

better, 2.3 GPA.

1.4 **Unusual Circumstances of the Course**

None

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

2.1 **List of performance objectives stated in terms of the student.**

To gain a general understanding of legal and ethical issues in the conduct of business in the United States and, to a more limited extent, internationally. The course emphasizes the study of American tort and contract law. The student is introduced to the study of ethical conflict in decision making in the business environment.

One of the primary objectives of the course is to develop the students' ability to dissect the ethical issues in an American business. By case study, the course examines the legal reasoning by which American courts resolve legal controversies.

3.0 **List of topics to be covered:**

3.1 During the first quarter of the semester, the major framework of the American legal system (courts, regulatory, and administrative) and how business operates therein will be presented along with selected aspects of the U.S. Constitution. This includes recognition of the elements and the remedies for wrongs (torts) committed by and against businesses, individuals and society. Ethical theories and behavior will be examined and discussed. Students will be introduced to intellectual property law (copyright, patent, trademarks, etc).

3.2 The second and third quarters of the semester will explore common law contract law (formation, enforcement, and defenses). Also, the conflict between ethics and law will be presented and discussed.

3.3 The final quarter of the semester will focus on laws respecting the sale of goods under the Uniform Commercial Code, product liability, and the law of warranties. Time will be reserved for discussion of special legal topics important to the business environment.

4.0 TEACHING METHODOLOGY

4.1 **Methods to be used**

The primary teaching method will be lecture and discussion.

4.2 **Student role in the course.**

The role of the student is to participate in and expedite discussion and intellectual interaction among his or her colleagues. The student must be prepared and adventuresome in exploration of topics and specific interests.

4.3 **Contact Hours**

Three (3) contact hours per week during a 15-week semester.

5.0 EVALUATION

5.1 **Types of student projects that will be the basis for evaluating student performance, specifying the distinction between undergraduate and graduate, if applicable.**

Students will present the pertinent facts of the cases printed in the textbook, assigned readings and independent research projects.

5.2 **Basis for determining the final grade (e.g., weighting of various student projects), specifying the distinction between undergraduate and graduate, if applicable).**

The professor primarily will employ an arithmetic average of results of papers, examinations and other presentations.

5.3 **Grading Scale**

The grades will be reported in a fashion consistent with UNO's standard grading policy: i.e., A = superior; B = above average; C = average; D = below average; and F = failing. Each instructor shall provide each student at the beginning of the semester a written explanation of the grading scale to be

used in that course. This written explanation shall list which percentages of total points are associated with which letter grade for the course.

6.0 RESOURCE MATERIALS

6.1 SUGGESTED TEXTBOOK

West's Business Law, Eighth Edition, Clarkson, Miller, Jentz, and Cross (2001)

6.2 Other suggested reading materials.

West's Nutshell Series

6.3 Other sources for gathering of information, if any.

LEXIS-NEXIS Electronic Data, World Wide Web (www), local and area public and law libraries.

In addition to the above readings, information may be obtained from local and national newspapers.

6.4 Current bibliography of resources for students' information.

Each of the texts listed in 6.1 and 6.2 contain current bibliographies.