



The University of Akron

George W. Daverio School of Accountancy

College of Business Administration

Term: Fall, 2020 (August 24, 2020 – December 6, 2020)

Course Name: Legal & Soc Environ Business **Course Number:** 6400:220
Section: 003

Schedule:

Day: Tu/Th

Time: 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Location: 100% Online, no face-to-face

Instructor: Dr. Doron Narotzki
Information Office/location: School of Accountancy #237
Office Phone: 330.972.6912
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: dnarotzki@uakron.edu

Prerequisites: Business Law I.

Required Text: Richard A. Mann and Barry S. Roberts, Essentials of Business Law and the Legal Environment, 13th ed. (Cengage, 2019).

Other Requirements: **Since this is a 100% online class, I do require that you all open your cameras so I can see you during class. I understand this is a little awkward to some, but I assure you it improves the quality of the class if we can all see one another.**

OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Any other materials posted on Springboard.

GRADE CALCULATION:

Midterm Exams	30.0%
Take Home Exams	30.0%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>40.0%</u>
Total	<u>100.0%</u>

GRADING SCALE:

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	86-89%
B	83-85%
B-	80-82%
C+	76-79%
C	73-75%
C-	70-72%
D+	66-69%
D	63-65%
D-	60-62%
F	BELOW 60%

PICTURE ID REQUIREMENT:

During in-class exams, students may be asked to display their University of Akron picture ID (Zip Card) on their desks.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

A make-up exam will be allowed only in extraordinary circumstances that are supported by appropriate official documentation. **I reserve the right to impose up to a 25% penalty for a make-up exam.**

HOMEWORK:

None.

QUIZZES:

None.

PROJECTS/CASES:

None.

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ADVANCE PREPARATION:

Each student is responsible for reading the assigned material and for attempting any assignments before coming to class. A useful rule of thumb is to devote two to three hours of preparation time for each hour of class time. You should be prepared to discuss reading assignments, answer questions, and participate in class activities.

COVERAGE OF ETHICS IN THIS COURSE:

The discussion of ethical conduct, with focus on the AICPA Statements on Standards of Tax Services and IRS Circular 230, will be integrated throughout the course via classroom discussion.

COMMUNICATION POLICY:

I will use your University of Akron email address to communicate with you, so please check it often. I will check my University of Akron email at least once a day on Mondays – Thursdays (except holidays). I will also check my email sporadically on weekends and holidays. It is much better to contact me via email than voicemail.

RESPONSE TIME:

See above for the communication policy. Unless an extremely unusual circumstance arises, I will return graded assignments to you by the next class period.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Any student who feels she/he may need an accommodation based on the effect of a disability should contact the Office of Accessibility at 330-972-7928.

INCOMPLETES:

At the discretion of the instructor, a student may receive an I (incomplete) grade if he/she has completed substantially the entire course, has a passing grade, and is unable, for an exceptionally extraordinary reason that is supported by written documentation, to complete the course requirements. Failure to make up the omitted work satisfactorily by the end of exam

week of the following term, not including summer sessions, converts the “I” to an “F.” When the work is satisfactorily completed within the allotted time, the “I” is converted to whatever grade the student has earned. It is the responsibility of the student to make up the incomplete work.

WITHDRAWALS:

Students who withdraw from this class must do so officially by October 13, 2014; otherwise they will receive an F for the course. Details for the policy are in board rule 3359-20-051 and can be found at <http://www.uakron.edu/ssc/withdrawal-policy.dot>.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT: THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON IS AN EQUAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT INSTITUTION - Operating under nondiscrimination provisions of Titles VI, VII, of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended and IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 as amended. Executive Order 12466, Vocational Rehabilitation Act Section 504, Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Act, and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as related to admissions, treatment of students, and employment practices. It is the policy of this institution that there shall be no unlawful discrimination against any individual at The University of Akron because of race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, handicap or status as a veteran. The University of Akron will not tolerate sexual harassment of any form in its programs and activities, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment and admissions.

The nondiscrimination policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, employees and applicants. Complaints of possible sex and other forms of discrimination should be referred to: AA/EEO Office, ASB, Room 125D, Akron, OH 44325-4709, Phone: (330) 972-7300

Policy Information on Title IX may be obtained from:
Title IX Coordinator, ASB, Room 125D, Akron, OH 44325-4709, Phone: (330) 972-6462

Policy Information on the Americans with Disabilities Act may be obtained from:
ADA Coordinator, ASB 125 D, Akron, OH 44325-4709, Phone: (330) 972-6462

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular, punctual attendance is expected. Accreditation standards require monitoring class attendance but no points are awarded for attendance. Students who miss 4 or more regular class meetings will be administratively dropped from the course. If you are a military veteran, please contact the University of Akron Military Services Center at <http://www.uakron.edu/veterans> or (330) 972-7838 for more detailed information regarding attendance requirements.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Any form of cheating on exams, projects, cases, or homework assignments will result in an “F” (0 points) for that exam or assignment. Students should pay particular attention in order to avoid plagiarism on the research exam and research memos. A copy of the University’s academic misconduct policy is reprinted below.

Academic Misconduct

Students at The University of Akron are an essential part of the academic community, and enjoy substantial freedom within the framework of the educational objectives of the institution. The freedom necessary for learning in a community so rich in diversity and achieving success toward our educational objectives requires high standards of academic integrity. Academic misconduct has no place in an institution of advanced learning. The University community is governed by the policies and regulations contained within the Student Code of Conduct available at www.uakron.edu/studentlconduct/cod-of-conduct.dot contact Student Judicial Affairs at (330) 972-6830.

The University of Akron considers academic integrity an essential part of each student's personal and intellectual growth. Instances of academic misconduct are addressed consistently. All members of the community contribute actively to building a strong reputation of academic excellence and integrity at The University of Akron.

It is each student's responsibility to know what constitutes academic misconduct and to seek clarification directly from the instructor if necessary. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Submission of an assignment as the student's original work that is entirely or partly the work of another person.
- Failure to appropriately cite references from published or unpublished works or print/non-print materials, including work found on the World Wide Web.
- Unauthorized copying of an assignment in computer programming, or the unauthorized examination or view of the computer, specifically during examinations.
- Possession and/or unauthorized use of tests, notes, books, calculators or formulas stored in calculators not authorized by the instructor during an examination.
- Providing and/or receiving unauthorized information from another student other than the instructor, by any verbal or written means.
- Observing or assisting another student's work.
- Violation of the procedures prescribed by the professor to protect the integrity of the examination.
- Cooperation with a person involved in academic misconduct.

A student who has been accused of academic misconduct will be asked to meet with the course instructor. The matter can be resolved informally at the College level and/or an academic sanction can be imposed. If the student opposes the decision, he/she may appeal to the College Dean. If the matter is referred to Student Judicial Affairs, a meeting will occur and, if the evidence indicates it is more likely than not that an academic misconduct violation has occurred, the office will take action, including, but not limited to, suspension or dismissal from the University. A more detailed discussion of these procedures can be found in the Student Code of Conduct found at www.uakron.edu/studentlife/sja.

CELL PHONE USAGE:

Use of cellular phones in the classroom is not allowed. Cellular phones should be turned off or muted and kept in purses/backpacks.

TOBACCO POLICY:

No tobacco products are allowed in the classroom, including ecigarettes.

Anticipated course schedule

- Class 1 Course begins (first day of classes): Introductions, beginning of Chapter 1 (Law vs. Justice).
- Class 2 End of Chapter 1.
- Class 3 Chapter 2: Business Ethics.
- Class 4 End of Chapter 2: Business Ethics.
- Class 5 Chapter 19: Introduction to Sales and Leases (Parallel readings: Uniform Commercial Code [U.C.C.], Article 2, for *all* chapters regarding Sales; U.C.C. Article 2A for Leases. *Contracts* [1st semester] are presumed to be part of most sales and leases. **Excerpts from the U.C.C. are in the back of the textbook, Appendix B.**)
- Class 6 Chapter 20: Performance (Sales).
- Class 7 Chapter 21: Transfer of Title and Risk of Loss (Sales).
- Class 8 Chapter 22: Product Liability: Warranties and Strict Liability (Sales); see also (*not required*), Chapter 44: Consumer Protection, and (*also not required*) Chapter 45: Environmental Protection.
- Class 9 Chapter 23: Sales Remedies (Sales).
- Class 10 Chapter 24: Form and Content (Sales *and, possibly important*, Article 3 of U.C.C., Negotiable Instruments).
- Class 12 **Midterm EXAM I** covering Chapters 1 and 2, plus 19-24. More on structure of this test later.
- Class 13 Chapter 25: Transfer and Holder in Due Course (Sales *and definitely* Negotiable Instruments).
- Class 14 Finish Chapter 25. Note: This is a long, complicated chapter if you never have been exposed to Negotiable Instruments law before. Refer to the Federal Reserve's table of acceptable Discount Window collateral and the valuations (or "haircuts") for each type of security, negotiable instrument, or other asset category.
- Class 15 Chapter 26: Liability of Parties (Negotiable Instruments).
- Class 16 Chapter 26: Liability of Parties (Negotiable Instruments).

- Class 17 Chapter 27: Bank Deposits, Collections, and Funds Transfers. (Refer also to U.C.C., Article 4, Bank Deposits and Collections; U.C.C., Article 4A, Funds Transfer.) Again, this can be a complicated subject if you never have been exposed to it before.
- Class 18 Review for exam at next class.
- Class 19 **Midterm EXAM II** covering Chapters 25-27.
- Class 20 Review of multiple choice/short answer/quantitative questions on the exam.

We are going to repeat/review the chapters on Corporations and Corporate Structure, Nos. 33-36. Overview of Corporations (Chapters 33 and 35) begins.
- Class 21 Chapter 34: Financial Structure of Corporations. Bring your financial calculators to class today if you have them. Remember the DuPont Identity, the (Gordon) Dividend Growth Model, the Security Market Line, and other such concepts from your finance courses? For tax purposes, what is the difference among business forms? (Sole proprietorships, partnerships and limited liability corporations [LLCs], small corporations, large corporations, and not-for-profit corporations? What tax forms do each of these business entities file?)
- Class 22 Chapter 36: Fundamental Changes of Corporations (this latter chapter title means changes in the legal form of corporations). **TAKE-HOME EXAM I** on corporations (Chapters 33-36) will be posted today after class.
- Class 23 TAKE-HOME EXAM is due at beginning of class today. Chapter 37: Secured Transactions and Suretyship. (Refer also to U.C.C., Article 9, Secured Transactions. Some knowledge of the United States Bankruptcy Code of 1978 [last major amendment in 2005] also is helpful in this area of business law.) It is another long and complicated topic for those not previously exposed to it.
- Class 24 Review of multiple choice/short answer/quantitative questions on the exam.

Finish Chapter 37.
- Class 25 Finish (if we can) Chapter 37. Time allowing, we shall begin Chapter 38, Bankruptcy.
- Class 26 Chapter 38: Bankruptcy.
- Class 27 **TAKE-HOME EXAM II ON CHAPTERS 37-38** posted after class.
- Class 28 TAKE-HOME EXAM IS DUE TODAY at beginning of class. Chapter 39: Securities Regulation. Another long, complicated topic condensed into one class session. (Refer also to U.C.C., Article 8, Investment Securities.)
- Class 29 Review of multiple choice/short answer/quantitative questions on the exam.

Chapter 40: Intellectual Property, and Chapter 41: Employment Law.

Class 30 Chapter 42: Antitrust, and Chapter 43: Accountants' Legal Liability.

Class 31 LAST CLASS DAY. Chapter 46: International Business Law, and Chapter 47: Introduction to Property, Property Insurance, Bailments, and Documents of Title.

(Refer also to U.C.C., Articles 5 [Letters of Credit] and 7 [Documents of Title].)

Note that international letters of credit and related title documents are governed by an international convention (175 signatory countries), published by the International Chamber of Commerce (Paris, France: 2007). The document is called UCP600, *Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits*. Bailments (warehouse receipts, grain elevator receipts, or shipping documents like bills of lading) are governed by U.C.C., Article 7, in domestic commerce and by UCP600 in international commerce. The law allows contracting parties to specify UCP600 instead of U.C.C., Articles 5 and 7, in contracts governing domestic transactions, and it usually is considered "good form" to do so.

Not covered: Chapters 48-50. Topics there are Interests in Real Property, Transfer and Control of Real Property, and Trusts and Wills. On trusts and wills (*see* Internal Revenue Service Forms 706 and 709), these are important methods of controlling property rights, both present and future. *See* Chapter 42: Antitrust, as it might apply to business trusts, *and* relevant state law on wills. Ohio wills are reviewed by Probate Courts in each county. Ordinarily, a valid Ohio will must be (a) in writing, (b) signed by the will-maker (the *testator*), who must be of sound mind at the time of signing, and (c) countersigned by two competent witnesses who do not expect to inherit under that will. Particular attention is given to wills governing land or other real property and automobiles or other registered vehicles.

FINAL EXAM: The exam will cover Chapters 1-2, 19-27, 33-36, and 37-47.

I reserve the right to add or delete assignments/material covered to or from this schedule.