BUSI 6302.FD1 – GRAD Legal & Social Environment of Business (Online)

Course Description/Overview

Analysis of the role of business in contemporary society with emphasis on the legal, social, political, and regulatory factors affecting business.

Prerequisite Knowledge
Graduate Standing

Course Technology
Internet access necessary. Course materials may be found on the University’s Blackboard system at http://blackboard.angelo.edu. The Connect program from McGraw-Hill Education will be accessed through and integrated with your Blackboard Course.

Class Meeting Times
This class will be conducted completely online.

Technical Support
The Technology Service Center (TSC) may be contacted by calling (325) 942-2911 or 1-866-942-2911 or by email at helpdesk@angelo.edu

Faculty/Instructor Information

Whitney Leifeste (formerly Whitney Ruiz)
Senior Instructor of Business Law
Office: RAS 254
Phone: 325-486-6489
E-Mail: whitney.leifeste@angelo.edu

About the Instructor:
Doctorate of Jurisprudence  University of Texas – Austin
Masters in Communication  Angelo State University
Licensed Attorney  State of Texas

Office Hours:
By appointment only.

Response Time
Response to emails will normally be within 24 hours Monday through Friday.
Learning Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to...

1. recognize the application of business practices within the context of existing social, political, and legal environments in the United States,
2. understand the importance of legal, social, and political boundaries placed on business behavior, and to begin to assess the bearing of these boundaries on individual value and normative systems, and
3. explain the history and intent of political, social, and legal structures.

Assessment Methods
You will demonstrate that you have met the objectives above through a combination of exams, homework, and online assessments that will measure your learning.

Textbook, Required Readings, & McGraw-Hill Connect

Textbook: SMARTBOOK ONLINE ACCESS for The Legal Environment of Business, A Managerial Approach: Theory to Practice, 3rd Edition, 2018 (SmartBook Online Access is not required, but based on price it is highly recommended. Must have either online or hardcopy access to the 3rd Edition).
Authors: Sean Melvin, and F.E. Guerra-Pujol
Publisher: McGraw Hill Education
Website: www.mhhe.com
ISBN: 978-1260046410 (this is the SmartBook Online Access for $110.00)
ISBN (optional): 978-1260152876 (this is the LooseLeaf version for $265.00)
ISBN (optional): 978-1259686207 (this is the Hard Back version for $353.00)

YOU DO NOT NEED THE “CONNECT” ACCESS

YOU ONLY NEED ONE VERSION OF THE BOOK LISTED ABOVE, BUT YOU MUST HAVE ACCESS TO THE MOST CURRENT VERSION OF THE BOOK.

Grading Policies

This course employs the following to measure student learning.

- 20% = Chapter Assignments
- 15% = Exam #1
- 15% = Exam #2
- 15% = Exam #3
- 15% = Exam #4
- 10% = Simulation Exercise 1
- 10% = Simulation Exercise 2
Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale:

- A = 90 – 100 %
- B = 80 – 89 %
- C = 70 – 79 %
- D = 60 – 69 %
- F = 59 % and below.

**Missed/Late Work**

There are no makeups!!! This is a very fast paced semester since it must be completed in just 8 weeks. You must be sure that you understand the deadlines and comply with them faithfully. You are responsible for all deadlines. It is your responsibility to understand what is expected of you each week. The structure of the course is simple to follow. Please refer to the Course Outline for details about assignments and deadlines.

**Course Policies**

**Academic Honesty and Integrity**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code and the ASU Student Handbook.

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It is the professor’s intention to be as fair and impartial as is humanly possible. Therefore, all students will be asked to adhere to the same set of guidelines and rules UNLESS there are disabilities or documented extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with the professor and the Student Life Office. Please make sure you inform the professor as soon as any situation arises. Do NOT wait until the problem is compounded by poor class performance, poor attendance, etc.

Academic integrity is expected. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized sharing of work, or unauthorized possession of course materials. The professor assumes that all students can be trusted. Please do not violate this trust. Violation of academic integrity will result in a failing grade for the course.

**Courtesy and Respect**

Courtesy and Respect are essential ingredients to this course. We respect each other's opinions and respect their point of view at all times while in our class sessions/discussions. The use of profanity & harassment of any form is strictly prohibited (Zero Tolerance), as are those remarks concerning one's ethnicity, life style, race (ethnicity), religion, etc., violations of these rules will result in immediate dismissal from the course.

**Accommodations for Disability**

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 Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing studentservices@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Ms. Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Development  
Office of Student Affairs  
University Center, Suite 112  
325-942-2047 Office  
325-942-2211 FAX  
Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu

**Student absence for religious holidays**  
As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day), 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 from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

**Course Drop**  
To view information about how to drop this course or to calculate important dates relevant to dropping this course, you can visit [http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrars_office/course_drop_provisions.php](http://www.angelo.edu/services/registrars_office/course_drop_provisions.php).

**Incomplete as a Course grade**  
As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures), the grade I is given when the student is unable to complete the course because of illness or personal misfortune. An I that is not removed before the end of the next long semester automatically becomes an F. A graduate student will be allowed one year to remove a grade of I before it automatically becomes an F. To graduate from ASU, a student must complete all I’s.

**Grade Appeal Process**  
As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedure (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances), a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at: [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14196-op-1003-grade-grievance](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14196-op-1003-grade-grievance).
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 and 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

General Course Outline

UNIT ONE: Fundamentals of the Legal Environment of Business
- Chapter 1 – Legal Foundations
- Chapter 2 – Business and the Constitution
- Chapter 3 – The American Judicial System, Jurisdiction, and Venue
- Chapter 4 – Resolving Disputes: Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Chapter 5 – Business, Societal, and Ethical Contexts of Law

UNIT TWO: Law and Commerce
- Chapter 6 – Overview and Formation of Contracts
- Chapter 7 – Contract Enforceability and Performance
- Chapter 8 – Contracts for the Sale of Goods

UNIT THREE: Regulation in the Workplace
- Chapter 10 – Agency
- Chapter 11 – Employment Relationships and Labor Law
- Chapter 12 – Employment Discrimination

UNIT FOUR: Business Entities, Securities Regulation, and Corporate Governance
- Chapter 13 – Choice of Business Entity, Sole Proprietorships, and Partnerships
- Chapter 14 – Limited Liability Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships
- Chapter 15 – Corporations
- Chapter 16 – Regulation of Securities Regulation, and Corporate Governance
- Chapter 19 – Antitrust and Regulation of Competition

GENERAL ADVICE WITH REGARD TO FOLLOWING THE SCHEDULE THAT IS POSTED ON THE NEXT PAGE....

Generally speaking, the assignments, exams, simulations, and any other task will be posted by Tuesday of each week (earlier if possible). That means that starting on Monday of each week, you should spend your time reading the assigned chapters in order to be prepared to begin your work the next day. Each week’s task are due by 11:59PM on the Sunday at the end of the week (the only exception being that nothing is due the first Sunday to give extra time to get adjusted to how things are done in this course).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/ Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Chapter/Reading Assignment</th>
<th>Tasks -- Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1 8/27-8/9/2</td>
<td>Chapter 1 – Legal Foundations&lt;br&gt;Chapter 1 Appendix&lt;br&gt;Chapter 2 – Business and the Constitution</td>
<td>·Chapter 1 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 2 Assignment&lt;br&gt;Due: 9/9/18, 11:59PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 9/3-9/9</td>
<td>Chapter 3 – The American Judicial System, Jurisdiction, and Venue&lt;br&gt;Chapter 4 – Resolving Disputes: Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>·Chapter 3 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 4 Assignment&lt;br&gt;Due: 9/9/18, 11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>#3 9/10-9/16</td>
<td>Chapter 5 – Business, Societal, and Ethical Contexts of Law&lt;br&gt;Chapter 6 – Overview and Formation of Contracts</td>
<td>·Chapter 5 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·EXAM #1 (Chs 1-5)&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 6 Assignment&lt;br&gt;Due: 9/16/18, 11:59PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4 9/17-9/23</td>
<td>Chapter 7 – Contract Enforceability and Performance&lt;br&gt;Chapter 8 – Contracts for the Sale of Goods</td>
<td>·Chapter 7 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 8 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·EXAM #2 (Chs 6-8)&lt;br&gt;Due: 9/23/18, 11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>#5 9/24-9/30</td>
<td>Chapter 10 – Agency&lt;br&gt;Chapter 11 – Employment Relationships and Labor Law</td>
<td>·Simulation Exercise 1&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 10 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 11 Assignment&lt;br&gt;Due: 9/30/18, 11:59PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6 10/1-10/7</td>
<td>Chapter 12 – Employment Discrimination&lt;br&gt;Chapter 13 – Choice of Business Entity, Sole Proprietorships, and Partnerships</td>
<td>·Chapter 12 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·EXAM #3 (Chs 10-12)&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 13 Assignment&lt;br&gt;Due: 10/7/18, 11:59PM</td>
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<td>#7 10/8-10/14</td>
<td>Chapter 14 – Limited Liability Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships&lt;br&gt;Chapter 15 – Corporations</td>
<td>·Simulation Exercise 2&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 14 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 15 Assignment&lt;br&gt;Due: 10/14/18, 11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8 10/15-10/19</td>
<td>Chapter 16 – Regulation of Securities Regulation, and Corporate Governance&lt;br&gt;Chapter 19 – Antitrust and Regulation of Competition</td>
<td>·Chapter 16 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·Chapter 19 Assignment&lt;br&gt;·EXAM #4 (Chs 13-16, 19)&lt;br&gt;Due: 10/19/18, 11:59PM&lt;br&gt;Note this is a Friday!</td>
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**This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor.**