COURSE TITLE & NUMBER: Legal Environment of Business: BUS 1230
CREDITS: 3 (Lec 3/Lab 0)
PREREQUISITES: None

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
Legal Environment of Business examines business ethics, international trade, courts, litigation, agency, torts, contracts, sales, product liability, employment agreement, real property, antitrust laws, and consumer protection. This course is intended for all business administration, accounting, and economics majors.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
1. Business ethics
   A. Historical perspective
   B. Promoting ethical behavior
   C. Social responsibility
   D. Whistleblowing
2. International trade
   A. Development of U.S. trade law
   B. Tariffs
   C. Foreign trade zones
   D. General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT)
   E. Import relief laws
   F. Laws affecting exports
   G. European community
3. Courts, litigation, and alternative dispute resolution
   A. Federal jurisdiction
   B. Federal courts
   C. State courts
   D. Sources of law
   E. Civil procedure
   F. Litigation strategies
   G. Alternative dispute resolution
4. Agency and forms of business organizations
   A. Types of agency relations
   B. Forms of business organizations
   C. Income tax consideration
   D. Torts
   E. Types of intentional torts
   F. Negligence
   G. Vicarious liability
   H. Multiple defendants
   I. Strict liability
   J. Toxic torts
5. Contracts
   A. Contract formation
   B. Consideration
   C. Statute of fraud
   D. Voidable and unenforceable contracts
   E. Damages
   F. Precontractual liability

6. Sales
   A. Contract formation
   B. Statute of frauds
   C. Damages

7. Products liability
   A. Theories of recovery
   B. Defective product
   C. Defenses

8. Intellectual property
   A. Patents
   B. Copyrights
   C. Trademarks
   D. Trade secrets
   E. Technology licensing

9. The employment agreement
   A. At will employment
   B. National Labor Relations Act
   C. Employee drug testing

10. Real property
    A. Ownership
    B. Title
    C. Brokers
    D. Acquisitions and dispositions
    E. Commercial leasing
    F. Government regulation

11. Antitrust laws
    A. Sherman Act
    B. Horizontal restraints
    C. Vertical restraints
    D. Limitations of antitrust enforcement
    E. Clayton Act
    F. Robinson Patman Act

12. Consumer protection
    A. Consumer Credit Protection Act
    B. Consumer bankruptcy: Chapter 13
    C. Advertising
    D. Packaging and labeling
    E. Pricing
    F. Sales practices
    G. Consumer health and safety
COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:
1. Students will analyze ethical behavior and social responsibility in business.
2. Students will analyze the court system, various trial strategies, alternatives to the litigation process, sources of law, and the constitutional basis for business regulation.
3. Students will explain the law of agency and administrative law.
4. Students will define and explain contract law and the UCC.
5. Students will explain and analyze torts, privacy protection, product liability, and intellectual property.
6. Students will explain the employment agreement, civil rights, and employment discrimination.
7. Students will analyze criminal law, environmental law, antitrust, consumer protection, and real property.
8. Students will identify forms of business organizations.

HCC COMPETENCIES MET:
Thinking Creatively & Critically

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:
The student will attend class regularly, participate in class discussion, and complete assignments, unit exams, and a final examination. Students should spend at least five hours per week preparing for class.

METHODS FOR EVALUATING STUDENT LEARNING:
The final grade is determined by assignments, unit exams, and a final examination.

Curriculum Committee Approval Date: March 12, 2018

AASC APPROVAL DATE: March 21, 2018
REVIEW DATE: March 2023