UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I®
WINDWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BLAW 200, Legal Environment of Business
3 Credits (CRN 62065)
Online

INSTRUCTOR: Douglas Raphael, MA JD
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday 7:00am – 8:00am (online)
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EFFECTIVE DATE: SPRING 2024 (March 4 – May 3, 2024)

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): none

Co-Requisite(s): none

Recommended Preparation: A grade of C or higher in ENG 100

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times: None

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.

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 #2, Module #4, Module #6, and Module #8.** Quizzes are timed (2 hours maximum per quiz) and are 40 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.
- **Essays** (240 points total - 60 points for each of the four essays). Students will complete four essays during the semester. Each essay will be two pages in length (double spaced, 12-point font). The essays will be due **as part of Module #2, Module #4, Module #6, and Module #8.** The topic for each essay will be posted on Laulima.
- **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, students will be required to post a response based on the prompt posted by your instructor. Students will also be required to read and post responses to at least TWO of the posts from their classmates. Both your initial post and the responses MUST be completed by the deadline. Posts and responses will be graded

based on effort, clarity, and accuracy. Students are asked to respond to discussion topics with thoughtful commentary, incorporating readings and other class materials into their posting. The discussions will be due **as part of Module #1, Module #3, Module #5, and Module #7.**

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Assignment	Occurrences	Total Points
Discussion Board	4 x 30 points	120
Essays	4 x 60 points	240
Quizzes	4 x 100 points	400
Total		760

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% (684 - 760 points)

B: 80%-89% (608 - 683 points)

C: 70%-79% (532 - 607 points)

D: 60%-69% (456 - 531 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

Two Required Textbooks (OER - $0 Cost Textbooks):

Business Law Essentials I, Rice University, (OpenStax, 2021). ISBN-13: 978-1-947172-78-4 (Available at for free at: https://openstax.org/books/business-law-i-essentials/pages/1-introduction)

Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment, Creative Commons, (Saylor Academy, 2021) (Available for free at: https://saylordotorg.github.io/text_foundations-of-business-law-and-the-legal-environment/index.html)

Learning Management System: http://laulima.hawaii.edu

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.

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:

Leslie Cabingabang, Confidential Advocate
Phone/Text: (808) 348-0432 or (808) 341-4952
Email: advocate@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kākoʻo 107

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

Karen Cho, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7404
Email: kcho@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale ʻAlakaʻi 120

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.**

Module	Topics	Assignments
MODULE #1: (March 4 – March 10) **DUE: March 10 by 11:55pm**	Chapter 1 – American Law, Legal Reasoning, and the Legal System (OpenStax book) Chapter 2 – Disputes and Dispute Settlement (OpenStax book) Chapter 3 – Business Ethics and Social Responsibility (OpenStax book)	Read Chapter 1 – 3 (From OpenStax Book the links are on Laulima) Complete the *Assessment Questions* at the end of the chapter. **Submit DISCUSSION #1** (First post due by March 8. Two reply posts due by March 10. Please make sure to reply to the posts of at least two classmates.)

MODULE #2: (March 11 – March 17) **DUE: March 17 by 11:55pm**	Chapter 4 – Business and the United States Constitution (OpenStax book) Chapter 5 – Criminal Liability (OpenStax book) Chapter 6 – The Tort System (OpenStax book)	Read Chapter 4 – 6 (From OpenStax Book the links are on Laulima) Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of the chapters. **Submit ESSAY #1 before 11:55pm on March 17** (two pages, double-spaced, formal essay format) **Submit QUIZ #1 before 11:55pm on March 17** (40 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)
SPRING RECESS IS FROM MARCH 18 – 22, 2024 ENJOY YOUR TIME OFF!!		
MODULE #3: (March 25 – March 31) **DUE: March 31 by 11:55pm**	Chapter 7 – Contract Law (OpenStax book) Chapter 8 – Sales Contracts (OpenStax book) Chapter 9 – Employment and Labor Law (OpenStax book)	Read Chapter 7 – 9 (From OpenStax Book the links are on Laulima) Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of the chapters. **Submit DISCUSSION #2** (First post due by March 29. Two reply posts due by March 31. Please make sure to reply to the posts of at least two classmates.)

MODULE #4: (April 1 – April 7) **DUE: April 7 by 11:55pm**	Chapter 14 - **Relationships between Principal and Agent** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* Chapter 15: **Liability of Principal and Agent; Termination of Agency** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)*	Read Chapter 14 (Foundations of Business Law) and Chapter 15 (Foundations of Business Law) Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter. **Submit ESSAY #2 before 11:55pm on April 7** (two pages, double-spaced, formal essay format **Submit QUIZ #2 before 11:55pm on April 7 (40 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)**
MODULE #5: (April 8 – April 14) **DUE: April 14 by 11:55pm**	**Chapter 18: Partnerships: General Characteristics and Formation** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* **Chapter 19: Partnership Operation and Termination** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* **Chapter 20: Hybrid Business Forms** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)*	Read Chapters 18, 19 and 20 *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter. **Submit DISCUSSION #3** (First post due by April 12. Two reply posts due by April 14. Please make sure to reply to the posts of at least two classmates.)

MODULE #6: (April 15 – April 21) **DUE: April 21 by 11:55pm**	**Chapter 21: Corporation: General Characteristics and Formation** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* Chapter 10 – Government Regulation (OpenStax book) Chapter 11 – Antitrust Law (OpenStax)	Read Chapter 21 *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* and Chapter 10 & 11 from OpenStax Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter. **Submit ESSAY #3 before 11:55pm on April 21** (two pages, double-spaced, formal essay format **Submit QUIZ #3 before 11:55pm on April 21 (40 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)**
MODULE #7: (April 22 – April 28) **DUE: April 28 by 11:55pm**	Chapter 12 – Unfair Trade Practices and the Federal Trade Commission (OpenStax) Chapter 13 – International Law (OpenStax)	Read Chapters 12 & 13 (OpenStax) Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter. **Submit DISCUSSION #4** (First post due by April 26. Two reply posts due by April 28. Please make sure to reply to the posts of at least two classmates.)
MODULE #8: (April 29 – May 3) **DUE: May 3 by 11:55pm**	Chapter 14 – Securities Regulation (Open Stax) **Chapter 29: Introduction to Property: Personal Property and Fixtures** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* **Chapter 31: The Transfer of Real Estate by Sale** *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)*	Read Chapter 14 (OpenStax) and Chapters 29 and 31 *(from: **Foundations of Business Law and the Legal Environment**...Link provided on Laulima)* Complete the *Self-Test Questions* at the end of each chapter. **Submit ESSAY #4 before 11:55pm on May 3** (two pages, double-spaced, formal essay format **Submit QUIZ #4 before 11:55pm on May 3 (40 questions, 2-hours maximum, 1 attempt, open book, open notes)**