

# Course Syllabus

Business Law I – BUL 2241 (Mixed Mode Course)

CRN – 10544

Course Syllabus and Outline

Division of Business, West Campus, Fall Semester 2023

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Introduction to law, its social forces and agencies for enforcement; effects of governmental regulation on business and society, including environmental law, community planning and consumer protection; contracts; and personal property, including bailments and sales.

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** ENC 1101 or ENC 1101H or ENC 1210 or GEB 1011 or IDH 1110 or OST 1335.

**CLASS MEETING ROOM:** In person, West Campus (Building 1, Room 131)

**DAY/TIME:** Wednesdays, 7:00pm-8:15pm

**PROFESSOR:** Hashi N. Richards, JD/MBA

- Mrs. Richards is a licensed Florida attorney.

**PHONE:** 407-476-5320

**EMAIL:** hrichards10@valenciacollege.edu

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday and Thursday-- Via Zoom or phone call. Conferences must be scheduled using Professor Richards' online scheduler. Please click the link here to schedule: <https://calendly.com/richardslegal/valencia-students-conference>

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## MAJOR LEARNING OUTCOMES WITH EVIDENCE, CORE COMPETENCIES AND INDICATORS

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- **Describe the sources of the law.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.
- **Explain the structure of federal and state government and court systems.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.
- **Explain the overview of the process of litigation and alternative dispute resolution.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.
- **Apply theories of business ethics to hypothetical problems.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.
- **Describe the basic forms of business entities.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.
- **Classify and explain the elements of Crimes and Torts relating to business issues.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.
- **Explain patents, copyrights, and trademarks. This will be assessed through end of chapter assigned questions, chapter summaries submitted, classroom content and current event discussion, and via direct examination.**
- **Explain contract formation, modification, and enforcement.** This MLO will be assessed through a multiple choice exams, quizzes, and case study analysis.

Many of the legal concepts stated above will interact in practice (e.g. where you bring a lawsuit against a business may depend upon the type recovery allowed by a state or federal statute). Therefore, you may see multiple concepts explored in a single discussion or case study.

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### Topics Covered

1. The Legal, Social, and Ethical Environment of Business
2. The Nature and Sources of Law
3. The Court System and Dispute Resolution
4. Business Ethics, Social Forces, and the Law
5. The Constitution as the Foundation of the Legal Environment
6. Government Regulation of Competition and Prices

7. Administrative Agencies
8. The Legal Environment of International Trade
9. Crimes
10. Torts
11. Intellectual Property Rights and the Internet
12. Contracts
13. Nature and Classes of Contracts: Contracting on the Internet
14. Formation of Contracts: Offer and Acceptance
15. Capacity and Assent
16. Consideration
17. Legality and Public Policy
18. Writing, Electronic Forms, and Interpretation of Contracts
19. Third Persons and Contracts
20. Discharge of Contracts
21. Breach of Contract and Remedies
22. Sales and Leases of Goods
23. Personal Property and Bailments
24. Legal Aspects of Supply Chain Management
25. Nature and Form of Sales
26. Title and Risk of Loss
27. Product Liability: Warranties and Torts
28. Obligations and Performance
29. Remedies for Breach of Sales Contracts

### **Schedule with Dates**

- 8.23.23- First Day of Class (every Wednesday through 11.29.23)
- 8.28.23- Drop/Refund date
- 8.30.23-9.8.23-No Show Reporting Period
- 10.27.23-Student Withdrawal Deadline
- 12.3.23-Faculty Initiated Withdrawal Deadline
- 11.29.23-Last Class Date
- 12.4.23-12.10.23-Finals
- 12.10.23-Course End Date

### **INSTITUTIONAL CORE COMPETENCIES**

This course reinforces the following Valencia Student competencies as outlined online in the Valencia College Catalog, [http://valenciacollege.edu/competencies/Links to an external site.](http://valenciacollege.edu/competencies/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site) – Valencia faculty has defined four interrelated competencies (Value, Think, Communicate, Act) that prepare students to succeed in the world community.

**THINK** – Analyze data, ideas, patterns, principles, and perspectives employing facts, formulas, and procedures of the discipline.

**VALUE** – Distinguish among personal, ethical, aesthetic, cultural, and scientific values evaluating your own and others' values from a global perspective in the process of learning the discipline.

COMMUNICATE – Identify your own strengths and need for improvement as a communicator employing methods of communication appropriate to your audience and purposefully evaluate the effectiveness of your own and others' communication.

ACT – Apply disciplinary knowledge, skills, and values to educational and career goals acting effectively and appropriately in various personal and professional settings responding also to changing circumstances.

In this course, through classroom lectures and discussions, and other learning activities, you will further develop mastery of these core competencies.

Thank you to Dr. Kenney who provided the class materials for this course- I have made some modifications but everything else is his coursework that he graciously shared with me.

### **TEXTBOOK --REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**

**The textbook for this particular course is provided free, in an effort to reduce textbook costs for students.**

Mayer, D., Warner, D., & Seidel, G. (2012). [\*Business Law and the Legal Environment\*](#). Saylor Foundation.

Retrieved from <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/273>

### **Assessment**

Assessment: This course will measure learning to ensure major learning outcomes are achieved. *All of the assessments will be posted on Canvas and will have to be submitted on there.*

- **Multiple-choice** demonstrates your ability to recall legal concepts drawn from discussions, your notes; reading the text; and supplementary course materials (e.g. shared articles, videos etc.). This assessment method also demonstrates your ability to think critically when selecting the best answer to a given question.
- **Case Briefs** allow students the opportunity to perform legal analysis by performing law/fact analysis. Students will use the IRAC method of legal analysis (Issue, Rule, Application, and Conclusion).
- **Peer-to-Peer communication** is vitally important in any business career. In most lawsuits, and you will inevitably see miscommunication is somehow related. In this course, weekly discussion board assignments will demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively in writing; and provide valuable feedback to your peers. Emphasis—when formulating discussion board grades—is placed on critical thinking, courtesy, punctuality and professionalism.

### **Grading**

Submitted content is assessed on a cumulative 1,000 points. Because punctuality is an essential trait of effective managers—and graded assignments are discussed in-depth (both in gradebooks and discussion threads) once assessment is complete—late submissions are generally not accepted. Contact Professor Richards if you anticipate being unable to complete work by a due date.

**Three (3) multiple choice quizzes\***. Each exam will consist of 20 questions. Students may use their textbooks, notes and supplementary materials.

- Total Points Available: 300
- 28.5% of Final Grade

**Case Briefs** – Two case studies will be analyzed during the course using the IRAC formula, favored by law schools. The goal of a case brief is helping students see a conflict as a lawyer sees it, and conducting basic law/fact analysis.

- Total Points Available: 300
- 28.5% of Final Grade

**Analysis and Peer-to-Peer Communication** – There will be 9 discussions created, which allows you to analyze business law topics; and provide feedback to your classmates. This learning method is designed to sharpen writing and critical thinking skills; demonstrate an ability to research legal issues; and communicate effectively in a virtual setting.

- Total Points Available: 450
- 43% of Final Grade

\* **This course does not have a “Final Exam”**. That is, the 3rd quiz is not cumulative for the entire semester. Students who miss the 3rd quiz will earn a zero grade, which be calculated into the weighted average. Professor Richards places a priority upon submitting final grades early.

Your course grade will be determined by the following scale:

90 - 100	A
80 - 89.9	B
70 - 79.9	C
60 - 69.9	D
0 - 59.9	F

### **Attendance, Withdrawal & Policies**

**Attendance Policy** – With the Covid-19 situational factors at play, students should stay home if feeling ill. The general policy is that students are allowed three (3) unexcused absences. A fourth absence will result in notice of excessive absenteeism; and a fifth absence will result in withdrawal from the course. Of course, if there are extenuating circumstances exceptions can be made. Withdrawal will be made on a case-by-case basis.

**Make-Up Policy** – Students are adult learners responsible for both their actions and inactions. As such, tardiness with regard to completing assignments is considered unprofessional and is generally not condoned. Weekly discussion board posts are generally not accepted late for academic credit since feedback is given to the class, which would give the student who submits late an unfair advantage. Of course, if there is an extenuating circumstance...please contact Professor Richards prior to the due date.

Case study and/or multiple choice exams/quizzes may be submitted late given extenuating circumstances. Quiz #3 is not accepted late, as grades are submitted to the registrar promptly upon completion of the course.

**Academic Honesty:** Students will be expected to adhere to the Valencia College Student LifeMap Handbook as it references Valencia College's Policy #6HX28:08-11

**Student Code of Conduct:** Students will be expected to adhere to the Valencia College Student LifeMap Handbook as it references Valencia College's Policy #6HX28:08-03

### **Withdrawal Policy:**

Students who are enrolled, but do not participate during the first week of the course will be classified as “no show” students, and withdrawn from the course by Professor Richards.

A student is permitted to withdraw from a class on or before the withdrawal deadline as published in the College’s Important Dates Calendar <http://valenciacollege.edu/calendar>

A student is not permitted to withdraw from a class after the withdrawal deadline. The professor is permitted to withdraw a student from the class for violation of the professor’s attendance policy with written notification to the student prior to the beginning of the final exam period as published in the faculty member’s syllabus.

A student who withdraws from a class before the withdrawal deadline will receive a grade of "W." A student who is withdrawn by a professor will receive a grade of "W." A student who is withdrawn for administrative reasons at any time will receive a grade of "W" or other grade as determined in consultation with the professor. Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of "F".

Final course grades of "A", "B", "C", "D", or "F" shall be assigned based upon the student's academic achievement upon the completion of all course work. Missed assignments shall receive zero points. A grade of “I” or Incomplete may be posted at term’s end by the professor only under extenuating circumstances.

### **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Assignments, quizzes, discussion posts and anything else due in this class is due by the DUE DATE. I will NOT reopen work unless I receive a written excused absence- for example, a doctor's note, a work note, etc. The written absence note must be presented to me before the work is due or up to 1 week after the due date. For example. If work is due on the 8th, you have up to 14th at 11:59pm to submit the excused absence note. Again, I do not reopen work unless there is a documented excused absence.

**CLASS POLICIES:**

- Students will have unlimited time to complete online quizzes. There is one attempt.



- Students must do their own work; there are no exceptions. Students who plagiarize or cheat in any way, risk dismissal from the class and expulsion from the college.
- Students must have an active Atlas account. Students must check their Atlas e-mails regularly as to not miss any important messages from the professor. Missed messages via Atlas or any other medium (in-class, etc.) may affect your grade and are the responsibility of the student.

Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a letter from the Office of Students with Disabilities, and accommodations will be based upon said documentation. Contact OSD directly at West Campus SSB 102, ext. 1523.

**Pooky's Pantry:** Valencia offers students access to a food pantry, located in the Student Development Office (Building 3 - West Campus). If your food budget is tight, for whatever reason, please consider using this resource. Nourishment is an important for our health and academic success. If you are experiencing any form of food insecurity, please reach-out to Professor Richards for guidance in accessing institutional resources. [The Food and Meal Resource Guide](#) provides a list of food providers throughout Central Florida. Please download and share with anyone you know who is experiencing hunger and/or food insecurity.

**COLLEGE POLICIES:** A full description of all College policies can be found in the [College Catalog](#) ; [Policy Manual](#) ; and the [Student Handbook](#).

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:** Valencia College is interested in making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help with issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home or work. BayCare Behavioral Health Student Assistance Program (SAP) services are free to all Valencia students and available 24 hours a day by calling (800) 878-5470. Free face-to-face counseling is also available.

“If you are unable to participate in the course due to illness, family emergency, etc., please communicate with Professor Richards as soon as possible in order to create a plan to complete any missed assignments so that your learning can progress in your course. In the case of a prolonged online absence, please communicate with Professor Richards as soon as possible in order to create a plan for the best course of action.”

**\*DISCLAIMER:** At the discretion of the instructor, the schedule, procedures, and assignments are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances. However, any such change will be clearly announced. Such changes are designed to deal with unforeseen circumstances that arise during the course. The changes will be intended to benefit the student and will not significantly add to the rigor of the course.

**Note to International Students (F-1 or J-1 Visa)**

Please be advised that withdrawal from this course due to attendance may result in the termination of your visa status if you fall below the full-time enrollment requirement of 12 credit hours. Contact Valencia's [International Student Services](#) office for more information.

### **Statement of Support for Students with Food/Housing/Financial Needs**

Any student who has difficulty accessing sufficient food to eat, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect his or her performance in the course, is urged to meet with a Counselor in the [Advising Center](#) for information about resources that may be available from the college or community.

### **COURSE SYLLABUS AND ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:**

#### **Week 1**

**August 21-August 27**

Work to be completed by August 27 at 11:59pm: Orientation Post

#### **Week 2**

**August 28-September 3**

Work to be completed by September 3 at 11:59pm: Chapter 1 Reading

#### **Week 3**

**September 4-September 10**

Work to be completed by September 10 at 11:59pm: Chapter 2 Reading and Discussion Post #1

#### **Week 4**

**September 11-September 17**

Work to be completed by September 17 at 11:59pm: Chapter 32 Reading and Discussion Post #2

#### **Week 5**

**September 18-September 24**

Work to be completed by September 24 at 11:59pm: Chapter 50 Reading and Discussion Post #3

#### **Week 6**

**September 25-October 1**

Work to be completed by September 24 at 11:59pm: Chapter 8 Reading and Quiz #1

#### **Week 7**

**October 2-October 8**

Work to be completed by October 8 at 11:59pm: Chapter 9 Reading and Discussion Post #4

#### **Week 8**

**October 9-October 15**

Work to be completed by October 15 at 11:59pm: Chapter 10 Reading and Business Case Study #1

**Week 9****October 16-October 22**

Work to be completed by October 22 at 11:59pm: Chapter 11 Reading and Discussion Post #5

**Week 10****October 23-October 29**

Work to be completed by October 29 at 11:59pm: Chapter 12 Reading

**Week 11****October 30-November 5**

Work to be completed by November 5 at 11:59pm: Quiz #2 and Chapter 5 Reading

**Week 12****November 6-November 12**

Work to be completed by November 12 at 11:59pm: Chapter 6 Reading and Discussion Post #6

**Week 13****November 13-November 21**

Work to be completed by November 21 at 11:59pm: Chapter 7 Reading and Business Case Study #2

**Week 14****November 22- November 26-****THANKSGIVING BREAK****Week 15****November 27-December 3**

Work to be completed by December 3 at 11:59pm: Chapter 53 Reading and Discussion Post #7

**Week 16****December 4-December 10**

Work to be completed by December 10 at 11:59pm: Quiz #3 and Discussion Post #8

**GRADING:****Discussion Questions – 450 Points**

There will be 9 discussion questions including the orientation post. Each post is worth 50 points. Your initial post is due 48 hours before the Unit is due --- 2 responses are due by the end of the Unit due date for all of the posts except the Orientation post which you only need an initial post. Initial posts must be at least 2 paragraphs in length. Replies must be substantive in nature. What does substantive mean? "I like your post" is not substantive. Please include specifics about their post, what you agreed with, did not agree with or expand upon their thoughts.

**Quizzes – 300**

There will be 3 quizzes. Each quiz will have 20 questions, 5 points each. There

are two attempts for each quiz. You may use your notes (encouraged!!!). The questions are multiple choice only.

**Business Law Case Studies- 300 points**

There are two case studies in this course. Each case study is worth 150 points.

**1050 TOTAL POINTS FOR CLASS**

