

Management and Organizational Studies 2275b

Canadian Business Law 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to Canadian business law, including tort law, contracts, property, employment, partnerships, corporations, debtor and creditor, bankruptcy and insolvency, sale of goods and consumer protection. Cases and current events are used to illustrate legal issues and to solve legal problems.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Enrolment restricted to BMOS or Honors Specialization in Urban Development or Technical Entrepreneurship Certificate (TEC) or the Honours Specialization or Specialization in Foods and Nutrition.

See below for additional information on prerequisites.

COURSE ANTIREQUISITES

Business Administration 4450A/B, Law 5210A/B, Law 5510 A/B.

INSTRUCTOR

James Zegers, BA, BEd, LLB
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Office Hours: Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

CLASS INFORMATION

Monday: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom: MRW 153

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify and analyze legal issues affecting businesses in Canada including tort law, contracts, property, employment, partnerships, corporations, debtor and creditor, bankruptcy and insolvency, sale of goods and consumer protection.
2. To apply their knowledge to business cases to consider the implication of legal issues in business situations.

COURSE MATERIALS

Legal Fundamentals for Canadian Business, 4th Edition
Richard A. Yates: Pearson, 2016

TEACHING METHODOLOGY & EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

Week 1 to 9 classes will be primarily lecture with class discussion and small group exercises. In week 10, after an in-class test, small groups will be assigned a case and will make an appointment with me during class time in week 11 or 12 to discuss the approach their group is taking to the case and consult with me. Weeks 11 and 12 will be devoted to small group work with instructor assistance as needed. Week 13 will be devoted to case presentations by small groups.

CLASS ETIQUETTE

Attendance

Attendance at all classes in this course is expected; however, circumstances may arise which make it impossible for you to attend. For this reason, students will be excused for up to two classes per term without requiring documentation to support the absence. For absences exceeding two classes in a given semester, I will require notification from the student's academic advisor that the absence was valid and supported with appropriate documentation. See point one of the Brescia University College Academic Policies and Regulations for further information.

Under University regulations, your instructor can determine at which point absenteeism has become excessive and approach the Dean who may prevent you from writing the final exam, thus preventing you from passing the course. At the discretion of the instructor, any student who misses more than 25% of scheduled classes will receive a class contribution grade of 0 out of 10 for the course.

Student Use of Technology in Class

Using your computer during class for personal activities is distracting for others, is not conducive to your own learning, and is disrespectful to the instructor. Texting in class will result in an immediate 0 in contribution for that class. To respect intellectual property and integrity of materials presented in class, phones cameras, and any other recording devices are not to be used in the classroom.

EVALUATION

Students must complete all elements of evaluation in order to receive a passing grade in the course. There will be no reweighting of components within the course. Please note that grades cannot be adjusted on the basis of need. Your mark in the course will be the mark that you earn based on your demonstrated understanding of the course content. Extra credit assignments are not available and tests and exams cannot be rewritten to obtain a higher mark. Once a student has written a test or examination she/he is committed to the mark earned.

Component	Timing	Weight
In class test – Chapters 1-5	February 3, 2015 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	30%
In class test – Chapters 6-10	March 16, 2015 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	30%
In class quizzes (best 5 of 7)	At the beginning of Monday's class	10%
Small group case presentation	Week 13	25%
Contribution	Every Class	5%

EVALUATION COMPONENT DESCRIPTIONS

Tests

The in-class tests will be multiple-choice, and will be based upon the text and material covered in class. The tests are closed book. Please refer to the "**POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES**" contained in the Brescia University College course addendum for academic policies and regulations with respect to makeup exams on the final pages of this outline.

In class-quizzes will be true/false and will be completed in class at the beginning of the Monday class. The quizzes are closed book. There are no make-up quizzes in the

event of illness or absence since only the top five quizzes will count towards the student's grade.

Case Presentations

Case studies for presentation will take the place of a final exam in this course. All cases will involve multiple areas of law. The purpose of the case study is to require students to demonstrate their understanding of the legal principals covered in the course and to apply this knowledge to a business situation.

Students will use analytical and problem solving skills. In small groups, students will analyze the situation presented in the business case, consider the legal issues it raises, consider what issues in the case go beyond purely legal issues and make recommendations for present and future actions as well as suggestions about how the situation could have been prevented. In other words, students will demonstrate their understanding of the application and implications for business of law. Each small group will present one case to the week 13.

Grading breakdown is as follows:

10 marks: Legal Analysis. Marks will be awarded for identifying legal issues raised by the case and analyzing risk for the parties based on the likely result if the matter were to be heard in court.

10 marks: Business Analysis: Marks will be awarded for identifying (1) a strategic response to the legal situation presented including potential settlement strategies flowing from the legal analysis; (2) future actions, and (3) what others can learn from the case in terms of as prevention or risk reduction measures.

5 marks: Continuity and Presentation: Factors to be considered are (1) Highlighting important facts; (2) drawing clear conclusions; (3) clear and easy to follow visual and spoken presentation (4) engaging the attention of the class; (5) adopting a cohesive approach and demonstrating that the small group worked as a collaborative team versus working as individuals assigned separate tasks.

Every student in the group will receive the same grade. Therefore, it is the group's responsibility to ensure that each member contributes to the preparation and presentation.

Contribution

Contribution by each and every student is a cornerstone of any effective learning experience. Active class involvement augments the learning experience, increases assimilation of material and stimulates the level of class discussion. Students' contribution to this course is initiated through thorough class preparation. Contribution is expected to be relevant to the current discussion and includes answering direct

questions, volunteering answers, advancing the discussion to a new issue, developing one side of an argument, clarifying difficult concepts and asking questions pertinent to the topic. Class contribution may also include assignments, hand-ins, group evaluations and prompt attendance. Just as important is listening attentively to your classmates and critiquing ideas constructively.

Contribution will be graded on a daily basis. Attending class is important but minimal credit will be given for attendance alone. Missed classes (outside of the two missed classes allowed per term) will negatively affect your contribution grade. Students are encouraged to speak to the instructor if they have concerns about their performance or if they would like to discuss strategies to support regular contribution.

ASSIGNED READINGS & TOPICS

<u>CLASS*</u>	<u>TOPIC*</u>	<u>READINGS:</u>
Week 1 January 4	Introduction and Overview The Canadian Legal System	Chapters 1
Week 2 January 11	Torts and Professional Liability	Chapter 2
Week 3 January 18	Contracts	Chapters 3, 4
Week 4 January 25	Legislation in the Marketplace	Chapter 5
Week 5 February 1	Review of chapters 1-5 TEST chapters 1-5	
Week 6 February 8	Agency and Employment	Chapter 6
February 15	Reading Week – no class	
Week 7 February 22	Methods of Carrying on Business	Chapter 7
Week 8 February 29	Property	Chapter 8
Week 9 March 7	Ideas and Information Electronic Commerce and International Trade	Chapters 9, 10

Week 10 March 14	Review of chapters 6-10 TEST chapters 6-10 Review of expectations for case assignments, assignment of cases to small groups, group work	
Week 11 March 21	Small group work on assigned cases and consultation with instructor	
Week 12 March 38	Small group work on assigned cases and consultation with instructor	
Week 13 April 4	Presentation of cases by groups	

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, a student is unable to complete a course component worth **greater than 10 per cent** of the final course grade, it is the responsibility of the student to consult with an Academic Advisor and follow the procedures documented in the “**POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES**” on the final pages of this outline.

For academic accommodation to be considered for any course component worth **less than 10 per cent** of the final course grade, it is the responsibility of the student to approach the course instructor(s) in a timely fashion. Documentation may be required to be submitted to the academic advisor. If documentation is required, the request for accommodation will be decided by the academic advisor in consultation with the instructor. If documentation is not required, the instructor will make the final decision. The policies governing requests for academic accommodation for course components worth 10 per cent or more of the course grade are outlined in the Academic Policies section included at the end of the course outline.

Dropping a Course

In order to drop your courses without academic penalty, you must drop the course by the following dates:

Full Course:	November 30
Fall Term Half Credit Course:	October 15

Winter Term Half Credit Course: February 15

For further details, check the online academic calendar in the registrar's website or check with your academic advisor.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg117.html>

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the

Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.html> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic