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Legal, Ethical, and Social Environment

Spring 2002

BSAD 8010-001	# 00491	Wednesday	5:30 - 8:10 PM	RH 207
BSAD 8010-002	# 00492	Thursday	6:00 - 8:40 PM	RH 214

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

3 credit hours. "Focus upon law and ethics. Business law, legal processes, and regulations will be the subject matter focus. Business ethics will be a recurring focus of analysis. Analysis of the social environment will include public policy. Both subject matter and analysis will be integrated to build the student's critical thinking skills. Prereq.: MBA Foundation courses."

GRADED EVENTS:

A course letter grade of "A" is earned with a total course percentage of 90.0%; an "A-" is earned with 87.0%; a "B+" is earned with 83.0%; a "B" is earned with 80.0%; a "C+" is earned with 75.0%; a "C" is earned with 70.0%; a "D" is earned with 60.0%, and an "F" is earned with less than 60.0%. **The instructor does not use the grades of "B-", "C-", "D+", or "D-".**

20% Business Case Legal Analysis**80% EXAMS****30%** Midterm Exam**30%** Solo Comprehensive Final Exam**20%** Group Comprehensive Final Exam**2% Extra Credit****TEXTS:**

1. Bagley, Constance E. and Dauchy, Craig E.
The Entrepreneur's Guide to Business Law. USA: West Ed. Pub. Co., 1998.
2. Mnookin, Robert H., Peppet, Scott R., Tulumello, Andrew S.
Beyond Winning: Negotiating to Create Value in Deals and Disputes.
Cambridge, Massachusetts: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2000.

BUSINESS CASE LEGAL ANALYSIS:

MBA students whose initial enrollment is after Spring 2001 must author a Business Case prior to graduation. Each such student selects a unique firm for analysis. A detailed description of this task is distributed in BSAD 8060, also in that course a student selects the firm to be analyzed. (*A version of that detailed description is in the Course Materials section of my web site.*) The Business Case must analyze a discrete business decision from, at a minimum, the perspective of each of the MBA core courses.

Each LESE student shall author an analysis of the legal, ethical, and social environment of such a business decision. You shall use no more than one page each for the legal, ethical, and social environment; and each shall start at the top of a new page. If the Business Case is a graduation requirement for a student, then that student must use the unique firm selected by that student; otherwise, a student may use any firm. Students are free to experiment with the decision that is analyzed. The due date for the Business Case Legal Analysis is **March 27 or 28**, respectively and is worth 20% of the course grade.

The Business Case Legal Analysis will not be graded using the fine toothcomb of 1% increments. The following truncated scale shall be used.

- 100% best in class
- 90% clearly superior quality
- 80% expected quality
- 60% clearly inferior quality
- 0% non-performance

The mode grade will be an 80%. There is no requirement that there be an equal proportion of grades above and below 80%, but this often happens.

EXAMS:

There are three exams: a midterm exam and two comprehensive finals, one solo and one group. The Midterm Exam is worth 30% of the course grade and is on **February 13 and 14**, respectively. The Comprehensive Final Exams are at the Regent's scheduled final exam time of **May 8 and 9**, respectively and are worth 50% of the course grade. The Solo Comprehensive Final is worth 30% and the Group Comprehensive Final is worth 20%. The Midterm Exam and the Solo Comprehensive Exam each will have 52 questions graded as if there are only 50. The Group Comprehensive Final will have 17 zero-guess multiple-choice questions derived from the Solo Final. The Group Final questions will be similar to, but not necessarily identical to, the Solo Final questions. Each Study Group will get three attempts to successfully complete the Group Final exam with the instructor identifying the correctly answered questions of the first attempt and the second attempt.

STUDY GROUPS:

Study Groups will complete the Group Comprehensive Final. Study Groups are responsible for 20% of your course grade.

Study Groups may form at the first class meeting following the Midterm Exam; however, Study Groups must form no later than the start of class on **March 13 or 14**, respectively. Study Groups may have 3 or 4 members. No Study Group may contain more than one member who is a non-USA national. Within a class section, the maximum number of Study Groups is 10. To form a Study Group the members shall prepare a written and signed petition for formation that contains: [1] each member's typed or printed name in addition to signature and [2] nationality. Upon formation, each new Study Group will be announced in class. Proposed Study Groups will be rejected if and only if the remaining students in the class could not form valid Study Groups. If the instructor is required to form involuntary Study Groups on March 13 or 14, then those involuntary Study Groups shall assigned randomly.

EXTRA CREDIT:

A student may earn up to 2% in Extra Credit. A student may earn 1% Extra Credit by authoring a one page, typed, double spaced, review of ethical issues discussed by each of the two speakers at the MBA Leadership Seminars. During Spring 2002, the seminars will be held in RH 010A, the auditorium, **5:30 PM - 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 5 and Wednesday, March 6.** (*On Wednesday, March 6 class will start after the Leadership Seminar.*) Extra Credit Leadership Seminar ethics reviews will be graded as either 100% or as 0%, using the probable cause standard of evidence that the review objectively was a good faith attempt to reach an "expected quality" review. The **due date** for an Extra Credit Leadership Seminar ethics review is the **class meeting in the week following** the Seminar. Use a header that lists from left to right the student author and the assignment.

MAKE-UP WORK:

Make-up work is strongly discouraged. **Make-up work is not feasible for the Group Final Exam.** There are two **prerequisites** for make-up work.

1. 24 hour **prior notice** of your intended absence,
unless for sufficient reason (e.g., death of an immediate family member);

AND

2. timely, **written verification** by an impartial third party
(e.g., from the mortician, on letterhead).

TYPING REQUIREMENTS:

DO NOT USE A COVER SHEET, instead **use a single line header (e.g., see top of this page)** on each page identifying, from left to right: (1) the student author; (2) the assignment; (3) and the page of page number [e.g., *BillyJoe DonBob Baleu; BCLA Nike; page 1 of 5*].

Grammar, punctuation, and spelling do influence your grade. Type your papers using double line spacing. Three pages is both the maximum page length and the minimum page length for the Business Case. One page is both the maximum and the minimum page length for the Extra Credit assignments. Your papers shall use a #12 font typeface, shall use one-inch margins on all four sides of a page, and shall be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper. The three sheets of paper of your Business Case Legal Analysis shall be stapled together.

You have been charged a \$5 *per credit hour* technology fee for the ENRON Computer Lab in RH 403 and the campus computing rooms in RH 007, EAB 009, and DSC 104 all of which have word processing software and provide computer support for you. *You also have paid for a UNO Lotus Notes email account. (See, <http://mail.unomaha.edu> where you use your first and last name as your username and your social security number as your password. UNO sends all official notices to this email account.) CBA will, upon your timely request, give you a print card for use in the ENRON lab and worth \$5. Black and white copies are less than a nickel a page and color copies are a dollar a page.)*

EACH FAILURE to comply with the typing requirements (e.g., incorrect header or not using a staple) will cause an AUTOMATIC LOSS OF 5% from your earned assignment grade.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism) will be grounds for a course grade of "F."

WEDNESDAY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHAPTERS and EVENTS</u>
Jan 16	introduction, judicial process, constitutional law, economics, & ethics
Jan 23	B&D Chap 1 Plunge, 2 Employer, & 3 Attorney (48p)
Jan 30	B&D Chap 10 Contracts, 11 Warranties, & 12 Torts (94p)
Feb 6	B&D Chap 6 Money & 7 Bankrupt (88p) <u>Tues., Feb 5 Leadership Seminar</u>
Feb 13	5:30 - 6:00 time for pre-exam study Extra Credit due 6:00 - 8:00 Midterm Exam
Feb 20	MP&T Part One Dynamics (92p) Study Groups may form)
Feb 27	B&D Chap 4 Incorporate, 5 Ownership, & 9 Board (80p)
Mar 6	MP&T Part Two Lawyers (80p) <u>Wed., Mar 6 Leadership Seminar</u>
Mar 13	B&D Chap 13 Employees (71p) Extra Credit due Study Groups must form
<i>Mar 20</i>	<i>no class SPRING BREAK</i>
Mar 27	B&D Chap 14 Intellectual Property (62p) Bus. Case Legal Analysis due
<i>Apr 3</i>	<i>no class O'Hara at American Academy of Economic and Financial Experts</i>
Apr 10	MP&T Part Three Solving (100p)
Apr 17	B&D Chap 8 Venture Capital & 15 Public Capital (95p)
Apr 24	MP&T Part Four Ethics & Multiparty (52p)
May 1	student evaluations, review whole course
May 8	5:30 - 6:30 review for exams 6:30 - 8:30 Solo and Group Comprehensive Final Exams

THURSDAY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHAPTERS and EVENTS</u>
Jan 17	introduction, judicial process, constitutional law, economics, & ethics
Jan 24	B&D Chap 1 Plunge, 2 Employer, & 3 Attorney (48p)
Jan 31	B&D Chap 10 Contracts, 11 Warranties, & 12 Torts (94p)
Feb 7	B&D Chap 6 Money & 7 Bankrupt (88p) <u>Tues., Feb 5 Leadership Seminar</u>
Feb 14	6:00 - 6:30 time for pre-exam study Extra Credit due 6:30 - 8:30 Midterm Exam
Feb 21	MP&T Part One Dynamics (92p) Study Groups may form
Feb 28	B&D Chap 4 Incorporate, 5 Ownership, & 9 Board (80p)
Mar 7	MP&T Part Two Lawyers (80p) <u>Wed., Mar 6 Leadership Seminar</u>
Mar 14	B&D Chap 13 Employees (71p) Extra Credit due Study Groups must form
<i>Mar 21</i>	<i>no class SPRING BREAK</i>
Mar 28	B&D Chap 14 Intellectual Property (62p) Bus. Case Legal Analysis due
<i>Apr 4</i>	<i>no class O'Hara at American Academy of Economic and Financial Experts</i>
Apr 11	MP&T Part Three Solving (100p)
Apr 18	B&D Chap 8 Venture Capital & 15 Public Capital (95p)
Apr 25	MP&T Part Four Ethics & Multiparty (52p)
May 2	student evaluations, review whole course
May 9	6:00 - 7:00 review for exams 7:00 - 9:00 Solo and Group Comprehensive Final Exams