

SPRING 2025
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: 5/6/25 at 7:30 a.m.
Section 2: 5/8/25 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).

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*, 16th Edition, Cengage Learning, 2024.
2. Other articles and/or documents as assigned.

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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:

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. For all student appeals, faculty and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See Academic Policies for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

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3. **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.
4. **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.
5. **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 (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.
6. **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.
7. **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.
8. **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.
9. **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.
 - a. 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.
 - b. Problems with technology do not relieve students of the responsibility of participating, turning in assignments, or completing class work.
10. **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):** The use of AI tools (e.g, ChatGPT, iA, Writer, Marmot, Botowski) is not permitted, and the use of these tools will be treated as plagiarism.
11. **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.
12. **PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy:** PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, service, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan (AP) to all faculty who teach courses

in which the student is enrolled each semester. PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course. Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. 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 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 special accommodations.

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](#).

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MTG #	DATE	CHAPTER	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT(S)	DUE DATE
1	1/14		Class Introduction/Course Expectations	First writing assignment	1/23
2	1/16	Chapter 1	Law and Legal Reasoning	Two open book questions	1/16
3	1/21	Chapter 4	Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution	Two open book questions	1/23
4	1/23	Chapter 5	Court Procedures	Two open book questions	1/23
5	1/28	Chapter 2	Business and the Constitution	Two open book questions	1/28
6	1/30		EXAM 1 – Chapters 1, 4, 5, 2	N/A	
7	2/4	Chapter 6	Tort Law	Two open book questions	2/6
8	2/6	Chapter 7	Strict Liability and Product Liability	Two open book questions	2/6
9	2/11	Chapter 8	Intellectual Property Rights	Two open book questions	2/13
10	2/13	Chapter 10	Criminal Law and Cyber Crime	Two open book questions	2/13
11	2/18		EXAM 2 – Chapters 6, 7, 8, 10	N/A	
12	2/20	Chapter 11	Contracts: Nature and Terminology	Two open book questions	2/20
13	2/25	Chapter 12	Agreement in Traditional and E-Contracts	Two open book questions	2/27
14	2/27	Chapter 13	Consideration	Two open book questions	2/27
15	3/4	Chapter 14	Capacity and Legality	Two open book questions	3/4
16	3/6		EXAM 3 – Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14	N/A	
17	3/18	Chapter 15	Mistakes, Fraud and Voluntary Consent	Two open book questions	3/20
18	3/20	Chapter 16	The Writing Requirement in Our Digital World	Two open book questions Second writing assignment	3/20
19	3/25	Chapter 17	Third Party Rights	Two open book questions	3/27
20	3/27	Chapter 18	Performance and Discharge	Two open book questions	3/27
21	4/1	Chapter 19	Breach of Contract and Remedies	Two open book questions	4/1

22	4/3		EXAM 4 – Chapters 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	N/A	
23	4/8	Chapter 36	Small Businesses and Franchises	Two open book questions	4/10
24	4/10	Chapter 37	All Forms of Partnerships	Two open book questions	4/10
25	4/15	Chapter 38	Limited Liability Companies and Special Business Forms	Two open book question	4/15
26	4/22	Chapter 39	Corporate Formation and Financing	Two open book questions	4/24
27	4/24	Chapter 40	Corporate Directors, Officers and Shareholders	Two open book questions Third Writing Assignment	4/24
28	4/29	Chapter 42	Investor Protection, Insider Trading and Corporate Governance	Two open book questions	4/29
29	5/1	Final Review	FINALEXAM – Chapters 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42	N/A	
	5/6	Section 1 - 7:30 a.m. - 10:00a.m.		N/A	
	5/8	Section 2 -10:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m..		N/A	