

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**  
**Faculty of Social Science**  
**Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies Program**  
**MOS 2275B (001)**  
**BUSINESS LAW I**

**Course Outline: January – April, 2011**

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**FACULTY:** Instructor: Cristin A. Keller, BSBA, MBA, LLB  
Office: SSC Room 2250  
Office Hours: 5:15 p.m. – 5:50 p.m. Wednesday or by  
appointment  
Telephone: 519.852.0114 (cell)  
Email: ckeller@london.ca

**CLASSES:** Day/Time: Wednesday 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Location: SSC 3018

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

An introduction to the field of business (commercial) law with emphasis on the principal features of Canada's legal system, the law of torts, the law of contract, and four special contractual relationships: the employment relationship, labour law, the sale of goods, and consumer protection.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. To develop an understanding of Canadian business law and general legal principles as they apply to business.
2. To be able to identify and analyze legal problems and issues as they relate to business.
3. To understand various legal relationships found in the business environment.
4. To understand various different types of business contracts.
5. To familiarize students with legal issues including torts, negligence, contracts, forms of business organization, property, debtor and creditor, labour and employment, intellectual property, e-business and dispute resolution.

**PREREQUISITE(S):**

This course is restricted to BMOS and MAS Programs, Honours Geography (Urban Development) or Technical Entrepreneurship Certificate (TEC) and Diploma in Labour Relations

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this 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.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Business Law in Canada, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Richard A. Yates, Teresa Bereznicki-Korol, Trevor Clarke  
Pearson Prentice Hall

**READINGS:**

You should read and are responsible for all assigned readings as well as material distributed and discussed in class.

**EVALUATION:**

You will be evaluated on the basis of two midterm tests (30% each) and a final exam (40%). There will be no re-weighting of exams. If you fail to write a midterm test and/or a final exam on the scheduled date or on an approved makeup date, you will receive a mark of zero.

Midterm exam #1 will be written on Wednesday, February 2, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend this exam and have been granted permission by the Social Science Academic Counseling Office to write a makeup exam (see procedure below), the makeup exam will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Midterm exam #2 will be written on Saturday, March 12, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend this exam and have been granted permission by the Social Science Academic Counseling Office to write a makeup exam (see procedure below), the makeup exam will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The final exam will be held during the final exam period April 10 – 30, 2011.

Exams will be multiple-choice and closed-book. No electronic devices or other aids will be allowed at the exams.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:**

There is not a class participation mark for this course. However, the course will be much more interesting and enjoyable if you read the material in advance and come to class prepared with questions, comments and opinions. Disagreeing with me and offering counter arguments is both welcomed and encouraged. (I love a good debate!)

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain the notes/handouts for that class.

**ACADEMIC OFFENCES:**

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.

Please review the university policy about scholastic offenses in the Academic Handbook (issued 2008 09) at:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

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**ASSIGNED READINGS AND CLASS TOPICS**

<u>Week/Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
1 January 5	General Introduction	Chapter 1
2 January 12	The Legal System and the Resolution of Disputes	Chapters 2 and 3
3 January 19	Tort Law and Professional Liability	Chapters 4 and 5
4 January 26	Tort Law and Professional Liability	Chapters 4 and 5
Wednesday, February 2 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	<b>MIDTERM EXAM #1 (30%)</b> <b>Room To Be Determined</b> The make-up date for Exam #1 will be Saturday, February 5 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b>Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5</b>
6 February 9	Contracts I – The Formation of Contracts	Chapters 6 and 7
7 February 16	Contracts II – Factors Affecting the Contractual Relationship	Chapters 8 and 9
<b>8 February 23</b>	<b>Reading Week – No Class</b>	
9 March 2	Agency, Methods of Carrying on Business I	Chapters 11 and 12
10 March 9	Methods of Carrying on Business II - Sole Proprietorships, Partnerships and Corporations	Chapters 11 and 12

<p>Saturday, March 12 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>MIDTERM EXAM #2 (30%)</b>  <b>Room To Be Determined</b>  The make-up date for Exam #2 will be Saturday, March 19 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12</p>
<p>10 March 16</p>	<p>Sale of Goods, Consumer Protection, Debtor and Creditor Law</p>	<p>Chapters 15 and 16</p>
<p>11 March 23</p>	<p>Employment Law</p>	<p>Chapter 10</p>
<p>12 March 30</p>	<p>Real, Personal and Intellectual Property</p>	<p>Chapter 13</p>
<p>13 April 6</p>	<p>Information Technology and the Internet</p>	<p>Chapter 14</p>
<p>Final Exam Period: April 10 - 30</p>	<p>FINAL EXAM (40%)</p>	<p>Chapters 1 – 16</p>

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, you are unable to meet your academic responsibilities, i.e., unable to write term tests or final examinations or complete course work by the due date, you should follow the instructions listed below. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic accommodation will be considered. Read the instructions carefully. In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination, test or assignment.

1. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance. The course outline should include the preferred method of contact (e-mail, phone, etc.).
2. Inform the instructor prior to the date of the scheduled time of the test or examination or due date of the assignment. If you are unable to contact the instructor, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
3. Bring your request for accommodation to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office, Room 2105, Social Science Centre, telephone 519 661-2011 or fax 519 661-3384. Be prepared to submit documentation of your difficulties.
4. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

## **TERM TESTS and MID-TERM EXAMS**

1. If you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor (preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test). If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
2. Be prepared, if requested by the instructor, to provide supporting documentation. Submit your documentation to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office.
3. Make arrangements with your professor to reschedule the test.
4. The Academic Counselling Office will contact your instructor to confirm your documentation.

## **FINAL EXAMINATIONS**

1. You require the permission of the Dean, the instructor, and the Chair of the department in question to write a special final examination.
2. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Social Science Academic Counselling Office in the first instance to request permission to write a special final examination and to obtain the necessary form. You must also contact your instructor at this time. If your instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
3. Be prepared to provide the Social Science Academic Counselling Office and your instructor with supporting documentation.
4. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Chair and that the form is returned to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office for approval without delay.

## **LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

1. Advise the instructor if you are having problems completing the assignment on time (prior to the due date of the assignment).
2. Submit documentation to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office.
3. If you are granted an extension, establish a due date.
4. Extensions beyond the end of classes must have the consent of the instructor, the Department Chair and Dean. A Recommendation of Incomplete form must be filled out indicating the work to be completed and the date by which it is due. This form must be signed by the student, the instructor, the Department Chair, and the Dean's representative in the Academic Counselling Office.

### **SHORT ABSENCES**

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines 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.

### **EXTENDED ABSENCES**

If you are absent more than approximately two weeks or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. This must be done by the appropriate deadlines. (Refer to the Registrar's website for official dates.) The Social Science Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed of your difficulties.

### **DOCUMENTATION**

- Personal Illness: If you consulted Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should complete a Records Release Form at the time of your visit allowing them to notify Social Science Academic Counselling Office. Once your documentation has been assessed, the academic counsellor will inform your instructor that academic accommodation is warranted.
- If you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The doctor must provide verification of the severity of the illness for the period in question. Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.
- In Case of Serious Illness of a Family Member: Obtain a medical certificate from the family member's physician.
- In Case of a Death: Obtain a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director.
- For Other Extenuating Circumstances: If you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask an Academic Counsellor.

**Note:** Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offense and you will be subject to academic sanctions.

### **ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

- You need to know if your instructor has a policy on late penalties, missed tests, etc. This information may be included on the course outline. If not, ask your instructor.
- You should also be aware of attendance requirements in courses such as Business and English. You can be debarred from writing the final examination if your attendance is not satisfactory.
- If you are in academic difficulty, check the minimum requirements for progression in your program. If in doubt, see your Academic Counsellor.
- If you are registered in Social Science courses but registered in another faculty (e.g., Arts or Science), you should immediately consult the Academic Counselling Office in your home faculty for instructions.