BLAW 200, Legal Environment of Business
Writing Intensive
3 Credits (CRN 61183)
Online

INSTRUCTOR: Douglas Raphael, MA, JD
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 7:00am – 8:00am (online)
TELEPHONE: (808) 451-2345 EMAIL: draphael@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2021

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide the Ko‘olau region of O‘ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

BLAW 200 is an introduction to the legal environment of business operations with particular attention to business law and ethics and to principles of law relating to contracts, agency, partnerships, and corporations. (3 hours lecture.)

Pre-Requisite(s): ENG 100

Co-Requisite(s): none

Recommended Preparation: none

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times: One mandatory conference with the instructor to be set at a mutually agreeable time between Week 5 and Week 10 of the semester.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of taking this course, students will be able to:

1. Summarize the American system of justice and jurisprudence, its evolution, and effectively use its concepts, terminology, and procedures.

2. Explain how laws are made, implemented, interpreted and enforced by the three branches of government at the national, state and local levels.
3. Examine, explain and apply basic principles of law, including contracts, torts, real and personal property, business organizations, agency, employment, products and consumer protection, environmental law, and anti-trust, etc.

4. Discuss how business and legal disputes arise and are avoided and/or resolved, including informal processes and alternative dispute resolution.

5. Participate in ethical decision-making, taking into account various legal, business and ethical approaches, philosophies and codes.

**WRITING INTENSIVE (WI)**

This is a Writing Intensive course. English 100 is a prerequisite before students take the two required WI courses for the Associate in Arts degree. Students transferring to some bachelor’s degree campuses in the UH system may bring two or three WI courses with them to count for the bachelor’s degree. The hallmarks of a writing intensive course are:

**W1.** The class uses writing to promote the learning of course materials.

**W2.** The class provides interaction between the instructor and students while students do assigned writing.

**W3.** Written assignments contribute significantly to each student’s course grade.

**W4.** The class requires students to do a substantial amount of writing—a minimum of 4,000 words, or about 16 pages.

**W5.** To allow for meaningful professor-student interaction on each student’s writing, the class is restricted to 20 students.

**MANDATORY CONFERENCE WITH INSTRUCTOR**

Students will be required to participate in at least one synchronous conference during the semester. For online courses, this means a conference through Zoom, phone, Skype, or any application that allows real time interaction. Email is an asynchronous platform and does not satisfy this requirement. During the conference, writing strengths and areas for continued focus and improvement will be discussed. Students will be required to make an appointment with the instructor after Week 5, but before Week 10, of the semester.

**COURSE CONTENT**

**Concepts or Topics**

- Law and Legal Reasoning
- Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Court Procedures
- Business and the Constitution
- Business Ethics
- Tort Law
- Strict Liability and Product Liability
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Criminal Law and Cyber Crime
- Nature and Terminology
- Agreement in Traditional and E-Contracts
- Consideration
- Capacity and Legality
- Mistakes, Fraud, and Voluntary Consent
- Third Party Rights
- Performance and Discharge
- Breach of Contract and Remedies
- The Formation of Sales and Lease Contracts
- Warranties
- Negotiable Instruments
- Secured Transactions
- Agency Formation and Duties
- Agency Liability and Termination
- Employment, Immigration, and Labor Law
- Employment Discrimination.
- Small Business and Franchises
- All Forms of Partnerships
- Limited Liability Companies and Special Business Forms
- Corporate Formation and Financing
- Corporate Directors, Officers, and Shareholders
- Administrative Law
- Consumer Law
- Environmental Protection
- Antitrust Law
- Personal Property and Bailments
- Real Property and Landlord-Tenant Law

**COURSE TASKS**

- **Quizzes** (400 points total - 100 points for each quiz). Students will complete four online open-book quizzes to assess their comprehension of course materials. **Quizzes will be due as part of Module #4, Module #8, Module #12, and Module #16.** Quizzes are timed (2 hours maximum per quiz) and are 50 questions in length. Each student will be allowed to take each quiz ONLY ONCE and there are no re-takes for quizzes. **Students who fail to take the quiz by the required date and time will receive a “zero” score on the quiz.**

- **Discussion Forum:** (120 points total - 30 points for each of the four discussions). Students will complete four discussion board assignments on selected topics from the course text. The purpose of these assignments is to facilitate open discussion of course topics between students in the class. For discussion boards, you will be required to post a response based on the prompt posted by your instructor. You will also be required to read and post responses to at least TWO of the posts from your fellow students. **Both your initial post and your responses MUST be completed by the deadline.** Your posts and responses will be graded based on effort, clarity, and accuracy. The topics for each discussion board will be posted on the course website. A link to the discussion topic may be found under the weekly modules. Students are asked to respond to assignment discussion topics with thoughtful commentary, incorporating readings and other class materials into their posting. Students are required to respond to at least two other posts by their classmates.

- **Writing Assignments** (480 points total). Students will complete sixteen one-page writing assignments during the semester. Each of the writing assignments will be submitted through Canvas. The writing assignments will be due each week on Sunday at 11:55PM. The topic for each week will be posted on Canvas.
ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Occurrences</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>4 x 30 points</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Writing Assignment (1 page each)</td>
<td>16 x 30 points</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>4 x 100 points</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
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Calculation of grade: The final letter grade for this course will be determined on the basis of the total number of points and will follow the normal University of Hawai‘i grading system. Thus, the letter grade is determined by the percentage of points accumulated, based on the following scale:

- A: 90%-100% (900 - 1000 points)
- B: 80%-89% (800 - 899 points)
- C: 70%-79% (700 - 799 points)
- D: 60%-69% (600 - 699 points)

Please note that “N” grades are not given for this course

Grades may be curved at the instructor’s discretion; however, the student should use the above grading scale to evaluate their performance throughout the class.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Required Textbook (OER - $0 Cost Textbook):

Title: Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment v. 1.0.

Publisher: Saylor Academy


Learning Management System: Canvas - [https://canvas.instructure.com/login/canvas](https://canvas.instructure.com/login/canvas)

News and Announcements: The Announcements Forum, linked under the Course Communication Center module on our course's home page, serves as a way for the instructor to make announcements within the virtual learning environment. All students are automatically subscribed to this forum and will receive a duplicate email of each message posted within it.

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**Discussion Forum:** The discussion forum will be used to answer discussion questions. There will be four discussions during the semester. You will be required to make at least one primary post and to provide substantial comments of at least two posts made by other students. All forums are public. Therefore, what is posted can be seen by all students in the course. If you want to send a private message, please use email.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Attendance and Class Preparation Policy**

This is an online class and students are expected to keep pace with module assignments. Students are required to complete reading and writing assignments by the posted deadlines, and interact with the instructor and other members of this online class using the delivery platform with professionalism. There will be **no make-up work.** As in real life, **no assignments will be accepted late.** In case of illness or other serious emergency, please provide documentation and notify the instructor by e-mail. **Students may not stop and restart the class.**

**Student Responsibilities**

The student is expected to view all lectures, participate in all course activities, and complete all examinations and course assignments **on-time.** Any changes in the course schedule, such as examination dates, deadlines, etc., will be announced ahead of time on the course website or by UH email. **Students should check their UH email address regularly (at least every 48 hrs.) so that they can be informed of course changes in a timely manner.** It is the student's responsibility to be informed of these changes. It is also the student's responsibility to be informed about deadlines critical to making registration changes (e.g., last day for making an official withdrawal).

**How to Succeed in This Class**

Please make sure to **read your textbook and take detailed notes.** Merely **reading** the chapter will not suffice. Courses at WCC generally require a minimum of three hours of independent study time for each hour in class. It is your responsibility to allocate the appropriate amount of time needed for study and be realistic about all personal and professional commitments that may cut into your study time.

**Netiquette**

The best possible experience in discussion forums and in e-mail exchanges occurs when respect is shown to all participants. When addressing other people on the discussion forums, think about the impact of your words and remember that unlike face-to-face communication, those you communicate with cannot see the expression on your face or hear the intonation in your voice.

Try to be brief and to the point. Answer questions, but do not get drawn into arguments. The discussion forum is not the place for political arguments or for discussion of inappropriate topics.

If you cite someone else’s ideas, make sure to give them credit.
Peer Feedback

Collaborative learning is a part of this course. Students are expected to provide quality feedback to their peers. Some of the ways that this can be done during the course include the following:

- Be nonjudgmental and provide specific examples if discussing the work of someone else.
- Cite examples from your own work or cite other research as a way to make your point.
- Make suggestions that are easy to understand and make sense. Suggest specific processes that a person might use to solve a particularly difficult problem.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disabilities Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at 808-235-7448, royinouy@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale ʻĀkoakoa 106 for more information.

SEX DISCRIMINATION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Kaahu Alo, Student Life Counselor & Designated Confidential* Advocate for Students
Phone: (808) 235-7354
Email: kaahualo@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale ʻĀkoakoa 232
*confidentiality is limited

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
Phone: (808) 235-7393
Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kākoʻo 101

Karla K. Silva-Park, Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7468
Email: karlas@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale ʻĀkoakoa 220

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your
case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University’s Title IX resources and the University’s Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Work submitted by a student must be the student’s own work. The work of others should be explicitly marked, such as thorough use of quotes or summarizing with reference to the original author.

In this class, students who commit academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism will have the following consequence(s): Students will receive a failing grade for plagiarized assignments. All cases of academic dishonesty are referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

**ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

Location: Alakai 121  
Phone: (808) 235-7422  
Email: wccaa@hawaii.edu

**Course Schedule**

*(Note: reading/writing assignments should be completed on the date listed in the course calendar.) This calendar is subject to change. Students are expected to make note of any changes made.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Orientation</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
<td>Syllabus review</td>
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<td>Course Introduction Video</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1 Module (January 11 - January 17)</td>
<td>Chapters 1 and 2</td>
<td>Read Chapter 1 and Chapter 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Complete the <em>Self-Test Questions</em> at the end of each chapter.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Submit Writing Assignment #1 before 11:55pm on January 17 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2 Module</td>
<td>Chapters 3 and 4</td>
<td>Read Chapter 3 and Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DUE: January 24 by 11:55pm</strong></td>
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<td>Complete the <em>Self-Test Questions</em> at the end of each chapter.</td>
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<td>Submit Writing Assignment #2 before 11:55pm on January 24 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)</td>
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<td><strong>Submit DISCUSSION #1 before 11:55pm on January 24</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3 Module</td>
<td>Chapters 5 and 6</td>
<td>Read Chapter 5 and Chapter 6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DUE: January 31 by 11:55pm</strong></td>
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<td>Complete the <em>Self-Test Questions</em> at the end of each chapter.</td>
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<td>Submit Writing Assignment #3 before 11:55pm on January 31 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4 Module</td>
<td>Chapters 7 and 8</td>
<td>Read Chapter 7 and Chapter 8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DUE: February 7 by 11:55pm</strong></td>
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<td>Complete the <em>Self-Test Questions</em> at the end of each chapter.</td>
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<td>Submit Writing Assignment #4 before 11:55pm on February 8 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)</td>
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<td><strong>Submit QUIZ #1 before 11:55pm on February 7 (50 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5 Module</td>
<td>Chapters 9 and 10</td>
<td>Read Chapter 9 and Chapter 10</td>
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<td><strong>DUE: Feb 14 by 11:55pm</strong></td>
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<td>Complete the <em>Self-Test Questions</em> at the end of each chapter.</td>
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<td>Submit Writing Assignment #5 before 11:55pm on Feb 14 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)</td>
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<th>Assignments</th>
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</table>
| Week 6 Module (February 15 - February 21) | Chapters 11 and 12 | Read Chapter 11 and Chapter 12  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #6 before 11:55pm on Feb 21 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)  
**Submit DISCUSSION #2 before 11:55pm on February 21** |
| Week 7 Module (February 22 – February 28) | Chapters 13 and 14 | Read Chapter 13 and Chapter 14  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #7 before 11:55pm on Feb 28 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format) |
| Week 8 Module (March 1 - March 7) | Chapters 15 and 16 | Read Chapter 15 and Chapter 16  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #8 before 11:55pm on March 5 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)  
**Submit QUIZ #2 before 11:55pm on March 7 (50 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)** |
| Week 9 Module (March 8 - March 14) | Chapters 17 and 18 | Read Chapter 17 and Chapter 18  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #9 before 11:55pm on March 14 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format) |

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<tr>
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<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Break (March 15 – March 21)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10 Module (March 22 - March 28)</td>
<td>Chapters 19 and 20</td>
<td>Read Chapter 19 and Chapter 20 Complete the Self-Test Questions at the end of each chapter. Submit Writing Assignment #10 before 11:55pm on March 28 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format) Submit DISCUSSION #3 before 11:55pm on March 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11 Module (March 29 - April 4)</td>
<td>Chapters 21 and 22</td>
<td>Read Chapter 21 and Chapter 22 Complete the Self-Test Questions at the end of each chapter. Submit Writing Assignment #11 before 11:55pm on April 4 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12 Module (April 5 - April 11)</td>
<td>Chapters 23 and 24</td>
<td>Read Chapter 23 and Chapter 24 Complete the Self-Test Questions at the end of each chapter. Submit Writing Assignment #12 before 11:55pm on April 11 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format) Submit QUIZ #3 before 11:55pm on April 11 (50 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13 Module (April 12 - April 18)</td>
<td>Chapters 25 and 26</td>
<td>Read Chapter 25 and Chapter 26 Complete the Self-Test Questions at the end of each chapter. Submit Writing Assignment #13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module</td>
<td>Topics</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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</table>
| Week 14 Module (April 19 - April 25) | Chapters 27 and 28 | Read Chapter 27 and Chapter 28  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #14 before 11:55pm on April 25 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)  
**Submit DISCUSSION #4 before 11:55pm on April 25** |
| Week 15 Module (April 26 - May 2) | Chapter 29 and 30 | Read Chapter 29 and Chapter 30  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #15 before 11:55pm on May 2 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format) |
| Week 16 Module (May 3 - May 14) | Chapter 31, 32, and 33 | Read Chapter 31, Chapter 32, and Chapter 33  
Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter.  
Submit Writing Assignment #16 before 11:55pm on May 14 (one page, double-spaced, formal essay format)  
**Submit QUIZ #4 before 11:55pm on May 14 (50 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)** |

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