

Syllabus Spring '25 - Tuesday/Thursday Hybrid - Business Law I

**DE ANZA COLLEGE –**

**BUS D018...13Z: BUSINESS LAW 1 (CRN 47143)**

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**CLASSROOM HOURS (by Zoom): TUESDAY & THURSDAY**  
**12:30pm – 1:45pm**

**OFFICE HOURS (by Zoom): TUESDAY 11:30am - 12:30pm,**  
**AND BY APPOINTMENT**

**Description:**

This is a broad introductory course that will survey a great deal of material. The course aims to lay the foundation for understanding the fundamentals of business law in the United States, and is designed for any student who wishes to undertake a serious study of business law issues.

This course is a hybrid: live synchronous interaction via Zoom two sessions per week, as if we were in-person in the classroom, and the remainder online on your own schedule. Students are expected and required to attend all live instructional sessions (they are not recorded) and to timely complete the assignments.

This course adheres to all of the De Anza College policies set forth in the Schedule of Classes, and found in the current course catalogue. Of immense importance and emphasis are the policies with respect to Academic Integrity at De Anza College (see Academic Integrity) and Academic Freedom <https://www.deanza.edu/gov/academicsenate/academicfreedom.html>.

**Key Dates** (please verify exact deadlines via your MyPortal.fhda.edu account):

- Written assignments and Quiz dates are set forth in the modules in Canvas (but are subject to adjustment)
- April 20 - last day to drop WITHOUT a "W"
- May 24-26 - Memorial Day - no classes
- May 30 - last day for students to drop WITH a "W"
- June 19 - Juneteenth holiday - no classes
- Final Exam: This will be a short take-home writing assignment (as to one-half) and a T/F & multiple choice online quiz (as to the other half). It will be due by 1:30pm on Thurs June 26. If there is a change on this, it will be announced in class and on Canvas.

### **Involuntary Drops:**

- If you don't timely complete the first quiz assignment in Module 1 (by midnight Sunday night at the end of the first week), you will be dropped from the course in compliance with De Anza's mandatory drop policy.
- If you fail to timely complete three assignments (any combination of weekly quizzes or written assignments), you will be dropped from the course.

### **How to Communicate:**

Email is best - either via Canvas or by direct email to [barbeaujoseph@fhda.edu](mailto:barbeaujoseph@fhda.edu). I usually respond within 24 hours and you should try to do so as well. Exception: I happily schedule 1:1 zooms for detailed follow up on the writing assignments, and otherwise when desired, and when we're trying to schedule a time, please try to respond "real time" or face a never-ending series of follow ups with alternate times.

Office hours: just drop in during the one hour preceding the first weekly class session, or email me to schedule a separate 1:1. The separate zoom link for the scheduled office hours is in the "announcements" folder.

Key info: in the first session each week, we do a post-mortem going through answers to the prior week's quiz. In the second session, I give you the subjects that are covered in that week's quiz. So don't miss those opportunities to tune up and focus your work.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Demonstrate a knowledge of basic legal terminology and basic tort, constitutional, criminal, administrative and contract law.
- Identify ethical issues in a business law context and evaluate factually simple contract issues using basic common law or UCC rules.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

The course will be taught in a semi-Socratic fashion (i.e., students will be asked to answer questions posed by the instructor, and should be prepared at all times to respond to the instructor's questions). Generally, the instructor will develop the subject of the zoom sessions and place them in perspective so that in-class discussion can follow.

### **Required On-Call Sessions:**

For each in-class session after the first session, a handful of students (generally, three to five) will be designated by the instructor to be "on-call" for the next session, and will be responsible for having done the assigned reading (one case in

particular) closely and for facilitating discussion of the reading in conjunction with the instructor. When you are designated (you'll get an email), you are on notice of your need to fully prepare for the upcoming class session.

Many students have stage fright about speaking in class. This is an opportunity to work on that in a setting where you will get full credit for participation with no risk (the aim is discussion; no penalty for not getting “the right answer”). If, however, you have a strong preference to avoid speaking in class, please just contact the instructor about it (email is fine) and arrangements will be made for you to do a short written assignment in lieu of being called on.

### **Textbook:**

Business Law and the Legal Environment, Mayer, Warner, Siedel and Lieberman, version 2.0

eISBN 978-1-4533-98579

This is available through the bookstore.

Additionally, there will be some case decisions and occasional article-length readings that will be linked to in the "overview" page for each module.

### **Grading:**

Students will be evaluated based upon their performance on the following:

- final exam (300 points/30% of total)
- two short written assignments (an IRAC case analysis; 150 points each or 300 total; 30% of total)
- Lecture quizzes, due weekly (10 total quizzes; 30 points each; 300 points total/30% of total)

· on-call performance (or alternative writing assignment), general participation and attendance *with camera on* (100 points/10% of total).

The foregoing points allocations relate to letter grades as follows:

Points	%	Letter Grade
900 - 1000	90 - 100	A
800 - <899	80 - <90	B
700 - <799	70 - <80	C
600 - <699	60 - <70	D
<600	<60	F

A plus (+) or minus (-) will be applied to the upper and lower end of each letter grade range, but an A+ will require truly exceptional performance/contribution. **The rounding/break point conventions applied by Canvas are final.**

The instructor reserves the option to apply a curve if the allocations above unfairly underweight relative performance, i.e., never to reduce a grade earned under the points allocation, but potentially with the effect of raising a grade that otherwise would result.

**Extra Credit:**

Students, at their option, may elect to write a short paper (4-5 pages maximum) on a law-related topic approved by the instructor. Topic ideas (and the due date) are shown under the "assignments" folder in Canvas, and students are free to choose any other law-related topic with the instructor's approval. The paper would provide up to 35 points extra points (depending on the quality of the paper).

### **Campus Resources:**

Any student who may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should check in with De Anza's Disability Support Services: <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/> Phone: (408) 864-8753; email: [dss@fhda.edu](mailto:dss@fhda.edu). Please also contact the instructor as early as possible so that appropriate accommodations can be implemented.

### **Specific Assignments:**

**YOU MUST GO IN TO THE COURSE MODULES ON CANVAS. THERE IS ONE MODULE FOR EACH WEEK OF THE COURSE. EACH MODULE BEGINS WITH AN OVERVIEW FOR THAT WEEK, LISTING AND LINKING TO THE TWO PRE-RECORDED LECTURES FOR THAT WEEK, THE CORRESPONDING POWERPOINTS AND TEXTBOOK READING, AND THE QUIZ FOR THAT WEEK. ONE QUIZ PER WEEK FOR THE FIRST TEN WEEKS. ALSO INCLUDED ARE LINKS TO "HANDOUTS" FOR EACH CLASS SESSION. PLS REVIEW THOSE BEFORE THE CLASS SESSION.**

**THERE ARE TWO WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS (WRITING A BRIEF ANALYSIS OF A CASE, IN AN IRAC FORMAT). DETAILS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE ZOOM CLASS SESSIONS.**

Syllabus Revision: This syllabus is subject to revision at the instructor's discretion. Any changes will be announced in class and emailed to students.