



Course Prefix/Number/Title: ACCT 215 - Business in the Legal Environment

Number of Credits: 3

Course Description: The legal environment of business, governmental regulation, contracts and property.

Pre-/Co-requisites: None

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Measure the impact governmental regulation has on both public and private sector
- Distinguish between organization and formations and compare the legal ramifications of each
- Explain agency principles regarding formation, cancellation, and the liability imposed in an agency relationship
- Analyze how the law affects everyday decisions in the business environment
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the concepts and language utilized in both civil and criminal law as it relates to business activities
- Apply the applicable law to a contract scenario and identify the legality, or lack thereof, to said scenario
- Identify legal problems or potential ones that may arise in business practices
- Perform a case analysis of prior case opinions and hypothetical legal situations in business
- Examine contemporary business ethics and their place in the legal field
- Compare and contrast the legal regulation and business ethics in today's society

Instructor: Dr. George Ackerman

Office: Online

Office Hours: Mon- Thurs 11am to 4 pm EST. Do not send texts, I do not use this service.

Phone: By Appointment

Email: george.ackerman@ndus.edu

Lecture/Lab Schedule: N/A

Textbook(s): Law for Business (Ashcroft & Ashcroft, 19th Edition.) Supplementary reading materials will be provided. Textbook or eBook required. (ISBN-13: 9781305654921)

LATE WORK POLICY (*Documentation is REQUIRED*) See the announcements for detailed policy.

Points are deducted for late submissions/late work.

With appropriate documentation, the following absences may be classified as excused for permitting make up work for missed deadlines:

Emergency medical treatment for self may be considered as an excused absence with appropriate written documentation from the health care facility; Unavoidable jury duty may be considered an excused absence with appropriate written documentation; Employment related training or special assignments may be considered an excused absence with appropriate written documentation; Military reserve or active duty obligations may be considered excused with appropriate written documentation; Students must maintain a clear channel of communication with the instructor.

See the announcements and course for in depth information on the late work policy.

IMPORTANT TERM ASSIGNMENTS:

TERM PAPER Project:

TERM PAPER/ PRESENTATION POWERPOINT

Part 1 You may select a topic from our textbook or referred to from our modules/units. You are to write an 8-page term. Format/citing requirements are required. Make sure to apply a variety of outside references (rather than just the textbook). Please do not email me papers. They will not count unless through the course. Plan ahead and try tech support if needed. Once the deadline passes, I will be unable to respond to late papers.

Part 2- create a 10-12 slide (plus 1 page-add a reference list) (with voice overlay) presentation about your term paper and submit with the term paper.

MID TERM EXAM:

Covering chapters 1-6 of your text, the midterm exam is made up of 30 multiple-choice questions. You must work independently and complete the exam in one sitting. Complete by the due date of 10/4/25 at 11:59 pm EST. Late exams will not be accepted.

FINAL EXAM:

Covering chapters 7-12 of your text, the final exam is made up of 30 multiple-choice questions. You must work independently and complete the exam in one sitting. Complete before by the due date of 12/13/25 at 11:59 pm EST. Late exams will not be accepted.

WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS:

Each week we will have weekly discussions. APA citing is required. Please post 2 posts per week. 1 post is your initial post (response) plus one post to a fellow classmate. It is vital to follow the samples, go in depth and cite or points are lost. Do not post 1 sentence. Please do not post outside questions on the DBs either. Feel free to use email for questions.

All initial posts are due by Thursday, 11:59 PM of a given week. All responses are due by Saturday 11:59 PM of a given week.

CLASS PARTICIPATION / PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE-NETIQUETTE AND POSITIVE ATTITUDE:

Part of your grade will reflect your demeanor. In online learning, this means you should abide by the code of “netiquette” described in the course resources file and the attitude you project regarding the work for the course. Do your best with your individual writing assignments without wasting unnecessary emotional energy. Remember that we will typically be working with “ill-defined” problems — problems that, by definition, can be solved in various ways. So give yourself room to be creative without worrying about perfection. In your class participation through the discussion forums, participate actively: contribute to class discussions and support others who do so, take a leadership role in group work (if any), talk to me directly and promptly if online class dynamics do

not suit your learning style. Take responsibility for your work by printing and keeping back-up copies of drafts and projects. Be positive.

For Communication: EMAIL

Please list your name, class, school in all subjects for any correspondence or I am unable to assist you. In addition, only professional, positive emails will be responded to. Make sure to read the course policies.

Methods for Determining Final Grade

The course is based on a total of 100 points/percentage points. The components are weighted as follows:

REQUIRED:

Midterm Exam	25
All Discussion Forums	25
Term Paper/PowerPoint	25
Final Exam	25

100 TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE

To determine the final grades, points will be averaged within categories, weighted and multiplied by the above percentages, and then added.

Evaluation of Student Learning

At the completion of this course, you will receive a letter grade reflecting your performance in this course. Letter grades (Depending on the school scale) will be computed for each of the above items based on the number of points earned. Be aware that your final point total will be recalibrated to fit the 100 point scale shown below. Your point total is then converted to a letter grade according to the following scale:

<u>Letter Grade Equivalent:</u>	<u>Total Points Earned:</u>
A	100-94
A-	93-90
B+	89-87
B	86-84
B-	83-80
C+	79-77
C	76-74
C-	73-70
D+	69-67
D	66-64
D-	63-60
F	Below 59

Note if applicable: I do NOT Curve students upward. If you have an 89.9% that is a B+/B depending on the syllabus, not an A or A-. A 79.9 is a C/C+ not a B-/B. Any requests to curve up would be denied. Feel free to review requirements week 1, cite and go in depth.

COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Readings & Assignments
Week 1 8/25-8/30	Read Chapter 1 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format (Graded) Also post your biography in the DB Area (Not graded)
Week 2 8/31-9/6	Read Chapter 2 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 3 9/7-9/13	Read Chapter 3 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 4 9/14-9/20	Read Chapter 4 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 5 9/21-9/27	Read Chapter 5 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 6 9/28-10/4	Read Chapter 6 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format MID TERM EXAM DUE 10/4
Week 7 10/5-10/11	Read Chapter 7 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 8 10/12-10/18	Read Chapter 8 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 9	Read Chapter 9

10/19-10/25	Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 10 10/26-11/1	Read Chapter 10 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format TERM PAPER/POWERPOINT DUE 11/1
Week 11 11/2-11/8	Read Chapter 11 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 12 11/9-11/15	Read Chapter 12 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 13 11/16-11/22	Read Chapter 13 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
BREAK 11/23-11/29	
Week 14 11/30-12/6	Read Chapter 14 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format
Week 15 12/7-12/13	Read Chapter 15 Discussion board, 2 posts in depth, APA Format FINAL EXAM DUE -12/13
Week 16 12/14-12/17 (ends Wednesday)	Course concludes

Grading Rubric: Tasks/Papers/Assignments

LETTER GRADE	LANGUAGE SKILLS	CONTENT & FORMAT	APA STYLE
A= Exceeds most assignment criteria	Perfect spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with liberal use of synonyms to exhibit clear mastery of language/communication	Surpasses minimal length, with meaningful, relevant, individualized, insightful, and organized ideas that flow very well together	Citations are frequent and correct, while making good use of primary or original reference sources.
B = Exceeds some/meets other assignment criteria	Almost perfect spelling or grammar, but with varying tense or voice, and/or	Attains minimal length, with significant, pertinent, important, connected, yet	Citations are common and mostly correct with minor faults, but with too much

	irregular use of synonyms	typical thoughts that flow cleanly throughout	reliance on secondary or already referenced sources.
C = Meets most assignment criteria	Occasional errors in spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with repetitive use of several words	Barely reaches minimal length, with a collection of unorganized, but correct facts, that flow poorly	Heavy frequency of block quotes and/or lacking citations, with a few major errors in APA style.
D = Meets some/fails other assignment criteria	Many mistakes in spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with replicated use of many of the same terms	Just below minimal length, with disorganized and confusing thoughts that flow disjointedly	Citations are infrequent or uncommon with poor sources and many major mistakes in APA style.
F = Fails most assignment criteria	Constant inaccuracies in spelling, grammar, tense, and voice, with the same vocabulary used tediously	Short of minimal length, with unrelated or incorrect ideas, that have no flow or reach wrong conclusions	Citations absent, or APA style is so badly presented as to make the entire task suspect for plagiarism.

General Education Competency/Learning Outcome(s) OR CTE Competency/Department Learning Outcome(s):

CTE Competency/Goal #1: Employ industry specific skills in preparation for workplace readiness.

CTE Competency/Goal #2: Combine general education and vocational skills curriculum

Relationship to Campus Focus: None

Online Classroom Policies:

1. Completion of assignments, tests, and attendance are required. You are responsible for regularly logging in to the Blackboard to complete assignments and retrieve course information.
2. You are expected to attend every class. During our specific class times, we will cover content and instruction on Discussion Boards, exams and Term Paper, which will all be done in Blackboard
3. Students are expected to attend on the Blackboard site, which includes reading the textbook, completing assignments and using the study aids available in Blackboard.
4. Grading is the accumulation of attendance, Discussion Boards, exams and Term Paper for total points.

Student Email Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the Campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

Academic Integrity:

According to the DCB Student Handbook, students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles, and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. The Code detailed in the Academic Honesty/Dishonesty section of the Student Handbook will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

Disabilities or Special Needs:

Students with disabilities or special needs (academic or otherwise) are encouraged to contact the instructor and Disability Support Services.

Title IX:

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the College as a whole. Please be aware that all DCB employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the College Title IX Coordinator. This means that if a student tells a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the College's Title IX Coordinator. Students wishing to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility can find a list of resources on the DCB Title IX webpage.