

FALL 2020

Course Syllabus

GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: Thomas Bolinger
Office Phone: (619) 283-7011

Email: tbolinger@pointloma.edu
Office Location and Hours: By appointment

Meeting Days: Tuesday/Thursday
Meeting Times: Section 1: 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Section 2: 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Class Room: FSB104
Final Exam: Section 1: 12/1/20 at 7:30 a.m.
Section 2: 12/3/20 at 10:30 a.m.

PLNU Mission **To Teach – To Shape – To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University 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).

Course 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*, 15th Edition, South-Western Cengage Learning, 2019.
2. Other articles and/or documents as assigned.

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Assessment and Grading:

1. Student performance is based upon the following scale:

Percent	Letter Grade	Performance
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

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

Case Law Review During Class	2%
Weekly Open Book Questions and Supplemental Zoom Participation	5%
Three Writing Assignments	5%
First Exam	22%
Second Exam	22%
Third Exam	22%
Fourth Exam	22%
Final Exam	22%

2. Additional information regarding student performance:

- a. **Class Participation:** The success of this course will be impacted by the quality of the daily participation. Each of you must feel comfortable contributing to discussions on a daily basis. Class participation will be based upon your contribution to discussions, including input or questions regarding the readings. In addition, you should be prepared to answer questions, and participate in group activities and other in-class assignments as that arise. Class participation will also be based upon your attendance – please see the class policy regarding attendance below.
- b. **Exams:** Four (4) scheduled examinations and one (1) final examination will occur. 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. You must coordinate any conflict with one of these exams with me as soon as you discover 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.
- d. **Incomplete & Late Assignments:** All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due – including assignments posted on Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Class Policies:

1. **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.
2. **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. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the University Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty in the PLNU catalog for further policy information.
3. **PLNU Copyright Policy:** Point Loma Nazarene University, 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

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4. ***PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy:*** Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than ten (10) percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), 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. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting assignments by the posted due dates. See *Academic Policies* in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits, but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition: A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

5. ***Schedule and Other Changes:*** The information in this syllabus is subject to change. Any such changes will be announced in class and/or communicated via Canvas or e-mail.
6. ***E-Mail:*** Assignments, announcements, changes to this syllabus and other communications from the instructor, 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.
7. ***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.
8. ***Use of Technology:*** In order to be successful in the online environment, 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 compatible with their computer available for use. If a student is in need of technological resources, please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu. Problems with technology do not relieve students of the responsibility of participating, turning in assignments, or completing class work.
9. ***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 instructor**. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through for a change of registration (drop/add) may easily result in a grade of F on the official transcript.
10. ***PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy:*** While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. (DRC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

State Authorization: State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University (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 the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map using the below link to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California. <https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures>

Spiritual Care: Please be aware that Point Loma Nazarene University (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 students have questions, have prayer requests, or desire to meet with the chaplain, they are encouraged to contact the **Office of Spiritual Development**

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MTG #	DATE	CHAPTER	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT(S)	DUE DATE
1	8/18	Chapter 1	Course Introduction/Law and Legal Reasoning	One solo open book question First writing assignment	8/18 8/20
2	8/20	Chapter 4	Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution	One solo open book question One group open book question	8/20 8/20
3	8/25	Chapter 5	Court Procedures	One solo open book question	8/25
4	8/27	Chapter 2	Business and the Constitution	One solo open book question One group open book question	8/27 8/27
5	9/1		EXAM 1 – Chapters 1, 4, 5, 2	N/A	
6	9/3	Chapter 6	Tort Law	One solo open book question	9/3
7	9/8	Chapter 7	Strict Liability and Product Liability	One solo open book question	9/8
8	9/10	Chapter 8	Intellectual Property Rights	One solo open book question One group open book question	9/10 9/10
9	9/15	Chapter 10	Criminal Law and Cyber Crime	One solo open book question	9/15
10	9/17		EXAM 2 – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 10	N/A	
11	9/22	Chapter 11	Contracts: Nature and Terminology	One solo open book question	9/22
12	9/24	Chapter 12	Agreement in Traditional and E-Contracts	One solo open book question One group open book question	9/24 9/24
13	9/29	Chapter 13	Consideration	One solo open book question Second writing assignment	9/29 10/1
14	10/1	Chapter 14	Capacity and Legality	One solo open book question One group open book question	10/1 10/1
15	10/6		EXAM 3 – Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14	N/A	
16	10/8	Chapter 15	Mistakes, Fraud and Voluntary Consent	One solo open book question	10/8
17	10/13	Chapter 16	The Writing Requirement in Our Digital World	One solo open book question	10/13
18	10/15	Chapter 17	Third Party Rights	One solo open book question One group open book question	10/15 10/15
19	10/20	Chapter 18	Performance and Discharge	One solo open book question	10/20
20	10/22	Chapter 19	Breach of Contract and Remedies	One solo open book question One group open book question	10/22 10/22
21	10/27		EXAM 4 – Chapters 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	N/A	
22	10/29	Chapter 36	Small Businesses and Franchises	One solo open book question	10/29
23	11/3	Chapter 37	All Forms of Partnerships	One solo open book question Third writing assignment	11/3 11/24
24	11/5	Chapter 38	Limited Liability Companies and Special Business Forms	One solo open book question One group open book question	11/5 11/5
25	11/10	Chapter 39	Corporate Formation and Financing	One solo open book question	11/10
26	11/12	Chapter 40	Corporate Directors, Officers and Shareholders	One solo open book question One group open book question	11/12 11/12
27	11/17	Chapter 41	Mergers and Takeovers	One solo open book question	11/17
28	11/19	Chapter 42	Investor Protection, Insider Trading and Corporate Governance – Part 1		
29	11/24	Chapter 42	Investor Protection, Insider Trading and Corporate Governance – Part 2 Final Exam Preparation	N/A	

30	12/1 12/3	Section 1 - 7:30 a.m. - 10:00a.m. Section 2 -10:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.	FINAL EXAM – Chapters 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42	N/A	
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