

DE ANZA COLLEGE –

BUS D018...16Z: BUSINESS LAW 1 (CRN 27902)

PROF. JOSEPH M. BARBEAU, J.D. (BarbeauJoseph@fhda.edu)

CLASSROOM HOURS (by Zoom): TUES & THURS 6:00pm – 7:15pm

OFFICE HOURS (by Zoom): Tues 5:00pm – 6:00pm AND BY APPOINTMENT

Description:

This is a broad introductory course that will survey a great deal of material. The course aims to lay the foundation for understanding the fundamentals of business law in the United States, and is designed for any student who wishes to undertake a serious study of business law issues.

This course is a hybrid: live synchronous interaction via Zoom two sessions per week, as if we were in-person in the classroom, and the remainder online on your own schedule. Students are expected and required to attend all live instructional sessions (they are not recorded) and to timely complete the assignments.

This course adheres to all of the De Anza College policies set forth in the Schedule of Classes, and found in the current course catalogue. Of immense importance and emphasis are the policies with respect to Academic Integrity at De Anza College (see Academic Integrity) and Academic Freedom

<https://www.deanza.edu/gov/academicsenate/academicfreedom.html>.

Key Dates (please verify exact deadlines via your MyPortal.fhda.edu account):

- Written assignments and Quiz dates are set forth in the modules in Canvas (but are subject to adjustment)
- [to come] - last day for students to voluntarily drop *without* a “W”
- Nov. 10 - Veterans Day holiday - no class
- Nov. 17 - last day to drop classes *with* a “W”
- Nov. 23-26 – Thanksgiving holiday – no class

- Final Exam: Usually, the final exam is a take-home final distributed on the day of the last live session. It would be due by 8:15pm on Tues. Dec. 12. If there is a change on this, it will be announced in class and on Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate a knowledge of basic legal terminology and basic tort, constitutional, criminal, administrative and contract law.
- Identify ethical issues in a business law context and evaluate factually simple contract issues using basic common law or UCC rules.

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught in a semi-Socratic fashion (i.e., students will be asked to answer questions posed by the instructor, and should be prepared at all times to respond to the instructor's questions). Generally, the instructor will develop the subject of the zoom sessions and place them in perspective so that in-class discussion can follow.

Required On-Call Sessions:

For each in-class session after the first session, a handful of students (generally, three to five) will be designated by the instructor to be "on-call" for the next session, and will be responsible for having done the assigned reading (one case in particular) very closely and for facilitating discussion of the reading in conjunction with the instructor. When you are designated (by email), you are on notice of your need to fully prepare for the upcoming class session.

Many students have stage fright about speaking in class. This is an opportunity to work on that in a setting where you will get full credit for participation with no risk (the aim is discussion; no penalty for not getting "the right answer"). If, however, you have a strong preference to avoid speaking in class, please contact the instructor about it (email is fine) and arrangements can be made for you to do a short written assignment in lieu of being called on.

Textbook:

Business Law and the Legal Environment, Mayer, Warner, Siedel and Lieberman, version 2.0

eISBN 978-1-4533-98579

Additionally, there will be some case decisions and occasional article-length readings that will be linked to in the syllabus.

Grading:

Students will be evaluated based upon their performance on the following:

- final exam (375 points/approx. 41% of total)
- one short written assignment (an IRAC case analysis; 125 points/approx. 15% of total)
- Lecture quizzes, due weekly (10 total quizzes; 30 points each; 300 points total/33% of total)
- on-call performance (or alternative writing assignment), general participation and attendance (100 points/11% of total).

The foregoing points allocations relate to letter grades as follows:

Points	%	Letter Grade
810 - 900	90 - 100	A
720 - <810	80 - <90	B
630 - <720	70 - <80	C
540 - <630	60 - <70	D
<540	<60	F

A + or – will be applied to the upper and lower end of each letter grade range, but an A+ will require truly exceptional performance/contribution. The rounding convention applied by Canvas is final.

The instructor reserves the option to apply a curve if the allocations above unfairly underweight relative performance, i.e., never to reduce a grade earned under the points allocation, but potentially with the effect of raising a grade that otherwise would result.

Extra Credit:

Students, at their option, may elect to write a short paper (4-5 pages maximum) on a law-related topic approved by the instructor. Topic suggestions will be announced in class, and students are free to choose another law-related topic with the instructor's approval. All papers are due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, Nov. 29. No

exceptions as to deadline. The paper would provide up to 45 points (depending on the quality of the paper), equivalent to approximately 5% of the final grade.

Campus Resources:

Any student who may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should check in with De Anza's Disability Support Services: <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/>
Phone: (408) 864-8753; email: dss@fhda.edu. Please also contact the instructor as early as possible so that appropriate accommodations can be implemented.

Specific Assignments:

YOU MUST GO IN TO THE COURSE ON CANVAS. THERE IS ONE MODULE FOR EACH WEEK OF THE COURSE. EACH MODULE BEGINS WITH AN OVERVIEW FOR THAT WEEK, LISTING THE PRE-RECORDED LECTURES FOR THAT WEEK, THE CORRESPONDING POWERPOINTS AND TEXTBOOK READING, AND THE QUIZ FOR THAT WEEK. ONE QUIZ PER WEEK FOR THE FIRST TEN WEEKS. ALSO INCLUDED ARE LINKS TO "HANDOUTS" FOR EACH CLASS SESSION. PLS REVIEW THOSE BEFORE THE CLASS SESSION.

THERE IS ONE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT (WRITING A BRIEF ANALYSIS OF A CASE, IN AN IRAC FORMAT). DETAILS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE ZOOM CLASS SESSIONS.

Syllabus Revision: This syllabus is subject to revision at the instructor's discretion. Any changes will be announced in class and emailed to students.