

**Moravian College**  
**Department of Economics and Business**  
**MGT/SOC 226: Legal Environment of Business**

Instructor: Dr. James Ravelle  
Office: PPHAC 312  
Office Phone: (610) 861-1378  
Office Hours: 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM, Mondays and Wednesdays  
3:45 PM to 4:45 PM on Thursdays  
Or by Appointment  
Instructor Phone: 610-861-1378  
Instructor e-mail: ravellej@moravian.edu

**Prerequisites:**

- \* Acct 157 or permission of the Instructor; and
- \* Sophomore, Junior or Senior Standing

**Course Objectives:**

This course is designed as an introduction to the law as it applies to the business and commercial environment.

- \* You will be introduced to the language of the law;
- \* You will learn how the application of legal theory applies to the reality of commercial transactions and business organizations.
- \* You will learn how the Law, as an instrument of social control, permits society to encourage and supplement ethical behavior, especially in the context of business relationships.

**Requirements and Methods of Evaluation:**

There are four requirements to successfully complete this class:

- \* You will be expected to attend and participate regularly in class (See Attendance and Participation Policy below)
- \* You will be expected to read the homework assigned to you, whether in the book or by handout.
- \* You will be expected to participate in at least one team presentation for which you either volunteer or are asked to present.
- \* You will be expected to take all three (3) exams at the times at which they are scheduled.

**Grading:**

Component	Weight
Class Participation.....	20%
Exams and Presentations.....	80%

**Attendance Policy:**

All students are expected to attend class and participate in class discussion. Failure to attend class on three or more occasions for any purpose automatically disqualifies the student from the possibility of receiving the highest participation grade.

**Academic Honesty Policy:**

The rules of the college as they apply to withdrawal from the course and plagiarism will be strictly followed. Students are encouraged to consult the college handbook for details of these policies. Students who wish to request accommodation in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Office of Learning Services.

**Other Useful Information:*****Make-Up Exams.***

Make-up exams will not be given unless the student can prove serious illness resulting in hospitalization or death in their immediate family. The burden of proof is on the student to demonstrate the above. Minor illnesses, fatigue, vacation plans, death of pets, and distant relatives are not excuses unless the Dean of the College permits dismissal for these reasons.

***Required Text and Materials:***

The following book is required and is available for purchase at the Moravian College Bookstore: ***West's Business Law: Legal Ethical, International and E-Commerce Environment*** by Clarkson, Miller and Cross, Twelve Edition.

***GoogleDocs:***

I will be using the ***GoogleDocs*** as an instructional tool. Students will be able to download and print the syllabus, class assignments, and outlines for class and challenge cases. You will also be able to chat with me in real time about class matters and more easily contact me at other times. Greater facilitation of group work may also be a byproduct of this process.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

- 1.. Class Meeting Time. You will be expected to attend classes regularly. Class will meet for 37.8 hours during the semester. **37.80 hours**
  
  2. Outside Class Activity. You will be expected to spend one day at either the Lehigh or Northampton County Courthouse or in the alternative, a District Justice Court or Federal Courthouse. You must spend at least 8 hours observing activities in court or court-related business. In addition you must also attend at least 5 hours of law-related lectures at either Moravian College or other LVAIC College. You must submit a journal to demonstrate your attendance. **13.00 hours**
  
  3. You will be expected to read and outline 14 Chapters in the text book assigned to you. It should take you about 3 hours for each Chapter to thoroughly read the assignment and make the appropriate notes. **42.00 hours**
  
  4. You will be expected to read (and to be prepared for discussion) for each case study provided to you. There are approximately 30 case studies. Each case study should take about 1 hour to properly prepare. **30.00 hours**
  
  5. You will be expected to study for each of the 3 exams. You should expect to study at least 10 hours for each exam. **30.00 hours**
  
  6. You will have the option to prepare a term paper using at least 6 sources (books, articles, etc.). The term paper should be at least 8 pages and you should expect to spend at least 3 hours of time for each page. **28.00 hours**
- Total** ***176.80 hours***

## Schedule of Assignments

(All Assignments refer to Clarkson et al unless otherwise noted)

08/25	Intro to the Legal Process – Chapters 1 through 7
08/27	Continue with the above
09/01	Contracts – Chapter 10
09/03	Chapter 11
09/08	Chapter 12
09/10	Chapter 13
09/15	Chapter 14
09/17	Chapter 15
09/22	Chapter 17
09/24	Chapter 18
09/29	Continue with the above
10/01	Exam #1
10/06	Agency – Chapter 32
10/08	Chapter 33
10/13	Spring Break - No Class
10/15	Continue with above
10/20	Continue with the above
10/22	Partnerships – Chapter 37
10/27	Limited Liability Companies – Chapter 38
10/29	Exam #2
11/03	Corporations – Chapter 39
11/05	Chapter 40
11/10	Continue with the above
11/12	Chapter 41
11/17	Chapter 42
11/19	Chapter 43
11/24	Continue with above
11/26	Thanksgiving Break
12/01	International Law – Chapter 23
12/03	Review for the Final (Final Exam on Monday, 4/28 at 8:30 am)