is MANDATORY for the course.**

In addition, students will be able to participate in occasional synchronous online sessions in CourseDen. Our chat room is named “The Courtroom.” Students are required to use CourseDen (D2L) throughout the semester to support faculty-to-student and student-to-student interaction, including but not limited to Orientation, Attendance Verification, chat sessions, discussion boards, announcements, email, individual/group work, submitting assignments, etc. **The professor requires students set up CourseDen notifications in order to ensure you do not miss important updates in real time or assignment deadlines.**

The following are minimum requirements for taking an online course at UWG. **You must meet these requirements to participate in this class.**

- Access to a personal computer (PC or Mac), with [Google Chrome](#) and [Mozilla Firefox](#) browsers.
- High-speed/broadband internet service (DSL, Cable, etc.) is strongly recommended. If high-speed internet is not available in your area, you will have difficulty with some course content, such as video lectures and the like. Completion of course requirements will be very difficult and cumbersome, and you may wish to enroll in a traditional campus-based course.
- Software requirements: *Microsoft Office* (available for free through UWG [ITS](#)) or equivalent, [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#), and other downloads listed in CourseDen (D2L).

COMMUNICATION:

Communication between student and professor will be primarily through UWG e-mail tthomas@westga.edu. Distribution of course materials, the syllabus, important announcements, grades, etc., will be sent through CourseDen. **Students are advised to check CourseDen daily during the week and to keep their MyUWG e-mail inbox free of clutter to avoid auto-reject messages. In this course, students are required to set notification settings to enable real-time notifications for CourseDen Announcements or updates (either e-mail or text or both).**

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATION FOR MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT:

The Management Department believes in work-life balance for both faculty and students. Faculty will typically respond to student e-mails within 24 hours, usually sooner during business hours. Students should not expect a response during non-business hours, which includes nights, weekends, holidays, and school breaks. If you have not heard back from the professor within 24 hours during the work week, assume your e-mail was not received and resend it.

COLLEGE, DEPARTMENT, AND COURSE POLICIES:

- **Your professor is a licensed attorney. However, do not ask your professor for legal advice.**
- Please read this syllabus carefully. Your professor is available to answer any questions you may have regarding the meaning of any part of this syllabus. Consequently, excuses for failure to fulfill course requirements based upon non-understanding or misunderstanding of this syllabus will not be heard.
- The professor reserves the right to make appropriate amendments to this syllabus. With exception of minor changes to the tentative course schedule, all such amendments will be announced sufficiently in advance of the effective date of the amendment and published in CourseDen.

- If you have a disability and wish to request an accommodation, please contact [Accessibility Services](#) in the Counseling Center and follow their steps to apply.
- Links to a variety of other policies and student resources are linked to our course homepage in CourseDen and can also be found at the end of this syllabus.

CREDIT HOUR POLICY STATEMENT (3 Credit Hour Course):

For a typical semester, approximately 15 weeks, students in this class will generally spend 150 minutes with direct faculty instruction (either face-to-face or online) and work about 360 minutes outside the classroom each week. This out-of-class work may include, but is not limited to, readings, assignments, projects, group work, research, and test preparation. This course is condensed into a much shorter timeframe, so therefore students should plan to spend additional hours each day to cover the material for this course in about two weeks.

EVALUATION AND GRADES:

Grades will be calculated and assigned on the basis of points earned on examinations, the written assignment, homework assignments, and attendance, as follows:

Type of Graded Event	No. of Graded Events	Possible Points
Midterm Exam	1	100
Final Exam	1	100
MindTap Average	Varies	100
	Total Points:	300

Grades will be assigned as follows:

% Points	Letter Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
< 59%	F

Extra credit, if available at all, will be discretionary on the part of the Professor, and opportunities will be to the class as a whole and not to individual students upon request. Work completed for another course will not be accepted to meet the requirements of this course.

Examinations: 200 points

Two exams will be given, as indicated in the schedule below. The exams will be taken online through CourseDen and can be found under the label “Quizzes” on the navigation bar. Your exams and other assignments will close at 11:59PM, so please pay close attention to the deadlines. The exams cannot be reopened without documentation of a true emergency or illness verified by a doctor’s note.

Homework Assignments: 100 Points (Average of all assignments out of 100%)

There are multiple MindTap assignments associated with each chapter we cover in the course, and assignment deadlines for chapters will be due Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays of each week. MindTap is accessible from a link within our CourseDen site. Students must complete the MindTap assignments and any other homework assignments given by the professor, which will be graded and collectively will form a part of the overall grade in the course. The homework average (% correct on all assignments) will contribute 100 possible points toward the 300 total possible points in the class. **Assignment deadlines**

in MindTap are always at 11:59 PM. No late work will be accepted, so please stay caught up. They will not be reopened or extended for any reason so be sure to complete them before the deadline. All assignments are already open and available the first day of the course, with deadlines posted, and it is a good idea to work ahead, so that you have some flexibility during crunch times. It is important for students to complete the homework to ensure you fully understand how to apply the concepts we cover in the course. The professor reserves the right to drop any student for lack of participation in the course assignments, at the professor's discretion. This course is on a very short timeline for this summer term, so please do not procrastinate your work. **Spend the necessary time DAILY to stay on track for this class!**

Extra Credit: Students have the opportunity to complete a legal movie review to earn extra credit points in this course. Instructions are posted in CourseDen. Students who successfully complete the assignment will receive 5 points towards the 300 available in the course. ***This assignment is available starting the first day of the class and is open until Friday, May 29th at 11:59 PM.***

Work completed for another course will not be accepted to meet the requirements of this course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Receiving or giving help on homework assignments, or any exams, or using cell phones or other unapproved devices on exams or homework **or sharing/storing/retaining course content, assignment content, or exam content, or answers, whether online or in-class, WILL result in failure of this course and a record of academic dishonesty placed in the student's permanent records and may result in dismissal from the University.** The professor/university/USG may utilize all means available, including but not limited to IP address monitoring, login data, metadata, and other computer forensic methods to detect cheating on assignments and other graded work. In addition, UWG & USG are authorized and do monitor for evidence of cheating, including monitoring external website activity (social media websites) accessed using UWG/USG resources. You have **no right of privacy** for activity you engage in using UWG/USG equipment or services, including but not limited to computers, servers, and wireless or wired internet. Any student caught by UWG/USG personnel will be dealt with per the Academic Honesty policy.

THIS PROFESSOR WILL FAIL STUDENTS FOR CHEATING. I HAVE A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. PLEASE DO NOT CHEAT.

For the purposes of this class, the following statements in the [Student Handbook](#) and [Appendix A](#) of the Honor Code will be applied:

1. No student shall give or receive, or otherwise furnish or procure assistance not authorized in the preparation of an essay, report, examination, or other assignment in an academic course or in the fulfillment of program or degree requirements such as standardized examinations.
2. No student shall take, attempt to take, or otherwise obtain, gain access to, or alter in an unauthorized manner any material pertaining to the conduct of a class or to the completion of any program or degree requirement, including but not limited to tests, examinations, laboratory equipment, roll books, academic records, or electronically stored data.
3. Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests, and other similar requirements must be the work of the student submitting them. Direct quotations must be indicated and ideas of another must be appropriately acknowledged.

Failure to observe these standards will result in an “F” grade in the course and possible disenrollment from UWG. Use of electronic devices during an examination will be deemed a violation of provision 1, above, and will result in a grade of “F” for the course.

UWG utilizes an academic dishonesty database. Instances of academic dishonesty become part of the student’s permanent file; this may affect graduate school admissions and future employment.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR AND PROFESSIONALISM:

Any student who engages in disruptive or disrespectful behavior during any meeting of this course is subject to administrative disenrollment from this course with a grade of “F.” Disruptive and disrespectful behavior includes, but is not limited to, inattentiveness, disrespectful or threatening words or actions toward classmates or the professor. Students will treat each other and the Professor with the utmost respect and professionalism *at all times*. The professor is available during office hours to hear any concerns you may have concerning the class. Throughout the semester, ethical, political, cultural, international, social, technological, environmental, and diversity issues will be interwoven with a discussion of the legal topics and students are expected to show professionalism and respect to others during discussions of these issues.

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL EXPECTATIONS:

Richards College of Business community members are committed to: honesty and integrity in interactions and undertakings; respect for rights, differences, and dignity of others; accountability for personal behavior. The Richards College of Business has implemented the Wolf Pact to emphasize our shared commitment to academic honesty, ethics, and integrity in our dealings with one another. By choosing to remain in this course, you agree to abide by the terms of the Wolf Pact.

ADDITIONAL STUDENT RESOURCES/POLICIES:

[UWG Online HelpDesk Services](#): 678-839-6248 or online@westga.edu

[Accessibility Services](#): 678-839-6428 or ccd@westga.edu

[Excel Center](#) (Academic Support): 678-839-6280 or helpme@westga.edu

[UWG Online Student Guide](#) (contains a variety of information and resources for online learning)

[UWG Mandatory Syllabus Policies](#) (required information for all UWG course syllabi)

COURSE CALENDAR: This is an estimated timeline for the course and is subject to amendment.

***NOTE: Some chapters are out of sequence. Make sure you follow this schedule and always set your MindTap to Calendar view!**

Day:	Date:	Study Topics/Chapters to Read:	Assignment:
Friday (First Day)	May 8	Review Syllabus Register for MindTap Set up Notifications for CourseDen	Set up Notifications & Orientation Quiz by Sunday 11:59PM
Monday	May 11	Ch. 1: Orientation/Law and Legal Reasoning Ch. 2: The Court System and ADR	Chapters 1 & 2 MindTap Due Monday 11:59PM
Tuesday	May 12	Ch. 3: Court Procedures Ch. 4: Business and the Constitution	Chapters 3 & 4 MindTap Due Wednesday 11:59PM
Wednesday	May 13	Ch. 5: Business Ethics Ch. 23: Administrative Law	Chapters 5 & 23 MindTap Due Wednesday 11:59PM
Thursday	May 14	Ch. 8: Intellectual Property Law Ch. 9: Internet Law, Social Media, and Privacy	Chapters 8 & 9 MindTap Due Friday 11:59PM
Friday Midterm opens	May 15	Ch. 10: Criminal Law and Cyber Crime Ch. 11: International and Space Law Study Topics posted on CourseDen	Chapter 10 & 11 MindTap Due Friday 11:59PM Review for Midterm
		Midterm Exam on CourseDen (May 15-18) Study for your exam!	Exam will close May 18th at 11:59PM
Monday Midterm closes	May 18	Midterm Exam on Chapters 1-5, 23, & 8-11	Take Midterm Exam by 11:59PM TODAY
Tuesday	May 19	Ch. 16: Small Business Ch. 17: Limited Liability Business Ch. 18: Corporations	Ch. 16-18 MindTap Due Monday 11:59PM
Wednesday	May 20	Ch. 12: Formation of Contracts Ch. 13: Contract Performance, Breach, & Remedies	Ch. 12 & 13 MindTap Due Wednesday 11:59PM
Thursday	May 21	Ch. 6: Tort Law Ch. 7: Strict and Products Liability	Ch. 6 & 7 MindTap Due Wednesday 11:59PM
Friday Final opens	May 22	Ch. 20: Employment Law Ch. 21: Employment Discrimination Prepare for Final Exam Study Topics posted on CourseDen	Chapters 20 & 21 MindTap Due Friday 11:59 PM Review Study Topics for Final Exam
		Final Exam on CourseDen (May 22-26) Study for your exam!	Exam will close May 26th at 11:59PM
Monday	May 25	MEMORIAL DAY	SCHOOL HOLIDAY
Tuesday Final Closes (Last Day)	May 26	Final Exam on Chapters 16-18, 12-13, 6-7, & 20-21	Take Final Exam by 11:59PM TODAY