

**Legal & Ethical Environment of Business****Remote: Online****Thurs. 2:00 pm – 4:50 pm****Office Hours: Available By Appointment****Joshua D. Dietz****Adjunct Professor****Email: [joshua.dietz@unt.edu](mailto:joshua.dietz@unt.edu)****Phone: 817.455.3808**

Welcome to class!! We will spend the semester together, learning about corporation law. In order to maximize your time in this class, please read this syllabus closely. It contains much of the information you need regarding how the class is set up, deadlines, and grading requirements.

The best way to initially reach me is through Canvas email or regular email at [joshua.dietz@unt.edu](mailto:joshua.dietz@unt.edu). I make it a point to be accessible via email. Since we are remote, if you would like a time to speak with me, we can schedule a time to have a telephone conference, Zoom meeting, and even meet in person if necessary.

**Attendance Policy:** You are an adult. Class attendance is your choice and responsibility. Class attendance will be recorded during class meetings, as there are times instructors are required to report your attendance. It is your responsibility to sign the roll through the Cengage App. You will be given instructions on when to sign in and you must be in the classroom for the app to reflect your attendance.

It is almost guaranteed that attendance (or lack thereof) will affect your course grade because the discussion/lecture material in class may elaborate beyond text materials and may be included in exams. In addition, your record of class attendance will be used as a factor in determining your final course grade when your numerical score is on the borderline of two letter grades. The borderline is defined as one (1) point.

**COVID-19 impact on attendance:** While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent as to what may be preventing you from coming to class so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, or any of the other possible symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center ([940-565-2333](tel:940-565-2333) or [askSHWC@unt.edu](mailto:askSHWC@unt.edu)) or your health care provider. While

attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

Class Participation: I may call upon students to answer questions, participate in class discussions, and make presentations. Attendance is not the same as participation. I will expect class participation to promote critical thinking and dialogue as we work through class subject matter. Therefore, you are expected to come to class having read the assignment and prepared to discuss the topic(s). I will also want to see you during class, I like seeing to whom I am speaking, so please be sure you have a camera that we can utilize with Zoom, for both class and exams.

Canvas: Students are required to use the class page to access handouts, tests tips, Cengage MindTap access for Assignments, etc. Students will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to access some of the postings. A course calendar will be updated regularly to reflect the material being covered. Students are encouraged to consult the course web page before class.

Please note that email sent to my UNT email address (joshua.dietz@unt.edu) may be sent to a spam file. The best way to communicate with me via email is using the Canvas class page. Never assume that because you sent me an email I have received it. In addition, if your communication relates to a course content question, I like to use the Discussion board to expound and clarify .

Office Hours: The best way to correspond with me is via the Canvas class page, and via the Discussions window. I will be checking Canvas frequently. Should your matter require a meeting, please schedule an appointment via the Canvas email, or school email. I will also be available before class, during breaks, and after class for questions.

Academic Integrity Standards and Sanctions for Violations: According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic , forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. Academic sanctions will range from warning to a failing grade in the course.

Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.dewanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct](http://www.dewanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct).

Ultimately, everyone involved in this class should treat everyone else with respect. I will endeavor to begin on time, end on time, and use the class period productively.

Access to Information – Eagle Connect: Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the University will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward email: [eagleconnect.unt.edu](http://eagleconnect.unt.edu).

Emergency Notification & Procedures: UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a University closure, please refer to Canvas or Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

ADA Statement/Disability Accommodation: UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodations should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at [disability.unt.edu](http://disability.unt.edu). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Retention of Student Records: Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas or Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about students' records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy.

Student Perceptions of Teaching Effectiveness (SPOT): Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes and UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13 and 14 for the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at [www.spot.unt.edu](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault: UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violate and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: [http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources\\_0](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0). Renee LeClaire McNamara is UNT's Student Advocate and she can be reached through email at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. You are not alone. We are here to help.

### **Emergency Evacuation Procedures for Business Leadership Building:**

- Severe Weather In the event of severe weather, all building occupants should immediately seek shelter in the designated shelter-in-place area in the building. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building. All building occupants should take shelter in rooms 055, 070, 090, and the restrooms on the basement level or in rooms 170, 155, and restrooms 122, 182 or 183 on the first floor.
- Bomb Threat/Fire In the event of a bomb threat or fire in the building, all building occupants should immediately evacuate the building using the nearest exit. Once outside, proceed to the designated assembly area. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts. Persons with mobility impairments who are unable to safely exit the building should move to a designated area of refuge and await assistance from emergency responders. All building occupants should immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the south side of Crumley Hall in the grassy area, west of parking lot 24.

### **Course Objectives**

The objectives of BLAW 3430 are:

1. To enable students to understand the law of agency, corporate formation and structure, the rights and responsibilities of the participants in the organization and financing the corporation.
2. To enable students to understand basic ethical theories, ethical standards, and the ethical responsibilities of a corporation.
3. To enable students to distinguish between corporations and other business entities..

4. To enable students to articulate corporate legal principles and discuss how those principles impact the organization..
5. To enable students to improve critical thinking and communication skills through application of acquired knowledge in resolving real-world legal and ethical conflicts.
6. To enable students to further develop abilities to make sound legal and ethical decisions particularly in the business world.

### **Course Materials**

MindTap: The goal is to give you access to course materials, including MindTap and an electronic version of the text book immediately. MindTap exercises have been incorporated into Canvas and will be required for each chapter, and due dates are set up for these exercises. There are links on Canvas to walk you through the MindTap process.

Textbook: Business Law and the Regulation of Business, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition, by Richard A. Mann and Barry S. Roberts with MindTap. You will need Cengage's MindTap. There is information on this textbook on Canvas and instructions for accessing the e-book version and MindTap.

Handouts & Supplemental Materials: During the semester, handouts or supplemental materials may be assigned or distributed on Canvas. These are intended to supplement the material in the text and to assist students in further understanding the material. If utilized, it is your responsibility to get these materials. They are not intended to be class notes or to substitute for class attendance.

Exams: Three exams will be administered during the semester as specified in the syllabus. On occasion, we may fall behind on topics scheduled to be covered on an exam. If such occurs, only topics actually covered in class prior to the exam will appear on the exam. Exams dates may be changed only in rare cases such as unscheduled holidays due to the weather or other events deemed notable by the UNT Administration.

Exams will begin promptly at the scheduled time and class period. Students who arrive after the exam has been distributed will be allowed to take the exam; provided, however, that after a student has completed and turned in his or her exam, the exam will be considered to have been completely administered. No one arriving after that time will be allowed to take the exam and will be deemed to have missed the exam.

For the Exams, Respondus Lockdown Browser is required, with camera, during the exams. I will require students to have a web camera, or integrated laptop camera, so that I can observe while you take your exams.

COVID-19 Impact on Exams: We will be taking exams online. If, for some reason, we have another quarantine, class will move online and we will take the exams at home. During your exam, you will need to have camera where we are able to view you taking the exam.

**Make-Up Exams:** In exceptional circumstances, a student who must miss an exam will be allowed to take the examination early. Exceptional circumstances are unforeseen, undocumented, unpredictable, legitimate, and out of your control. No make-up exams will be given after the class has taken the exam. Students who miss an exam, for exceptional circumstances, with instructor approval, may be allowed to have their final exam score count as the missing examination grade.

**Grading Policy and Scale:**

**Exam Values:**

Exam One	25%
Exam Two	25%
Exam Three	25%
<u>MindTap Exercises</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

**Grading Scale:**

A.....	90-100%
B.....	80-89%
C.....	70-79%
D.....	60-69%
F.....	0-59%

**Class Lecture, Reading Assignments, MindTap Exercise Due Dates, and Exam Schedule**

The following schedule reflects the approximate schedule for reading text materials. Exams will take place at the scheduled time and day, unless delayed due to weather or other extraordinary event.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Week 1	Introduction to the course, instructor, and materials
Aug. 27, 2020	Read for class: Chapters 1 (Introduction to Law) & 2 (Business Ethics)
Aug.30, 2020	MindTap Exercises for Chapter 1: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning MindTap Exercises for Chapter 2: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning
Week 2	
Sept. 3, 2020	Read for class: Chapters 3 (Civil Dispute Res) & 4 (Constitutional Law)
Sept. 6, 2020	MindTap Exercises for Chapter 3: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning MindTap Exercises for Chapter 4: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning
Week 3	
Sept. 10, 2020	Read for class: Chapters 5 (Admin Law) & 7 (Intentional Torts)
Sept.. 13, 2020	MindTap Exercises for Chapter 5: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 7: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 4

Sept. 17, 2020

Sept. 20, 2020

Read for class: Chapters 8 (Negligence & Strict) & 28 (Principal & Agent)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 8: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 28: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 5

Sept. 24, 2020

**EXAM 1: Covering Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, & 28**

2:00 pm through 4:50 pm

Week 6

Oct. 1, 2020

Oct. 4, 2020

Read for class: Chapters 9 (Intro to Contracts) & 10 (Mutual Assent)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 9: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 10: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 7

Oct. 8, 2020

Oct. 11, 2020

Read for class: Chapters 11 (Invalidate Assent) & 14 (Capacity)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 11: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 12: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 8

Oct. 15, 2020

Oct. 18, 2020

Read for class: Chapters 12 (Consideration) & 13 (Illegal Bargains)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 13: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 14: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 9

Oct. 22, 2020

Oct. 25, 2020

Read for Class: Chapters 15 (Writing)& 16 (Third Parties)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 15: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 16: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 10

Oct. 29, 2020

Nov. 1, 2020

Read for Class: Chapters 17 (Perform, Breach, Discharge) & 18 (Remedies)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 17: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 18: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 11

Nov. 5, 2020

**EXAM 2: Covering Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, & 18**

2:00 pm through 4:50 pm

Week 12

Nov. 12, 2020

Nov. 15, 2020

Read for class: Chapters 32 (LP and LLC) & 33 (Corporations)

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 32: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

MindTap Exercises for Chapter 33: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 13

Nov. 19, 2020 Read for class: Chapters 47 (Intro to Prop) & 40 (Intellectual Prop)  
Nov. 22, 2020 MindTap Exercises for Chapter 47: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning  
MindTap Exercises for Chapter 40: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 14  
Nov. 26, 2020 **No Class – Thanksgiving Break**

Week 15  
Dec. 3, 2020 Read for class: Chapters 50 (Trust and Wills) & 46 (International Business)  
Dec. 3, 2020 MindTap Exercises for Chapter 50: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning  
MindTap Exercises for Chapter 46: Chapter Review & Legal Reasoning

Week 16  
Dec. 10, 2020 **EXAM 3-Final Exam, Covering Chapters 32, 33, 40, 46, 47, & 50**  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm