

**Legal & Regulatory Environment of Business
Spring 2015: LSB 3213 M/W sections**

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Course Objective: The objective of this course is to expose you to the general concepts regarding the nature of the legal system, ethical issues in business decision making, dispute resolution processes, basic constitutional limitations on the power of government to regulate business activity, the nature of government regulation, and fundamental principles of tort and contract law.

Required Textbook:

Clarkson, et al., *Business Law 3213*, Oklahoma State University Edition. This is a customized version of the text.

If you prefer, you may **rent** the entire electronic book for the semester or **buy** the relevant chapters (with the first chapter and index free of charge). You may find this option here:

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9780538470827>

Teaching Method: Lecture and classroom discussion.

Desire2Learn: this course distributed materials on D2L, including exam scores. On D2L, you also will find *PowerPoints* for each unit of material that you may use for in-class note taking (they generally follow the lectures); *reading objectives* for each unit of material that you may use to help with class concepts and to narrow down the reading assignments; and, *course handouts* that are used to help clarify the materials. Occasionally, I will post *activities* online for use in class discussion. These activities are not graded, but when assigned, will form the basis of classroom discussion for that day. To get the most out of the activities, you should do the course reading and attempt to work through each activity before the class period during which the activity is discussed.

A note on the PowerPoint slides. These were designed to be like a table of contents for the material and class lectures. They were not designed as substitutes for attending class or reading assignments. If you rely on the slides and do not come to class or read the assigned materials, it is unlikely that you will do well in the course. Attendance in class, just like attendance at work, is the key to doing well in the course.

Academic Assessment:

Exams: This course requires three exams for a total of 300 points in the class. Each exam consists of 50 objective questions (true/false and multiple choice) worth two points each. Two of the exams will be given during the semester, and the third exam will be given during the final exam period for the course. The third exam is not comprehensive.

Missing an exam is *strongly* discouraged. Makeup exams *require* advance approval, except in cases of a *documented* emergency. In all cases, you (or your designated agent) must contact me—use email (best choice) or voice mail—within 24 hours of the missed exam or you will not be allowed to makeup the exam. Makeup exams are essay exams.

Grading: *In an academic environment, grades are awarded on the basis of student merit, and not need or consequence.* There are 300 possible exam points in the course. Extra credit assignments may be made available throughout the semester. Your score in this class will be based on the fixed point scale below and no adjustments will be made to this scale unless academically appropriate:

270 – 300	A
240 – 269	B
210 – 239	C
180 – 209	D
000 – 179	F

LSB 3213 – Course Learning Goals:

Course Objectives	Program Learning Goal
Students should be able to explain the function of law in society.	Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking Innovation
Students should be able to discuss how the law emerges in US society by analyzing the primary sources of US law and their function.	Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking
Students should be able to compare and contrast litigation with different forms of alternative dispute resolution.	Ethics Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking Innovation
Students should be able to compare and contrast different tort theories in different contexts, including products liability.	Ethics Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking
Students should be able to define, discuss and analyze the use of contracts in the business environment.	Ethics Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking Innovation
Students should be able to explain the structure and interplay between federal and state laws.	Ethics Business Knowledge & Competency Critical Thinking Innovation

Course Policies:

- Attendance is required to pass this course. Signing the attendance sheet in class, or at events where extra credit is offered, and then leaving or signing for someone else is considered academic misconduct and will be prosecuted under University procedures.
- Please do not come to class late or leave before the class period has concluded (unless you have secured permission first)—if you do, you may be dropped from the course.
- Tape recording of lectures is not allowed, so please do not ask, unless required for an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (see below).
- ***Turn off your cell phone before you come to this class, or you may be asked to leave.***

Academic Honesty: Oklahoma State University is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct of its members. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic

integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, and fraudulently altering academic records) will result in your being sanctioned. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of a violation of academic integrity on your transcript (F!), and being suspended from the University. You have the right to appeal the charge. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627, academicintegrity.okstate.edu.

Disability Notice: If any member of the class believes that he or she has a physical, emotional, or psychological disability and needs accommodations of any nature, the instructor will work with you and the university Office of Student Disability Services (SU 315, 744-7116 v/t) to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in this class. Please advise the instructor of such disability and the accommodations as soon as possible. You also will need to contact the Student Disability Services office in order to receive accommodations. No accommodations will be made without prior notification.

Tentative Schedule: Spring 2015 (**This schedule, including exam dates, is subject to change.**)

Jan	12	M	Overview of course; introduction to law & legal reasoning
	14	W	What is legal precedent ((Read. Ch. 1, p. 1-21 (skim the rest) and begin reading chapter 2)
	19	M	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—no class
	21	W	continue lecture on legal precedent
Jan	26	M	work activity on legal precedent for class discussion
	28	W	Begin discussing civil procedure (read chapter 3)
Feb	02	M	Continue discussing civil procedure
	04	W	Finish civil procedure; begin Constitutional law (read chapter 4)
	09	M	continue Constitutional law
	11	W	continue Constitutional law
	16	M	work activity on individual liberties for class discussion; review for EXAM 1
	18	W	EXAM 1 [Exam—chapters 1-4 (as noted)]
	23	M	Begin Contracts—introduction (read chapter 10)
	25	W	Preformation issues in contracts (read chapters 11-12)
Mar	02	M	work activity on pre-formation issues; begin discussing formation issues
	04	W	Formation issues (read chapters 13-15)
	09	M	work activity on formation issues for class discussion
	11	W	Third-party rights (handout on D2L) & begin post-formation issues (read chapters 16-18)

Continued:

Mar	16	M	Spring Break—no class
	18	W	Spring Break—no class
	23	M	Post-formation issues continued
	25	W	Work activity on post-formation issues
Mar	30	M	Finish contracts and review for Exam 2
Apr	01	W	EXAM 2 [Exam—chapters 10-18]
Apr	06	M	Begin torts—introduction to material; begin intentional torts (read chapter 6)
	08	W	continue intentional torts
	13	M	finish intentional torts; begin negligence (read chapter 7); extra credit assignment distributed
	15	W	No class—work outside activity for extra credit*
	20	M	work activity on negligence; begin products liability (read chapter 22)
	22	W	continue products liability
	27	M	work activity on products liability
	29	W	finish torts; review for EXAM 3 [Exam, chapters 6, 7 & 22]

The third exam is the final exam, which is not comprehensive. The final exam will be administered during finals week and you will have one hour and 15 minutes for the exam, just as you would for any other exam. Note that the exam times are **different** from the times we start class.

For LSB 3213.701 (meets M/W 2:30 to 3:45 pm): **Final exam is Monday, May 4—2 pm to 3:15 pm**
For LSB 3213.007 (meets M/W 4:00 to 5:15 pm): **Final exam is Monday, May 4—6 pm to 7:15 pm**

* This extra credit opportunity will be distributed on Monday, April 13. Only those students who are in attendance on Monday, April 13 (when the assignment is distributed), and Monday April 20 (when the assignment is due), will be eligible to participate.