



Syllabus



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MGMT 625: Legal Issues in Business and Management

4 Credits CRN 40186

Summer Term 2008, July 12th - September 5th

Instructor: Marilyn McGair, Esq.

Email prior to July 12, 2008: mcgairlaw@comcast.net

Please contact me by course email after the course starts.

Last Updated: May 18, 2008

Course Description

Overview

This course addresses the nature, functions, and operations of the legal system and how legal rules affect business operations. Learners examine the legal framework of laws, rules (e.g., Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002), health and safety regulations, and judicial opinions that have direct and profound impacts on managerial decision making and practice. Considerable emphasis is placed on the federal, state, and local regulations that directly impact business practice; consumer laws, labor and employment law, and the social and ethical environment of business policy and management practice.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Blackboard Orientations

There are no face-to-face sessions for this course. If you have never taken an Online Interactive Course (OIC) at the college, we highly recommend that you attend one of the [2-hour Blackboard Orientation sessions](#) available throughout the state. If you choose not to attend a face-to-face session, you are encouraged to view our new [Online Orientation with audio](#) at your own convenience.

Required Resources

Textbook:

Miller, R.L. and Jentz, G.A. **Business Law Today-The Essentials**, 8ed. Thomson West, 2008. ISBN: 0-324-65454-5

The textbook is available online at MBS Direct at: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/gsc.htm> (The course-CRN number for ordering this textbook is: 40186). Textbooks can also be purchased from MBS via phone, mail or fax. For additional information, visit the [Online Bookstore](#) section of the college web site.

PLEASE NOTE: It is the learner's responsibility to have purchased all required course materials

before the start of the course. Learners are expected to meet all course expectations even if the shipment of a required textbook or other learning resource is delayed. Be sure to choose the shipping option that will get your text/resource delivered in a timely manner.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Identify legal issues inherent in business operations.
 2. Analyze the legal complexities inherent in the practice of ethical business management.
 3. Describe how an issue travels through the legal process of administrative hearings, trials, and appeals.
 4. Explain the levels of the court system and their interaction with business and industry.
 5. Recognize a challenge to their own rights by individuals or corporations, as well as by the government and identify the available means to assert and protect fundamental individual rights.
 6. Distinguish the intent and effect of industry-specific legislation, e.g., mining, music, ecommerce, and the internet.
 7. Explain how legislative changes at all levels (federal, state, and local) can affect business decision policy.
 8. Apply their understanding of legal issues to managerial contexts and ethics-related business decisions.
 9. Demonstrate critical insight into the ethical relationships among business, government, and society.
 10. Distinguish between legal and ethical issues in business and identify practices that may be legal but unethical.
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Major Assignments

Students will complete the following assignments in order to meet the learning objectives of the course:

Quizzes:

There will be a quiz in each of the Six Modules. The questions will be taken from the reading and are multiple-choice, short answer, and essay and are timed. The Quizzes are worth 40% of your grade.

Short Papers

There will also be a Short paper assigned in each Module based on topics in the text and from outside sources. These short papers may include case briefs, statute analysis, and news article summaries. Short papers are worth 40% of your grade.

Discussion Board

Participation means displaying knowledge of the reading material on a weekly basis. At the start of each module, I will post chapter-related discussion questions. You will be asked post your opinions, ideas, and reactions for others to see at his/her convenience. During the week, you are to respond to the postings of other students. The key to making this interaction meaningful is not how many times you post; it's the quality of your thinking and reflection that counts the most. Discussion Board Participation is worth 20% of your grade.

Performance Evaluation

Learners will be graded upon the following activities and corresponding percentages:

Activity	% of Final Grade
Discussion Board Participation	20%
Module Quizzes	40%
Module Short Papers	40%
Total	100%

Course Grading Scale: The letter grade is representative of Granite State College's grading system.

A: 100-95	B: 86-84	C: 76-74	D: 66-64
A-: 94-90	B-: 83-80	C-: 73-70	D-: 63-60
B+: 89-87	C+: 79-77	D+: 69-67	F: 59-0

NOTE: Students must receive a grade of "C" or better for all courses in their major.

Academic Honesty

An academic community is based on honesty and integrity. All work that you submit should be your own. When summarizing or explaining ideas that are based on another's work, make sure to cite references appropriately. (For more information on proper citation, see the Library's website: <http://www.granite.edu/current-students/virtual-library/writers-resources/>). Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is using another's words or even paraphrasing another's work without giving proper credit through the use of citations. For questions regarding Granite State College's academic honesty policy, see page 65 of the college catalog.

Outline of Course Structure & Content

This course is divided into Eight Modules. The following is a general breakdown of the modules and the major assignments:

Module	Assignments/Activities
Module 1: U.S. Constitution and Court System (1 Week) July 12 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text reading: Chapters 1-2 Quiz Short paper assignment: www.nh.gov review Discussion Board Activity
Module 2: Case Law (1 Week) July 19 - July 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text reading: Chapters 3 and 4 Lecture notes: How to brief a case Short paper assignment: Case brief Discussion Board Activity
Module 3: Legislatively Created Law (1 Week) July 26 - August 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture notes: Contract and Statutory construction Text reading: Chapters 7 and 8 Quiz Short Paper Discussion Board Activity
Module 4: Ethical decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text reading: Chapters 17, 18, and 20

(1 Week) August 2 - 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short paper assignment • Quiz • Discussion Board Activity
Module 5: Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (2 weeks) August 9 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture notes • Quiz • Film: A CIVIL ACTION • Short Paper • Discussion Board Activity
Module 6: Government regulation of employers (2 weeks) August 23 - September 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text reading: Chapters 21 and 22 • Short paper assignment • Quiz • Discussion Board Activity

Note: The content of this syllabus is subject to change as needed.

ADA

Granite State College will provide qualified individuals with disabilities the same educational opportunities available to persons without disabilities. When an individual's documented disability creates a barrier to educational opportunities, the College will attempt reasonable accommodation to remove the barrier. If you need assistance, it is important that you make contact early to ensure that your requests can be reviewed prior to the start of each term. If you wish to apply for accommodations, contact your academic advisor or the dean of learner services in the Administration Offices in Concord. See ADA in the college catalog for details.

Institutional Assessment

Assessment is an ongoing process that enables the College to improve its programs, courses, and teaching methods. Institutional evaluation may be embedded in tests, exams, and other measurements of student learning. As members of a learning community, students, faculty, and staff will be expected to participate in the important process of assessment on occasion. Confidentiality of any data that identify participants is maintained.

Technical Assistance

For assistance with accessing your course or with other technical issues regarding your online course, contact the [GSC Technical Assistance Center](http://bbresources.granite.edu/techassist/help.htm) (<http://bbresources.granite.edu/techassist/help.htm>) or call **1-888-372-4270** (Hours: M-F, 8:30-5:00, on weekends messages are checked daily).

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Syllabus



MGMT 625: Legal Issues in Business and Management

4 Credits CRN 30136

Spring Term 2008, April 5th - June 27th

Instructor: Marilyn McGair, Esq.

Email prior to April 5, 2008: mcgairlaw@comcast.net

Please contact me by course email after the course starts.

Last Updated: February 15 , 2008

Course Description

Overview

This course addresses the nature, functions, and operations of the legal system and how legal rules affect business operations. Learners examine the legal framework of laws, rules (e.g., Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002), health and safety regulations, and judicial opinions that have direct and profound impacts on managerial decision making and practice. Considerable emphasis is placed on the federal, state, and local regulations that directly impact business practice; consumer laws, labor and employment law, and the social and ethical environment of business policy and management practice.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Blackboard Orientations

There are no face-to-face sessions for this course. If you have never taken an Online Interactive Course (OIC) at the college, we highly recommend that you attend one of the [2-hour Blackboard Orientation sessions](#) available throughout the state. If you choose not to attend a face-to-face session, you are encouraged to view our new [Online Orientation with audio](#) at your own convenience.

Required Resources

Textbook:

Miller, R.L. and Jentz, G.A. **Business Law Today-The Essentials**, 7ed. Thomson West, 2006. ISBN: 0-324-20484-1

The textbook is available online at MBS Direct at: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/gsc.htm> (The course-CRN number for ordering this textbook is: 30136). Textbooks can also be purchased from MBS via phone, mail or fax. For additional information, visit the [Online Bookstore](#) section of the college web site.

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Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Identify legal issues inherent in business operations.
2. Analyze the legal complexities inherent in the practice of ethical business management.
3. Describe how an issue travels through the legal process of administrative hearings, trials, and appeals.

4. Explain the levels of the court system and their interaction with business and industry.
5. Recognize a challenge to their own rights by individuals or corporations, as well as by the government and identify the available means to assert and protect fundamental individual rights.
6. Distinguish the intent and effect of industry-specific legislation, e.g., mining, music, ecommerce, and the internet.
7. Explain how legislative changes at all levels (federal, state, and local) can affect business decision policy.
8. Apply their understanding of legal issues to managerial contexts and ethics-related business decisions.
9. Demonstrate critical insight into the ethical relationships among business, government, and society.
10. Distinguish between legal and ethical issues in business and identify practices that may be legal but unethical.

Major Assignments

Students will complete the following assignments in order to meet the learning objectives of the course:

Quizzes:

There will be a quiz in each of the Six Modules. The questions will be taken from the reading and are multiple-choice, short answer, and essay and are timed. The Quizzes are worth 40% of your grade.

Short Papers

There will also be a Short paper assigned in each Module based on topics in the text and from outside sources. These short papers may include case briefs, statute analysis, and news article summaries. Short papers are worth 40% of your grade.

Discussion Board

Participation means displaying knowledge of the reading material on a weekly basis. At the start of each module, I will post chapter-related discussion questions. You will be asked post your opinions, ideas, and reactions for others to see at his/her convenience. During the week, you are to respond to the postings of other students. The key to making this interaction meaningful is not how many times you post; it's the quality of your thinking and reflection that counts the most. Discussion Board Participation is worth 20% of your grade.

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Outline of Course Structure & Content

This course is divided into SIX ITwo Week Modules. The following is a general breakdown of the modules and the major assignments:

Module	Assignments/Activities
Module 1: U.S. Constitution and Court System (2 Weeks) April 5 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text reading: Chapters 1-2 • Quiz • Discussion Board Question • Short paper assignment: www.nh.gov review
Module 2: Case Law (2 weeks) Apri 19 - May 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text reading: Chapters 3 and 4 • Discussion Board Activity • Lecture notes: How to brief a case • Short paper assignment: Case brief • Quiz
Module 3: Legislatively Created Law (2 weeks) May 3 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture notes: Statutory construction • Discussion Board Activity • Text reading: Chapters 7, 8, and 11 • Quiz • Short Paper
Module 4: Ethical decision-making (2 weeks) May 17 - 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text reading: Chapters 13, 16, 17, 18 • Short paper assignment: news article summary • Discussion Board Activity • Quiz
Module 5: Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (2 weeks) May 31 – June 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Board Activity • Lecture notes: Contract law, Torts • Quiz • Short Paper • Short paper assignment: Negligence
Module 6: Government regulation of employers (2 weeks) June 14 - 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Board Activity • Short paper assignment: Employer regulation • Quiz

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