

# BUSI 2301-020-12195 – Legal and Ethical Environment of Business

## Course Description/Overview

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An overview of the basic principles 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 Technology

Students must be able to utilize Blackboard functionality.

### Class Meeting Times

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:45 AM in Rassman 104

### 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](mailto:helpdesk@angelo.edu)

## Faculty/Instructor Information

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Dr. Conklin

*Powell Endowed Professor of Business Law*

Office: Rassman 254

Phone: 325-486-6489

E-Mail: [michael.conklin@angelo.edu](mailto:michael.conklin@angelo.edu)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

## Course Objectives

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### 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 to how professionals effectively navigate complex business issues that lack a clear right answer.
3. To explore the history and intent of American political, ethical, and legal structures.

## Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the elements of contract formation and explain what is and what is not a contract
- Compare the differences between civil and criminal law
- Identify the distinctions between punitive and compensatory damages and the subsequent compensatory categories of pain and suffering, lost wages, and loss of consortium.
- Differentiate between what the law dictates and what a person(s) is able to prove in court
- Illustrate the objectivity of law by referring to split decision cases at the U.S. Supreme Court, Appellate Court, and State Supreme Court levels
- Recognize the British and Roman legal systems' roles in the evolution of America's legal system
- Characterize the differences between Utilitarianism and Deontology

## Assessment Methods

Various assessment methods such as quizzes, essays, and discussion posts will be utilized.

## Course Textbook and Required Readings

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Business Law and the Regulation of Business 12<sup>th</sup> edition by Richard Mann and Barry Roberts ISBN 978-1-305-50955-9. You do not have to pay for any extra online content. The textbook, whether in print or digital, is all you need for this class.

## Grading Policies

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This course employs the following to measure student learning.

<b>Grade Calculations</b>	<b>Percent of Grade</b>	<b>Due</b>
Quizzes, Essays, Misc. Assignments	60%	Saturday night
Exams	30%	In class 10/21, 12/2, 12/9
Attendance	10%	

Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale:

A = 90 – 100 %

B = 80 – 89.9 %

C = 70 – 79.9 %

D = 60 – 69.9 %

F = 59.9 % and below.

Note that, because exams are multiple choice, any score less than 30.0% will result in a 0% on that exam.

### **Response Time**

Students are expected to check their email every weekday. The instructor will do the same.

### **Attendance**

Showing up to things on time is an important part of success in the business world. After two freebees you will be docked 20% of your attendance grade (2% of your final grade) every time you do not attend class from start to finish. Excused absences will be given the opportunity to make up the time they missed in class.

### **Late Work**

Every due date for this class has a built in 24-hour grace period where you can still receive full credit. After that, absolutely no late work is accepted. Dealing with deadlines is a large part of being successful in the business world. If I do not have possession of your assignment by the final cutoff, then it is late. Note that this includes accidentally submitting the wrong assignment and not realizing your error until after the due date. Also, “.pages” files (which is the default word processor for Mac computers) are not acceptable as I cannot open them. The business world runs on PC. Note that all deadlines are 11:59:01 PM.

### **Extra Credit**

There is one extra credit offering in this class. The details are listed in Blackboard. This assignment can be submitted any time before the deadline of November 20th at 11:59:01 PM. After the 24-hour grace period, absolutely, positively, no extra credit of any kind for any reason whatsoever will be offered (Don't ask!).

## Course Policies

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### *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, which is in both print and web versions of the ASU Student Handbook.

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.**

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.

### *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

### *Courtesy and Respect*

Courtesy and respect are essential ingredients to this course. We respect each other's opinions and respect others points of view at all times while in our class sessions. The use of profanity and harassment of any form is strictly prohibited (Zero Tolerance), as are those remarks concerning one's ethnicity, life style, religion, etc., violations of these rules will result in appropriate disciplinary actions.

### *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](mailto:studentservices@angelo.edu), or by contacting:

Mrs. 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](mailto:Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu)

### ***Student absence for religious holidays***

As stated in the Angelo State University Operating Policy and Procedures (OP 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day), a student who intends to miss class 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. For undergraduates, 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 Procedures (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, has experienced inequitable evaluation procedures, or inappropriate grading practices, 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 grade appeal 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>.

Title IX at Angelo State University:

The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.  
Title IX Coordinator  
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
325-942-2022  
[michelle.miller@angelo.edu](mailto:michelle.miller@angelo.edu)

You may also file a report online 24/7 at [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form). If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic at 325-942-2171, Counseling Services at 325-942-2371 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345. For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

## Course Outline

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<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
1	Get your textbook
2	Obergefell oral arguments essay
3	Obergefell opinion essay
4	Chapters 1 and 2 quiz
5	Chapters 3 and 4 quiz
6	Chapters 6 and 7 quiz
7	Calculate damages assignment
8	Chapters 8 and 9 quiz
9	Exam 1 on Thursday
10	Research Critique essay
11	Chapters 10 and 11
12	Creative Video assignment
13	Chapters 12 and 13 quiz Optional extra credit due
14	Thanksgiving Break, no class on Thr. No assignments
15	Exam 2 on Thursday
16	Final Exam 12/9 8:00-10:00 AM