

Introduction to Law

Summer Semester 2015

INSTRUCTOR:

Joan Gabel gabelj@missouri.edu

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Late Assignments and Make-Ups:

No late assignments will be accepted without a documented excuse.

2. Attendance and Preparation:

You are expected to attend each class and to have thoroughly prepared that day's reading assignment. Absenteeism or lack of preparation will adversely affect your grade.

Attendance at all classes and CIMBA sanctioned activities is mandatory. All unexcused absences will have the following consequences:

- a. 1st absence will result in a loss of a 1/2 of a letter grade in that class
- b. 2nd (cumulative) absence will result in a loss of an entire letter grade in that class
- c. 3rd (cumulative) absence will result in a dismissal from the program

Absences due to illness require a note from the CIMBA Staff. If a student is sick and cannot attend class, he/she must inform the CIMBA Staff immediately. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence.

3. Grades:

Plus/minus grading will be used. It is expected that final grade distribution will approximate the recommended guidelines of the Management and Organizations Department at the University of Iowa, which is 25% A's, 35% B's, 30% C's, and 10% D's, however, such guidelines are only recommendations.

Tests & Final Exam	80% (20% each)
Paper*	<u>20%</u>
	100%

*Papers will be done in teams with current events topics to be assigned.

The Paper should be 3-5 pages in length and **should be your team's original work**. While you may discuss the issues with friends or with me, all research and writing should be yours. If you develop an idea because of a conversation you had with someone other than me, you must credit him/her just as you would any source. Make sure you give proper attribution to any source from which you derive your work. A failure to do so is plagiarism and will be treated under the Academic Dishonesty Policy. Your paper should include:

- a. Introduction - State the proposition and provide a brief background (origin and history) of the issue. Why is the issue important? Why is there a controversy?
- b. Discussion - This major section includes your arguments supporting the side you take in the paper. Back up your arguments with sound reasoning and evidence -- academic, practitioner or popular references, interviews, etc.
- c. Conclusion - Summarize the main points of the discussion.

To conduct your research, begin with a current Internet search of your topic. Utilize sources such as Google and general business sources such as the on-line news databases. Since the issues we will select involve current topics, you should not have difficulty getting an overview of the issues, nor should you generally have to search beyond a three-year period.

Note that the paper is designed to be both informative and persuasive. In the introduction you will frame the issue. The body of the paper (discussion) should be written in a persuasive style, using logic and emotion as appropriate. Within the framework of passionate advocacy, you must remain intellectually honest (i.e., do not misuse statistics, cite cases for holdings that are not supported, or misquote authorities in the field).

Use the computer to make the paper come alive, i.e., solid headings and sub-headings, creative fonts, color, etc. BEWARE: edit carefully to rid the paper of all typos and glaring grammatical errors. Nothing detracts from a business writing more than sloppy editing.

You should use numbered endnotes for all research and outside data. The endnotes should appear at the end of the paper and does not count as part of the page limit. Any standard, generally accepted format is okay for the endnotes as long as you are consistent and include all appropriate information (e.g., volume and page numbers).

Prepare the first draft with enough time to review it in order to gather additional data to plug holes. There is no absolute number of sources required but each source cited should have been used, and this should be evident in reading the paper. Remember, the paper should be an original paper.

4. My Educational Philosophy:

An educated person can do more than regurgitate facts. An educated person can:

- explain complex ideas in everyday language;
- interconnect the material;
- apply theory to real-life situations; and
- think critically.

Critical thinking is the ability to “go beyond what you know” without falling to pieces.

5. Academic Honesty:

Students will be held to the highest standards of integrity in completing exams and assignments. If I determine that any assignment was not written solely by the student whose name is on the project, the student will receive a zero (0) for the assignment and may receive an "F" for the class. All incidents of cheating will be reported to the Senior Associate Dean and the student may be placed on disciplinary probation for the remainder of his or her enrollment at the University of Iowa. Honor Code for the Tippie College of Business will determine the appropriate appeal process.

6. Student Grievances:

Student concerns regarding this course should first be discussed with me, the faculty member teaching this course. If we can't resolve the complaint, you may contact the CIMBA Director, Brandelle Unkrich (319-335-1041, brandelle-unkrich@uiowa.edu). The Director will review the details of the complaint and involve the Associate Dean of the Undergraduate Programs, as needed.

7. Accommodations for disabilities

A student seeking academic accommodations such as a modification of seating, testing, timing, etc. should first register with Student Disability Services, then contact Shannon Lizakowski (shannon-lizakowski@uiowa.edu) in the CIMBA Office to make further arrangements. See <http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu> for more information.

8. Policy on Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. If you feel that you are being or have been harassed or you are not sure what constitutes sexual harassment, we encourage you to visit the University website, www.sexualharassment.uiowa.edu/index.php, and to seek assistance from the CIMBA Director, Brandelle Unkrich, at 319-335-1041 or brandelle-unkrich@uiowa.edu.

6. Miscellaneous:

- a. There will be no opportunities for extra credit.
- b. Any and all legal opinions or statements as to legal matters made by the instructor during the course of the scheduled classroom meetings are for class discussion purposes only and are never to be taken as the dispensation of legal advice. This includes comments made during breaks or after class and comments made directly to individual students.
- c. University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu).

7. Text and Supplementary Materials:

The Legal Environment of Business, Meiners, R.E., Ringleb, A.H., & Edwards, F.L.

COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Week	Subject Area	Chapter
1	Introduction to Course and Case Analysis and The Court System	Chapter 1 (through page 7), 2-3
	Litigation and ADR	Continued from above
	The Constitution	4
	Afternoon Session 1 – ADR Simulation/Ethics*	
	Test 1	
2	Torts	6
	Products Liability	7
	White Collar Crime	5 & 21
	Afternoon Session 2 – Corporate Scandal*	
	Test 2	
3	Business Organizations	13
	Contracts & Sales	10 & 11
	Intellectual Property	9
	Afternoon Session 3 – Closing the Deal*	
	Test 3	
4	International Law	22
	Agency/ Employment Law	14 & 16
	Employment Discrimination	17
	Ethics	1 (page 15 to the end of the chapter)
	Afternoon Session 4 – International Implications*	
	Final Exam	

***Afternoon sessions: Subject to change -**