

BLAW 3430.002 and 3430.501
Legal and Ethical Environment of Business
Summer 2021

Instructor

Professor Houser

Please contact me through the Canvas Inbox tab.

Office: BLB 317F

Office Phone: (940) 565-3109

Office Hours: Canvas - Conference Th 12:00 noon - 1:50PM and by appointment.

Teaching Assistant

Alivia Martin - aliviamartin@my.unt.edu

Required Textbook: The online course materials have been made available to us **free of charge** by McGraw Hill.

Text: Melvin Business Law and Strategy, 1st edition, (2021) with Connect.

PREREQUISITE(S): PSCI 2306 and PSCI 2305, or equivalent.

Course Description

Historical, economic, political and ethical bases of contracts and sales, including the Uniform Commercial Code, and the impact of regulatory agencies on business enterprise.

Course Objective

The objectives of BLAW 3430 are:

1. Explain the legal environment in which businesses operate
2. Compare and contrast the business formation options
3. Describe how contracts are formed and enforced
4. Identify legal risks encountered by businesses
5. Analyze how governmental regulation impacts businesses
6. Assess ethical and social responsibility issues facing businesses

STUDENT EVALUATION:

Grades will be determined according to the following:

Mod 1 - Smart Book – 100 points

Mod 1 - Case Law ABA – 50 points

Mod 1 - ADR Writing Prompt – 25 points

Mod 2 - Smart Book – 100 points

Mod 2 - Elements of a Contract ABA – 50 points

Mod 2 - Contracts Writing Prompt – 25 points

Mod 2 - Contracts Quiz – 30 points

Mod 3 - Smart Book – 100 points

Mod 3 - Negligence ABA – 50 points

Mod 3 - Elements of Negligence Writing Prompt – 25 points

Mod 4 - Smart Book – 100 points

Mod 4 - Business Entities ABA – 50 points

Mod 4 - Business Entities Quiz – 60 points

Mod 5 - Smart Book – 100 points

Mod 5 - Trademarks ABA – 50 points

Mod 5 – Survey – 85 points

Total 1000 points

Quizzes will be a combination of multiple choice and true/false. They will not be cumulative and must be taken in the week assigned.

The following grading scale will be used:

Grades will be determined according to the following:

900-1000	90–100%	A
800-899	80–89%	B
700-799	70–79%	C
600-699	60–69%	D
0-599	Below 60%	F

Class schedule and reading assignments follow. CONSULT OFFICIAL, CURRENT UNIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR ADD/DROP, WITHDRAW AND OTHER KEY DATES, WHICH IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE AS IF COPIED AT LENGTH HEREIN.

Module	Date	Topic	Reading	Deliverable	Deliverable Due Date
1	June 1- June 5	Legal System	SB – The Legal System	Smart Book – 100 points Case Law ABA – 50 points ADR Writing Prompt – 50 points	6/5 (Saturday)
2	June 6- June 12	Contracts	SB - Contracts	Smart Book – 100 points Elements of a Contract ABA – 50 points Contracts Writing Prompt – 20 points Contracts Quiz – 30 points	6/12 (Saturday)
3	June 13- June 19	Torts	SB - Torts	Smart Book – 100 points Negligence ABA – 50 points Elements of Negligence Writing Prompt – 50 points	6/19 (Saturday)
4	June 20- June 26	Business Entities	SB - Business Entities	Smart Book – 100 points Business Entities ABA – 50 points Business Entities Quiz – 100 points	6/26 (Saturday)
5	June 27- July 1	Intellectual Property	SB – Intellectual Property	Smart Book – 100 points Trademarks ABA – 50 points	7/2 (Friday)

Please note that due to the condensed nature of this course late work cannot be accepted.

For your first module activity we will meet as a class through **Canvas – Conferences** on the first day – Monday. Each Thursday thereafter during class time I will hold Conference Virtual Office Hours through Conferences. They will begin at the beginning of class time and end when everyone’s questions have been addressed.

Required equipment:

In addition to a computer, you will need reliable internet services, speakers, and a microphone (although the chat feature will be enabled in all classes). In order to use Canvas, please make sure you have the following installed on your computer - <https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>

Please note that neither the TA nor I have any control over technology issues you may encounter with UNT, Canvas, your internet provider, or your personal device. Please work with the Student help desk and document anything they tell you. As a first step, please click on “Help” in the left column of the course shell, “Student Help Desk,” and then “Live Chat.” Save a copy of the Live Chat to your device for proof that you attempted to obtain help with your problem through the University. After you have attempted to get assistance, please contact either the TA or the Professor with the issue. Please note that because late work is not accepted, you should make sure to complete your work well in advance of the due date to allow for technological issues.

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk site \(http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm\)](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Communication

Please check announcements every day as that is the primary way I will communicate with you. If you have a questions about the course, homework or due dates, please post your question in the Student Forum so that everyone in the class may benefit. Questions of this nature cannot not be answered via email. If you have a personal question, please send it through the course email by clicking Inbox in the left column and then the write message icon at the top of the page. This will keep all of our correspondence in the course shell. Questions may also be directed to the TA. Questions in the Student Forum will be answered by the end of the following business day. Emailed questions will be addressed within 3 business days. If you are able to help a student who has posted a question in the Student Forum, please do. All communications must comply with the course Netiquette policy posed in the Course Shell. Additional online communication tips can be found at - <https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS AND SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATIONS

According to UNT Policy 18.1.16, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, 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 a 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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: 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 e-mail: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

ADA STATEMENT

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 accommodation 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

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 Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

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 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 at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13 and 14 of 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) 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 or email spot@unt.edu

PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION (POLICY 16.004)

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national

origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARRASSMENT, & ASSAULT

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating 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 violence 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. They can be reached at UNT Survivor Advocate, SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu. Renee McNamara is UNT's Associate Dean of Students and she can be reached through e-mail at renee.mcnamara@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students' office at 940-565-2648. For immediate help, contact the care team at care.team@unt.edu. You are not alone. We are here to help.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR F-1 STUDENTS TAKING DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES FEDERAL REGULATION

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/) (<http://www.ecfr.gov/>). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS COMPLIANCE

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

STUDENT VERIFICATION

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002>).

USE OF STUDENT WORK

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

TRANSMISSION AND RECORDING OF STUDENT IMAGES IN ELECTRONICALLY-DELIVERED COURSES

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a signed release in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the Use of Student-Created Work guidelines above.
3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Example: This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

**UNT eUIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

Pronouns

Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don't assume someone's name, we should also ask and not assume someone's pronouns.

You can [add your pronouns to your Canvas account](#) so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:

- [What are pronouns and why are they important?](#)
- [How do I use pronouns?](#)
- [How do I share my pronouns?](#)
- [How do I ask for another person's pronouns?](#)
- [How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?](#)

Additional Student Support Services

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- [Multicultural Center](https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center) (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance) (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)

- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)