

Business Law I Syllabus



BLAW 3150 Sections 01 and 02
Spring 2021
Instructor: Carla L. Boles



Dear Students,

Welcome to UNC Charlotte if this is your first semester. Welcome back if you are a returning student.

In this Business Law course, we will discuss the legal environment affecting business activities. We will begin with an introduction to the law and the legal system. Next we will discuss different areas of the law and how they specifically affect business, such as constitutional law, tort law, intellectual property, and criminal law. Then we will tackle the largest component of business law which is contract law. Finally, we will discuss employment and labor law, and corporate formation and finance.

In addition to the lectures, there will be many activities planned to assist you in learning the material.

As your Instructor, I am committed to academic excellence and am eager to assist you in your studies at UNC Charlotte.

As students, I ask the following commitment from you:

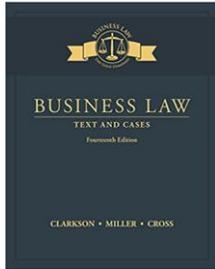
- 🌿 Be on time;
- 🌿 Be prepared;
- 🌿 Participate; and
- 🌿 Respect others.

Good luck and enjoy!

Carla L. Boles



REQUIRED TEXT



Business Law: Text and Cases, 15th edition, Clarkson and Miller

ISBN: 978-0-357-69333-9

We will be using the Cengage Unlimited etextbook (4 months) version for \$69.99 (<https://www.cengage.com/c/business-law-text-and-cases-15e-clarkson/>). If you desire the hard copy in addition to the e-textbook, it can be rented for \$7.99 S&H once you have subscribed to Cengage Unlimited etextbook.

The textbook has accompanying PowerPoints for each Chapter which will be posted on Canvas. Please review each Chapter PowerPoint *prior to* the corresponding class. These PowerPoints are also invaluable tools when studying for the exams.

CLASS DATES AND TIME

Section 001

Tues/Thurs 2:30pm-3:45pm Online

Section 002

Tues/Thurs 11:30am-12:45pm Online

CATALOGUE COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the legal setting of business and its relationship to the business firm. Topics covered include: the nature of law, criminal, and civil procedure and the court system, business ethics, courts and alternative dispute resolution, constitutional authority to regulate business, criminal law, the law of torts, contracts and sales law, product liability, intellectual property, and cyber law.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

To develop a student's ability to identify, analyze, and resolve problems typically encountered by managers within the framework of legal, regulatory, social, and ethical considerations. Students should understand why these considerations are essential to all managers who operate business enterprises.

To succeed in this course, you must attend class, participate, and take notes. I also recommend that you complete the practice problems at the end of the chapters of the textbook since the exams will assess your knowledge of the rules of law from the textbook and how to apply rules to a set of facts.



To achieve these objectives, the general flow of the class will be as follows:

- 🌿 A brief discussion of current Business News.
- 🌿 Lecture and discussion of the assigned reading from the textbook. **Note:** the lecture and discussion will highlight some, but not all, of the concepts presented in the assigned reading; however, you are responsible for all of the material presented in the assigned reading.
- 🌿 Review practice problems from the textbook in groups.

CANVAS

Canvas will be our online class management system. We will use Canvas for a variety of purposes including posting reading materials, additional learning materials, small group discussion forums and other assignments, announcements, quizzes and examinations.

You will be presumed to have access to Canvas and you will be responsible for all material that is posted there.

ZOOM

ZOOM will be part of our Online Campus virtual learning environment. We will use Zoom for live classroom instruction.

TECHNOLOGY

You will need the following software and hardware:

- 🌿 Microsoft Word
- 🌿 Adobe Acrobat (or similar PDF Reader)
- 🌿 Webcam and Microphone

ATTENDANCE AND TIMELINESS

You should make every effort to attend every class and remain in class for the duration of the session. Failure to attend class may impact your ability to achieve course objectives which could affect your course grade. An absence, excused or unexcused, does not relieve a student of any course requirement. Regular class attendance is a student's obligation, as is a responsibility for all the work of class meetings, including tests and written tasks.

The authority to excuse a student's class absence(s) and to grant a student an academic accommodation (turn in a late assignment(s), provide extra time on an assignment, reschedule an exam(s) etc.) sits with the individual instructor. Students are encouraged to work directly with the instructor regarding their absence(s). A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an exam or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.



Please come to class on time. Late arrivals can distract your classmates and myself and will cause you to miss important information.

PARTICIPATION

I expect you to come to class prepared, meaning you have done the reading and completed the assignments. I also expect you to participate in class discussion. You and your classmates have valuable contributions to make to the class and you will learn more if you ask questions and contribute your thoughts.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Your grade will be comprised of lesson quizzes, active participation in weekly small group discussion forums, and four (4) examinations. Students should make every effort to take exams on the dates scheduled and must contact me if an emergency arises.

Small Group Discussions

Each week of this course offers different topics to discuss with your peers. Each Friday, you will engage in a small group discussion forum. To earn the 5 points, you are required to make **at least 2** posts in the weekly small group discussion, 1 in the form of a response to the discussion prompt and 1 in the form of a reply to another student's post. You will have 48 hours to engage in each week's small group discussion, after which the forum will be closed.

Small group discussions offer excellent opportunities for you to grapple with the key aspects of the course material and to engage with your peers to work through some of the more complex ideas and debate the topics given each week. A meaningful post addresses the points made by your classmates, either agreeing or disagreeing, then offering further points or counterpoints. Your discussions in these forums present an opportunity for collaborative learning, therefore, your posts should be short and succinct (100 words or less).

Grades will consist of 260 points:

Exams = 200 points total (4 exams at 50 points each)

Lesson Quizzes and Small Group Discussions = 60 points total

Grading System

A = 90-100

B = 80-89.99

C = 70-79.99

D = 60-69.99

F = below 60



EXTRA CREDIT

Throughout the semester there will be opportunities to earn extra credit points, including contributions to Business News, attendance at pre-approved Business School events, and performance on written assignments.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

All students and the instructor are expected to engage with each other respectfully. Unwelcome conduct directed toward another person based upon that person's actual or perceived race, actual or perceived gender, color, religion, age, national origin, ethnicity, disability, or veteran status may constitute a violation of University Policy 406, The Code of Student Responsibility. Any student suspected of engaging in such conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

DIVERSITY

The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is the policy of the course to follow the *UNC Charlotte Code of Student Integrity* as set forth in the Catalog. The code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials and complicity in academic dishonesty. Students are expected to exhibit a level of personal honor and integrity that will bring credit to themselves and the University. Students who violate the code will be punished to the fullest extent possible. In short, academic dishonesty will not be tolerated by this instructor or the Department of Finance and Business Law. Any student in possession of a Business Law I Examination (without permission) will be given an "F" in the Course. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

ACCOMMODATIONS

UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office in Fretwell 230.

COPYRIGHTS

My lectures and course materials, including presentations, tests, exams, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. I am the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials I create. I encourage you to take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. However, you may not, nor may you knowingly allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly



without my express written consent. Students who publicly distribute or display or help others publicly distribute or display copies or modified copies of an instructor's course materials may be in violation of University Policy 406, The Code of Student Responsibility.

CONTACT INFORMATION

My email address is cboles3@uncc.edu. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have about the course material or assignments.

My virtual office hours are T/TH 12:45pm-2:15pm and I am available for 1:1 or small group online meetings.

MODIFICATIONS

The terms of this syllabus may be altered, amended, or deleted and new provisions may be added from time to time as I deem necessary or desirable and at my sole discretion.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topic/Reading Assignments
Week 1 Jan 21	Syllabus 📖 Chapter 1 Law and Legal Reasoning 📖 Chapter 4 Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Week 2 Jan 26 and 28	📖 Chapter 5 Court Procedures 📖 Chapter 2 Business and the Constitution 📖 Chapter 3 Business Ethics
Week 3 Feb 2 and 4	📖 Chapter 6 Tort Law 📖 Chapter 7 Strict Liability and Product Liability
Feb 8 - 12	SPRING RECESS – NO CLASSES
Week 4 Feb 16 and 18	Exam 1 (covering Chapters 1-7) Examination De-Brief



Week 5 Feb 23 and 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 8 Intellectual Property Rights 📖 Chapter 9 Internet Law, Social Media, and Privacy
Week 6 Mar 2 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 10 Criminal Law and Cyber Crime 📖 Chapter 11 Nature of Contracts
Week 7 Mar 9 and 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 12 Agreement in Traditional and E-Contracts 📖 Chapter 13 Consideration
Week 8 Mar 16 and 18	Exam Review Exam 2 (covering Chapters 8-13)
Week 9 Mar 23 and 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 14 Capacity and Legality 📖 Chapter 15 Mistakes, Fraud, and Voluntary Consent
Week 10 Mar 30 and Apr 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 16 The Writing Requirement in Our Digital World 📖 Chapter 17 Third Party Rights
Week 11 Apr 6 and 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 18 Performance and Discharge 📖 Chapter 19 Breach of Contract and Remedies
Week 12 Apr 13 and 15	Exam 3 Review Exam 3 (covering Chapters 14-19)
Week 13 Apr 20 and 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 20 The Formation of Sales and Lease Contracts 📖 Chapter 25 Negotiable Instruments
Week 14 Apr 27 and 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Chapter 34 Employment Law 📖 Chapter 35 Employment Discrimination
Week 15 May 4	📖 Chapter 39 Corporate Formation and Financing



Final Exam Week	Exam 4 on Chapters 20, 25, 34, 35, and 39
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