

STANDARDIZED COURSE OUTLINE

SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER: BBG 236

COURSE TITLE: COMMERCIAL LAW

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An in-depth study of business organizations, including choice of entity, entity formation and operation, limitation of liability, and securities law; agency law, especially as it pertains to business organizations; and the regulatory environment in which business operates, including administrative law and consumer law. This course covers topics that are tested in the Business Structure component of the Business Environment and Concepts (BEC) section of the CPA Exam, which component makes up approximately 20% of the BEC section. *Not open to students who successfully completed BBG 234 before August 2013.*

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

LAB HOURS PER WEEK (if applicable): N/A

PREREQUISITE(S): BBG 231 or BBG 234 (*if taken after August 2013*)

SECTION II

A. SCOPE: This course covers the following areas of law:

AGENCY

Agency Formation and Duties
Liability to Third Parties and Termination

EMPLOYMENT

Employment and Labor Law
Employment Discrimination

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

Sole Proprietorships and Franchises
Partnerships and Limited Liability Partnerships
Limited Liability Companies and Special Business Forms
Corporations-Formation and Financing
Corporations-Directors, Officers, and Shareholders
Corporations-Merger, Consolidation, and Termination
Corporations-Securities Law and Corporate Governance
Limited Liability Companies and Limited Partnerships
Law for Small Business

GOVERNMENT REGULATION

Administrative Law
Consumer Law

This course fulfills Embedded Core Competencies in the areas of Critical Analysis/Logical Thinking (CA) and Appreciation of Ethical Dimensions (ED)

B. REQUIRED WORK: Will vary by instructor. See course section syllabus for details.

C. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Regular attendance and class participation are expected. (Specific instructor policies are listed in the course section syllabus).

D. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: The methods of instruction are determined by each instructor and may include but are not limited to lecture, lecture/discussion, small group, collaborative learning, experimental/exploration, distance learning, student presentations, or use of technologies such as audio-visual materials, and computer. Distance learning sections are taught on the Web Vista platform with a plug in e-pack specifically designed for the textbook.

E. OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES and ASSESSMENT:

The following objectives and outcomes represent the department's core requirements for student achievement:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS
To demonstrate an understanding of:	Students will:	As measured by:
The nature of an agency relationship, and liability of principals and agents, especially in a business setting	Identify the ways to create and terminate an agency relationship; describe the liability of principals and agents in various factual situations and how to limit the liability of a principal for an agent's acts and omissions; describe the ethical considerations and codes of conduct that must be followed by principals and agents.	Quizzes/exams, class participation, class presentations, case problems, case briefings, term papers, and other written assignments
The nature of an employment contract, including employment at will, and the operation of major federal statutes regulating employment, including employment discrimination	Describe employment at will and its exceptions, and major federal statutes that govern employment; identify causes of actions and defenses under major federal employment discrimination statutes.	Successful completion of related exercises, problems, and cases; quizzes/exams.
Issues involved in choice of business entity decisions, legal requirements to form and operate various forms of business entities, strategies to avoid exposure to liability in the operation of business entities	Identify the advantages and disadvantages of using various business entity forms, the legal requirements for their creation and operation, and the means of limiting liability that can be used in the operation of a given business entity.	Successful completion of related exercises, problems, and cases; quizzes/exams.
Federal and state securities laws and the raising of capital; administrative	Describe the major federal and state securities statutes that govern the issuance of capital; describe the powers of administrative agencies	Successful completion of related exercises, problems, and cases;

agency powers and hearings; and major federal and state consumer protection statutes	and the administrative hearing process; and identify and describe the operation of major federal and state consumer protection statutes.	quizzes/exams.
Use of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation skills to conduct legal research, through the use of law library and computer resources, and identify and resolve legal issues.	Identify legal and ethical issues in various factual situations, conduct basic legal research, and organize and present information in briefing of cases, legal arguments, case problems or term papers.	Participation in class lectures and in computerized legal research; case problems, case briefings, term papers, and other written assignments
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing in professional situations, and interact appropriately and effectively with others	Effectively present case problems or case briefs in class, and attend out of class activities, such as court observations, libraries, other colleges, and special events, such as out-of-class lectures	Reports and class presentations on court observations, visits to law libraries, other colleges, and special events, such as out-of-class lectures

Core Competency Assessment Artifact

An assignment from this course that addresses all of the competencies noted above may be collected to assess student learning across the school.

F. TEXT(S) AND MATERIALS: Clarkson, Miller, Jenz& Cross, West's Business Law (10th edition; West, ISBN: 0324303904). Also required for distance learning sections of the course is the course access code (West, ISBN 0324379986).

G. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Required for the instructor: Classroom desktop/laptop computer, computer overhead projector and internet access for teaching.

Required for students: No resources in class, but access to a computer and the internet outside of class to complete some assignments.