

Course Prefix/Number/Title: ACCT 215 - Business in the Legal Environment

Number of Credits: 3

Course Description: This course introduces students to the legal and regulatory environment in which business organizations operate. Topics explored in this course include the legal system, the legal environment of business, contracts, personal property, sales, negotiable instruments, agency & employment, and business organization.

Pre-/Co-requisites: None

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to:

1. Understand fundamental concepts and terminology in business law;
2. Develop the critical thinking skills for identifying and analyzing issues at the intersection of law and business; and,
3. demonstrate content mastery via classroom participation, exams and term paper.

Instructor: Dr. George Ackerman

Office: Online

Office Hours: Mon- Thurs 11am to 4 pm EST. Do not send texts, I do not use this service.

Phone: 561-667-4209

Email: [george.ackerman@ndus.edu](mailto:george.ackerman@ndus.edu)

Lecture/Lab Schedule: N/A

Textbook(s): Law for Business (Ashcroft & Ashcroft, 19th Edition.) Supplementary reading materials will be provided. Textbook or eBook required. (ISBN-13: 9781305654921)

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**LATE WORK POLICY** (*Documentation is REQUIRED*) See the announcements for detailed policy.

Points are deducted for late submissions/late work.

With appropriate documentation, the following absences may be classified as excused for permitting make up work for missed deadlines:

Emergency medical treatment for self may be considered as an excused absence with appropriate written documentation from the health care facility; Unavoidable jury duty may be considered an excused absence with appropriate written documentation; Employment related training or special assignments may be considered an excused absence with appropriate written documentation; Military reserve or active duty obligations may be considered excused with appropriate written documentation; Students must maintain a clear channel of communication with the instructor.

See the announcements and course for in depth information on the late work policy.

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### **IMPORTANT TERM ASSIGNMENTS:**

#### **TERM PAPER Project:**

#### **TERM PAPER/ PRESENTATION POWERPOINT**

**Part 1** You may select a topic from our textbook or referred to from our modules/units. You are to write an 8-page term. Format/citing requirements are required. Make sure to apply a variety of outside references (rather than just the textbook). Please do not email me papers. They will not count unless through the course. Plan ahead and try tech support if needed. Once the deadline passes, I will be unable to respond to late papers.

**Part 2-** create a 10-12 slide (plus 1 page-add a reference list) (with voice overlay) presentation about your term paper and submit with the term paper.

#### **MID TERM EXAM:**

The exam will consist of essay form questions. This will cover chapters 1 to 6. . Please select 1 topic from each chapter OR you can summarize the full chapter (1,2,3,4, 5 AND 6). Then summarize each in depth. All work must be new and original and cannot have been used earlier in the term. 1 page per question. 6 pages total Answers will be required to be in APA format and in depth. This will be an open book exam and you will have a week to complete. Please work alone. Please do not email me exams. They will not count unless through the course. Plan ahead and try tech support if needed. Once the deadline passes I will be unable to respond to late exams.

#### **FINAL EXAM:**

The exam will consist of essay form questions. This will cover chapters 7 to 12. Please select 1 topic from each chapter OR you can summarize the full chapter (7,8,9,10,11 and 12). Then summarize each in depth. All work must be new and original and cannot have been used earlier in the term. 1 page per question. 6 pages total. Answers will be required to be in APA format and in depth. This will be an open book exam and you will have a week to complete. Please work alone. Please do not email me exams. They will not count unless through the course assignment link. Plan ahead and try tech support if needed. Once the deadline passes I will be unable to respond to late exams.

#### **WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS:**

Each week we will have weekly discussions. APA citing is required. Please post 2 posts per week. 1 post is your initial post (response) plus one post to a fellow classmate. It is vital to follow the samples, go in depth and cite or points are lost. Do not post 1 sentence. Please do not post outside questions on the DBs either. Feel free to use email for questions.

All initial posts are due by Thursday, 11:59 PM of a given week. All responses are due by Saturday 11:59 PM of a given week.

#### **CLASS PARTICIPATION / PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE-NETIQUETTE AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE:**

Part of your grade will reflect your demeanor. In online learning, this means you should abide by the code of “netiquette” described in the course resources file and the attitude you project regarding the work for the course. Do your best with your individual writing assignments without wasting unnecessary emotional energy. Remember that we will typically be working with “ill-defined” problems — problems that, by definition, can be solved in various ways. So give yourself room to be creative without worrying about perfection. In your class participation through the discussion forums, participate actively: contribute to class discussions and support others who do so, take a leadership role in group work (if any), talk to me directly and promptly if online class dynamics do not suit your learning style. Take responsibility for your work by printing and keeping back-up copies of drafts and projects. Be positive.

#### **For Communication: EMAIL**

Please list your name, class, school in all subjects for any correspondence or I am unable to assist you. In addition, only professional, positive emails will be responded to. Make sure to read the course policies.

### Methods for Determining Final Grade

The course is based on a total of 100 points/percentage points. The components are weighted as follows:

#### REQUIRED:

Midterm Exam	25
All Discussion Forums	25
Term Paper/PowerPoint	25
Final Exam	25

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### 100 TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE

To determine the final grades, points will be averaged within categories, weighted and multiplied by the above percentages, and then added.

#### Evaluation of Student Learning

At the completion of this course, you will receive a letter grade reflecting your performance in this course. Letter grades (Depending on the school scale) will be computed for each of the above items based on the number of points earned. Be aware that your final point total will recalibrated to fit the 100 point scale shown below. Your point total is then converted to a letter grade according to the following scale:

<u>Letter Grade Equivalent:</u>	<u>Total Points Earned:</u>
A	100-94
A-	93-90
B+	89-87
B	86-84
B-	83-80
C+	79-77
C	76-74
C-	73-70
D+	69-67
D	66-64
D-	63-60
F	Below 59

Note if applicable: I do NOT Curve students upward. If you have an 89.9% that is a B+/B depending on the syllabus, not an A or A-. A 79.9 is a C/C+ not a B-/B Any requests to curve up would be denied. Feel free to review requirements week 1, cite and go in depth.

## COURSE CALENDAR

Week <b>8/23-12/19</b>	Readings & Assignments
Week 1 <b>8/23-8/29</b>	Read Chapter 1  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format (Graded)  Also post your biography in the DB Area (Not graded)
Week 2 <b>8/30-9/5</b>	Read Chapter 2  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 3 <b>9/6-9/12</b>	Read Chapter 3  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 4 <b>9/13-9/19</b>	Read Chapter 4  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 5 <b>9/20-9/26</b>	Read Chapter 5  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 6 <b>9/27-10/3</b>	Read Chapter 6  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format  <b>MID TERM EXAM DUE 10/3</b>
Week 7 <b>10/4-10/10</b>	Read Chapter 7  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 8 <b>10/11-10/17</b>	Read Chapter 8  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 9 <b>10/18-10/24</b>	Read Chapter 9  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format

Week 10 <b>10/25-10/31</b>	Read Chapter 10  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format  <b>TERM PAPER/POWERPOINT DUE 10/31</b>
Week 11 <b>11/1-11/7</b>	Read Chapter 11  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 12 <b>11/8-11/14</b>	Read Chapter 12  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 13 <b>11/15-11/21</b>	Read Chapter 13  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
<b>11/22-11/28 (break)</b>	
Week 14 <b>11/29-12/5</b>	Read Chapter 14  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 15 <b>12/6-12/12</b>	Read Chapter 15  Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format  <b>FINAL EXAM DUE 12/12</b>
Week 16 <b>12/13-12/19</b>	<b>Course concludes</b>

Grading Rubric: Tasks/Papers/Assignments

LETTER GRADE	LANGUAGE SKILLS	CONTENT & FORMAT	APA STYLE
<b>A= Exceeds most assignment criteria</b>	Perfect spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with liberal use of synonyms to exhibit clear mastery of language/communication	Surpasses minimal length, with meaningful, relevant, individualized, insightful, and organized ideas that flow very well together	Citations are frequent and correct, while making good use of primary or original reference sources.
<b>B = Exceeds some/meets other assignment criteria</b>	Almost perfect spelling or grammar, but with varying tense or voice, and/or irregular use of synonyms	Attains minimal length, with significant, pertinent, important, connected, yet typical thoughts that flow	Citations are common and mostly correct with minor faults, but with too much reliance on secondary or

		cleanly throughout	already referenced sources.
<b>C = Meets most assignment criteria</b>	Occasional errors in spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with repetitive use of several words	Barely reaches minimal length, with a collection of unorganized, but correct facts, that flow poorly	Heavy frequency of block quotes and/or lacking citations, with a few major errors in APA style.
<b>D = Meets some/fails other assignment criteria</b>	Many mistakes in spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with replicated use of many of the same terms	Just below minimal length, with disorganized and confusing thoughts that flow disjointedly	Citations are infrequent or uncommon with poor sources and many major mistakes in APA style.
<b>F = Fails most assignment criteria</b>	Constant inaccuracies in spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with the same vocabulary used tediously	Short of minimal length, with unrelated or incorrect ideas, that have no flow or reach wrong conclusions	Citations absent, or APA style is so badly presented as to make the entire task suspect for plagiarism.

General Education Competency/Learning Outcome(s) OR CTE Competency/Department Learning Outcome(s):

CTE Competency/Goal #1: Employ industry specific skills in preparation for workplace readiness.  
 CTE Competency/Goal #2: Combine general education and vocational skills curriculum

Relationship to Campus Focus: None

Online Classroom Policies:

1. Completion of assignments, tests, and attendance are required. You are responsible for regularly logging in to the Blackboard to complete assignments and retrieve course information.
2. You are expected to attend every class. During our specific class times, we will cover content and instruction on Discussion Boards, exams and Term Paper, which will all be done in Blackboard
3. Students are expected to attend on the Blackboard site, which includes reading the textbook, completing assignments and using the study aids available in Blackboard.
4. Grading is the accumulation of attendance, Discussion Boards, exams and Term Paper for total points.

Student Email Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the Campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

Academic Integrity:

According to the DCB Student Handbook, students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the

responsibility for violation of academic principles, and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. The Code detailed in the Academic Honesty/Dishonesty section of the Student Handbook will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

#### Disabilities or Special Needs:

Students with disabilities or special needs (academic or otherwise) are encouraged to contact the instructor and Disability Support Services.

#### Title IX:

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the College as a whole. Please be aware that all DCB employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the College Title IX Coordinator. This means that if a student tells a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the College's Title IX Coordinator. Students wishing to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility can find a list of resources on the DCB Title IX webpage.