

Legal & Ethical Envrnmt of Bus

BUSA-2106

Fall 2020 Section 03D 3 Credits 08/12/2020 to 12/05/2020 Modified 08/09/2020

Description

An introduction to the legal, regulatory, and ethical environment of business, considering the interrelationship and impact of political, social, cultural, environmental, technological, international, and diversity issues. Requires overall GPA of 2.0

Requisites

Prerequisites:

GPA 2.00 or above required 2.0

Corequisites:

Contact Information

Dr. Tanya R. Thomas

Email: tthomas@westga.edu

Office: Miller 2224

Phone: 404-494-0519

Meeting Times

Tuesday, Thursday, 11:00 AM to 12:15 PM, Miller Hall 2214

This class is a Section D type of class so most of the insruction (up to 94%) will be online. Students are invited to attend the face to face sessions, but all course material will also be available online. Attendance will not be taken for grading purposes.

In addition, students will be able to participate in weekly synchronous online sessions in CourseDen. Our chat room is called "The Courtroom." These sessions will be held every Tuesday, unless otherwise announced.

Materials

Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases, 11th Ed.

Author: Cross and Miller

Publisher: Cengage

Edition: 11th

MindTap is required for BUSA 2106. This subscription includes the course text, Cross and Miller, *Legal Environment of Business: Text and Cases, 11th Ed.*

Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationships among the legal, social, political, ethical, cultural, international, and technological environments and their impact on business. (BBA 4, BBA 5, BBA 6)

2. Demonstrate the ability to understand and apply major areas of law affecting business in the subject matter areas covered in the course, incorporating the influence of technology, the impact of demographic diversity, and the use of appropriate quantitative techniques, within an ethical framework. (BBA 4, BBA 5, BBA 6)

3. Demonstrate the ability to analyze issues and situations having legal implications including demographic changes with accompanying diversity issues, development and use of technological innovations, social changes, the political arena, and environmental and ethical factors, and assess the consequences of courses of action. (BBA 4, BBA 5, BBA 6)

4. Demonstrate familiarity with various legal resources and the ability to use them. (BBA 4, BBA 6)

5. Demonstrate the ability to organize and present their work in an effective and professional manner. (BBA 1, BBA 3)

✓ Evaluation

Breakdown

Grades will be calculated and assigned on the basis of points earned on examinations, the written assignment, homework assignments, and attendance, as follows:

Type of Graded Event	No. of Graded Events	Possible Points per Graded Event	Total Possible Points for the Event
Examinations	4	100	300*
Major Project	1	100	100
Homework Average	Varies	Varies	100

Total Possible Points for this Course: 500

*The lowest examination grade will be dropped. Students who are satisfied with their grade as determined by the first three exams, homework, and the major project will not be required to sit for the final exam (these students will use the final exam as their grade to be dropped).

Grades will be assigned on the basis of points earned as follows:

Points Earned	Letter Grade
448 - 500	A
398 - 447	B
348 - 397	C

Points Earned	Letter Grade
298 - 347	D
< 298	F

Extra credit, if available at all, will be discretionary on the part of the Professor, and opportunities will be to the class as a whole and not to individual students upon request. Work completed for another course will not be accepted to meet the requirements of this course.

Assignments

Examinations: 300 points

Three periodic examinations and a final exam will be given, as indicated in the schedule below. The lowest exam grade will be dropped. The final exam cannot be made up (if missed, it will count as the dropped grade). The exams will be available for 3 days on CourseDen so that they may be taken at your convenience during the exam availability window.

Major Project: 100 points

The standards for the Major Project's preparation are posted in CourseDen at the start of the semester and you are responsible for meeting the deadline. You may begin at any time and are encouraged to complete it early in the semester. I will offer an in class lecture overview of business entities and answer questions about the project the week it is due. This face to face class is listed in the course schedule for October 13th and an alternative video lecture will also be available online. The assignment is due by **11:59 pm on Thursday, October 15th** as posted in the course schedule, and **will not be accepted late. You must submit your project as a single file attachment (MS Word or PDF, not zip) through the assignment drop box in CourseDen.** In the event of technical difficulties with CourseDen, the project may be submitted by e-mail *in advance of the deadline in CourseDen* to tthomas@westga.edu and must contain your name and the words "Major Project" in the subject line, for example "Jane Doe- Major Project." E-mailed assignments that do not comply with these requirements will not be accepted. Assignments received any time after the deadline, even one minute late, will not be accepted.

Homework Assignments: 100 Points (Average of all assignments out of 100%)

There are multiple MindTap assignments associated with each chapter we cover in the course, and sometimes the assignments for **TWO chapters are due in a week.** MindTap is accessible from a link within our CourseDen site. Students must complete the MindTap assignments and any other homework assignments given by the professor, which will be graded and collectively will form a part of the overall grade in the course. The homework average (% correct on all assignments) will contribute 100 possible points toward the 500 total possible points in the class. **Weekly Assignment deadlines in MindTap are Sundays at 11:59 PM. No work will be accepted late, so stay caught up. They will not be reopened or extended for any reason so be sure to complete them before the deadline.** All assignments are already open and available, with deadlines posted, and it is a good idea to work ahead, so that you have some flexibility during crunch times. It is important for students to complete the homework to ensure you fully understand how to apply the concepts we cover in the course. The professor reserves the right to drop any student for lack of participation in the course assignments, at the professor's discretion.

Work completed for another course will not be accepted to meet the requirements of this course.

Schedule

This is an estimated timeline for the course and is subject to amendment.

All course content will be available on Course Den for students who are unable to attend in person for scheduled face to face sessions. Attendance will not be used for grading purposes.

- Weekly MindTap assignments are due Sunday nights by 11:59 PM.
- Major Project is due THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15th by 11:59 PM.
- Exams #1-3 will be open online Thursday at 8:00 AM-Saturday at 11:59 PM.
- Exam #4 will be open online Sunday at 8:00 AM-Tuesday at 11:59 PM.

Date:	Topics:	Assignment Due:
Aug 13	<u>In Class:</u> Orientation/ Review Syllabus/MindTap	Sign up for MindTap
Aug 17-23	Legal Reasoning/ Business & the Constitution	Intro to MindTap, Chapters 1 & 2
Aug 24-30	Ethics in Business	Chapter 3
Aug 31-Sept 6	Courts and ADR	Chapter 4
Sept 7-Sept 13	Court Procedures	Chapter 5
Sept 10	<u>Online:</u> Exam #1 (covers Chapters 1-5)	Exam available Sept 10-12.
Sept 14-Sept 20	Tort Law/ Strict & Product Liability	Chapters 6 & 7
Sept 21-Sept 27	Intellectual Property Law/ Internet Law, Social Media, and Privacy	Chapters 8 & 9
Sept 28-Oct 4	Criminal Law and Cyber Crime	Chapter 10
Oct 5- Oct 11	International and Space Law	Chapter 11
Oct 8	<u>Online:</u> Exam #2 (covers Chapters 23, 8-11)	Exam available Oct 8-10
Oct 12-Oct 18	Overview of Business Entities (Project Chapters)	Chapters 16-18 (Note: out of sequence)
Oct 13	<u>In Class:</u> Overview of Business Forms Discussion	Bring last minute project questions!
Oct 15	<u>Online:</u> Major Project Due TODAY by 11:59 PM	Project due in Course Den Dropbox
Oct 19-Oct 25	Formation of Traditional and E-Contracts	Chapter 12
Oct 26-Nov 1	Contract Performance, Breach, and Remedies	Chapter 13
Nov 2- Nov 8	Bankruptcy	Chapter 15
Nov 5	<u>Online:</u> Exam #3 (covers Chapters 12, 13, & 15)	Exam available Nov 5-7

Date:	Topics:	Assignment Due:
Nov 9- Nov 15	Employment Law/ Employment Discrimination	Chapters 20 & 21
Nov 16-Nov 22	Administrative Agencies	Chapter 23
Nov 24	<u>Online</u> : Exam #4 (covers Chapters 21-23)	Exam available Nov 22-24 (Note days: <u>Sunday-Tuesday!</u>)
Nov 26-Nov 27	Thanksgiving Break	Eat Turkey :)

🎯 College/School Policies

Wolf Pact

Having read the Honor Code for the University of West Georgia, I understand and accept my responsibility to uphold the values described therein and to conduct myself in a manner that will reflect the values of UWG and the Richards College of Business so as to respect the rights of all UWG community members. As a UWG student, I will represent myself truthfully and complete all academic assignments honestly and within the parameters set by my instructor.

I understand and accept that if I am found guilty of violations (through processes due me as a UWG student and outlined in the UWG Student Handbook), penalties will be imposed.

I also recognize that my responsibility includes a willingness to confront members of the UWG community if I feel there has been a violation of the Honor Code.

Ultimately, I will conduct myself in a manner that promotes UWG as the best place to work, learn, and succeed for my generation, and those to come!

About the Richards College of Business

Vision

To become a globally recognized college of business preparing forward-thinking, responsible leaders.

Mission

We are in the business of transforming lives through education, engagement, and experiences.

Strategic Goals and Values

Student Success

Admit quality students and provide them with an education that is rich in experiences and engagement opportunities to prepare them to be effective and ethical professionals.

Academic Success

Recruit, retain and develop faculty and staff by providing sufficient resources to support dynamic and up-to-date bachelor and master-level curricula, to conduct research and other professional activities, and to support engagement with all stakeholders.

Operational Success

Recruit, retain and develop administrative management and staff personnel to manage, develop and support infrastructure and those activities that build internal and external partnerships while working in an ever-changing environment.

Ethical Values

The Richards College of Business community (administrators, faculty, staff, students, and business partners) share a

commitment to the principles of honesty and integrity in interactions and undertakings, accountability for personal behavior, and respect for the rights, differences, and dignity of others. In addition, we strive to continuously improve our abilities to recognize unethical behavior and to make ethical and moral decisions.

Institutional Policies

Academic Support

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact [Accessibility Services \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

Center for Academic Success: The [Center for Academic Success \(http://www.westga.edu/cas/\)](http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu.

University Writing Center: The [University Writing Center \(https://www.westga.edu/writing/\)](https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.

Online Courses

UWG takes students' privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the [UWG Online \(https://uwgonline.westga.edu/\)](https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the [Online/Off-Campus Student Guide \(http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php\)](http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the [UWG Cares \(http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/\)](http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. [Online counseling \(https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the [Student Handbook \(https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php\)](https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php).

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)

UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance: http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information# (http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information)

You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: <https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php> (<https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php>)

Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the [Counseling Center](#). Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in [Health Services](#). To report a concern anonymously, please go to [UWGcares](#).

ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and / or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the [E.L.L. resource page](#) for more information.

COVID-19

Proctored Exams/Online Instruction: Students should be aware and plan ahead for the possibility of having to complete all courses and/or exams online or in a proctored environment. This means talking with your instructors about what minimum technical requirements (software and hardware) will be required should your class move online or a student's personal needs dictate. This also includes making plans for internet access at whatever location participation may occur.

Virtual or in-person proctored exams, if your instructor should require them, may result in an additional cost to the student. Please discuss these details with your instructor or see the information provided here.

Face Coverings: Effective July 15, 2020, University System of Georgia institutions, including the University of West Georgia, will require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing.

Face coverings are not required in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met. Anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area.

Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons.

Student FAQs: For more information about UWG COVID-19 guidance for students visit the [Student FAQ webpage](https://www.westga.edu/student-services/health/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/students-faq-return-to-campus.php) (<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/health/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/students-faq-return-to-campus.php>).

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR AND PROFESSIONALISM:

Any student who engages in disruptive or disrespectful behavior during any meeting of this course is subject to administrative disenrollment from this course with a grade of "F." Disruptive and disrespectful behavior includes, but is not limited to, inattentiveness, disrespectful or threatening words or actions toward classmates or the professor, moving about the classroom during the class session (including entering and exiting the classroom), sleeping in class, using electronic devices in class, and the like. Students will treat each other and the Professor with the utmost respect and professionalism *at all times*. The professor is available during office hours to hear any concerns you may have concerning the class. Throughout the semester, ethical, political, cultural, international, social, technological, environmental, and diversity issues will be interwoven with a discussion of the legal topics and students are expected to show professionalism and respect to others during discussions of these issues.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Receiving or giving help on homework, the major project, assignments, or any exams, using cell phones or other unapproved devices on exams or homework or sharing/storing/retaining course content, assignment content, or exam content, or answers, whether online or in-class, and/or using unauthorized sources on the Major Project WILL result in failure of this course and a record of academic dishonesty placed in the student's permanent records and may result in dismissal from the University. The professor/university/USG may utilize all means available, including but not limited to IP address monitoring, login data, metadata, and other computer forensic methods to detect cheating on assignments and other graded work. In addition, UWG & USG are authorized and do monitor for evidence of cheating, including monitoring external website activity (social media websites) accessed using UWG/USG resources. You have **no right of privacy** for activity you engage in using UWG/USG equipment or services, including but not limited to computers, servers, and wireless or wired internet. Any student caught by UWG/USG personnel will be dealt with per the Academic Honesty policy. **THIS PROFESSOR WILL FAIL STUDENTS FOR CHEATING. I HAVE A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. PLEASE DO NOT CHEAT.**

For the purposes of this class, the following statements in the [Student Handbook](#) and [Appendix A](#) of the Honor Code will be applied:

1. No student shall give or receive, or otherwise furnish or procure assistance not authorized in the preparation of an essay, report, examination, or other assignment in an academic course or in the fulfillment of program or degree requirements such as standardized examinations.
2. No student shall take, attempt to take, or otherwise obtain, gain access to, or alter in an unauthorized manner any material pertaining to the conduct of a class or to the completion of any program or degree requirement, including but not limited to tests, examinations, laboratory equipment, roll books, academic records, or electronically stored data.
3. Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests, and other similar requirements must be the work of the student submitting them. Direct quotations must be indicated and ideas of another must be appropriately acknowledged.

Failure to observe these standards will result in an "F" grade in the course and possible disenrollment from UWG. Use of electronic devices during an examination will be deemed a violation of provision 1, above, and will result in a grade of "F" for the course. **Use of unapproved sources on the major project will be deemed a violation of provision 1, above, and will result in a grade of "F" for the course.**

UWG utilizes an academic dishonesty database. Instances of academic dishonesty become part of the student's permanent file; this may affect graduate school admissions and future employment.

COMMUNICATION:

Communication between student and professor will be primarily through UWG e-mail (tthomas@westga.edu). Distribution of course materials, the syllabus, important announcements, grades, etc., will be through CourseDen. **Students are advised to check CourseDen daily during the week and to keep their MyUWG e-mail inbox free of clutter to avoid auto-reject messages. In this course, students are required to set notification settings to enable real-time notifications in CourseDen (either e-mail or text).**

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATION FOR MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT:

The Management Department believes in work-life balance for both faculty and students. Faculty will typically respond to student e-mails within 24 hours, usually sooner during business hours. Students should not expect a response during non-business hours, which includes nights, weekends, holidays, and school breaks. If you have not heard back from the professor within 24 hours during the work week, assume your e-mail was not received and resend it.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES:

- The use of recording devices is not permitted in the classroom without prior approval.
 - Cell phones, mp3 players, iPods, and all other electronic devices must be rendered **silent** during class and **shall not be used** during class. Laptops may **only** be used for class-related activity such as taking notes. Social media, e-mailing, and web browsing are prohibited during class.
 - Students are not allowed to have food or drink in the classroom. This is a UWG policy.
 - **Your professor is a licensed attorney. However, do not ask your professor for legal advice.**
 - Please read this syllabus carefully. Your professor is available during class and during office hours to answer any questions you may have regarding the meaning of any part of this syllabus. Consequently, excuses for failure to fulfill course requirements based upon non-understanding or misunderstanding of this syllabus will not be heard.
 - The professor reserves the right to make appropriate amendments to this syllabus. With exception of minor changes to the tentative course schedule, all such amendments will be announced sufficiently in advance of the effective date of the amendment and published in CourseDen.
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