



## **MGMT 215 – Legal Environment of Business**

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Semester	: Summer 2020 (July 6 2020 - August 7, 2020)
Credit	: 4
Teaching Hours	: 50 Hours
Location	: Online
Professor Name	: William Davis
E-mail	: wdavis1@framingham.edu

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Legal Environment of Business is a study of the interrelationships among business, government, and society as reflected in the legal system in which firms operate. In addition to examining specific laws and legal issues, such as business transactions, employer-employee relations, government regulation and consumer law, students become familiar with the ways in which laws develop and change. Concepts are discussed using common language and with a strong focus on practical applications.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Students will develop an understanding of the law and appropriate legal resources.
- Students will become knowledgeable about the body of law that impacts business and will be able to utilize the relevant body of law to analyze and resolve issues.
- Students will develop analytical and decision-making skills to be applied in a business setting.

Please note that This is a management course, not a law school offering. The purpose of the course is to provide students with an awareness of the legal and regulatory issues that arise in business. The course is NOT designed to provide or constitute legal training or advice.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

None.

### **TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

#### **TEXTBOOK**

MindTap access for Cross & Miller, The Legal Environment of Business, 11th Edition (ISBN-



13:978-0-357-12976-0), published by Cengage Learning, and other readings as assigned and posted on Blackboard.

MindTap is a web-based management, assignment and assessment platform designed by Cengage to provide online content, grading, and a learning support system. Once you have purchased MindTap and logged in, you will have access to

- (1) the textbook content in the form of an eBook;
- (2) mandatory online assignments;
- (3) other tools to assist you in your reading comprehension; and
- (4) the ability to download the MindTap app to your phone or tablet to access the ebook there. Students are required to use MindTap, as assignments and exams are only available through this online portal.

These are the procedures for logging into MindTap:

- If you are a new user, you can create your account and register for MindTap using the following link:  
<https://www.cengage.com/dashboard/#/course-confirmation/MTPQPFMN7M8L/initial-course-confirmation>
- The purchase option that you should choose is called Cengage Unlimited, which provides access to all Cengage courses, content and ebooks for the semester. You will also be able to request a print rental for the semester.
- If you already have a Cengage Unlimited subscription, you can just log in with your credentials and you will have full access.
- If you are already logged into [www.cengage.com](http://www.cengage.com) and are asked for a course key, you can use MTPQPFMN7M8L.
- This is a link to a video that shows how to register: <https://www.cengage.com/student-training/mindtap/not-integrated/ia-no/>

Once you subscribe, you can opt for a print rental or you can purchase a prorated copy of the looseleaf version of the text. There is also an option available in the bookstore that includes the looseleaf copy of the text and MindTap.

It is the student's responsibility to manage MindTap access. Absent a system-wide problem that affects the entire class, MindTap assignments will not be excused due to access problems. If you are having trouble, contact Cengage Student Support at 800-354-9706.



## **TEACHING METHODOLOGY**

Lectures will be held during scheduled meeting times via Blackboard Collaborate. Lectures will be recorded and will be made available via Blackboard for students who cannot attend scheduled classes. PowerPoint slides used during lectures will also be posted to Blackboard. See next section for access information.

## **ACCESS TO BLACKBOARD**

Please refer to the Blackboard Collaborate Quick Start Guide for detailed instructions on how to use Collaborate. Our class will “meet” in Collaborate, where a dedicated session has been established for our use. It is in this session where we will meet via video conference, hold lectures and conversations, view PowerPoint presentations, and access recorded lectures.

At a high level, the instructions for entering our session are as follows:

1. go to Blackboard
2. log into our course
3. click Course Tools on the left
4. find Blackboard Collaborate Ultra among the icons and click
5. once you're in Collaborate, click the name of our course
6. click Join Session for a regular class meeting, or
7. click the "hamburger menu" at the top left of the Collaborate screen, then click Recordings, to view a recording of a particular class meeting

The Quick Start Guide provides more detail, and it makes the point that the Firefox or Chrome browsers are preferred. Safari seems to work just fine.

Note that the professor is not in charge of or even capable of solving technical issues or troubleshooting Blackboard and/or other online materials. The Blackboard Support phone number is 844-718-1602.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Should the instructor need to contact the class outside class hours, he will do so by email initiated through Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that email addresses in Blackboard are accurate. Note that Blackboard is particular about what email address it will recognize. There have been many problems with students who use a Gmail or QQ Mail address. To be safe, students are required to use an email address issued by FSU or their home institution. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that his/her email address is properly recorded in Blackboard.

## **GRADING**

Course grades will be determined as follows:



Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	20%
Attendance	20%
Homework assignments	20%

## **Exams**

Exams are not cumulative per-se but there will be concepts covered in earlier class sessions that serve as a foundation for future topics.

Exams will only be rescheduled for absences due to documented medical reasons; a simple note indicating that you were seen at the health center is not considered sufficient documentation. Regular exams are open-book and use the multiple-choice format. In the extremely rare case that a makeup exam must be administered, it will be closed-book in the essay format.

Exams will be conducted online and will be available only during regularly scheduled class periods (10 AM – 12 PM EDST).

## **Attendance**

Attendance will be taken every class period and used to calculate this element of the final grade. Every student is asked to make arrangements to attend the first class “live” regardless of where s/he is in the world. Beyond the first class, attendance credit will be given to students who do not attend “live” but do view the recorded class meeting in Blackboard.

## **Homework Assignments**

Every chapter has a set of online assignments in MindTap. These assignments are intended to ensure that you read and practice the material in the chapter and serve as very good preparation for the exams.

Homework due dates are programmed into MindTap and no late submissions can be accepted.

## **Breaking News**

We will begin every class meeting with a discussion of current events, or “Breaking News.” Each 4 student will be assigned two dates on which s/he will be expected to participate in a conversation with the professor about a topic the student has chosen. This is not hard; you can go to the New York Times online at [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com) and pick any of a number of articles from the front page alone that have something to do with business law. You should read it and be prepared to summarize it at a high level during class. Each of these two assignments will count as a homework assignment.



**Extra Credit**

No extra credit is available for any aspect of this class.

**Grading Scale**

Points	Value	Scale	Points	Value	Scale	Points	Value	Scale
95-100	4.0	A	80-82	2.7	B-	67-69	1.3	D+
90-94	3.7	A-	77-79	2.3	C+	63-66	1.0	D+
87-89	3.3	B+	73-76	2.0	C	60-62	0.7	D-
83-86	3.0	B	70- 72	1.7	C-	below 59	0.0	F

**SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Framingham State University offers equal opportunities to all qualified students, including those with disabilities and impairments. The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations as are necessary to ensure that its programs and activities do not discriminate, or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of disability. Academic Support serves students with learning and psychiatric disabilities as well as students with visual, mobility and hearing impairments.

Academic Support works to provide reasonable accommodations to qualified students. The purpose of accommodations, modification, and/or auxiliary aids is to reduce or eliminate any disadvantages that may exist because of a disability. Framingham State University is not mandated by law to waive specific courses or academic requirements considered essential to a particular program or degree. Rather, the University is mandated to modify existing requirements on a case-by-case basis to ensure that individuals are not discriminated against because of their disability.

For further information, please contact LaDonna Bridges at 508-626-4906 or [lbridges@framingham.edu](mailto:lbridges@framingham.edu).

**FSU NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Framingham State does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, age, disability, or veteran status in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Erin Nechipurenko  
Director of Human Resources  
Designated Coordinator for Title IX (Employees), Section 504 and Title II of the ADA Office of Human Resources, Dwight Hall Room 207  
Framingham State University



100 State Street, Framingham, MA 01701  
(508) 626-4530

## **GENERAL CLASS POLICIES**

### **1) Student Conduct**

Framingham State University has established rules and regulations that all students are expected to follow. Students have a right to expect enforcement of these rules and regulations. The University also has the right to expect students to abide by these regulations in a manner that benefits the responsibilities given to students as members of the University community. Knowledge of these rules and regulations can prove beneficial to students in utilizing and protecting their rights. Lack of familiarity with institutional rules or regulations is not grounds for excusing infractions. For all the details on Students' Code of Conduct please visit: [Ram handbook](#).

### **2) Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to adhere to the academic honesty policy of the University, and all work is expected to be original with footnotes, bibliography, and appropriate references to quoted materials.

Framingham State University is committed to maintaining high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. Academic honesty requires but is not limited to the following practices: appropriately citing all published and unpublished sources, whether quoted, paraphrased, or otherwise expressed, in all students' oral, written, technical, and artistic work; and observing the policies regarding the use of technical facilities.

Academic honesty also requires:

- Not cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, papers, etc.
- No plagiarism: plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal.
- No unauthorized collaboration, use of dishonest practices, etc.
- Not submitting the same assignment in more than one course.

For further detail, consult the Framingham State University web site: [Academic honesty policy](#). Another source for further details can be found in the student's handbook: [Ram handbook](#).

### **3) Honor Code**

Class members are encouraged to study and prepare together for most aspects of the course, but where individual effort is expected, it must be unique for each person and without consultation (including online exams). Your written projects are to be written by you and the final written product must be entirely your own work. If you engage in any form of cheating such as (but not limited to) copying someone else's answers, plagiarizing (if you're unsure what constitutes plagiarism, refer to the student manual), having someone else write or prepare an assignment for you in part or in whole, buying a paper, etc., you



will be referred to the Dean of Students. This could result in the grade of F for the entire course.

Papers and assignments are due at the beginning of the class period for which they are assigned. No papers will be accepted after the beginning of the class period, and any material submitted after that will receive a “0”. Students are responsible for making sure all assignments are turned in on time.

A cordial, respectful and professional relationship is expected not only between instructor and student but also among students. Constructive criticism and dialogue is encouraged but must always be communicated in a respectful and collegial manner.

#### **4) Use of Electronic Devices**

Please turn off your cell phones and other mobile devices before entering class — do not simply put them on silent or vibrate mode. Absolutely no use of phones will be tolerated. If you are dealing with an emergency situation, let the instructor know before the class begins.

#### **5) Food**

Students are welcome to bring beverages and light snacks to class, provided the packaging is not disruptive.

### **SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

Please see document by this name posted to Blackboard.