

**MOS 2275A Canadian Business Law**  
**Course Outline:** Section – 650 / Fall 2012 Term

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**1. Course Information:**

**1.1. Class Location and Time:**

Not applicable – course is online

**1.2. Faculty:**

**Instructor:** James Hildebrand, LL.B. M.A.

**Office:** SSC

**E-Mail:** [jfhildeb@uwo.ca](mailto:jfhildeb@uwo.ca)

DAN Management and Organizational Studies strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2111 ext 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. More information about “Accessibility at Western” is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

**2. 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.

Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will 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.”

**3. Textbook**

**Willes, John A., Contemporary Canadian Business Law: Principles and Cases, 10th Edition, McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited: Toronto, 2011.**

**4. Course Objectives and Format**

**4.1.1.** To develop an understanding of Canadian business law and general legal principles

as they apply to business.

- 4.1.2. To be able to identify and analyze legal problems and issues as they relate to business.
- 4.1.3. To understand various legal relationships found in the business environment.
- 4.1.4. To understand various different types of business contracts.
- 4.1.5. 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.

## 5. Evaluation

Exam #	Percentage of Course Grade
1	45%
2	55%

Exams are **multiple choice in format**. The two exams will be **two hours**, and **consist of 50 questions**. All exams are **closed book examinations**. **Dictionaries are NOT allowed into the examinations**.

### READINGS:

Students should read and are responsible for all assigned readings. Additional material may be given to students, including contracts and other legal documents, but students are not responsible for that supplementary material unless specifically stated otherwise by the instructor.

Students are **REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ALL COMPONENTS** of this course. There are no exceptions to this. Extra assignments to improve grades will **NOT** be allowed.

Exams will be scored using the program Scan Exam which examines the answer sheets for unusual coincidences in the pattern of answers given which may be indicative and used as supporting evidence of cheating.

Grades will **not** be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course.

*Remember: You are responsible for your grades in this course*

## 6. Lecture and Examination Schedule

See last page for schedule

## 7. University Policy Regarding Illness

## 7.1. Illness

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, **in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation supplied (see below for process) indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.**

**Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean's office (the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration/home Faculty) together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested.** These documents will be retained in the student's file, and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy [<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/general/privacy.pdf>].

**Once the petition and supporting documents have been received and assessed, appropriate academic accommodation shall be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s).** Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty.

**Academic accommodation shall be granted only where the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete his/her academic responsibilities. (Note: it will not be sufficient to provide documentation indicating simply that the student was seen for a medical reason or was ill.)**

**A form to be completed by off-campus physicians is available at:**

**<http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/forms/medicalNote.pdf>**

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation **in advance of due dates, examinations**, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

In the case of a final examination in the course, the student must arrange for a Special Examination or Incomplete through their Dean's office, for which you will be required to provide acceptable documentation.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and the Faculty Academic Counselling Office as

soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered.

## **7.2. Make Up Examinations**

7.2.1. The student must write a make-up exam if the regularly scheduled exam is missed for reasons for which adequate documentation is received by the instructor (this documentation must be supplied by the Academic Counseling office).

## **8. University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct**

8.1. Cheating on exams will not be tolerated; students are referred to the university policy on scholastic offenses (see section 9.0 below). Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, or obtaining information about a test in advance are all examples of cheating. Students found cheating will receive a zero (0%) on that exam. A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, examination supervisors (proctors) of the tests may ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students' papers, remove baseball caps, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront nor as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring. A copy of guidelines about how to avoid cheating can be obtained from the office of the Ombudsperson, Room 251 University Community Centre, (519) 661-3573.

8.2. Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offenses in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offenses include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse.

8.3. The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offense include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

## **9. Procedures For Appealing Academic Evaluations**

9.1. In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation). If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Assistant Program Director or Designate of the BMOS program. If the response of the Assistant Director is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course of program was taken. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean,

may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office.

## **10. Student Responsibilities**

**10.1.** Material covered in lectures will not always be the same as material covered in the textbook. These two sources should be viewed as complimentary and not redundant. As such, students who want to do well in this course are **strongly encouraged** to attend lectures on a regular basis. Please note that the instructor will not be providing copies of lectures notes. Therefore, if you miss a lecture, you should try to obtain this material from another student. I will be providing access to the power points used in class.

In this class, some students may be unaware that their private discussions are distracting to other people. If you feel that students are distracting your attention from the material, then you should ask them to be quiet. If you feel uncomfortable doing this (or the problem persists), then please see the instructor. In addition, please avoid engaging in private discussions with other students during the lectures.

To avoid unnecessary distractions, please arrive to each class on time.

## **11. Support Services**

### **11.1. Support Services**

The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca> Student Support Services (*including the services provided by the USC listed here*) can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/services/> Student Development Services can be reached at: .

**11.2.** Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”

## **12. Other Issues**

### **12.1. Grade Policy**

The DAN Program has a grade policy which states that for courses in the 1000-2999 range, the class average must fall between 65-70% for all sections of a course taught by the same instructor. In very exceptional circumstances only, class averages outside this range may be approved by the Assistant Director or Director. Class averages are not grounds for appeal.

### **12.2. Short Absences.**

If you miss a class due to minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or exam. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow the missed lectures notes from a classmate.

### **12.3. 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.

The Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed about your difficulties.

#### **12.4. Academic Concerns.**

If you are in academic difficulty, it is strongly recommended that you see your academic counsellor.

#### **12.5. Important Dates:**

September 6, 2012 Fall Term classes begin.

September 14, 2012 Last day to add a full course or a first-term half course

November 5, 2012 Last day to drop a first-term half course without academic penalty

November 30, 2012 Last day to drop a full course without academic penalty

December 5, 2012 Fall Session classes end

December 6, 7, 2012 Study Days

December 8-19 Mid-year examination period

#### **13. Other Information**

- Bring student identification to exams.
- Nothing is to be on/at one's desk during an exam except a pencil, an eraser, and the individual's student card
- Do not wear baseball caps to exams
- Do not bring music players, cell phones, beepers, or other electronic devices to exams

**For The University of Western Ontario Senate Regulations, please see the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy at: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>**

**The University of Western Ontario**  
**Management and Organizational Studies 2275A – Section 650**  
**CANADIAN BUSINESS LAW**

**ASSIGNED READINGS AND CLASS TOPICS (Willes 10<sup>th</sup> Edition)**

<b><i>DATE:</i></b>	<b><i>TOPIC:</i></b>	<b><i>ASSIGNED READING</i></b>
Sept 10	Introduction to law	Ch 1,2
Sept 17	The Law of Torts	Ch 4, 5, 6
Sept 24	The Law of Contract, Intro, Consideration	Ch 7,8
Oct 1	The Law of Contract, Capacity, Writing	Ch 9,10
Oct 8	The Law of Contract, Failure to contract, Privity	Ch 11, 12
Oct 15	The Law of Contract, Performance, Breach of Contract	Ch 13, 14
Oct 20	<b><i>MIDTERM TEST 45%</i></b>	
Oct 22	Agency	Ch 15
Oct 29	Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Corporation Law	Ch 16, 17
Nov 5	Employment law, Labour law	Ch 19, 20
Nov 12	Sale of Goods, Consumer protection	Ch 22, 28
Nov 19	Real Property, Mortgages	Ch 23, 24
Nov 26	Security for debt	Ch 30