

Master Syllabus
College of Business & Economics, University of Hawaii at Hilo

BUS 240
Business Law

I. Catalog Description:

1. The law of contracts, agency and employment, and the elements of property and government regulation. Law of business organizations, with emphasis on partnerships and corporations and law of sales and commercial paper.
2. **Prerequisites:**
 - A. *Courses or Class Standing:* Sophomore standing.
 - B. *Justification:* Students entering this course need to have developed college-level study skills to the point of being able to master large volumes of detailed and precise information, most of which must be obtained through reading.

II. Course Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students should know or be able to:

1. Correctly *define* commonly-used legal terms with application to business.
2. *Distinguish* between enforceable and unenforceable contracts.
3. *Differentiate* between and *explain* the roles of the Federal and State Courts and Federal and State Regulatory Agencies in the regulation of business activities.
4. *Define* the various forms of business organization and *explain* the advantages of each.

Course Materials: Example materials would include Roszkowski, M. E., & Roszkowski, C. L. (2002). *Business law : principles, cases, and policy* (5th ed.). Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, or a similar text

III. Teaching Methods: Primarily through lecture and the discussion of reading materials.

IV. Evaluation Tools: Knowledge examinations.

V. Course Content:

1. **Typical major course topics will include:**
 - A. State & Federal Court System
 - B. Pleading, Discovery Rules, Evidence Rules, Appeals Courts, etc.
 - C. Contract Law- Common Law
 - a. Introduction- Definition of Terms
 - b. Mutual Assent (Offer and Acceptance)
 - c. Consideration
 - d. Legality
 - e. Capacity and Statute of Frauds
 - f. Mistakes and Frauds
 - g. Third Party Rights
 - h. Discharge and Performance
 - i. Remedies
 - D. Contract Law- Uniform Commercial Code
 - a. Introduction- Differences From Common Law

- b. Risk of Loss- Shipment and Destination Contracts
- c. Breach of Warranty (Implied)
- d. Strict Products Liability
- e. Performance
- f. Remedies
- E. Constitutional Law- Emphasis on Commerce Clause, 1st, 4th, & 5th Amendments
- F. Torts
- G. Crimes
- H. Principal- Agency Law
 - a. Nature and Definition of Terms
 - b. Respondeat Superior Liability
- I. Business Organizations
 - a. Comparison of Various Business Organizations for Various Purposes
 - b. Sole Proprietorships
 - c. Partnerships- General & Limited
 - d. Corporations
 - i. Nature and Classifications
 - ii. Formation
 - iii. Piercing the Corporate Veil
 - iv. Shareholders Rights and Responsibilities
 - v. Management
 - vi. Directors Rights and Responsibilities
 - vii. Issuing New Stock- Stock Watering
 - viii. Mergers and Consolidations
 - ix. Corporate Financing- Wall St.
 - x. Investor Protection

VI. Support of Program Learning Objectives

Program Learning Objective	Course Learning Objective(s) Supporting	Targeted Course Performance Level*	Possible Contributions to Program Assessment
Objective 1. Comprehend the fundamental principles of business administration	1,3, 4	I	Course embedded evaluation: multiple choice questions and problems; pre-post tests
Objective 2A. Communicate clearly, logically, and persuasively in Writing			Course embedded evaluation: multiple choice questions and problems; pre-post tests
Objective 2B. Communicate clearly, logically, and persuasively orally			Course embedded evaluation: multiple choice questions and problems; pre-post tests
Objective 3. Evaluate and analyze source information, subsequently draw conclusions, and present an argument based upon that analysis	2	I	Course embedded evaluation: multiple choice questions and problems; pre-post tests
Objective 4. Identify, analyze, and decide on courses of action to resolve complex, unstructured problems, using appropriate tools and technology			Course embedded evaluation: multiple choice questions and problems; pre-post tests
* I = Introduced, D = Developed & Practiced with Feedback, M = Demonstrated at the Mastery, Blank=Not Treated in this Course			

Definitions of Student Mastery Levels set performance levels that are somewhat parallel to Bloom's Taxonomy.

I = the student can identify examples (and non-examples) of the desired outcome, name the elements involved, and answer "objective, multiple-choice, fill-in-the blank" type of test questions showing awareness. (Objective tests are not necessarily simple, but they are most likely to be used at this introductory level.)

D = the student can describe, demonstrate or construct an example of the desired outcome but with guidance about each step. In some cases, the steps to learn the outcome may be spread among more than one course or activity within a course. Also included here is evaluation of existing examples of the outcome (pro's and con's, etc.) Essay questions and short projects would be used as evidence.

M = the student can demonstrate the outcome given a problem statement and appropriate data and tools. The student would need to synthesize skills learned previously in isolation. The skill demonstration would be sufficiently rigorous that an outside stakeholder (future employer) would be satisfied with it for an entry level position after graduation. Term papers, senior projects and research papers, senior portfolios, and capstone coursework would be used as evidence.