

BUSI 2301-010 LEGAL AND ETHICAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS
Fall 2021 Syllabus
RAS 104

Course Description/Overview

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, forms of business structure, basic property law, international law, and other relevant legal and ethical topics.

Prerequisite Knowledge

No prerequisite class is required.

Course Technology

- Blackboard (Including Collaborate)
- Pearson MyLab (i.e. the Access Code that comes with the text)

Class Meeting Times

8AM to 9:15AM

Final Exam Time

Tuesday, December 7th, 2021 –Due before Midnight

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

Instructor: Ms. Michelle Miller, J.D.
Special Assistant to the President & Title IX Coordinator
Adjunct Faculty member

Education: Licensed Attorney
State of Texas

Doctor of Jurisprudence
Law & Science Concentration, Energy Law
Texas Tech University School of Law

Bachelor of Science
Communication with an Emphasis in Public Relations
Eastern New Mexico University

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

When emailing please do so in a professional manner. This is part of the educational process of this course and something that will benefit you both personally and professionally. For guidance on what a professional email looks like, please visit: <https://www.fastweb.com/student-news/articles/the-10-professional-email-tips>.

Office: Mayer Administration Building 210

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

Office Phone: (325) 486-6357

While I am more than happy to work through 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 Monday through Friday.

Course Objectives

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to...

1. Understand the application of business practices and the connection with the ethical, political, and legal environment of the United States.
2. Know how professionals effectively navigate complex business issues that lack a clear right answer and articulate and defend the rationale for their choice in resolution.
3. 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. Articulate the importance of legal, ethical, and political boundaries upon business behavior and the bearing of those boundaries upon individual values and normative systems.

Assessment Methods

- Students will be assessed based on class participation, various assignments, and exams.
- 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.
- See the handout titled “Descriptions of Various Assignments” for instructions on how to complete the assignments in this syllabus.

- The dates for each exam 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.

Course Textbook and Required Readings

May be purchased at the ASU bookstore or through the publisher’s website the first time you attempt to log in through MyLab on Blackboard. (Instructions are available on Blackboard).

2019 MyLab Business Law with Pearson eText -- Access Card – For Business Law, 10th Edition

Henry R. Cheeseman

ISBN – 13: 9780135839041

You must have access to the current edition of the Textbook and the Pearson My BLaw Lab in order to complete this course. You may however choose whether to access the text via download or purchase the book in a hardback version.

Other readings will be assigned in a timely manner as needed and will be provided to you as PDF, in MS Word format, or as a link to an online resource.

Grading Policies

This course employs the following to measure student learning.

Assignment	Value/Points Available
News Presentation	50 Points
Case Presentation	50 Points
My BLaw Lab Assignments Dynamic Study Modules – 5 Points Each (105 points total) Quizzes – 10 Points Each (160 points total)	275 Points
Contract	100 Points
Three Exams – 300 Points Each	300 Points
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE:	775 Points

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

A	775 - 620 Points
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B	619 - 465 Points
C	464 - 310 Points
D	309 - 155 Points
F	155 - 0 Points

Extra Credit Opportunity:

Complete a Personal Code of Ethics – 10 Points

This assignment has no length requirement but should reflect that the student understands what a “Code of Ethics” is and should guide the student both personally and professionally.

Response Time

Students should expect a response to emails within 24 hours unless I instruct otherwise.

Grading will be completed within four course periods.

Missed/Late Work

Late work will not be accepted.

An exception will be made for exams with a valid excuse provided students communicate with the professor immediately (within 8 hours or an exception will not be made).

Participation/Absenteeism

Students are expected to participate in the course as noted above.

Absences will be excused provided students email their excuse for their absence within 24 hours. Extensive absences without excuse (3 or more) will be addressed by a reduced final grade. For each unexcused absence past number three, I reserve the right to reduce the final grade by 10 points for each absence.

Final Exam

The final exam is not comprehensive and simply the third exam given in the course.

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, 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.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Norris-Vincent 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, or by contacting:

Dr. 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

Title IX at Angelo State University

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. 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. This is done in order to connect students with resources and options in addressing the allegations reported. As a student, are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU's Office of Title IX Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator. You may do so by contacting:

Michelle Miller, J.D.
Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.miller@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at 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.

The Office of Title IX Compliance also provides accommodations related to pregnancy (such as

communicating with your professors regarding medically necessary absences, modifications required because of pregnancy, etc.). If you are pregnant and need assistance or accommodations, please contact the Office of Title IX Compliance utilizing the information above.

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

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/registrar_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>.

Course Outline/Tentative Schedule

Assignment Expectations:

- MyLab assignments will be due before Midnight the night before the review.
- Any assignments that are to be turned in via email should be submitted as follows:
 - [LAST NAME] Assignment Name
- Any attachments to email should be attached in Word or PDF format.

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
<i>Module #1 - The American Legal System & Introduction to Ethics</i>		
Aug. 24th	Introduction to Course	Get Started – Lab Intro to Dynamic Study Plan –Lab
Aug. 26th	Chapter 1 – Legal Heritage & The Digital Age	<i>Chapter 1</i> Dynamic Study Module- Lab Quiz– Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Brown v. Board of Education;</i> <i>Fisher v. University of Texas</i>
Aug. 31st	Chapter 2 – Courts & Jurisdiction	<i>Chapter 2</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>V.L. v. E.L.;</i> <i>Carter’s of New Bedford, Inc. v. Nike, Inc.</i>
Sep. 2nd	Chapter 3 – Judicial, Alternative, & E-Dispute Resolution	<i>Chapter 3</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Wade v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.;</i> <i>Kindred Nursing v. Clark;</i>
Sep. 7th	Chapter 43 – Administrative Law and Regulatory Agencies	<i>Chapter 43</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>EPA v. EME Homer City Generation, L.P.</i>
Sep. 9th	NO CLASS	
Sep. 14 th	Chapter 42 – Ethics and Social Responsibility of Business	<i>Chapter 42</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Samara Brothers, Inc.;</i> <i>POM Wonderful LLC v. Coca-Cola</i>

		<i>Company</i>
Sep. 16th & 21st	** Review & Exam #1** DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON Sep. 21st	ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 16th
Module #2 – The Basics		
Sep. 23 st	Chapter 4 – Constitutional Law for Business and E-Commerce	<i>Chapter 4</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Mutual Pharmaceutical v. Bartlett</i> <i>Heart of Atlanta Motel v. U.S.</i> <i>Packingham v. North Carolina</i> <i>Obergefell v. Hodges</i>
Sep. 28 th	Chapter 8 – Criminal Law & Cybercrime * GUEST SPEAKER *	<i>Chapter 8</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Maryland v. Kulbicki;</i> <i>U.S. v. Barrington;</i> <i>Riley v. California</i>
Sep. 30 th	Chapter 5 – Intentional Torts & Negligence	<i>Chapter 5</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Wal-Mart v. Cockrell;</i> <i>Jones v. City of Seattle;</i> <i>Aleo v. SLB Toys USA</i>
Oct. 5 th	Chapter 6 – Product & Strict Liability	<i>Chapter 6</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Bilenky v. Roybi Tech., Inc.;</i> <i>Shoshone Coca-Cola Bottling v. Dolinksi;</i> <i>Genie Industries v. Matak;</i> <i>Braswell v. Cincinnati Inc.;</i> <i>Cummins v. BIC USA</i>

Oct. 7 th	Chapter 7 – Intellectual Property & Information Technology	<p><i>Chapter 7</i> Dynamic Study Module- Lab Quiz- Lab</p> <p><u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Association for Molecular Pathology v. Myriad Genetics, Inc.;</i> <i>Samsung Electronics v. Apple;</i> <i>Star Athletica v. Varsity;</i></p>
Oct. 12th & 14th	** Review & Exam #2** EXAM DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON 14th	ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 12th
Module #3 Contract Law		
Oct. 19 th	Chapter 9 – Nature of Traditional and E-Contracts (Part III: Contracts & E-Commerce)	<p><i>Chapter 9</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab</p> <p><u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Kolodziej v. Mason;</i> <i>Facebook, Inc. v. Winklevoss;</i></p>
Oct. 21 st	<p>Chapter 10: Agreement</p> <p>Chapter 11: Consideration & Promissory Estoppel (Start)</p> <p><i>*Browse these chapters</i></p>	<p><i>Chapter 10</i> Dynamic Study Module- Lab</p> <p><u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>McKee v. Isle of Capri Casinos;</i> <i>Ehlen v. Melvin;</i></p> <p><i>Chapter 11</i> Dynamic Study Module- Lab</p> <p><u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Ferguson v. Carnes;</i> <i>Cooper v. Smith;</i> <i>Clemmons v. Kansas City Chiefs Football Club, Inc.</i></p>
Oct. 26 th	<p>Chapter 12: Capacity & Legality</p> <p>Chapter 16 – Breach of Contract and Remedies</p>	<p><i>Chapter 12</i> Dynamic Study Module- Lab</p> <p><u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Ivie v. Smith;</i> <i>DeCormier v. Harley Davidson</i></p> <p><i>Chapter 16</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab</p>

	<i>*Browse these chapters</i>	<u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Burke v. 401 N. Wabash Venture, LLC;</i> <i>Alba v. Kaufmann;</i>
Oct. 28 th	Chapter 18 – Formation of Sales & Lease Contracts Chapter 20 – Remedies for Breach of Sales & Lease Contracts	<i>Chapter 18</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab <i>Chapter 20</i> <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Commercial Furniture, Inc. v. Schneider & Associates, PLLC</i>
NOV. 2nd	** CONTRACT & MYLab DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON NOV. 2nd **	EMAIL TO: MICHELLE.MILLER@ANGELO.EDU SUBJECT: [LAST NAME]_Contract
<i>Module #4 Business Formation & Employment Law</i>		
Nov. 2 nd	Chapter 29: Agency Formation & Termination	<i>Chapter 29</i> <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Smith v. Delta Tau Delta, Inc.</i> <i>Eco-Clean, Inc. v. Brown</i> <i>Bosse v. Chili's Grill & Bar</i>
Nov. 4 th	Chapter 30 – Liability of Principals and Agents to Third Parties	<i>Chapter 30</i> <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Matthews v. Food Lion, LLC</i> <i>Burlarley v. Wal-Mart</i>
Nov. 9 th	Chapter 31 – Employment, Worker, Protection and Immigration Law	<i>Chapter 31</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab
Nov. 11 th	Chapter 33 – Equal Opportunity in Employment	<i>Chapter 33</i> Dynamic Study Module – Lab Quiz – Lab
Nov. 16 th	Chapter 34 – Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and General Partnerships	<i>Chapter 34:</i> Dynamic Study Module- Lab Quiz - Lab <u>Cases in Class:</u> <i>Bank of America, N.A. v. Barr</i> <i>Pegg v. Kohn</i>
Nov. 18 th	Chapter 36 – Corporate Formation	<i>Chapter 36:</i>

	& Financing	Cases in Class: <i>Menendez v. O’Niel</i>
Nov. 23rd	Chapter 40 – Franchise & Special Forms of Business * GUEST SPEAKER *	Chapter 40: Cases in Class: Rainey v. Domino’s Pizza Espinosa v. Accor North America
Nov. 25th	NO CLASS Happy Thanksgiving!	
Nov. 30th	Catch Up	
Dec. 2nd & 7th	** Review & Exam #3** EXAM DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 7th	ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS DUE BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 2nd

****The schedule is subject to change.***