

FALL 2026

Course Syllabus

GENERAL INFORMATION

Meeting Days: Tuesday/Thursday

Instructor: Thomas Bolinger, J.D.

Meeting Times: Section 1: 8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
Section 2: 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Office Phone: (619) 283 7011

Class Room: FSB104

Email: tbolinge@pointloma.edu

***Final Exam:* Section 1: 12/15/26 at 7:30 a.m.
Section 2: 12/17/26 at 10:30 a.m.**

Office Location and Hours: By Appointment

PLNU Mission
To Teach – To Shape – To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued and holiness is a way of life.

Fermanian School of Business Mission
Character – Professionalism – Excellence – Relationships – Commitment – Innovation

As members of a vital Christian community, we strive to provide high quality business programs that equip students to make a positive impact in their workplace and community by connecting purpose to practice.

Course Description: This course provides a comprehensive overview of legal issues encountered in business. Topics include the legal system, contracts, torts, product liability, intellectual and property rights, cyber crime, fraud, organizational forms, corporate formation and finance, securities law, business ethics and corporate governance. *This course is designed to enable students to identify and analyze legal issues that may arise in a business setting.*

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

1. Define various legal terminology as it relates to business (PLO 1).
2. Exhibit an understanding of various legal concepts, including: contracts, torts, product liability, intellectual and property rights, cyber crime, fraud, organizational forms, corporate formation and finance, securities law, business ethics and corporate governance (PLO 1).
3. Examine legal solutions in hypothetical business situations (PLO 2).
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical considerations of various legal situations in business (PLO 4).

Couse Credit Hour Information: In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a three (3) unit class delivered over sixteen (16) weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of thirty-seven and one half (37.5) participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated one hundred twenty (120) total hours meeting the CLOs. The times estimates are provided in the Canvas modules.

Course Materials Required:

1. Clarkson & Miller, *Business Law Text and Cases*, 16th Edition, Cengage Learning, 2024.
2. Other articles and/or documents as assigned.

This course is part of our course material delivery program, LomaBooks. The PLNU Bookstore will provide each student with a convenient package containing all required physical materials; all digitally delivered materials will be integrated into Canvas. Students should have received an email from the bookstore confirming the list of materials that will be provided for each student's courses and asking them to select how they would like to receive any printed components (in-store pick up or home delivery). If students have not done so already, they must confirm their fulfillment preference so the bookstore can prepare the LomaBooks materials. For more information about LomaBooks, please contact the PLNU Bookstore.

Assessment and Grading:

1. Student performance is based upon the following scale:

<u>Percent</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Performance</u>
90.0 – 100.0	A- to A	Exceptional Scholarship
80.0 – 89.0	B- to B+	Superior Scholarship
70.0 – 79.0	C- to C+	Satisfactory Scholarship
60.0 – 69.0	D- to D+	Marginal Scholarship
< 59.0	F	Unsatisfactory Scholarship/ Failing Grade

Class grade is based upon the following Assignments and Exams: (Lowest Exam Score is Dropped.)

Weekly Open Book Questions	20%
Three Writing Assignments	20%
Five Exams (Including Final Exam)	<u>60%</u>
Total	100%

2. Additional information regarding student performance:
 - a. **Class Participation:** The success of each student in this course is directly related to the quality of the participation. Students should contribute to discussions on a daily basis. Class participation will be based upon each student's contribution to discussions, including input or questions regarding the textbook material. In addition, students should be prepared to answer questions, and participate in other in-class assignments as that arise. Class participation will also be based upon student attendance and preparation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the PLNU Undergraduate Academic Catalog.
 - b. **Exams:** Four (4) scheduled examinations and one (1) final examination will be administered. Every student is to be present for the scheduled examinations and the final exam at the scheduled time. **No makeup exams will be given without prior permission.** A makeup exam will be provided only for absences officially excused by the University provost or for emergencies completely beyond a student's control, such as a documented illness or injury. Students must coordinate any conflict with one of these exams with the faculty member as soon as the student discovers it, preferably not later than 48 hours prior to the exam.
 - c. **Final Examination Policy:** Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.
 - d. **Incomplete & Late Assignments:** All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by or before the dates and times posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Class Policies:

Professionalism: Students are expected to hold the highest levels of professionalism, including integrity, honesty, respectfulness, punctuality and mature leadership. Exemplary behavior is expected in this classroom.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy: Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate

credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when, in reality, they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty, and for further policy information, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the [Academic Behavior Policy](#) in the PLNU Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

PLNU Academic Behavior Policy: Both faculty and students at PLNU have the right to expect a safe and ordered environment for learning. Any student behavior that is disruptive or threatening is a serious affront to PLNU as a learning community. Students who fail to adhere to these behavioral standards may be subject to disciplinary action, including removal from class, or further university sanctions. For a full definition of disruptive behavior, response procedures, and the appeal process, please consult the [Academic Behavior Policy](#) in the PLNU Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

PLNU Copyright Policy: PLNU, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the U.S. Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy: Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to Optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than ten (10) percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed twenty (20) percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the University drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation

PLNU Recording Notification: In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel. Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University is strictly prohibited.

E-Mail: Assignments, announcements, changes to this syllabus and other communications from the faculty member, from time to time, may be made via the student's e-mail address and/or Canvas. Students are required to review their email and Canvas announcements daily.

Mobile Phones: The use of mobile phones, including phone calls, texting or any other purposes, is not allowed in the classroom during class meetings and examinations. Please keep mobile phones turned off and out of sight.

Use of Technology: In order to be successful in this course, students must meet the minimum technology and system requirements. Please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use for any online or hybrid classes. Please note that any course with online proctored exams requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible) to complete exams online. Problems with technology do not relieve students of the responsibility of participating, turning in assignments, or completing class work.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI): The use of (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc.) is prohibited in this course for any aspect of your work, including idea generation, drafting, editing, or final submissions. This course is designed to assess your independent critical thinking, writing, and research skills without the assistance of AI technologies. Any reliance on AI tools in this course is subject to an academic honesty violation..

Dropping the Course: It is the student's responsibility to maintain his or her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the University), not the faculty member. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through for a change of registration (drop/add) may result in a grade of F on the official transcript.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy: PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center on the PLNU Campus. You can reach the EAC by email at EAC@pointloma.edu or phone at 619-849-2533. Students can access both requests for and evidence of disability through the Accommodate link off the main page of [OneLogin](#). Once a student's eligibility for accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan (AP) that outlines approved accommodations. Professors will be able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate. PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their approved accommodations in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive; as such, clarify with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes. Students who need accommodations for a disability-related need should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. In accordance with the ADA, accommodations cannot constitute a fundamental alteration to course outcomes; therefore, planning ahead is vital in establishing appropriate accommodations for equal access to this course. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC eligibility process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodation.

State Authorization: State authorization is a formal determination by a state that PLNU is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, PLNU is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether PLNU is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify PLNU in any change in their physical location. Refer to the map on State Authorization to view which states allow distance education outside California.

Spiritual Care: Please be aware that PLNU strives to be a place where students grow as whole persons. To this end, the institution provides resources for all students to encounter God and to grow in their Christian faith. If a student has questions, has prayer requests, or desires to meet with the chaplain, they are encouraged to contact the Office of Spiritual Development.

Schedule and Other Changes: The information in this syllabus is subject to change. Any such changes will be announced and/or communicated via Canvas or e-mail.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

MTG #	DATE	CHAPTER	ASSIGNMENT(S)	DUE DATE
1	9/1		First writing assignment	9/10
2	9/3	Chapter 1	Two open book questions	9/3
3	9/8	Chapter 4	Two open book questions	9/10
4	9/10	Chapter 5	Two open book questions	9/10
5	9/15	Chapter 2	Two open book questions	9/15
6	9/17	Exam 1	N/A	
7	9/22	Chapter 6	Two open book questions	9/24
8	9/24	Chapter 7	Two open book questions	9/24
9	9/29	Chapter 8	Two open book questions	10/1
10	10/1	Chapter 10	Two open book questions	10/1
11	10/6	Exam 2	N/A	
12	10/8	Chapter 11	Two open book questions	10/8
13	10/13	Chapter 12	Two open book questions	10/15
14	10/15	Chapter 13	Two open book questions	10/15
15	10/10	Chapter 14	Two open book questions	10/20
16	10/27	Exam 3	N/A	
17	10/29	Chapter 15	Two open book questions	10/29
18	11/3	Chapter 16	Two open book questions Second writing assignment	11/5
19	11/5	Chapter 17	Two open book questions	11/5
20	11/10	Chapter 18	Two open book questions	11/12
21	11/12	Chapter 19	Two open book questions	11/12
22	11/17	Exam 4	N/A	
23	11/19	Chapter 36	Two open book questions	11/19
24	11/24	Chapter 37	Two open book questions	11/24
25	12/1	Chapter 38	Two open book questions	12/3

26	12/3	Chapter 39	Two open book questions Third Writing Assignment	12/3
27	12/8	Chapter 40	Two open book questions	12/10
28	12/10	Chapter 42	Two open book questions	12/10
	12/15	Section 1- 7:30 am – 10:00 am	FINAL EXAM	NA
	12/17	Section 2- 10:30 am -1:00 pm	FINAL EXAM	NA