Angelo State University College of Business  
Department of Accounting, Economics, & Finance

BUSI 2301-040 LEGAL AND ETHICAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS  
Spring 2018 Syllabus  
Tuesday/Thursday 8:00AM – 9:15AM  
RAS 104

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Mrs. Michelle Boone, J.D.

E-Mail: michelle.boone@angelo.edu  
*Please use this as the primary form of communication.

Office: Mayer Administration Building 204A

Office Hours: Please e-mail or call for an appointment.

Office Phone: (325) 486-6357

While I am more than happy to work though questions a student might have over the phone, I ask that students utilize their ASU e-mail as the primary form of communication. If I need to relay information about class, I will do so via Blackboard and e-mail so please check your ASU email daily. Should a student e-mail me, they should expect an answer within 24 hours.

Final Exam Information:

Tuesday, May 8th 2017  
8AM to 10AM

Required Text Book:

Law Business and Society, 11th Edition  
Tony McAdams, with Kiren Dosanjh Zucker, and Nancy Neslund  

The access code is NOT required for this course.

Top Hat:
We will be using Top Hat (www.tophat.com) classroom response system in class. We will be working on in-class questions and assignments and tracking attendance using Apple or Android smartphones or tablets, laptops, or through text message.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview (https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to you by email, but if don’t receive this email, you can register by simply visiting www.tophat.com and entering our “Join Code” which is: 738836.

Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: www.tophat.com/pricing.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

**General Course Description:**

An overview of the basic principals of law as they apply to business, with an emphasis on the ethical environment of business. Topics include personal ethics, business ethics, legal ethics, resolution of ethical conflicts, the judicial system and court procedure, alternative dispute resolution, the Constitution and business, business torts and crimes, contracts, bailments, forms of business structure, basic property law, international law, and other relevant legal and ethical topics.

**Course Objectives:**

1) To expose students to the application of business practices within the ethical, political, and legal environment of the United States.

2) To introduce students how professionals effectively navigate complex business issues that lack a clear right answer and to articulate and defend their rationale for doing so.

3) To understand the history and intent of American political, ethical, and legal structures and by so doing to ascertain why proposed solutions to contemporary ethical and social business questions may or may not work.

4) To encourage students to understand and articulate the importance of legal, ethical, and political boundaries upon business behavior and the bearing of these boundaries upon individual values and normative systems.
**Course Grades & Evaluation Criteria**

*Grade Breakdown:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Participation</td>
<td>15 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top Hat Participation</td>
<td>20 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Visit</td>
<td>5 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Class Presentations</td>
<td>15 Points Each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Quizzes</td>
<td>10 Points Each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Exams</td>
<td>100 Points Each</td>
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**Total Points Available:** 400 Points

*Grading Scale:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>400 – 350 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>349 – 299 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>298 – 228 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>227 – 198 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>198 – 0 Points</td>
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</table>

*Evaluation Criteria:*

- Students are expected to read the assignment prior to attending class. A discussion on the assignment will occur each class. In order to receive full points for classroom participation a student should come to class prepared and contribute to classroom discussion without dominating it.
- Many topics covered in this class are controversial – no comments or discussion should be taken personally and all opinions and discussion should be respectful and considerate.
- Each student may meet with me to receive points noted above in my office by **April 1st, 2018**. Each student should contact my office to schedule an appointment based on the student’s availability. Please note, *points will not be given to students who do not schedule an appointment.*
• See the handout on the “In Class Presentations.”
• Three quizzes will be given throughout the semester at my discretion. Each quiz will contain questions based on information either in the reading assignment or distributed during class.
• The dates for each of the three exams are listed below. Exams are not comprehensive and will include questions based on information covered during class, in the textbook, and other materials covered throughout the course.
• Each student may complete one extra credit assignment. It is the student’s responsibility to request this assignment.

Attendance Policy:

• Attendance is required. **Three unexcused absences are allowed before points are deducted, 10 points will be deducted for each unexcused absence.** It is the student’s responsibility to contact me before or after an absence.
• Quizzes cannot be made up unless the student makes arrangements to be absent before missing class.
• **Should a student miss an exam they should contact me within 24 hours for an opportunity to make up the exam.**

Academic Integrity:

I will be fair and impartial as possible. All students at Angelo State University are expected to maintain academic honesty and integrity in this class.

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for one’s own class and/or course work, being individually accountable, and demonstrating intellectual honesty and ethical behavior. Academic integrity is a personal choice to abide by the standards of intellectual honesty and responsibility. Because education is a shared effort to achieve learning through the exchange of ideas, students, faculty, and staff have the collective responsibility to build mutual trust and respect. Ethical behavior and independent thought are essential for the highest level of academic achievement, which then must be measured. Academic achievement includes scholarship, teaching, and learning, all of which are shared endeavors. Grades are a device used to quantify the successful accumulation of knowledge through learning. Adhering to the standards of academic integrity ensures grades are earned honestly. Academic integrity is the foundation upon which students, faculty, and staff build their educational and professional careers.

You are responsible for reading and understanding the Community Policy on Academic Integrity, which can be found at: http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
College of Business Code of Ethics:

Students, faculty, administrators and professional staff of the College of Business should always:

- Be forthright and truthful in dealings with all stakeholders.
- Take responsibility for one’s actions and decisions
- Serve as an example of ethical decision-making behavior to others
- Admit errors when they occur, without trying to conceal them
- Respect the basic dignity of others by treating them as one would wish to be treated.

Student Disability Services:

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  Office of Student Affairs  325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Title IX:

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. Sexual discrimination, sexual misconduct, public indecency, interpersonal violence, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, and stalking are not tolerated at ASU. You are encouraged to report any incidents to ASU’s Title IX Coordinator Michelle Boone at michelle.boone@angelo.edu or using ASU’s online form http://www.angelo.edu/services/title-ix/file-a-complaint.php.
# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>ASSIGNED READING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jan 16th &amp; 18th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Introduction to Course&lt;br&gt;Capitalism &amp; the Role of Government</td>
<td>Ch. 1 (p. 2 – 24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jan 23rd &amp; 25th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Business Ethics</td>
<td>Ch. 2 (p. 51-81)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jan 30th &amp; Feb 1st</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Corporation &amp; Public Policy&lt;br&gt;* Possible Guest Speaker</td>
<td>Ch. 3 (p. 90 – 110; 119 – 126)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Feb 6th &amp; 8th</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Corporation &amp; Public Policy&lt;br&gt;* Possible Guest Speaker&lt;br&gt;Exam Review</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Feb. 13th &amp; 15th</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>1st Exam</strong> <em>(Ch. 1-3)</em>&lt;br&gt;The American Legal System&lt;br&gt;* Nichols v. Niesen (As a class)</td>
<td>Ch. 4 (p. 141 – 171; 176-178)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Feb. 20th &amp; 22nd</strong>&lt;br&gt;The American Legal System&lt;br&gt;* Arnold Schwarzenegger v. Fred Martin Motor Company; Mayer v. Bill Belichick; The New England Patriots; NFL&lt;br&gt;The Constitution and the Bill of Rights&lt;br&gt;* IOTA XI Chapter v. George Mason</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Feb 27th &amp; March 1st</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Constitution and the Bill of Rights&lt;br&gt;* Kelo v. City of New London Connecticut</td>
<td>Ch. 5 (p. 188 – 212; 217-223)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td><strong>March 6th &amp; 8th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Contracts&lt;br&gt;* Vian v. Carey; Hamer v. Sidway; Stambovsky v. Ackley</td>
<td>Ch. 6 (p. 231 – 259; 263-273)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>March 13th &amp; 15th</strong>&lt;br&gt;**** Spring Break ****</td>
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**Week 10**  
March 20th & 22nd  
Catch-up and Exam Review

**Week 11**  
March 27th & 29th  
**2nd EXAM** **(Ch. 4-6)**  
Business Torts  
*Katko v. Briney; Hoyt v. Gutterz Bowl & Lounge; Calles v. Scripto - Tokai*  
Ch. 7  
(p. 277 – 307; 313-321)

**Week 13**  
April 3rd & 5th  
Business Torts Continued  
Government Regulation of Business  
Ch. 8  
(p. 352 – 363)

**Week 14**  
April 10th & 12th  
Employment Law: Employee Rights  
*Yunker v. Honeywell, Inc.; Wait v. Travelers Indemnity Company of Illinois;*  
Ch. 12  
(p. 502 – 533; 536 – 538)

**Week 15**  
April 17th & 19th  
MB OUT  
**Quiz #2 Due April 19th by 10AM**  
**Week 16**  
April 24th & 26th  
Employment Law: Discrimination  
Ch. 13  
(p. 554 – 584; 589 – 597)

**Week 17**  
May 1st & 3rd  
Exam Review

May 8th  
**3rd Exam This Week** **(Ch. 7-8; 12-13)**

**SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR.**