

**WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE
BUSINESS DIVISION**

**LAW 1
L.L. HARRIS, PROFESSOR**

Welcome to West Los Angeles College and the Division of Business administration. We would like to extend to you our appreciation for your choice of our school as part of your educational goal.

The Business Division consists of the following Disciplines:

Accounting	Finance	Paralegal
Real Estate	Law	
Marketing	Management	

We hope you will consider one of the areas above as your career goal. Business Administration as you can see can be a very interesting and rewarding in many areas. A degree in Business Administration means you can work in any field you choose. Each type of business and all industries must have management, accounting, legal advice, and marketing.

In order to be successful in your educational pursuits, you must plan your studies and follow that plan. If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please let us know.

We want you to be happy and successful at West Los Angeles College. The instructor and student are a team.

Sincerely,

L.L. Harris

Division: Business Division
Course name: Law 001: Business Law 1
Section: 0446/ Semester: Fall 2013

Instructor name: L.L. Harris, Professor
Class Hours: 3:15 hrs/ wk

School website: www.wlac.edu
Address: 9000 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA 90230

Office Hours: Mondays/ Wednesdays
Office: CE 232
10:00 am-12:30 pm

Instructor E-mail: Harrisll@wla.edu

Instructor Phone: 310/287-4440

Welcome! If we can be of assistance to you in any way, please let us know. We want you to be happy and successful at West Los Angeles College. The instructor and student are a team.

Course Description: This course provides an overview of the essentials of law and contracts in its application to everyday problems pertaining to business and to the individual. Elementary safeguards regarding sales and sales contracts are also considered. Case discussions and lecture methods are utilized. Credit is not granted for students enrolled in or with credits in Business 5.

Required Texts:

BUSINESS LAW TODAY, *The Essentials 10th edition*
WEST PUBLISHING CO. (CENGAGY) AUTHORS: MILLER & JENTZ

Recommended Materials:

Dictionary – *Black's Law Dictionary*

Thesaurus – *American Heritage College Thesaurus* or *Roget's*

Required Materials:

1 three ring binder

#2 pencils, blue or black pens, and highlighters

8 ½ x 11 notebook paper (plenty)

scantrons (3)

Student Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able:

- To understand the American Law System and it's origin
- To develop a legal vocabulary
- To develop the students understanding of legal theory
- To develop the students powers of reasoning and problem solving
- To better understand the nature and function of the law
- To provide students with an overview of court procedures
- To give students an introduction in selected areas of law
- To use some practical skills necessary to work in the legal environment

Institutional Learning Outcomes: This course will also facilitate the following Institutional Learning Outcomes:

- ***Critical Thinking:*** Analyze the problems by differentiating fact from opinions, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences.
- ***Communication:*** Effectively communicate thought in a clear, well-organized manner to persuade, inform, and convey ideas in academic, work, family and community settings.
- ***Self-awareness/ Interpersonal Skills:*** Apply self-assessment and reflection strategies to interpersonal, work, community, career, and educational pathways.

- **Technical Competence:** Utilize the appropriate technology effectively for informational, academic, personal, and professional needs.
- **Cultural Diversity:** Respectfully engage with others in an effort to understand them
- **Ethics:** Practice and demonstrate standards of personal and professional integrity, honesty and fairness; apply ethical principles in submission of all college work.

Instructional Methods: lectures, case study from the text and reports, classroom discussion on each chapter, basic legal research, writing exercises, speakers and videos.

Class Participation: Student evaluation: a total of three exams will be given plus a final. Anyone not taking the final without the permission of the instructor will be given a letter grade of "F". The first exam will cover the first section of the course and will be in the second week of classes. The second and third exam will be announced. **YOU MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM**

Grading Scale: each exam is worth 100 points. All exams scores will be added and divided by the number of the exams given to arrive at the final score. (i.e. exam 1 score is 80, exam 2 score is 90, exam 3 score is 70, and exam 4 score is 80) We add $80 + 90 + 70 + 80 = 320$ divided by 4 = 80 which equals to the letter grade of "B".

One test may be thrown out (not counted) it is up to you which one. Classroom participation is required and will add or subtract from your final grade score to arrive at your semester grade.

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>PERCENT OF TOTAL</u>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	50-59

Course Policies; Students are required to participate in this course. Missed tests will not be made up. Late work will be accepted only in extreme emergencies. All assigned homework must be in writing. No work will be accepted unless computer generated. Keep a copy of all work turned in to the instructor.

Attendance policies: Be here, be on time, and be ready to participate. **NOTE: YOU MUST DROP IF YOU ARE GOING TO DISCONTINUE THIS CLASS. I WILL NOT DROP YOU AFTER THE FIRST EXCLUSION ROSTER HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO ADMISSIONS.**

Because class discussions and group work are an integral part of this course, attendance is mandatory... up to 3 absences are allowed. After that, you could be dropped. Students are expected to attend every class meeting, to arrive on time and stay throughout the class period. **Excessive absenteeism will lower your grade, as well as walking in and out of class.** 3 tardies = 1 absence. Students may be dropped from class for excessive tardiness, or for failure to attend the first day or during the entire first week of the class.

Walking In and Out of Class

When you arrive to class, make sure you have used the restroom, had a chance to eat, check your messages, etc. walking in and out is rude and disruptive. If you need to leave early, or have some other

problem, you need to notify me in advance. **Any student who makes a habit of walking in and out of my class may be asked to leave.**

Preparedness

You are expected to arrive on time. You will come to each class session prepared. You will have your books, binder, pens/pencils, any work that is due, and you will be prepared to discuss all reading assignments.

Cell Phones, iPods, ect.

Turn them off and put them away when class begins! Although it may not seem possible, you can survive without talking and texting on your cell phone, or listening to you iPod, for a little over an hour. Talking and texting on cell phones not only distracts you, but they are a distraction for me and your peers. Distractions interrupt/ disrupt the class and I will not tolerate interruptions. **You will be asked to leave if this occurs.**

Contacting Me

E-mail is the best and quickest way to contact me. Thanks to modern technology. Therefore, excuses such as, "I tried to contact you but (fill in the blank)" will not work. **If you have a problem, do not let it snowball. Contact me immediately. Students are expected to ask questions and obtain help from instructor via email and/ or during office hours.**

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism)

In accordance with code 9803.28, **academic dishonesty is prohibited and will not be tolerated in this class.** Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. Academic dishonesty of any type, such as cheating or knowingly furnishing false information, by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college. In written work, no material may be copied from another without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation.

Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment, possible dismissal from the class and disciplinary action from the college. You will not receive credit for any essay missing previous drafts, citations and /or a Works Cited page.

Student Conduct

According to code 9803.15, disruption of classes or college activities is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Refer to the catalog and the standards of Student conduct in the Schedule of Classes for more information.

Recording Devices

State law in California prohibits the use of any electronic listening or recording device in a classroom without prior consent of the instructor and college administration. Any student who needs to use electronic aids must secure the consent of the instructor. If the instructor agrees to the request, a notice of consent must be forwarded to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for approval (WLAC College Catalog).

BUSINESS LAW 1
SECTION: 0446
COURSE OUTLINE/MAJOR UNITS OF INSTRUCTION
(Instructor reserves the right to modify syllabus during the semester)

WEEK	TOPIC	Assignments/Exercises
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • A Historical Foundation of Constitutional Law How the Constitution provides protection against overbroad government interference in our daily lives, primary source of law. Discuss Business and the Bill of Rights. Due Process and Equal Protection.(page 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapters 1
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics and Professional Responsibility Discuss the subject of ethics and professional responsibility of people in the legal environment and business sector.(page 44) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapters 2
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution Discuss the subject of jurisdiction and venue, what are the requirements in Federal Jurisdiction? Compare and contrast the function of trial courts and appellate court, discuss the various ways of dispute resolution including online methods. Identify the basics of the federal and state court systems.(page 64) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapters 3
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torts, and Cyber Torts Explanation of how torts and crime differ, and the purpose of tort law. Identify and discuss intentional torts against persons and property, what are the elements (4) of negligence and define and demonstrate (example) of strict liability. (page 99) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapters 4
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual Property and Internet Law Define Intellectual property and how it affects today's online business. Why are trademarks and patents protected by the law? Explain trade secrets and what laws provide protection for them. Describe the protection of international protection for intellectual property. (page 130) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapters 5
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal Law and Cyber Crime Discuss the circumstances which a party will be held liable for the tort of wrongful interference, how does the tort of appropriation occur? When and how does law protect trade secrets? A summary of the laws protecting trademarks, patents and copyrights. RICO- How the Racketeer influenced and Corrupt organization Act is applied in civil cases is an encryption code speech? (page 159) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapters 6 • Exam Chapters 1- 6

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WEEK	TOPIC	Assignments/Exercises
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration in Contracts What is the function of contract law? How do we define contract and what are its elements? Discuss the objective theory of contracts. Outline the rules that govern the courts' interpretation of contracts. How to determine Consideration, defines and give examples of consideration, what are the exceptions to consideration as a necessary element of an enforceable contract requirements of the offer, termination and accepting of the offer. Fully discuss promissory estoppels, list and define elements of consideration. (page 193) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 7
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity, Legality, and Enforceability Discuss and define capacity in a legal sense. What are majority and minority ages can a minor contract, what are some other conditions that make a contract valuable. What is the philosophy (legal) of incapacity? What do we mean by an act, or argument being against public policy? Define an unenforceable contract. What is a void contract? Thoroughly discuss assent. (page 227) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 8
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract performance, Breach, and Remedie Give examples of mistakes, fraud, duress, and undue influence to begin this session. Define genuineness of assent, will genuineness of assent be lacking? Consent is different from genuineness of assent, why? Discuss in detail the parole evidence rule. Are promises made in Consideration of marriage enforceable? Why do we have a statute of frauds and what is their origin? Define which contract must be in writing to be enforceable. What is sufficient writing and adequate consideration? (page 254) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 9
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Party Rights and Discharge Assignments, delegations, intended beneficiaries, incidental beneficiaries will be discussed. Define privity of contracts, what rights can or cannot be assigned. Identify non-contracting parties who have rights under a contract. Differentiate between complete and substantial performance of a contract, and indicate when a breach of contract occurs. Describe duties that cannot be delegated (examples). Define the different types of damages that may be obtained on the breach of contract. Describe the types of situations in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Chapter 10 • Exam Chapters 7 -10

	<p>which mitigating of damages will be required. Distinguish between liquidated damages and penalties. List the equitable remedies that may be granted by courts, and indicate when they will be granted. Explain the common law doctrine of election of remedies. (page 291)</p>	
<p>Week 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Sales and Lease Information Discuss the scope of the UCC's article 2 and 2A. Indicate the ways in which the UCC changes the common law of contracts with respect to contract information. Discuss the UCC's attempt to avoid the "battle of the forms". Identify some rules that apply only to contracts between merchants (page 300)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Read Chapter 10</p>
<p>Week 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Agency Relationships in Business One of the most common, important, and pervasive legal relationships is that of AGENCY. Discuss agency relationships in relation to independent contractors, employers, employees and how that relationship differs from a legal standpoint. What is Respondeat Superior? Liability in Agency relationships and agency termination. (page 488)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Read Chapter 17</p>
<p>Week 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Bailment and Personal Property In this chapter we are emphasizing bailments. In the business world, bailments occur on a daily basis. It is important to understand the responsibilities of the parties to bailment. We will distinguish between the bailor, bailee and mutual bailments. When property Mislaid, Lost or abandoned. Property consists of legally protected rights and interest a person has in anything with an ascertainable value that is subject to ownership.(page 660)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Read Chapter 23</p>
<p>Week 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Review</p> 	
<p>Week 15</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Final Exam</p> 	