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BUS 201: Legal Environment for Business OER Curation

Erica L. Schiller

Grand Valley State University, SCHILERI@GVSU.EDU

Matt Ruen

Grand Valley State University, ruenm@gvsu.edu

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BUS 201: Legal Environment for Business OER Curation

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Overview

Scope Notes

Course catalog description: “The legal, regulatory, and ethical environment in which business operates is explored, with emphasis on the regulation of business, international law, environmental law, ethics, the political and social factors influencing case and statutory law, contracts, employment law, and business organizations.”

This course is an introduction to business law; concepts such as the American legal system, international law, ethics, corporate social responsibility, crimes and torts, contracts, corporate governance, government regulation, employment law, and other foundational concepts should be robustly covered by any OER materials. Current textbooks in use have ample bundled ancillaries, and faculty have indicated that having such materials readily available is important to them.

Current textbooks and materials

Miller, R. L. (2015). *Essentials of the Legal Environment Today* (5th ed.). Cengage Learning. \$36.26-390.95

GVSU Save BUS 201 1st Day Digital Access (n.d.). BUS 201. McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. \$49.00



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Search Notes

This search consulted OER Commons, Open Textbook Library, OpenStax, Merlot, BC Campus, Rebus Community, and Pressbooks. Many of the textbooks found were from the same 2012 set of Creative Commons textbooks; these texts are no longer being freely updated by their original author(s).

Gap Analysis

There are many textbooks available on introductory business law, but few of them have ancillary materials (i.e. quiz banks, discussion activities, etc.). There is, generally speaking, a dearth of bundled supplemental materials within the current OER.

Promising OER Options

Business Law I Essentials

- De Assis, R. & Cardell, S. (2019). *Business Law I Essentials*. OpenStax.
- Available from [OpenStax](#)
- HTML (online eReader), OpenStax app, PDF, print
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A generally well-reviewed OpenStax textbook, with some small critiques of specific details that would need correcting by an instructor, which can easily be done via Google Docs. Reviews agree that the text needs some supplementing, and hope for a *Business Law Essentials II* to be published at some point to help fill in the gaps, but so far no such text has been forthcoming. Like other OpenStax textbooks, it includes a quiz bank and Blackboard course package.

Business Law and the Legal Environment

- Mayer, D., Warner, D. M., & Siedel, G. J. (2012). *Business Law and the Legal Environment*. Saylor Foundation.
- Available from [the Saylor Foundation](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: Business law textbook; notably, two of the four authors currently teach at Michigan universities. This text was published in 2012 and does not appear to have been updated since then, so some sections are out of date with regards to current case law and statutes; thus, instructors would need to supplement the text with up-to-date information.

Law for Entrepreneurs

- Mayer, D., Warner, D., Siedel, G. J., & Lieberman, J. K. (2012). *Law for Entrepreneurs*. Saylor Foundation.
- Available from [the Saylor Foundation](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: Business law textbook aimed specifically at those who wish to start their own businesses. This textbook was published in 2012 and does not appear to have been updated since then, so some sections are out of date with regards to current case law and statutes; thus, instructors would need to supplement the text with up-to-date information. This textbook was written and published by the same individuals as *Business Law and the Legal Environment*, so the two texts could likely easily be used to supplement each other.

Foundations of Business Law and Legal Environment

- Mayer, D. (2012). *Foundations of Business Law and Legal Environment*. Saylor Foundation.
- Available from [the Saylor Foundation](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: Business law textbook written and published by the same individuals as the previous two in this list. This text was published in 2012 and does not appear to have been updated since then, so some sections are out of date with regards to current case law and statutes; thus, instructors would need to supplement the text with up-to-date information. It is unclear exactly what the differences are between this textbook and *Business Law and the Legal Environment*; differences definitely exist, however, as their chapter headings are not identical.

Fundamentals of Business Law

- Randall, M. & Community College of Denver Students (2020). *Fundamentals of Business Law*. Community College of Denver.
- Available from [Pressbooks](#) and [Auraria Library](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY (Pressbooks), CC BY-NC-SA (Auraria Library)
- Comments: Basic textbook that is apparently organized in a more modular manner, such that each chapter can mostly be used/stand on its own. If instructors are looking for a chapter reading on a specific subject, this textbook could be useful.

Stretch Resource Options

Business Law (BUS 201)

- Miller, M. S. (March 2013). *Open Course Library: BUS&201 Business Law* [Google Drive folder]. The Open Course Library. Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges.
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B7Ditv0wCEo7ODk4YjdIODQtYmYwMi00MTM5LWFhMmMtZTYzZjNmM2Y1NThI?resourcekey=0-cHeiaPXMx-D5NgkmY-IF4A&usp=sharing>
- Available from [OERCommons](#)
- Google Docs (found within Google Drive folders)
- CC BY
- Comments: This is a Google Drive containing materials for an entire BUS 201 course. It includes ancillary materials such as discussion board prompts, assignments, and exams.

Business Writing Style Guide

- Morris, J. & Zwart, J. (2020). *Business Writing Style Guide, 1st edition*. Oregon State University.
- Available from [Pressbooks](#)
- HTML (online eReader), EPUB, Digital PDF, Print PDF, MOBI, Common Cartridge
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A guide on business writing that could be a very helpful resource for students who are early in their majors.

Business Ethics

- Byars, S. M. & Stanberry, K. (2018). *Business Ethics*. OpenStax.
- Available from [OpenStax](#)
- HTML (online eReader), OpenStax app, PDF, print, Kindle
- CC BY
- Comments: This textbook could be useful as supplemental reading if additional material on business ethics is needed.

An Introduction to Cooperation and Mutualism

- Boland, M. (2017). *An Introduction to Cooperation and Mutualism*. University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing.
- Available from [University of Minnesota Libraries](#)
- PDF
- CC BY-NC

- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings, should topics covered here be lacking in the course's main textbook.

Introduction to Contracts, Sales and Product Liability

- Mayer, D., Warner, D., Siedel, G. J., & Lieberman, J. K. (2012). *Introduction to Contracts, Sales and Product Liability*. Saylor Foundation.
- Available from [the Saylor Foundation](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings, should topics covered here be lacking in the course's main textbook. Written in 2012, so some information may possibly be out of date; instructors would need to assess sections for currency.

Legal Aspects of Corporate Management and Finance

- Mayer, D., Warner, D., Siedel, G. J., & Lieberman, J. K. (2012). *Legal Aspects of Corporate Management and Finance*. Saylor Foundation.
- Available from [the Saylor Foundation](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings, should topics covered here be lacking in the course's main textbook. Written in 2012, so some information may possibly be out of date; instructors would need to assess sections for currency.

Good Corporation, Bad Corporation: Corporate Social Responsibility in the Global Economy

- Jimenez, G. C. & Pulos, E. (2016). *Good Corporation, Bad Corporation: Corporate Social Responsibility in the Global Economy*. Open SUNY Textbooks.
- Available from [Milne Open Textbooks](#)
- HTML (online eReader), EPUB, PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings on corporate social responsibility and topics related to it, such as climate change and social justice; may particularly be useful for supplementing older textbooks.

Government Regulation and the Legal Environment of Business

- Mayer, D., Warner, D., Siedel, G., & Lieberman, J. K. (2012). *Government Regulation and the Legal Environment of Business*. Saylor Foundation.
- Available from [the Saylor Foundation](#)
- HTML (online eReader), PDF
- CC BY-NC-SA

- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings, should topics covered here be lacking in the course's main textbook. Written in 2012, so some information may possibly be out of date; instructors would need to assess sections for currency.

Critical Employment, Ethical, and Legal Scenarios in Human Resource Development

- Hughes, C. (2020). *Critical Employment, Ethical, and Legal Scenarios in Human Resource Development*. University of Arkansas Libraries.
- Available from [Pressbooks](#)
- HTML (online eReader), EPUB, Digital PDF, Print PDF, MOBI
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A potential source of discussion exercises related to human resource development and other disciplines.

Global Business

- Boers, J. F. (2020). *Global Business*. Georgia State University.
- Available from [Pressbooks](#)
- HTML (online eReader), EPUB, Digital PDF, Print PDF, MOBI, Common Cartridge
- CC BY
- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings about global business and international business law.

Global Business

- Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (n.d.). *Global Business*. Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.
- Available from [Pressbooks](#)
- HTML (online eReader)
- CC BY-NC-SA
- Comments: A potential source of supplemental readings about global business and international business law. It is unclear what year this textbook was published, but the citations within the references section are all from 2009 or earlier.

Legal Environment of Business: General Legal Resources

- Dowdy, J. & Walker, S. (2015). *General Legal Resources* [webpage]. Legal Environment of Business. Ina Dillard Russell Library.
<https://libguides.gcsu.edu/c.php?g=158550&p=1038466>
- Available from [Georgia College State University](#)
- HTML (webpage, LibGuide)
- CC BY-NC-SA

- Comments: A collection of resources for business law. This collection was developed for Georgia College, so there are some Georgia-specific materials that might not be relevant. A good selection of articles on a variety of relevant topics are listed here. Some of them are, however, behind paywalls, and they may not all be freely accessible through GVSU.

Saylor Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment Ancillary Materials

- Southard, S. & Cheng, X. (n.d.). *Saylor Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment Ancillary Materials*. University System of Georgia.
- Available from [OpenALG](#)
- HTML (webpage), MP4 (videos)
- CC BY
- Comments: A series of video presentations created for the textbook *Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment*.

Jurisdiction Challenge

- Cooper, J. (n.d.). *Jurisdiction Challenge* [Online learning object]. Wisc-Online.
- Available from [Wisc-Online](#)
- Online Learning Object
- CC BY-NC

Litigation Flowchart

- Cooper, J. (n.d.). *Litigation Flowchart* [Online learning object]. Wisc-Online.
- Available from [Wisc-Online](#)
- Online Learning Object
- CC BY-NC