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BGEN 235.50: Business Law

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**UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA-MISSOULA
MISSOULA COLLEGE
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT
COURSE SYLLABUS**

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: U 135 BUSINESS LAW-ONLINE

CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITES: NONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides an overview of law as it applies to business transactions. Topics include the nature and source of law; courts and procedure; contracts; sales and employment; commercial paper; bailments; property; business organizations; insurance; wills and estate planning; consumer and creditor protection; torts; criminal law; and agency law.

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Recognize ethical issues when they arise in business situations.
2. Describe relevant sources of law relating to criminal and civil justice procedure.
3. Analyze business transactions to determine need for legal intervention.
4. Interpret how different areas of the law apply to varying business transactions, such as contracts, landlord/tenant, consumer protection, tort liability, employment, and agency.
5. Be familiar with the Uniform Commercial Code.
6. Distinguish among various business organizational forms.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT METHODS AND GRADING PROCEDURES:

Final grade in this course will be determined from points earned through quizzes and a final examination.

Each quiz and exam will be graded in an objective manner through use of a point allocation system and weight factoring formula.

Students are encouraged to use the course study guide and complete the pages related to each chapter. Most quiz and test questions will come from the study guide - and the answers are all provided in the back of the guide!

GRADE SCALE:

- A: 100-90%
- B: 89-80%
- C: 79-70%
- D: 69-60%
- F: below 60%

Quizzes: 50% of final grade; final examination: 50% of final grade. Course participation may be considered when a student falls on the borderline between grades. Opportunities for additional credit may become available.

TEXT: Brown and Sukys, Business Law with UCC Applications, 12th edition, published by Glencoe (McGraw-Hill) (ISBN: 978-0-07-352494-8) and Study Guide (ISBN: 978-0-07-334115-6).

SUGGESTED REFERENCE MATERIALS: As announced and/or distributed by faculty.

Nature of Course:

Many different business law topics are discussed to provide the greatest overview of the law. Topics covered include:

I. Ethics, Law, and the Judicial System

- A. Ethics
- B. Sources of the Law
- C. Criminal Law
- D. Tort Law

II. Contract Law

- A. The Nature, Characteristics, and Status of Contracts
- B. Offer and Acceptance
- C. Mutual Assent and Defective Agreement
- D. Contractual Capacity
- E. Consideration
- F. Legality
- G. Form of the Agreement
- H. Third Parties in Contract Law

III. Sales and Consumer Protection

- A. Sales and Leases of Goods
- B. Title and Risk of Loss in Sales of Goods
- C. Performances and Breach of the Sales Contract
- D. Warranties and Product Liability
- E. Consumer Protection

IV. Property

- A. Personal Property
- B. Real Property
- C. Landlord and Tenant
- D. Wills, Intestacy, and Trusts

V. Negotiable Instruments

- A. Nature and Kinds of Negotiable Instruments
- B. Drafting and Negotiating Instruments
- C. Holders in Due Course, Defenses, and Liabilities
- D. Bank Deposits, Collections, and Depositor Relationships

VI. Insurance, Secured, Transactions, and Bankruptcy

- A. The Nature of the Insurance Contract

- B. Mortgages and Other Security Devices
- C. Bankruptcy and Debt Adjustment
- VII. Agency and Employment
 - A. The Principal and Agent Relationship
 - B. Operation and Termination of Agency
 - C. Employment Law
 - D. Labor-Management Relations Law
- VIII. Business Organization and Regulation
 - A. Sole Proprietorships and Partnerships
 - B. Corporate Formation and Finance
 - C. Corporate Management and Control
 - D. Government Regulation of Corporate Business
- IX. Emerging Trends and Issues
 - A. Professional Liability
 - B. Alternative Dispute Resolution
 - C. International Law

ACADEMIC HONESTY: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online.

DISABILITY ACCOMODATION STATEMENT : If any student requires special consideration for any reason, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor to discuss the matter prior to any situation that might give rise to the special consideration requested.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION: Teresa Thompson, Attorney at Law, teresa.thompson@mso.umt.edu.

MISSED/LATE COURSE WORK POLICY:

Neither quizzes nor exams can be "made up" unless the student discusses the matter with the instructor, either by phone or in writing, at least two days prior to the scheduled time for the exam. It is the student's responsibility to discuss the matter with the instructor. Just sending an e-mail and/or leaving a voice message will not satisfy this requirement. Exceptions to this policy may be considered for documented emergencies.

TESTING POLICY:

See "Missed/Late Course work Policy" above.