ACCT 215 Business in the Legal Environment

Course Description

A basic course in business law providing an overview of the sources of law, objectives of law, and application of legal principles applied to traditional and contemporary business law. Topics include application of legal principles to contracts, employment law, environmental, tort, criminal and government regulations.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to develop a working understanding and application of business law governing the following major areas:

A. Courts and Jurisdiction
B. Judicial, Alternative, and E-Dispute Resolution
C. Constitutional Law for Business and E-Commerce
D. Intentional Torts and Negligence
E. Product and Strict Liability
F. Intellectual Property and Cyber Piracy
G. Nature of Traditional and E-Contracts
H. Formation of Sales and Lease Contracts
I. Ethics and Social Responsibility of Business
J. Consumer Protection and Product Safety
K. Real Property
L. Wills, Trusts, and Estates

Required Text

Pearson Custom Business Resources Business in the Legal Environment for North Dakota State College of Science
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Course Policies and Procedures

Student-Instructor Communications

While online material is available 24 hours a day and offers greater flexibility for the student and instructor, keep in mind that your instructor will not be available 24 hours a day. Instructors will check email on a regular basis, but there may be times when they are unavailable due to other commitments and job responsibilities. Emails will be responded to as time allows. As a general rule, you can expect your direct questions to be answered within 24 hours during week days.

There are several areas inside the course area that you can post a message -- keep in mind that these posted comments are visible to everyone enrolled in the class. Many times, this is appropriate and exactly what you WANT ... at other times you may have comments or questions that you want to be more private

When sending an email, please include your full name so your instructor knows who they are responding to. Often, the email address does not indicate who is sending the message.

Computer Failures and Viruses

Computers will be provided in class. There is a cart located against the wall. Students will also have access to the district provided iPads. Students may also use personal computers as they see fit.

Student Attendance

Attendance will be taken every class period. West Fargo High School is on the A/B Block schedule. This class will use the attendance guidelines set forth by WFPS handbook.

Online Discussions

As a reminder ... an online "chat" is defined as a time when two or more people "talk" online at the same time - whereas an online "threaded discussion" is when two or more people post comments and respond to those comments at different times. There are advantages and disadvantages to both - but in both cases these discussions are very valuable whether your instructor is involved in the discussion or not.

Participation in **threaded discussions, on the other hand, ARE REQUIRED**. When a threaded discussion is posted you will have a specific time period in which to participate. Make sure to make a posting relevant to the discussion topic - and then respond to other students. Discussions will be closed on a specific date, so make sure to participate in the discussion before it closes.

Assignments

Please follow the order of units as each unit will build onto the next one and will be accessible according to the schedule posted within the online course.

Assignments and quizzes within each chapter are **due within specified time frames.** Refer to the Schedule for specific due dates. Assignments not completed by the specified deadline and submitted late without previous notification will receive no credit. No points will be assigned for incomplete assignments.

Be prepared to spend **at least four (4) hours per week** in the online class, studying, and completing assignments.

Submitting Assignments

All assignments should be turned in via **Schoology** unless otherwise specified.

Technical Problems and Assignment Delivery

You are **strongly encouraged** to make hard copies of your assignments and communications with the instructor. Computer crashes and disasters are bound to happen. Keep in mind, however, that internet-service provider (ISP) problems are not viewed as an excuse for turning in your work late. *At the first sign* of problems, contact your ISP immediately.

NOTE: It is YOUR responsibility to access the class on another computer in the event of hardware or software problems. If your problems are not cleared up within 12 hours, contact the instructor to make other arrangements.

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When sending an email, please include your full name so your instructor knows who they are responding to. Often, the email address does not indicate who is sending the message.

Student E-Mail Accounts

WFPS has assigned all students an email account. It is the students responsibility to check their email and Schoology for information.

Grading Scale
Letter grades will be awarded as follows:

LETTER GRADE	PERCENT
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%

Grades for this course will be a cumulative grade consisting of homework, quizzes and a comprehensive final test. Assigned work will be graded within the week following its due date unless otherwise stated. Delays will be communicated via a class announcement.

Discussion Grading Criteria

Points will be earned in the gradebook for your participation in the assigned discussions. Points will be assigned using the following method and may be computed on a combination of columns 1 through 3:

Each discussion contribution is worth a possible 10 points.

(BEST)	Pts	(GOOD)	Pts	(MINIMUM)	Pts
You respond with an opinion or information pertinent to the topic. Use two or more complete sentences.	5 max	You respond with an opinion or information that is pertinent to the topic but in only one sentence.	3 max	You respond with an opinion or information not pertinent to the topic.	1 max
You not only post your thoughts, but also post reaction to another student as described above.	3 max	You not only post your thoughts, but also post reaction to another student as described above.	1 max	You not only post your thoughts, but also post reaction to another student as described above.	1 max
0-1 spelling or grammar errors	2 max	2-3 spelling or grammar errors	1 max	4 or more spelling or grammar errors	1 max
Total Possible Points Rubric #1	10	*Total Possible Points Rubric #2*	5	*Total Possible Points Rubric #3*	3

Academic Integrity

Integrity is an NDSCS core value and there is an expectation that all students, as members of the college community, adhere to the highest levels of academic integrity.

Dishonesty in class, laboratory, shop work or tests is regarded as a serious offense and is subject to disciplinary action by the instructor and dean of the respective division. For more information, refer to the NDSCS Student Planner or College Catalog under College Policies and Basic Regulations of Conduct.

Types of Misconduct

Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
Fabrication: Intentionally and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
Facilitating academic dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.
Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Tie to Program Assessment Outcomes

This course will contribute to the program outcomes by encouraging students to examine and recognize opportunities for self-employment. Students will develop skills in human relations, communications and other aspects of general education.

Tutoring Services

NDSCS Distance Education Department has purchased an online tutoring service from SMARTHINKING for our online students. SMARTHINKING provides live, web-based tutoring in a variety of subjects. This service supplements our existing academic support services by offering real-time online tutoring and homework help for core courses and skills up to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information contact your online class instructor or Distance Education.

Accessibility Services:

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the **Student Accessibility Coordinator** by phone at 701-671-2623 or in person in Old Main room 230A, as early as possible in the term.

APPENDIX A
ONLINE STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND CONDUCT GUIDELINES

Online courses are based on the premise that students learn best in a community. The instructor plays an important role, but this is a different role than most instructors play in the traditional face-to-face classroom. While you may see a shift in the way classes work, you'll also notice that some things don't change: the practices of courtesy and respect that apply in the ordinary classroom also apply online, and may actually require more attention in this venue. Here are some guidelines:

1.   **Get involved**. In the online environment, it's not enough to show up! Your voice must be heard in order to show your presence. Your comments are needed to add to the information, the shared learning, and the sense of community in each class.

2.   **Be persistent**. Remember that for many this is a fairly new environment. Each instructor still sets the rules, and you need to abide by them; however, if you run into any difficulties, don't wait! Send your instructor an email immediately or post in the Discussion Area. Most problems are easily solved, but your instructor and your fellow students need to hear from you before they can help.

3.   **Share tips, helps, and questions.** For many, taking online courses is a new experience. There are no dumb questions, and even if you think your solution is obvious, please share it by posting it in the Discussion Area. For every student who asks a question, there are 10 others wanting to know the same thing.

4.   **Think before you push the Send button**. Did you say just what you meant? How will the person on the other end read the words? While you can't anticipate all reactions, do read over what you've written before you send it.

5.   **Consider the context.** Remember that we can't see the grin on your face when you make a sarcastic comment, we can't see the concern on your face if you only say a couple of words, and we can't read your mind and fill in the gaps if you abbreviate your comments. So: help us "see" you by explaining your ideas fully.

6.   **Ask for feedback**. Not sure how your ideas and comments will be taken? Remember there's a person on the other side. If you disagree with what someone has said, practice all your communication skills as you express that disagreement. "Flaming," or flying off the handle and ranting at someone is unacceptable; it is the equivalent of having a tantrum, something most of us wouldn't do in an onsite, face to face classroom.

7.   **Act with respect**. Any discriminatory, derogatory or inappropriate comments are unacceptable and subject to the same disciplinary action that they would receive if they occurred in the face to face classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said, please contact your instructor.

8.   **Exercise integrity.** Plagiarism, cheating, and other violations of ethical student behavior are serious actions in a learning community. See Academic Integrity Policy in the course syllabus.

9.   **Recognize the consequences.** Consequences of online student behavior that contradicts the NDSCS Academic Integrity policy will be addressed on an individual basis and in accordance with NDSCS Academic Integrity policy. Refer to the NDSCS Student Planner or College Catalog for more information.

*Adapted with permission from Dr. C. A. Keller, San Antonio College