COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: BU 353
Legal Environment of Business

CLASS MEETING TIME: MWF, 11:00-11:50, Cremer 518
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Marian K. Riedy, Cremer 502
OFFICE HOURS: M 10:00-11:00 a.m., 2:00-4:00 p.m.
T 10:00-12:00 a.m.
2:00-4:00 p.m.
W 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Or by Appointment
CONTACT INFORMATION: Office: 620/341-6302
E-mail: mriedy@emporia.edu


COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This is an introductory law course in which we will study the structure and function of the various components of the American legal system, the basic principles of the major substantive areas of the law, and the related topic of business ethics. Learning will be based on both team-based and individual assignments, as described in Course Assignments and Grading (below).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
The main objective of this course is to introduce students to the general principles of the major substantive areas of the U.S. legal system. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able generally to describe the basic principles of law in the following subject matter areas:

A. Legal environment
   1. Courts and legal systems
   2. Constitution and business
   3. Administrative law
   4. Tort law
   5. Crimes
B. Regulatory environment
   1. Employment law
   2. Labor law
   3. Antitrust law
   4. Consumer protection
   5. Environmental and international law
   6. Security regulation
   7. Intellectual property
C. Business relationships
   1. Contract and sales law (UCC)
   2. Business organizations
   3. Law and agency
   4. Intellectual property
D. Ethics and Social Responsibility
MAJOR FIELD TEST IN BUSINESS: All students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business are required to earn a score of 135 (or higher) of a possible 200 on the Major Field Test in Business (MFT). The MFT is administered to students enrolled in MG 473 – Business Policy. More information about the MFT is available at http://www.ets.org/mft. Material from any of the legal topics listed above may be included in the MFT. You are, therefore, encouraged to learn this material in depth and remember it. Also, you are encouraged to keep your course materials to assist you in doing a quick review prior to taking the MFT.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:
1. LEADING CLASS DISCUSSION (TWO). (Team) A team of students will lead the class discussion of two (2) chapters of the text. The team should be prepared to (1) provide an overview of the chapter; (2) explain the principal rules of law set forth in the chapter; (3) ask questions of Dr. Riedy, as necessary, to explore these rules in greater depth; and (4) respond to questions posed by Dr. Riedy and/or the class. Chapter outlines will be posted in Blackboard to assist in preparing to lead the class discussion, but the team CANNOT simply rely on (or read) those outlines in leading the discussion. Each presentation can be a maximum of thirty (30) minutes, and the deadline will be strictly observed. Scores will be lowered for failing to cover all the key points in the chapter. For most chapters, these two facts require that the material be summarized. Each presentation should include some graphic aid. Every member of the team must speak. Teams will be scored by both Professor Riedy (maximum of 40 points) and the class (average of all scores, maximum of 10 points).

2. CLASS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (TEN). (Individual) Each student must ask the presenters and/or Dr. Riedy a question regarding the material presented during TEN (10) class sessions. Students may and are encouraged to ask as many questions as they choose, but only one will be scored during any one class. A reasonably thoughtful question, as judged by Dr. Riedy, will score five (5) points.

3. CLASS DISCUSSION POP QUIZZES (TEN). (Individual) During ten class sessions the session will conclude with a short (five question) pop quiz covering the material presented during that session.

4. LAW APPLIED (THIRTY). (Team) Each team must complete written answers to identified questions from “Applying the Information in this Chapter to Actual Situations” in the textbook (end of chapter, Part B). Scores will be based on the degree of research and demonstrated understanding of the issue presented. The maximum number of points for each answer is five (5). The paper must be submitted by midnight on the date scheduled for Team Meetings, Law Applied.

5. TOPIC IN THE NEWS PRESENTATION (TWO). (Team) The presenters should identify a news story on the assigned legal topic; explain to the class the legal background and significance of the news story; and be prepared to answer questions posed by the class. The presentation should take approximately fifteen (15) minutes. Every member of the team must speak. The maximum number of points available for each presentation is twenty-five; presentations will be scored based on the degree of research and preparation exhibited in the
presentation. The schedule for topic in the news presentations will be posted in Blackboard.

6. ETHICS CASE PROBLEM (ONE). (Team) Each team will write a three to five page, single-spaced paper describing and resolving an ethical dilemma that could reasonably be encountered in the workplace, using one or more of the business ethics frameworks previously discussed in class. The paper is due on or before midnight on Wednesday, October 17 (before Fall Break).

7. QUizzes (SIX). (Individual) There will be six quizzes covering the preceding Unit. The quiz format may include true/false and/or multiple-choice questions. Each quiz will be available in the Assignments folder in Blackboard forty-eight (48) hours before its due date. Quiz answers must be posted to Blackboard by midnight on the due date.

8. FINAL EXAM. (Individual) There will be a comprehensive final exam. The exam format may include true/false, multiple-choice, and/or fill-in-the-blank questions. The final will be available in the Assignments folder in Blackboard forty-eight (48) hours before its due date. Answers must be posted to Blackboard by NOON on the due date (note this deadline is different than that for the quizzes).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leading Class Discussion (2)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Discussion Questions (10)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Discussion Pop Quizzes (10)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Applied (30)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic in the News (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethics Case Problem (1)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (6)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>700</strong></td>
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A = 630 to 700 points (90 to 100%)
B = 560 to 629 points (80 to 89%)
C = 490 to 559 points (70 to 79%)
D = 420 to 489 points (60 to 69%)
F = 0 to 419 points (0 to 59%)

**Note:** scores of .50 and above will be rounded up and .49 and below rounded down to the next whole number.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:
At Emporia State University, academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting the intellectual or creative work or accomplishments of another as your own, as well as failing to properly credit all sources used or referred to in your work). Consistent with University policy, the professor reserves the option of failing any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty on an exam, paper, or otherwise. The matter may
also be referred to other academic personnel for further action. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the University.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:
Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication between students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Students who do not attend this course regularly are apt to score poorly on class requirements. If it is necessary to be absent from class, it is the sole responsibility of the student to remain current on the material covered in class and on any course requirements.

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS (Subject to change with reasonable advance notice)

Unit 1 – Legal Environment of Business, Chapters 1-4
Aug. 15: Introduction, Review of Requirements, Initial Team Meetings
Aug. 17 Team 1: Chapter 1, The American Legal System
Aug. 20 Team 2: Chapter 2, Constitutional Law
Aug. 22 Team 3: Chapter 3, Civil Procedure
Aug. 24 Team Meeting: Law Applied
Aug. 27 Team 4: Administrative Law and Procedure

QUIZ ONE (Chapters 1-4) DUE MIDNIGHT

Unit 2 – Business Liabilities, Chapters 5, 7, 10
Aug. 29 Team 5: Chapter 5, Criminal Law and Procedure
Aug. 31 Team 6: Chapter 7, Torts and Negligence
Sept. 3 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY NO CLASS
Sept. 5 Team 7: Chapter 10, Agency Law
Sept. 7 Team Meeting: Law Applied
Sept. 10 Review and Topic in the News

QUIZ TWO (Chapters 5, 7, and 10) DUE MIDNIGHT

Unit 3 – Contracts, Chapters 9, 16 (pgs. 337-352)
Sept. 12 Team 8: Chapter 9, Contract Law (pgs. 179-198)
Sept. 14 Team 9: Chapter 9, Contract Law (pgs. 199-217)
Sept. 17 Team 10: Chapter 16, Article 2 and 2a of the UCC (pp. 401-420)
Sept. 19 Team Meeting: Law Applied
Sept. 21 Review and Topic in the News

QUIZ THREE (Chapters 9, 16) DUE MIDNIGHT

Sept. 24 Dr. Riedy, Chapter 7, Law and Ethics
Unit 4 – Property, Chapters 8, 19, 16 (pgs. 353-369), 17
Sept. 26  Team 11:  Chapter 8, Property Law
Sept. 28  Team 12:  Chapter 19, Intellectual Property Law

Oct. 1  Team 1:  9:  Chapter 8, Property Law
Oct. 3  Team 2:  Chapter 19, Intellectual Property Law
Oct. 5  Team 3:  Chapter 16 (Articles 3 and 9 of the UCC) (pp. 420-441)
Oct. 8  Team 4:  Chapter 17, Debtor/Creditor Relations
Oct. 10  Team Meeting:  Law Applied
Oct. 12  NO CLASS
Oct. 15  Review and Topic in the News
Oct. 17  Review and Topic in the News
QUIZ FOUR (Chapters 8, 19, 16, 17) DUE MIDNIGHT
ETHICS PAPER DUE MIDNIGHT

Unit 5 – Government Regulation of Business, Chapters 11, 18, 21
Oct. 22  Team 5:  Chapter 11, Employment Law (pp. 233-252, 275-282)
Oct. 24  Dr. Riedy:  Chapter 11, Employment Law (cont.)
Oct. 26  Team 6:  Chapter 18, Consumer Law
Oct. 29  Team 7:  Chapter 21, Environmental Law
Oct. 31  Team Meeting:  Law Applied
Nov. 2  Review and Topic in the News
QUIZ FIVE (Chapters 11, 18, 21) DUE MIDNIGHT

Unit 6 – Business Organizations, Chapters 12, 13, 14, 15
Nov. 5  Team 8:  Chapter 12, Sole Proprietor and Chapter 13, pp. 301-311
Nov. 7  Team 9:  Chapter 13, Partnerships, pp. 311-337
Nov. 9  Team 10:  Chapter 14 and Chapter 15, pp. 355-369
Nov. 12  VETERANS’ DAY NO CLASS
Nov. 14  Team 11:  Chapter 15, pp. 369-395
Nov. 16  Team Meeting:  Law Applied
Nov. 19  Review and Topic in the News
QUIZ SIX (Chapters 12 - 15) DUE MIDNIGHT

Nov. 21, 23  THANKSGIVING BREAK NO CLASS

Nov. 26  Team 12:  Chapter 22, International Law
Nov. 28  Dr. Riedy:  Chapter 20, Internet Law
Nov. 30  Team Meeting:  Law Applied
Dec. 3  “Hot Coffee”
Dec. 5  “Hot Coffee”
Dec. 7  Review and Topic in the News

FINAL EXAM:  Must be submitted by NOON on Tuesday, December 11, 2012