



Instructor: Ivan C. Smith
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Office: Fisher 314
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9-10:00 am and by appointment

Class Meeting Schedule:

MWF, 8:00-8:55 am Section 0070 Schoenbaum 320

Course Description: An introduction to American legal institutions and sources of law and an analysis of basic concepts of public and private law related to business decisions. 1.5 credit hours.

Course Objectives: The primary course objectives are to give students: a) an understanding of the legal framework in which American business operates, b) an introduction to basic concepts of public and private law relevant to business decisions, and c) experience in legal analysis.

Course Materials: The book for the course is Dynamic Business Law by Nancy Kubasek, 6th edition. You are also required to have access to Connect (see below) so that you can complete required reading-based assignments. To get the e-book and Connect Access Card (AC), the ISBN you will need is 9781266531187. While a hard-copy book is not required, you may choose to get a package that includes both a hard-copy book (loose-leaf) and the Connect Access Card, and the ISBN you will need if you choose to do that is 9781266528941. You may also choose to download McGraw Hill's free ReadAnywhere app, which enables you to read the book offline. The app will also read the book to you. Additional required readings will be posted on Carmen throughout the term.

Communication: I will post informational updates as Carmen announcements, and you are expected to regularly monitor Carmen. Email is the most reliable way to get messages to me. Any message to me must include in the re line: the course number (3500), the section number (0070), and the meeting time (8 am). I will gladly meet with students during office hours or during other scheduled meeting times. I strongly encourage early and regular communication, especially if you find yourself struggling with course content.

How This Course Works:

Credit hours and work expectations: This is a **1.5-credit-hour course**. According to University policy, students should expect to spend around an average of 3 hours per week on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 6 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example).

Attendance and participation requirements: Class discussion and participation will be an important part of this class and cannot occur without attendance. Attendance is required and will affect your participation grade. You are expected to read the assigned material for each session and be prepared to discuss it in class.

If you know you will be absent and believe your absence qualifies as excused, you must notify me **before** the class you will miss. If you have a job interview that cannot be scheduled at a non-conflicting time, please provide the name of the employer and name, email address and phone number for a contact person at the employer.

Seating Chart and Information Cards: On the first day of class, we will complete a seating chart, and your seat on Day 1 will be your seat for the rest of the term. Also on the first day, you will pick up a 3x5 card from me, and I'll direct you to write some information on it and return it to me at the end of the class period. You will repeat that process with your individualized card at each class session.

Grading:

The course grade will be comprised of:	midterm exam	40%
	final exam	45%
	connect assignments	5%
	attendance/participation	10%

The mid-term exam will be 40 multiple choice questions. The final exam will be 45 multiple choice questions.

Satisfactory and on-time completion of the five required Connect homework assignments as discussed below will get you the full five percent. Completing four assignments gets you four percent, three gets you three percent, and so on.

Extra credit is also available. Each week for Weeks 1 through 6 of the term, you may hand in a two-paragraph memo discussing an article from a major newspaper or reputable business or legal publication regarding a legal-business news item or event. The topic could be almost anything involving the types of issues we will cover in the course. For example, the article might address a court decision, a lawsuit filing, a business deal with some legal or regulatory component, or a government action enforcing a law. If you were to submit one satisfactory memo each week of the six weeks, you would earn up to three percent extra credit. Four memos would earn you up to two percent extra credit, two memos would earn you up to one percent extra credit. To qualify, the memo must be both handed in to me in hard copy and also emailed to me no later than the beginning of the class session on Friday of the applicable week. The memo must include your name, email, and date, be completely your original work, demonstrate your comprehension of the article's topic, and attach the article the memo addresses. This is extra credit, and there will be no modifications or exceptions to any of these requirements. This will be the only opportunity for extra credit.

Course Schedule:

Week	Day	Date	Assignment
1	W	8/23	Ch 1 Introduction
	F	8/25	Ch 5 Constitution
2	M	8/28	Ch 3 U.S. Legal System <i>Connect Assignment Due</i>
	W	8/30	Ch 3 U.S. Legal System
	F	9/1	Ch 3 U.S. Legal System
3	M	9/4	Holiday - No Class

	W	9/6	Ch 8 Tort Law <i>Connect Assignment Due</i>
	F	9/8	Ch 8 Tort Law
4	M	9/11	Ch 9 Negligence & Strict Liability
	W	9/13	Midterm Exam
	F	9/15	Ch 13 Contracts <i>Connect Assignment Due</i>
5	M	9/18	Ch 14 Contracts
	W	9/20	Ch 15 Contracts
	F	9/22	Ch 16 Contracts <i>Connect Assignment Due</i>
6	M	9/25	Ch 17 Contracts
	W	9/27	Ch 20 Contracts
	F	9/29	Ch 20 Contracts
7	M	10/2	Ch 42 Employment Law <i>Connect Assignment Due</i>
	W	10/4	Ch 42 Employment Law
	F	10/6	Ch 43 Employment Law
8	M	10/9	Ch 43 Employment Law

The course schedule will likely shift throughout the term depending on the time it takes to cover particular subjects. It is your responsibility to be aware of communications on schedule adjustments.

Final Exam Schedule - To be determined.

Homework: There are five required Connect assignments, and they are due before class on the noted day. There will be no make-up or late submission opportunity. There will be additional optional Connect assignments; these are not required but past students have appreciated completing them as they serve to test your comprehension of the required readings and can be helpful in exam preparation. You will access the Connect assignments on Carmen through the McGraw Hill Connect book link.

Connect registration instructions:

- Go to Carmen
- Go to the McGraw Hill tab and click on the link
- Sign into Connect:
 - If you already have a Connect account created from previous courses, use the same log in credentials
 - If you do not already have an account, click 'create account' and follow the steps

- Once you sign in, you will be brought to the purchasing page; you have a free 14-day trial, but I recommend purchasing your access now so that you do not get locked out
- Add your purchasing information and click submit
- You now have access to your materials and can automatically enter Connect

Technical support is available at (800) 331-5094.

Electronic devices: The absence of unnecessary distractions and interruptions is essential for an effective learning environment. Laptops may be used to access the book, follow the powerpoint, or take notes. Use of other devices, including cell/smart phones, in the classroom is always prohibited, as is leaving the room to answer or make a call. A student violating these rules will be subject to confiscation of the device for the remainder of the class period and/or dismissal from the class for the day of the offense. Violations will negatively impact the student's participation grade.

Academic integrity:

Policies for this course:

- Exams: You must complete the midterm and final exam yourself, without any external help or communication. The midterm and final exam have a time limit, and you will not have time to seek external help or consult any resources. All questions and answers on the midterm and final exam are randomized, so every student will take a different exam.
- If you choose to submit extra credit memos, they must be your own original work.
- Reusing past work: In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it.

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct (<https://trustees.osu.edu/bylaws-and-rules/code>) and this syllabus may constitute Academic Misconduct (<https://oaa.osu.edu/academic-integrity-and-misconduct>)

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an exam. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, University rules require me to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct, the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about these policies or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Disability Services:

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. Students may request accommodations through the University's [request process](#), managed by Student Life Disability Services. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or

temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented timely. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Students with the following exam accommodations may schedule to take their exams at SLDS:

- Accessible formats (e.g. braille, large print, screen-free)
- Assistive technology (e.g. JAWS, CCTV)
- Private testing room accommodation
- Test assistant (reader or scribe)

For more information on operational changes, visit the [SLDS website](#).

Grievances and Solving Problems:

According to University policies, if you have a problem with this course, you should seek to resolve the grievance by speaking first with me. Then, if necessary, take your case to the department chairperson, associate dean for programs in the college, and to the provost, in that order. Specific procedures are outlined in Faculty Rule 3335-7-23. Grievances against graduate, research, and teaching assistants should be submitted first to the supervising instructor, then to the chairperson of the assistant's department.

Course technology: For help with your password, University email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** ocio.osu.edu/help
- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** servicedesk@osu.edu
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

Baseline technical skills

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen: for questions about specific functionality, see the [Canvas Student Guide](#)

Required equipment

- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Must be able to access Proctorio to enable midterm and final examinations
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed and tested
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) or landline to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Required software

- **Microsoft Office 365:** All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus through Microsoft's Student Advantage program. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found [at go.osu.edu/office365help](http://go.osu.edu/office365help).

Carmen access

You will need to use [BuckeyePass](#) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the [BuckeyePass - Adding a Device](#) help article for step-by-step instructions.
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the [Duo Mobile application](#) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service.

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357 (HELP), and IT support staff will work with you to develop a solution.