



PRAIRIE VIEW
A&M UNIVERSITY

Course Syllabus

Prairie View A&M University - College of Business

BLAW 2203 Legal Environment of Business Fall 2017

Instructor: Lois A. Blyden, Esq.

Section # and CRN:	Sec	CRN	Days	Time	BLG. Rm
	BLAW	12788	Z01	Online	

Office Location: Agriculture/Business Multipurpose Building Office #334
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Office Hours: MWF 7: 00- 10:00

**Mode of
Instruction:** Online

**Catalog
Description:** **BLAW Legal Environment of Business**

“A study of the legal aspects of the business environment and the legal rights and potential liabilities of business persons. The presentation of law as an expanding social and political institution in the environment of business.”

Prerequisites: **Prerequisite:** Passing University admissions reading test

READING MATERIALS:

Business Law: Text and Cases [Hardcover]

Kenneth W. Clarkson (Author), Roger LeRoy Miller (Author), Frank B. Cross
<http://www.amazon.com/Business-Law-Kenneth-W-Clarkson/dp/0324655223> - #

Student's Edition

ISBN 13: 978-0-538-47082-7

ISBN 10:0-538-47082-8

Student Learning Outcomes:

Course Goals or Overview:

Objectives of this Course

1. Civil and Criminal Procedure

Explain the need for law, the sources of law, differentiate between civil and criminal cases and describe the elements of each, and describe civil and criminal procedures.

2. Business Law

Define different types of business crimes, such as arson, forgery, and embezzlement, cyber space crimes.

3. Tort Law

Differentiate between negligence and intentional torts, explain a person's rights and duties in relation to tort law, list the main intentional torts against people and property, and distinguish between a tort and a crime and describe remedies available for each. Define negligence and explain the concepts of the reasonable person test and proximate cause.

4. Tort Law

Explain the concept of strict liability and describe circumstances under which it is imposed on business. Compare and contrast negligence, strict liability, and proximate cause.

5. Intellectual Property

Explain the concept of intellectual property, give examples of intellectual property, and define the laws of patents, copyrights, and trademarks.

6. Contract Law

Explain the nature and importance of contracts, the elements of a valid contract, and the classes of contracts (express and implied, unilateral and bilateral, and oral and written and acceptance the formation of contracts). Explain a valid offer and how offers are terminated, recognize the requirements of an acceptance, . Minors' contractual rights and responsibilities. Explain what remedies are available for (misrepresentation, mistake, duress, and undue influence).

7. Contract Law

Analyze the concept of performance and analyze the requirements for valid consideration, define the different types of consideration, and list exceptions to the requirements of consideration.

8. Administrative

Distinguish different types of laws and agencies that protect citizens under federal laws and regulations.

9. Property Law

Distinguish between real property, personal property, and fixtures and describe the different types of co-ownership of personal property. Understand the concept of Eminent Domain and the power that the Constitution gave to the Government over real property.

10. Property Law

Explain the rights and obligations of landlords and tenants, identify the conditions in which an eviction can occur, and determine liability for landlords and tenants. Define and compare liens, licenses, easements, and eminent domain.

11. Agent and Principle

Understand an Agent and principle relationship. What are the responsibilities or liabilities of the principle?

12. Corporations

Understand and be able to choose the formation of a business entity (sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, etc.), including, liability, losses and

profits. The entity taxation risk.

13. **Constitutional Law**

Identify the difference between Interstate and Intrastate Commerce. Understand substantive due process and procedural due process, equal Protection, the protection of speech and the clear and present danger doctrine, freedom of expression. Identify what standards determine whether a form of symbolic conduct is protected by the First Amendment.

14. **Constitutional Law-**

Discuss the basics of freedom of expression applies to the local forum, commercial speech, defamation, obscenity, freedom of the press, and political speech. Explain the establishment clause. Examine the concept of the free exercise of religion. Discuss the power of Congress to enforce the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments

15. **Criminal Law**

Felony v. Misdemeanor

Understand that crimes are generally categorized as felonies or misdemeanors based on their nature and the maximum punishment that can be imposed.

Identify specific elements of a crime that the prosecution must prove beyond a [reasonable doubt](#) in order to obtain a conviction: (1) that a crime has actually occurred (actus reus), (2) that the accused intended the crime to happen (mens rea) and (3) concurrence of the two meaning there is a timely relationship between the first two factors.

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Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Exams – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material

Projects – web development assignments designed to measure ability to apply presented course material

Class Participation – daily attendance and participation in class discussion




















Course Procedures
















Submission of Assignments:





















Each assignment’s instructions include its particular submission methods and requirements. Online Methodology. Submission of Forum Discussions, Assignments, Exams and Quizzes.
















Tentative Course Calendar


DATE	Chap/pg*	Topic	Due Dates, etc.
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<p>Week -1</p>	<p>Chapter 1 Chapter 1 Chapter 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings for the Week 1 •  Functions of the Law •  Stages of a Lawsuit •  How to Write A Brief •  Jurisdiction of the Courts •  Courts Power point presentation •  What is Law-Civil Procedure • Welcome-Please use the forum below to • Introduce yourself. • Individual Requirements •  Student's Introduction Forum •  Attendance Forum 	
<p>Week 2</p>	<p>Chapter 2</p>	<p>Tort Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings for the Week •  Tort Law Word document •  Exam #1 Negligence Word document •  Negligence Word document •  Present Value Discount Table • Individual Requirements •  Discussion Forum-Fatal Pit Bull Mauling •  Attendance Forum 	
<p>Week 3</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tort Law Continues • Readings for the Week •  Intellectual Property Notes •  -China and Intellectual Property •  Intell. Property-Smuckers Peanut Butter • Individual Requirements •  Intellectual Property-Software Company  Intellectual Property- Jack Daniels Lawsuit 	

		 Attendance Forum	
Week 4	Chapter 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional Law • Readings for the Week •  Constitutional Law Notes Word document • Individual Requirements •  Rights of Aliens PDF document •  Rights of an Alien Assignment •  Attendance Forum • 	
Week 5	<p>*****</p> <p>Exam Day</p> <p>.....</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional Law Continues •  Bus Law HISCAPPE- Search and Seizure •  Miranda Warning Word document •  Probable Cause Word document • Individual Requirements •  Constitutional Law- A tangy Situation • Exam #1- Negligence and Constitutional Law •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Law •  Existing Employment Laws • Readings for the Week •  Employment Law-Discrimination- Supreme Court Recent Ruling •  Filing a Charge With EEOC- EEOC.Gov •  Equal Pay Gender Discrimination • Individual Requirements •  Employment Law-Wrongful Termination 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  Forum- Equal Pay Gender Discrimination- •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 7	Chapter 35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #1 •  Employment Law Agreement and Quiz •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal Law • Readings for the Week •  Criminal Law- Substantive Power-point •  Criminal Law •  Criminal Procedures •  Criminal Justice t •  Radical Criminology Assignment •  Miranda Warnings Word document • Individual Requirements •  Criminal Ethical Dilemma •  Radical Criminology Assignment •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 9	Chapter 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal Law Notes Cont. • Readings for the Week •  Texas Felony Process •  Criminal Law Self Defense •  Criminal Law- Stand Your Ground • Individual Requirements •  Discussion on Stand Your Ground Laws •  Attendance Forum •  Probable Cause and Macy's and NYPD 	
Week 10	Chapter 49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Law • Readings for the Week •  Real Property Law text file • Individual Requirements 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 11	Chapter 50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Law Continue • What is Eminent Domain •  What is Eminent Domain • Individual Requirements •  Eminent Domain Research Assignment •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency Law • Readings for the Week •  Agency Law Word document •  Quiz #2- Agency Law Scenarios •  Contracts Notes-Elements •  Parol Evidence Rule. Word document • Individual Requirements •  Parole Evidence Rule Forum •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 13	Chapter 49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract Law • Readings for the Week •  Contract Law Notes #1 •  Contract Law Notes #2 • Individual Requirements <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  Attendance Forum 	
Week 14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readings for the Week • Individual Requirements •  Contract Law and the UCC •  Attendance Forum • Review Notes on Property Law and -UCC law 	

Week 16	Final exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  Attendance Forum Final Exam- Property Law and UCC	
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Grading Matrix-Note-grades will be lowered by 1 grade level for a student who has more than 6 absences.**

Instrument	Value (percentages)	Total
Individual Forums	4 at 10 points each	40
Individual Assignment	2 at 30_each	60
Individual presentation	1 at <u>30 points</u> each	30
Test	1 at <u>35 points</u> each	35
Quiz	2 at <u>35 points.</u> each (Wk. 7 & Wk. 12)	70
Final Exam	88	88
Total:		323

Final Determination

290- 323 = A

258 - 289 = B

226- 257 = C

193- 225 = D

192 and below is an "F"

Grade Determination is based on this scale:

A = 90 and above;

B = 80 - 89;

C = 70 - 79;

D = 60 - 69;

F = 59 or below

Exam Methods and Examity

In this class, tests will be administered remotely by an online authentication and proctoring service called Examity®, which gives you the flexibility to schedule exams at your convenience and take them wherever you want.

To prepare for using Examity®, you will need to meet the following technical requirements:

- Working Webcam and Microphone which can be tested at www.testmycam.net
- An Internet connection of at least 3Mbps (www.speedtest.net)
- Chrome/ Mozilla/ Safari/ Internet Explorer/ Microsoft Edge browser

- Up to date Operating system (Windows or Mac OS)

Please click on the link below to run an automated systems check

<http://prod.examity.com/systemcheck/ComputerReadinessCheck.aspx>

If you do not pass the systems check or have any questions or concerns, you can contact Examity's® technical support team 24/7 via email at support@examity.com or phone at (855) 392-6489.

The objectives of the course can be met by:

- 1) Purchasing, reading, and studying the required materials as well as properly taking and studying notes after class.
- 2) Reading the text and supplemental readings before class and preparing relevant questions.
- 3) Attending class and utilizing teams/study groups.
- 4) Asking for and seeking help during office hours.
- 5) Keeping all deadlines by timely posting

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Exams – written tests designed to measure knowledge of presented course material

Forum Exercises – written assignments designed to supplement and reinforce course material

Class Participation – daily attendance and participation in class discussions

Assignments *Individual and Team – supplement the learning of leadership principles-

Course Procedures

Attendance

Must sign the attendance forum by Fridays 11:59 p.m. of every week. Anyone not logging into that forum by then will be considered and marked absent for the week.

Submission of Assignments:

All assignments must be submitted online to eCourses for grading, must submit ALL written work- must be in APA (American Psychological Association) format unless the assignment states otherwise. More details are provided under “the Assignments” tabs.

News Forum

A news forum is at the top of the classroom. Look for its tab. From time to time I will be sending messages through the News Forum and your Personal E-mails.

Student’s E-mail

The Instructor will only forward e-mails to the e-mail that the University has on file. Please be sure to update your e-mail through Panther Track as soon as you register for this course.

Formatting Documents:

Microsoft Word is the standard word processing tool used at PVAMU. If you’re using other word processors, be sure to use the “save as” tool and save the document in either the Microsoft Word, Rich Text, or plain text format.

eCourses Statement: /eCourses is a tool that Prairie View A&M University uses to improve the educational experience with Internet-enabled technology that connects teacher education candidates, faculty, researchers and the community in a growing network of education environments dedicated to better communication, collaboration and content.

Students must be familiar with eCourses. Various activities, documents, and other resources will be posted electronically on our course website. These are designed to enhance your potential for success in mastering the learning objectives.

The most essential tool for success in this class is your textbook. Notes posted on eCourses are concise. Therefore, notes should be used in combination with the textbook when preparing for an exam.

Discussion

In the "Discussion" areas of the course, you, as a student, can interact with your instructor and classmates to explore questions and comments related to the content of this course.

A successful student in online education is one who takes an active role in the learning process. You are therefore encouraged to participate in the discussion areas to enhance your learning experience throughout each week.

The discussions will be graded for:

- 1. Frequency—Number of your discussion comments, and Number of your contributions**
- 2. Quality—Content of your contributions. Not just I agree but must contain substance**

Students are expected to log into the course and post (respond) in the discussion topics a minimum of three (first post answer discussion question, second and third posts respond to two colleagues) posts per discussion.

Quality—Content of your contributions. Examples of quality posts include:

- providing additional information to the discussion;**
- elaborating on previous comments from others;**
- presenting explanations of concepts or methods to help fellow teacher educator candidate s,**
- presenting reasons for or against a topic in a persuasive fashion,**
- sharing your own personal experiences that relate to the topic**

Weekly Activities/Assignments/Discussions

Individual Forums and Instructions

There are 9 individual forums; each student must participate in them. They can be found in Weeks 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, and 14= 10 points each totaling 90 points. No late assignments will be accepted unless you have a valid excuse along with supporting documentation. Forums will be closed at the end of the week.

Late Individual Assignment from due date

There are individual assignments. They are found in Weeks 4,6,7,8, and 12. They are worth 20 points each totaling 100 points.

If an individual assignment is late three (3) points are automatically deducted and then a one (1) point off for each day thereafter until the assignment is uploaded.

Team Forums –

The members of the class are divided in teams based on the number of students. If there is a team assignment, each team member must participate in the team forum assignments. Late submission of an assignment will affect **all the team members.** Therefore, team members must urge all of their team members to participate in the assignments. If a team reports to me that a team member is not doing his share of work on the weekly team participation report, that team member will obtain a **zero (0)** for that assignment.

Late Team Assignment from date

If a team Paper Presentation Project is assigned (some teams will have to submit their project while another team will have to review and respond to the Power-point of that week-then the ones who are responding in the next week will have to upload their presentation the next week. Please check the forum for the chosen teams of each week). The presentation is worth forty (20) points. If late five (5) points is automatically deducted and then one (1) point off for each day thereafter until the assignment is uploaded.

Time and Place for Exams

Exams may be given on campus, However special considerations will be given for those students who live outside the Houston area.- Usually regular semester test will be given On campus, and the final exam will also be Onground in a classroom, depending on room availability. Students will be given ample notice of the date, time and place for any test/exams that are scheduled Onground. Please inform the Instructor if you are taking the class from out of town, there will be provisions for those who have a valid reason.

Strong Advice

Students are required to log-on to the e-course website often to participate in discussion. It is strongly advised that you check the discussion area daily to keep abreast of discussions. When a topic is posted, everyone is required to participate. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor. Late discussions after the due date will not be accepted nor graded. They will receive a zero, unless student provides a valid excuse. Remember that everything Online is dated.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) **Grammatical errors**

can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.

Students are urged to contact me for Onground office hours as soon as they have concerns about their grades. There will not be any extra assignments at the end of the semester. If you are failing you will not be allowed to write an extra paper, resubmit your papers, no late post assignments.

Furthermore, there will be no late posting of previous discussions in the forum after Week 14th.

Technical Considerations for Online and Web-Assist Courses

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements:

- Pentium with Windows XP or PowerMac with OS 9
- 56K modem or network access
- Internet provider with SLIP or PPP
- 8X or greater CD-ROM
- 64MB RAM
- Hard drive with 40MB available space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Netscape Communicator ver. 4.61 or Microsoft Internet Explorer ver. 5.0 /plug-ins
- Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:
 - Sending and receiving email
 - A working knowledge of the Internet
 - Proficiency in Microsoft Word
 - Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader
 - Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette): students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats when directed to do so. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others in the discussions. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated. When referring to information from books, websites or articles, please use APA standards to reference sources.

Technical Support: Students should call the Prairie View A&M **University Helpdesk at 936-261-2525** for technical issues with accessing your online course. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. For other technical questions regarding your online course, call the **Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3290 or 936-261-3282**

Communication Expectations and Standards:

All emails or requesting assistance from the Professor will receive a response from the instructor within 48 hours.

You can send email anytime that is convenient to you, but I check my email messages continuously during the day throughout the work-week (Monday through Friday). I will respond to email messages during the work-week by the close of business (5:00 pm) on the day following my receipt of them. Unless an emergency-**Emails that I receive on Friday will be responded to by the close of business on the following Monday.**

Submission of Assignments:

Assignments, Papers, Exercises, and Projects will be distributed and submitted through your online course. Directions for accessing your online course will be provided.

Additional assistance can be obtained from the **Office of Distance Learning.**

Famous Government Quotes

A government big enough to give you everything you want is big enough to take everything you have.

[Barry Goldwater](#)

A government that is big enough to give you all you want is big enough to take it all away.

[Barry Goldwater](#)

Ancient Rome declined because it had a Senate, now what's going to happen to us with both a House and a Senate?

[Will Rogers](#)

Christmas is the time when kids tell Santa what they want and adults pay for it. Deficits are when adults tell government what they want and their kids pay for it.

[Richard Lamm](#)

Democracy gives every man the right to be his own oppressor.

[James Russell Lowell](#)

Democracy is an abuse of statistics.

[Jorge Luis Borges](#)

Democracy is the art and science of running the circus from the monkey cage.

[H. L. Mencken](#)

Democracy is the only system that persists in asking the powers that be whether they are the powers that ought to be.

[Sydney J. Harris](#)

Economics is extremely useful as a form of employment for economists.

[John Kenneth Galbraith](#)

Every government is a parliament of whores. The trouble is, in a democracy, the whores are us.

[P. J. O'Rourke](#)

For in reason, all government without the consent of the governed is the very definition of slavery.

[Jonathan Swift](#)

Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.

[P. J. O'Rourke](#)

Government is an unnecessary evil. Human beings, when accustomed to taking responsibility for their own behavior, can cooperate on a basis of mutual trust and helpfulness.

Fred Woodworth

Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.

George Washington

Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one.

Thomas Paine

Here is my first principle of foreign policy: good government at home.

William E. Gladstone

I'm tired of hearing it said that democracy doesn't work. Of course it doesn't work. We are supposed to work it.

Alexander Woollcott

If 'pro' is the opposite of 'con' what is the opposite of 'progress'?

Paul Harvey

If human beings are fundamentally good, no government is necessary; if they are fundamentally bad, any government, being composed of human beings, would be bad also.

Fred Woodworth

If men were angels, no government would be necessary.

James Madison

Prairie View A&M University College of Business

The vision of the College of Business is to empower students from diverse backgrounds to become productive and ethical business professionals who are among the best in the world.

Mission

The mission of the College of Business is to provide a diverse student body with an education that creates highly productive professionals who are ethical, entrepreneurial, and prepared to succeed in the global economy. The College achieves this through excellence in teaching, research and service, and engagement with the business community and other stakeholders. The student experience is distinguished by personal attention, teamwork, leadership training and an appreciation of the social responsibility of business.

