

# Syllabus

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## Announcements

**Course:** BUS 346 - The Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Environment of Business  
**Instructor:** [Jordan M. Blanke](#)  
**Office:** BE225  
**Telephone:** (678) 547-6313  
**Internet:** [blanke\\_j@mercer.edu](mailto:blanke_j@mercer.edu)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

*The Stetson School of Business and Economics (SSBE) promotes the advancement and integration of quality business education and practice. In support of Mercer University's mission, the School provides undergraduate and graduate programs that are designed to enable, enhance, and expand professional careers, civic responsibility and lifelong learning.*

## Course Description

This course is an introduction to law and the legal system. Topics discussed include the court system, constitutional law, administrative law, contract law, torts, products liability, business organizations, agency and an introduction to the governmental regulation of business. The ethical responsibilities of business will be emphasized.

## Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- describe the foundations of the American legal system.
- discuss issues pertaining to the legal, ethical and regulatory environment of business.
- describe the court system and several alternative means of dispute resolution.
- discuss issues pertaining to constitutional, administrative, contract, and tort law.
- identify the various organizational forms of doing business, and the relationships and duties of individuals therein.
- discuss issues pertaining to agency and employment law.

## Prerequisites

None.

## Textbook

[Business Law and the Legal Environment of Business 2e - Victor Lopez](#)

-You may order whichever version of the book you prefer - online, PDF, paperback, etc.

## Evaluation Criteria

Midterm Exam	45%
Final Exam	50%
Participation	5%

## Grading Structure

85.0 average	A
78.0	B+
70.0	B
65.0	C+
60.0	C
50.0	D

## Note from the Professor

The examinations will cover the assigned readings, as well as any additional material covered in class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed - both material covered and future assignments. No make-up examinations will be given. If you cannot be present for a test (for a legitimate reason), let me know beforehand - call me at my office and tell me, or leave a message on my answering machine. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero on that test.

## Mercer University Honor Code and Council

See Mercer catalog for detailed description.

## Honor Code

Mercer University Atlanta expects each and every student to maintain the highest principles of academic honesty and integrity. Violations of academic honesty represent a breach of the University's expectations and will be regarded as a serious matter.

All work on tests must be your own. Any inappropriate copying or collaboration on any test will result in a grade of 'F' for the course.

## Disability Statement

Students with a documented disability should inform the instructor at the close of the first class meeting. The instructor will refer you to Richard Stilley, Assistant Dean of Campus Life, (678) 547-6823, for consultation regarding evaluation, documentation of your disability, and recommendations for accommodation, if needed. To take full advantage of

disability services, it is recommended that students make contact, immediately. The office is located in Room 212 of the Sheffield Student Center.

### **Inclement Weather**

If severe weather occurs, classes will be canceled in accordance with the Associate Provost's decision of Mercer-Atlanta. Call the Mercer weather phone for information about class cancellations—(678) 547-6111 (Atlanta) or listen to WSB 750 AM.

## Course Reading and Learning Schedule:

(Syllabus subject to change at the discretion of the Professor)

Sessi on	Dat e	Preparation	Course Contents
1	May 25	<p>Ch. 1  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/rightofprivacy.html">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/rightofprivacy.html</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/sepbutequal.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/sepbutequal.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/righttodie.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/righttodie.htm</a></p> <p>Ch. 2  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/supremecourtintro.html">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/supremecourtintro.html</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/judicialreview.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/judicialreview.htm</a>  <a href="http://public.findlaw.com/library/legal-system/lawsuit-chronology.html">http://public.findlaw.com/library/legal-system/lawsuit-chronology.html</a></p>	<p>Introductio n to the Law Sources of Law The Right of Privacy Separate but Equal The Right to Die Courts and Jurisdiction How the Supreme Court Functions The Power of Judicial Review Litigation</p>
2	Jun e 2	<p><a href="http://www.aaauonline.org/upload/intro_guide_aaa_med_arb.pdf">http://www.aaauonline.org/upload/intro_guide_aaa_med_arb.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/preempti&lt;br/&gt;on.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/preempti on.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/congpow&lt;br/&gt;ers.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/congpow ers.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/statecom&lt;br/&gt;merce.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/statecom merce.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/commer&lt;br/&gt;cial.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/commer cial.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/estabint&lt;br/&gt;o.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/estabint o.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/religious&lt;br/&gt;symbols.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/religious symbols.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/takings.&lt;br/&gt;htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/takings. htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/epscruti&lt;br/&gt;ny.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/epscruti ny.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/affirmati&lt;br/&gt;veaction.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/affirmati veaction.htm</a></p>	<p>Arbitration Constitutio nal Law The Supremacy Clause &amp; Preemption The Powers of Congress  Limitations on the Power of States  Regulation of Commercial Speech The Establishm ent Clause</p>

			Religious Symbols in Public Places Takings of Property Equal Protection  Affirmative Action
3	TBA	Ch. 4 Ch. 3 <a href="#">Additional Readings for Ethics</a>	Administrative Law Ethics and its Impact on Law & Government
4	TBA	Ch. 8 -13	Contract Formation <b>Midterm Exam</b>
5	June 22	Ch. 8 -13 Ch. 14 -17	Contract Formation Contract Performance, Breach and Remedies
6	June 29	Ch. 6 -7 <a href="http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/homeiscastle.htm">http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/conlaw/homeiscastle.htm</a>	Torts Is Your Home Your Castle? Product Liability
7	July 6	Ch. 40 -44 Ch. 36	Business Organizations Agency
8	July 13		<b>Final Exam</b>