Instructor: Prof. Roger Meiners  
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E-mail is preferred form of communication.  
Course Dates: 3/9 to 4/24, but will open 3/1.

Faculty Profile: BA (Washington State), MA (Arizona), PhD (economics, Virginia Tech); J.D. (law; U. Miami). Faculty and administrative appointments prior to UTA: Texas A&M, Emory, Miami, and Clemson. Visiting professor at U. Francisco Marroquin, Guatemala, Univ. Aix-en-Provence, France, and U. Kansas MBA program in Italy. Government service: Director, Atlanta Regional Office, Federal Trade Commission (responsible for antitrust and consumer protection cases for eight southern states); Member, S.C. Insurance Commission. Other affiliation: Senior Fellow, Property and Environment Research Center, Montana. Publications include books, journal articles, and articles in popular press.

Class Goal and Content: For students to learn the basic structure and processes of the legal system and many key common law rules and major regulatory rules that impact business. The focus is on a practical, working knowledge of the law that has the greatest impact on business today and how you can relate the substance of the law to co-workers. No legal background is presumed, nor is it presumed that you intend to take further courses in law.

Topics covered include: Structure of the Legal System; The Court System and Trial Process; Constitutional Law and Business; Criminal Law and Business; Torts; Property Law; Intellectual Property Law; Contract Law; Domestic and International Sales; Negotiable Instruments; Credit; Bankruptcy; Business Organizations; Agency; Regulatory Process; Employment & Labor Regulations; Employment Discrimination; Environmental Law; Consumer Protection; Antitrust Law; Securities Regulation; and International Legal Environment of Business.

Student Learning Objectives: To become comfortable with the application of legal terminology as it relates to business and to be able to make reasoned analysis of the law and it applies in business situations. You will have a better understanding of the functioning of the legal system.

Method of Evaluation: There are four multiple-choice exams of equal weight. Exams must be finished by midnight of due date but may be taken early.

Exam 1  3/18  Ch. 1-5  
Exam 2  3/28  Ch. 6-10  
Exam 3  4/7  Ch. 11-13  
Exam 4  4/19  Ch. 14-16
Exams are open book, open notes. Due dates for each exam are repeated on Canvas. If an exam is completed late, unless permission is given, there is a one grade (10 point) penalty for the first week late and 20-point penalty after that.

Paper 1 for Unit 1 is due on 3/20 by midnight.

Paper 2 for Unit 5 is due on 4/24 by midnight.

There is no comprehensive final exam as the material in this class does not build as the course proceeds. The exams will be taken using the Respondus LockDown Browser. Read the instructions about Respondus on Canvas before trying to use the first time to be sure it works. Using that ensures the integrity of the exam process so no one can assert someone else could be doing the work, a common worry with online classes. Read about the browser in the class instructions. You must have a Web camera (built into your computer or a free-standing camera to observe you while taking exams. The exams are time limited—you need to keep an eye on time as when time is up, it stops.

Two-thirds of the grade is based on four exams. The other one-third of your grade is based on two short papers that are explained in Unit 1 and 5. Each one counts the same. Grades on them take into consideration quality of discussion and writing.

We will use a 90-80-70, etc. scale for A-B-C, but then I amend that at the end of the semester. There are no extra credit projects. I cannot turn on the exam answers to be seen until everyone is done.

Note—when you are in MindTap it will say many things “Counts Towards Grade”—that is not so. They do not apply. Grades are only based on the four exams and two papers. In MindTap, I urge you to do “Worksheets” in each chapter—those are questions a lot like the exam. The other things, such as Video Exercise, Apply: Brief Hypotheticals, Apply: Legal Reasoning, you are welcome to use but I don’t think they do you as much good as the Worksheets.

Two Papers: You have two writing assignments; one in Unit 1 (completing Unit 1 means both doing the exam and the writing assignment) and one in Unit 5. Details are given in the units. These are submitted through Canvas which runs each paper against other papers that have been submitted and everything on the Internet, so please do not try to copy from someone else or there will be very serious consequences. There is a 10-point penalty for late submission the first week and a 20 point penalty for submissions even later. Read the instructions for each paper. Some do not follow simple guidelines which results in lower grades.

Summary of grading: The four exams (67%) and two papers (33%) count; the online exercises in MindTap are graded for you but they do not count on your grade—they are for exam prep if you choose to do them.
Required Reading: Textbook: *The Legal Environment of Business* (13th edition, Cengage, 2018 by Meiners). This is online and includes loose-leaf print if you buy the online version.

TEXTBOOK: Order the book from the bookstore. It has the best price you will get for the e-book and the online exercises (MindTap).

1. Go to: UTASHOP.COM and enter this ISBN: 9781337382014
2. into the search bar and go straight to the purchase page
3. Or click on Books & Course Materials, Shop by STUDENT ID or by Course. Paper Text with online text and MindTap is $100.

Data you may need: Department is BLAW: Course Number is 5330: Section is 501. The online package includes a print copy of the book. There is no Course Key, so if you see that number, ignore it.

You will get an **Access Code**—you go through Canvas to get to MindTap and enter it there. Don’t enter the access code on Cengage Brain.

If those links don’t work, this goes to the company directly:

This video shows you how to get started with MindTap, once you get the access code, which are the learning materials and exercises for each chapter in the online textbook:

https://play.vidyard.com/yUAP2eFUunPkCeXniVjqcY

Here are directions from the publisher—please read:

https://www.cengage.com/coursepages/UTA_MindTap_Spring2020

The e-book works well. You just cannot access it on the *same* computer you are doing an exam on as once you start the exam you cannot shift out of it without closing it down. You do not have a lot of time to look for stuff in the book. Each exam is 30 questions in 32 minutes; you do not have time to hunt through the book for each question. However, you can have a second computer open during an exam so you can see the e-book on it if you like. You should have loose-leaf print copy available.

Note: Cheap copies of the print book are available. You can buy one of those and not buy the online version. You are not required to buy the online book. You
will not have access to the MindTap Worksheets and other useful material, but the choice is yours.

**Deadlines:** For the two papers and the four exams noted above are also listed in each unit. Note that for Unit 2 the chapters on the exam are not the same as the ones listed by the book.

If you end up with a work conflict or some personal problem, let me know and we can work around that. Don’t make me come hunting for you if you miss deadlines or grade penalties apply. If assignments not done on time, there is a penalty as noted above. You can do things early if you like and get ahead in the class.

**University Boilerplate:**

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships ([http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/](http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/)).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability)** or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).
Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)  www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Non-Discrimination Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:
I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at https://www.uta.edu/conduct/.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.
Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.