

**The University of Akron**  
**College of Business Administration**  
**Course Number: 6400:220 (3 credits)**  
**Course Name: Legal & Social Environment  
of Business**



<b>Professor:</b>	Suzanne Gradisher	<b>Year/Term:</b>	Fall 2021
<b>Office:</b>	COB aka CBA 125	<b>Phone: Office</b>	330-972-6330
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<b>Email:</b>	smg16@uakron.edu	<b>Office Hours:</b>	Monday and Wednesday 8:30am – 9:15am AND Tuesday and Thursday 10:45am – 11:45am (EST), email anytime and TEAMS by appointment
<b>Class times and locations are:</b>  Section 003: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:40 – 10:30am COB aka CBA 143			

### Course Information

#### Required Texts and Materials

**REQUIRED MATERIALS IS INLCUDED IN YOUR TUITUION AS AN ONLINE VERSION.** Click here [www.uakron.edu/book](http://www.uakron.edu/book) to get additional information of this program and/or to find a form to opt out. If you also desire a loose-leaf version of the text, it will be available for purchase at the bookstore after the add period has expired.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MINDTAP is and EXTERNAL software, so ASSIGNMENTS DO NOT COME UP AS "DUE" on the course calendar so please be aware of the due dates.

**For MINDTAP access, please follow these instructions:**

- 1. Course Materials**
- 2. Content**
- 3. Course Orientation**

**4. CLICK HERE FOR MINDTAP ACCESS: NOTE THIS LINK WILL GIVE YOU ACCESS TO ALL THAT MINDTAP HAS TO OFFER...eBook, GRADED ASSIGNMENTS (LEARN ITS AND CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDINGS) and PRACTICE ASSIGNMENTS.**

**OR**

**Go to course material, content, Module 1, week one (for each week) you will see a link specifically for the chapter reading and graded assignments.**

**If you want a loose-leaf hard copy, please go to the bookstore after the add period has expired. Please READ the syllabus and do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.**

**NOTE:** This is a new edition, so I do expect some minor issues with MINDTAP. Please notify me with any issues and I will work with Cengage/mindtap to correct these types of issues and if you are correct and there is an issue, I will be sure to correct your score. This will be done with having a MindTap bonus in your brightspace gradebook which will be increased when an error is proven. These will be given by adding one point when I deem it necessary for fairness. The one extra point proves to more than make up for what you may lose. HOWEVER, PLEASE IF SOMETHING IS OBVIOUSLY RIDICULOUS, **send me a copy with chapter, worksheet and question number so I can try and get Mindtap/Cengage to fix.**

### **Description**

Explores the legal and social environment in which modern business must function. The legal system, public and private law, and contemporary social and ethical issues are addressed.

The legal environment of business is defined as: the attitude of the government toward business, the historical development of this attitude; current trends of public control in taxation, regulation of commerce and competition; freedom of contract, antitrust legislation and its relationship to marketing, mergers, and acquisitions; and labor management relations.

The main purpose of this class is “to remove the mystique from the law and to empower you to participate in legal matters.” *Legal Environment*, 4th Ed., Beatty, and Samuelson (p. 6). Legal, social and government forces continually shape today’s global business environment. This class will prepare you to understand your role and responsibility within this environment, identify issues, recognize potential problems, and know when to consult with an expert. Each of these skills will result in efficiency and cost effectiveness for your business. You will develop improved reasoning and problem-solving skills to better evaluate the legal, regulatory, and ethical environment in which you work and be able to incorporate that knowledge into your business decision-making process.

## Course Objectives

1. To improve your ability to recognize and manage legal risks in business decision making.
2. To assist you in making more ethical decisions, individually and as an organization.
3. To introduce you to legal processes and substantive legal topics affecting business, including employment relationships, business formation, international law, contracts, etc.
4. To encourage critical thinking to examine all sides of a discussion.
5. To enhance students' analytical skills and refine their skills in criticizing and evaluating secondary sources.
6. To stimulate and improve student's articulate oral expression.
7. To research primary documents and various sources of information.

Please see BrightSpace for a complete listing of LEARNING OBJECTIVES by chapter.

## Prerequisites

A minimum academic standing of a sophomore or greater.

## Course Overview

**This is a “traditional” course format that will meet every Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:40am – 10:30am COB 125.** Note that the due dates for assignments and exams are detailed in the course outline on the last pages of the syllabus. This course is supported by The University of Akron's learning management system called Brightspace. If you are new to Brightspace, you can view the Student Brightspace Training in the Course Orientation module in our online classroom.

## ON-LINE:

Lectures: This is a traditional face-to-face class. I will post lectures and I complete them for my online class, but this is not a substitute for coming to class. (Click on Panopto).

Mindtap: For each exam chapter (and topic) you will have a mindtap assignment that includes all LEARN ITS and CHECK MY KNOWLEDGE. Note that there is one exception for chapter 1. There is a mindtap assignment for chapter 1, but I have excluded it from Exam #1.

Exams: There are four online exams consisting of 50 multiple choice questions.

## IN-CLASS:

Ethical Dilemmas: We will discuss ethical dilemmas throughout the semester.

In-class quizzes: The class before the exam there will be an in-class exam for all chapters in the module. **You must be in attendance to receive the points.** Excused absence only for proven deaths and/or proof of an extraordinary circumstance that meets my approval.

## Class Participation/Attendance Policy

**I do not take attendance however, it is up to you know if there are any changes in the schedule, extra credit opportunity, etcetera as announced in class.**

**You need to locate and understand all instructions, follow through on all assignments, and stay on track with due dates. It is very important for you to log into Brightspace each day to find the latest updates for class.**

### Assessments

Exams, class participation, ethical dilemmas, mindtap assignments, In-class quizzes. For details see below:

**EXAMS:** There will be four (4) exams administered on-class. The exams will contain 50 multiple choice questions at two points each. The student is responsible for all material contained in the text (unless professor states otherwise), handouts, assignments, and presented in class. Conflicts between the text and professor's statement will be resolved in favor of the professor's statement unless clearly disproved.

**PLEASE NOTE:** At the end of EVERY chapter there is a section entitled “**EXAM REVIEW.**” I would review this section to ensure your understanding of the legal concepts and that you can apply them. If I were to give you a study guide it would be taken directly from this section of the text.

**MAKE-UP POLICY:** Make up exams will be allowed only in extraordinary circumstances that are supported by appropriate official documentation. **I reserve the right to impose a 10% penalty for any make-up exam.**

**IN-CLASS QUIZZES:** In the last class before the exam, there will be an in-class quiz on the same chapters. **MUST BE PRESENT. NOTE: IF YOU COME TO CLASS AFTER WE HAVE BEGUN THE IN-CLASS QUIZZES YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE THE QUIZZES AND WILL LOSE THESE POINTS.**

**MINDTAP HOMEWORK:** I will be assigning MindTap assignments for each EXAM chapter. The MindTap assignments at the end of the semester will total 100 points of the 600 points for your total grade. **PLEASE NOTE** that there is only one gradebook numeration for this. This is the only way that MindTap was able to put it in my gradebook, so it is up to you to ensure that you are doing the assignments via the MindTap gradebook. **They are due 9:00am the day of the exam after 9:00am your time to complete the assignment has expired.** **You must complete the assignment on time. I will not open any assignment after time has expired so plan accordingly.** There will be no exceptions and it is recommended that you NOT wait until the last minute.

### Instructor Contact and Reply Policy

My preferred method of communication is email. I will respond within a 24-hour period during the workweek and 48 hours for a weekend or over a holiday. If the email response requires a great deal of explanation, please include your phone number in the email and I will respond within the same time limits by phone call. I have also included my cell phone number above for emergency use.

In the unlikely event that you are unable to reach your instructor based on the guidelines outlined using the above contact and expected response time, please contact the department chair Dr. James Thomson for this course via email at [thomson1@uakron.edu](mailto:thomson1@uakron.edu) or via phone at 330.972.6329.

## Evaluation and Assessment

### Grading Scale

A	93-100%
A-	90-92.99%
B+	87-89.99%
B	83-86.99%
B-	80-82.99%
C+	77-79.99%
C	73-76.99%
C-	70-72.99%
D+	67-69.99%
D	63-66.99%
D-	60-62.99%
F	BELOW 60%

### Breakdown of Final Grade

#### GRADING POLICY:

##### POINTS AVAILABLE:

4 Exams	=		400
Exam #1 Chapters 2-6 & 8		100	
Exam #2 Chapters 10-12, 14, 16		100	
Exam #3 Chapters 17-22 (18.1 – 18.5)		100	
Exam #4 24-26		100	
<b>MindTap Assignments:</b> This is an accumulate grade calculated by taking ALL assignments graded to date divided by 100. LEARN ITS and CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE ARE ALL FOR GRADE	=		100
In-Class Quizzes	=		100
Chapters 3-6 & 8		25	
Chapters 10-12, 14, 16		25	
Chapters 17-22 (18.1 – 18.5)		25	
Chapters 24-26		25	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	=	<b>600</b>	<b>Points</b>

## Course Policies

### Course Participation

As a college student, you most likely have multiple roles and commitments to juggle. In addition to being a student, you may be an employee, a parent, a community leader, or a caregiver to a family member. If you are a full-time student, you are working to learn a wide variety of new skills and to meet the expectations for multiple courses. Online courses make it possible to manage your learning around these other roles, but you must carefully plan your education to make this work.

You are expected to participate in this course as follows:

- You must review all course content posted to the Content tab in Brightspace unless that content is clearly labeled as optional.
- You must login to this course daily week throughout the week to check for new announcements and ensure that you are on track to meet course due dates and to complete all required assignments.
- You must read all Announcements items posted on the course home page.
- You must read all posts to the course discussion in Brightspace. You are responsible for all information posted to the course discussions.
- You are responsible for completing and submitting all assignments before the due date.
- You are responsible for maintaining copies of your work and verifying that your Assignments submission has been received. You will receive an email confirmation when you submit assignments. You will be also able to track your submissions in Brightspace.
- You are responsible for completing all quizzes and exams before the due date.
- Technical challenges are not an acceptable excuse for missing deadlines. You must ensure that you have access to a working computer at all times. Please do not wait until the deadline to submit assignments. If you do experience any technical issues, please contact the I.T. Help Desk and ensure that the issue is tracked through the Footprints ticketing system.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the assignments or your performance, please contact me immediately. Do not wait until the assignment is due or until your performance cannot be rectified.

### Class Participation/Attendance Policy

I do not take attendance however, it is up to you know if there are any changes in the schedule, extra credit opportunity, etcetera as announced in class. If you miss in-class quiz you will not be able to make those up unless you have a legitimate excuse (death in the family and doctor's note).

## University Resources and Student Services

Student services staff members are consistently on hand to guide, advise, and assist you. A comprehensive website with detailed contact information is available from the “Student Services” tab in your online course. I encourage you to make yourself aware of all student services, especially those listed below.

### Accessibility

Pursuant to University policy #33-59-20-01 subsection C, The University of Akron recognizes its responsibility for creating an institutional atmosphere in which students with disabilities can be successful. Any student who feels he/she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the [Office of Accessibility](#) at 330-972-7928 (v), 330-972-5764 (tdd) or [access@uakron.edu](mailto:access@uakron.edu). The office is located in Simmons Hall Room 105.

### Brightspace Apps

Brightspace offers two apps for students to complement your online courses. The [Brightspace Pulse](#) app is an app for your smartphone that makes it easier for you to stay on top of due dates, course announcements, grades and content updates. The [Brightspace Binder](#) app is for your tablet devices and allows you to download course materials to view offline and annotate with your own notes.

### Technical Support

If you have technical questions or require technical assistance, we encourage you to review the variety of methods for obtaining support. You can contact the I.T. Help Desk directly at 330-972-6888 or [support@uakron.edu](mailto:support@uakron.edu).

### Academic Support

The University of Akron provides both on ground and online help with writing and other content areas. More information is available on the Student Services tab in Brightspace.

### University Libraries: Academic Integrity

It is each student's responsibility to know what constitutes academic dishonesty and to seek clarification directly from your instructor if necessary. The University of Akron, University Libraries web site is an excellent source to help you, the student, understand plagiarism and how to avoid it. [Select this link to learn more about how to avoid plagiarism.](#)

Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:

- Submission of an assignment as the student's original work that is entirely or partly the work of another person.
- Failure to appropriately cite references from published or unpublished works or print/non-print materials.
- Unauthorized copying of an assignment in computer programming, or the unauthorized examination or view of the computer, specifically during examinations.
- Possession and/or unauthorized use of tests, notes, books, calculators or formulas stored in calculators not authorized by the instructor during an examination.

- Providing and/or receiving information from another student other than the instructor, by any verbal or written means.
- Observing or assisting another student's work, when not part of a group activity.
- Violation of the procedures prescribed by the professor to protect the integrity of the examination.
- Cooperation with a person involved in academic misconduct.
- Submitting the same assignment in two different classes.
- Uploading course documents to a crowd-sourcing site where other students can download them or sharing course documents in any other way.

If a faculty member suspects that a student has violated the Academic Misconduct provision in the Code of Student Conduct, the faculty member will follow the procedure outlined in Section J of the Code of Student Conduct. More information is available at the website of the Department of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

## University Policies

### Department of Student Conduct and Community Standards

Students at The University of Akron are an essential part of the academic community and enjoy substantial freedom within the framework of the educational objectives of the institution. The freedom necessary for learning in a community so rich in diversity, and achieving success toward educational objectives, requires high standards of academic integrity. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) applies to all undergraduate and graduate students at The University of Akron.

### Sexual Harassment Statement

The University of Akron is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination, including sexual violence and sexual harassment. This includes instances of attempted and/or completed sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, gender-based stalking, and sexual harassment. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences sexual violence or sexual harassment, know that you are not alone. Help is available, regardless of when the violence or harassment occurred, and even if the person who did this is not a student, faculty or staff member.

Confidential help is available. If you wish to speak to a professional, in confidence, please contact:

- Rape Crisis Center – [www.rccmsc.org](http://www.rccmsc.org) – 24 Hour Hotline: 877-906-RAPE Office Located in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center 246 and the office number is: 330-972-6328
- University Counseling and Testing Center – [uakron.edu/counseling](http://uakron.edu/counseling) 330-972-7082
- University Health Services – [uakron.edu/healthservices](http://uakron.edu/healthservices) 330-972-7808



Please know most other University of Akron employees, including faculty members, are “responsible employees” under the law and are required to report sexual harassment and sexual violence. If you tell me about a situation, I will be required to report it to the Title IX Coordinator and possibly the police. You will still have options about how your case will be handled, including whether you wish to pursue a law enforcement or complaint process. You have a range of options available, and we want to ensure you have access to the resources you need.

Additional information, resources, support and the University of Akron protocols for responding to sexual violence are available at [uakron.edu/Title-IX](http://uakron.edu/Title-IX).

**USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** As a courtesy to your classmates and me, please make sure you turn off your cellphone or similar electronic device at the beginning of class. If you are expecting an emergency call, please use the vibrate or text message feature on your cell phone and leave class before answering any call. In addition, please be certain that your computer is silent. During class meetings, your use of any electronic devices must be solely for purposes directly related to the class. Your use of electronic devices for any other purpose is prohibited. Examples of prohibited uses of electronic devices include surfing the internet, updating your Facebook page, playing games of any kind, and reading or sending emails. There are to be no phones out during the exam.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY:** In accordance with university policy, students with a documented disability for which accommodations may be required should contact the Office of Accessibility:

SAS Building, Room 125

Akron, OH 44325-6213.

Voice: 330-972-7928.

E-Mail: [access@uakron.edu](mailto:access@uakron.edu).

Web: <http://www.uakron.edu/access/faculty-and-staff/teaching.dot>

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:** As a service to its students and employees, The University of Akron has a 24-hour message line to provide continually updated information on class cancellations, temporary relocations, emergency closings and weather advisories. The number is 330.972.SNOW 330.972.7669 or TDD/Voice 330.972.6238. Please call 330.972.SNOW instead of University Police for information on school closings. Also, major Akron area radio stations will make school closing announcements.

### **Withdrawal Policy**

A student may drop a course through the 14th calendar day of a semester or proportionately equivalent dates during other sessions: a "drop" will not appear on your transcript, as the class simply "disappears." After the 14th calendar day period, students may withdraw from a course through MyAkron until the 49th calendar day of a semester or proportionately equivalent dates during other sessions: a "WD" will appear on your transcript. *A withdrawal may affect your financial aid, eligibility for on-campus employment and eligibility for insurance, so speak with your advisor for details.* Questions regarding registration can be addressed by the [Office of the Registrar](#), 330-972-5400. [Read more about the official University Withdrawal Policy.](#)

### Incompletes

Incompletes indicate that the student has completed passing work but that some part of the work is, for good and acceptable reason, not complete at the end of the term. Failure to make up the omitted work satisfactorily by the end of the following term, not including summer sessions, converts the "I" to an "F." When the work is satisfactorily completed within the allotted time the "I" is converted to the grade that the student has earned.

### READINGS, ASSIGNMENTS, TESTS

Wk	Day	Date	Reading
1	M	8/23/21	Syllabus/class structure and Chapter 1 Intro to Law
	W	8/25/21	Chapter 2 Business Ethics and Social Responsibility
	F	8/27/21	Chapter 2
2	M	8/30/21	<b>Labor Day NO CLASS</b>
	W	9/1/2021	Chapter 3 Dispute Resolution
	F	9/3/2021	Chapter 3
3	M	9/6/2021	Chapter 4 Common, Statutory and Administration Law
	W	9/8/2021	Chapter 4
	F	9/10/2021	Chapter 5 Constitutional Law
4	M	9/13/2021	Chapter 5
	W	9/15/2021	Chapter 6 Torts
	F	9/17/2021	Chapter 6
5	M	9/20/2021	Chapter 8 Criminal Law
	W	9/22/2021	Chapter 8
	F	9/24/2021	Wrap up MODULE 1, In Class group quizzes (pre-exam) Chapters 2-6 and 8
6	M	9/27/2021	<b>MindTap 1-6 and 8 due at 9:00am</b> <b>EXAM #1 CHAPTERS 2 – 6 and 8 opens 9:00am and closes 11:59pm</b>  <b>50 multiple choice questions</b> <b>Chapter 2 = 5 questions</b> <b>Chapter 3-6 &amp; 8 = 9 questions</b>
	W	9/29/2021	Chapter 10 Introduction to Contracts
	F	10/1/2021	Chapter 11 Legality, Consent and Writing

7	M	10/4/2021	Chapter 11
	W	10/6/2021	Chapter 12 Performance, Discharge and Remedies
	F	10/8/2021	Chapter 12
8	M	10/11/2021	Chapter 14 The UCC: Sales and Secured Transactions
	W	10/13/2021	Chapter 14
	F	10/15/2021	Chapter 16 Bankruptcy
9	M	10/18/2021	<b>Wrap up MODULE 2, In Class group quizzes (pre-exam) Chapters 10-12, 14 &amp; 16</b>
	W	10/20/2021	<b>MindTap 10-12, 14 &amp; 16 due at 9:00am EXAM #2 CHAPTERS 10-12, 14 &amp; 16 opens 9:00am and closes 11:59pm</b>  <b>50 Multiple choice questions Chapters 10 - 12 = 10 questions Chapter 14 = 12 questions Chapter 16 = 8 questions</b>
	F	10/22/2021	<b>ON-LINE PANOPTO LECTURE</b> Chapter 17 Agency Law (Great Lakes Conference)
10	M	10/25/2021	<b>ON-LINE PANOPTO LECTURE</b> Chapter 18 Employment Law Only
	W	10/27/2021	Chapter 19 Employment Discrimination
	F	10/29/2021	Chapter 19
11	M	11/1/2021	Chapter 20 Starting a Business: LLC's and Other Options
	W	11/3/2021	Chapter 20
	F	11/5/2021	Chapter 21 Corporations
12	M	11/8/2021	Chapter 21
	W	11/10/2021	Chapter 22 Securities Regulations
	F	11/12/2021	<b>Wrap up MODULE 3, In Class group, quizzes (pre-exam) Chapters 17-22</b>
13	M	11/15/2021	<b>MindTap 17-22 due at 9:00am EXAM #2 CHAPTERS 17-22 opens 9:00am and closes 11:59pm</b>  <b>50 Multiple choice questions Chapters 17 &amp; 21 = 9 questions Chapter 19 - 20 &amp; 22 = 8 questions</b>
	W	11/17/2021	Chapter 24 Intellectual Property
	F	11/19/2021	Chapter 24
14	M	11/22/2021	Chapter 25 Property

	W	11/24/2021	Chapter 25
	F	11/26/2021	Happy Thanksgiving NO CLASS
15	M	11/29/2021	Chapter 26 Consumer Protection
	W	12/1/2021	Chapter 26
	F	12/3/2021	Wrap up MODULE 4, In Class group quizzes (pre-exam) Chapters 24-26

**FINALS WEEK:**

**MindTap 24-26 due 12/7/2021 at 9:00am**  
**EXAM #2 CHAPTERS 24-26 opens**  
**12/7/2021 at 9:00am and closes 12/9/2021**  
**at 11:59pm**

**50 Multiple choice questions**  
**Chapters 24 & 25 = 17 questions**  
**Chapter 26 = 16 questions**

***Note: I reserve the right to vary this syllabus at any time as I deem necessary.***