COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

BUSINESS LAW I
BUSI - 2301 - 01

INSTRUCTOR TOMMY LOWRANCE

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

Summer I 2019
Course Description:
This course provides the student with foundational information about the U.S. legal system and dispute resolution, and their impact on business. The major content areas will include general principles of law, the relationship of business and the U.S. Constitution, state and federal legal systems, the relationship between law and ethics, contracts, sales, torts, agency law, intellectual property, and business law in the global context. Discusses principles of law that form the legal framework for business activity, including applicable statutes, contracts, and agency. Examines the principles of the law of contracts, sales, the Uniform Commercial Code, business organizations, conveyance of property, and other topics of business law. Semester Hours 3 (3 lecture hours).

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:
Recommendation: Students should have passed the TSI Assessment or be currently enrolled in or have credit for READ 0302 before enrolling in this course.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:
This course is reading intense. Therefore, all students must come prepared to each class having already done the reading for that day in order to do well in this class. Falling behind in this course will likely negatively impact your grade.

Instructor Information:
Instructor Name: Tommy “T-Low” Lowrance
MCC E-mail: tlowrance@mclennan.edu
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8059; Cell Phone Number: 254-744-1873
Office Location: 218
Office/Teacher Conference Hours: 12:15-1:15 pm M-TH
Other Instruction Information: Other office hours by appointment

Required Text & Materials:
Title: Business Law Today
Author: Roger LeRoy Miller
Edition: 11th Edition
Publisher: Cengage Learning
ISBN: 978-1-305-57479-3

MCC Bookstore Website: http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/

Student Support/Resources:
MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these
and the many other services available to our students is available at http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/

* Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC’s D2L|Brightspace (www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/teaching-commons/requirements)
Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC’s D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Methods of Teaching and Learning:
This is a reading intensive course. Students will need to study to succeed. Regular attendance during lecture and participation in class are expected of each student. Assignments consist of regular quizzes, written journal assignments, case briefings, and comprehensive exams.

I will use Brightspace to post lecture notes, exam reviews, and folder assignments. All daily activities are YOUR responsibility if you miss the class in which they are assigned. Also, it is your responsibility to keep up with your grades as I return them to you throughout the semester.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

A. Understand the basic concepts of law as pertaining to the business environment.
B. Recognize and apply the legal terms associated with business law.
C. Determine the bodies of law applicable to various business situations.
D. Research independently and systematically the case history pertaining to legal questions.

Specific Competencies (Final Exam Review): Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Identify and define the four primary sources of American law.
B. Discuss common law and the related doctrine of stare decisis, and apply the rules of precedent.
C. Understand the parties to a court action; analyze a case opinion and understand the types of opinions that can be issued.
D. Explain the differences between a tort and a crime; identify the two classes of torts and the elements of each.
E. Identify the various types of jurisdiction of the courts; describe typical court procedures.
F. Explain the purpose of alternative dispute resolution and list the various types.
G. Identify and understand three kinds of intellectual property.
H. Explain what makes an act a crime; identify and understand common defenses
to criminal liability.

I. Analyze the Constitutional safeguards against criminal procedure.

J. Define "contract," understand how one is formed, and name and explain the four basic elements of a contract.

K. Describe the Uniform Commercial Code, understand its unique definitions pertaining to contract law, and explain how the Uniform Commercial Code modifies the usual provisions of contract law as stated in common law.

L. Recognize the required elements that create a warranty; compare and contrast the different types of warranties and to whom they apply.

M. Explain how warranties can be disclaimed.

N. Understand the concepts of product liability and strict liability.

O. Understand the concept of ethical behavior in business as it relates to legal obligations in business.

P. Compare and contrast the sole proprietorship, partnership, and corporate forms of business ownership, including the duties and property rights of each partner, proprietor, or shareholder.

Q. Apply agency law to the partnership, proprietorship, and corporate forms.

**Course Outline or Schedule:**

**Tentative Course Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
<th>Class Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Syllabus &amp; Ch. 1—Legal &amp; Constitutional Foundations</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ch. 1—Legal &amp; Constitutional Foundations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ch. 7—Business Ethics</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ch. 2—Courts &amp; ADR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Exam Review Due</td>
<td>Exam 1 (1, 7, 2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ch. 3—Torts &amp; Product Liability</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ch. 4—Intellectual Property Rights</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Ch. 6—Criminal Law &amp; Cyber Crime</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ch. 8—Agreement &amp; Consideration in Contracts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Ch. 9—Capacity, Legality, &amp; Enforceability</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Exam Review Due</td>
<td>Exam 2 (3, 4, 6, 8, 9)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Ch. 10—Contract Performance, Breach, &amp; Remedies</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Ch. 11—Sales &amp; Lease Contracts</td>
<td>Texas Supreme Court EC Due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Ch. 12—Performance and Breach in Sales &amp; Lease Contracts</td>
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Course Grading Information:

This class consists of a variety of instructional activities designed to evaluate your mastery of the material. Each activity is worth a certain percent of your overall grade. These percents are added up at the end of the semester to determine your grade. The final is comprehensive covering all the material studied during the semester. There are three major exams during the semester. **There are no make-up exams; so, if you miss a major exam, you must provide proof of an excused absence and schedule a time to take the exam the following class period.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A comprehensive final exam covering text and class activities</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 major exams covering text and class activities</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal: Quizzes, Case Briefings, and Assignments (graded in your folder)</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td></td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>EXTRA CREDIT (optional) – Texas Supreme Court research paper</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<td>(Can earn up to 10 points added to your lowest test grade—not the final)</td>
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Extra Credit

Before each exam, I will provide students with an exam review. Should you choose to complete the exam review; up to 10 points will be added to your exam. These exam reviews must be completed fully for the full 10 points and CANNOT be handed in late. They are due **BEFORE** the exam is handed out the day of your exam—*no exceptions!* Also,  **the exam reviews must be hand written in BLUE ink and no photocopies or printed copies will be accepted.**

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

Quizzes are given at the beginning of class. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Make-up assignments and quizzes are available only for those students who have excused absences (written verification may be required at the discretion of the instructor) and then only at the student’s request on the day immediately following their absence. Any make-up assignments must be completed within one week from return to class. I do not generally accept late work (including assignments submitted after the beginning of class) unless arrangements are made prior to the due date. In the event I choose
to accept late work, points may be deducted. It is the student’s responsibility to ask the instructor for any assignments or hand-outs missed due to absence on the first day of the student’s return to class. There are no make-up exams; so, if you miss a major exam, please see the instructor to determine if a make-up test is allowed.

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**
Punctuality is a crucial business skill. Coming late, leaving early, and going in and out are all behaviors which disrupt the entire class and are disrespectful to students and the instructor alike. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. **Students arriving late to class must see the instructor to be sure they are marked present—failure to do so will result in them being counted absent and cannot be changed at a later date.** Since leaving class is especially disruptive, students will be marked absent if they leave early unless they make previous arrangements with the instructor. If a student has some special need which the instructor needs to take into consideration with regard to administering this policy, it is the student’s responsibility to communicate that to the instructor. We will use the instructor’s clock to determine when class begins. This clock will be set to coincide with the MCC computer server.

Professional class conduct and appropriate dress is expected of each student. I will not allow my class to be disrupted by inappropriate behavior or dress. Specific offenses and consequences can be found by clicking the link below:

http://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/

Please be respectful of others regarding cell phone usage. Keep your cell phones silenced or on vibrate at all times in the classroom. If your texting becomes a distraction to me or consumes your classroom time, then I reserve the right to count you absent. Should your cell phone use become a continued problem, then I will ask to speak with you after class. Bottom line—be respectful!

**If your phone goes off in class, I WILL deduct 5 points from your next test grade. If my phone goes off in class, I will immediately give everyone present 5 points on their next test grade.**

Students who engage in any activity during class that takes away from their learning (sleeping, texting, doing assignments for another class, surfing the internet) will NOT be considered present in my classroom and will be marked absent. Students interfering with the learning opportunity of others will be asked to leave the classroom. PERIOD!

* **Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement** (www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.
Academic Integrity Statement:
Students are subject to the following discipline for violations of academic integrity:

First Offense: failing grade on the assignment and report to MCC discipline coordinator

Second Offense: failing grade in the course and report to MCC discipline coordinator

* Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy
(www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies)
Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences.

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students, and each instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course, including online and hybrid courses. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades.

Accommodations/ADA Statement
Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. Instructors should not provide accommodations unless approved by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu
254-299-8122
Room 319, Student Services Center

* Click Here for more information about Title IX
(www.mclennan.edu/titleix)

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here
to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC by calling 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students.

McLennan’s Title IX webpage (http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence or domestic violence.

* You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link’s information.