BUSINESS LAW

Business Law
College of Business
Department of Accounting and Business Law
150 Morris Hall • 507-389-2965

Chair: M. Rolfs
P. Herickhoff, JD, G. Holmes, JD, D. Levin, JD; V. Luoma, JD

POLICIES/INFORMATION


Students who are business minors, non-business majors or those who are not seeking a four year degree may take up to 24 credits in the College of Business.

GPA Policy. Students must earn a minimum grade point average of 2.0 (“C”) on the total courses taken in the College of Business to meet graduation requirements.

Residency. Transfer students pursuing a minor in the College of Business must complete at least 50% (one-half) of their minor coursework at Minnesota State Mankato.

College of Business Laptop Program. Students enrolled in College of Business courses numbered 200 and above are required to have a notebook computer. The College highly recommends that students purchase their COB laptop at the Campus Computer Store allowing them to utilize the full range of benefits of the Laptop Program. Students choosing not to purchase the recommended laptop must have their laptop inspected to be sure that it meets a minimum standard specification requirement and take responsibility for keeping said laptop in operational order at all times. Students using a non-recommended laptop are eligible for only a limited number of the full array of benefits offered by the Laptop Program. For further information, please refer to the College of Business section at the front of this bulletin or visit the College website at www.cob.mnsu.edu.

Assessment Policy. The College of Business believes that the ongoing assessment of its programs makes a vital contribution to the quality of those programs and to student learning. Student Participation is an important and expected part of the assessment process.

BUSINESS LAW MINOR

Required for Minor (Core 15 credits)
ACCT 200  Financial Accounting (3)
BLAW 200  Legal, Political and Regulatory Environment of Business (3)
BLAW 450  Contracts, Sales and Professional Responsibility (3)
BLAW 452  Employment and Labor Law (3)
IT  101  Introduction to Information Systems (3)

Required Electives (6 credits)
(Choose two of the following)
BLAW 371  Computer and Technology Law (3)
BLAW 453  International Legal Environment of Business (3)
BLAW 455  Legal Aspects of Banking and Finance (3)
BLAW 474  Environmental Regulation and Land Use (3)
BLAW 476  Construction and Design Law (3)
BLAW 477  Negotiation and Conflict Resolution (3)
BLAW 483  Special Topics (3)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BLAW 131 (3) Consumer Law & Ethics
A survey of the law and ethics governing marriage, family, car ownership and insurance; civil rights (fair credit, fair housing, and equal employment opportunity); planning for illness and death; court procedures and alternative dispute resolution methods; jury service; the landlord-tenant relationship; and the rights of victims and people accused of crimes.
Fall, Spring
GE-9

BLAW 200 (3) Legal, Political, and Regulatory Environment of Business
The American court system; alternative dispute resolution; ethics and the social responsibility of business; the relationship between common law, statutory law and regulatory law; constitutional, criminal, tort and contract law; product liability; agency and business associations.
Pre: ACCT 200, IT 101
Fall, Spring

BLAW 371 (3) Computer and Technology Law
An examination of major legal issues created by the invention of the personal computer and the internet. Intellectual property (copyrights, trademarks, patents); jurisdiction of courts over nonresident websites and computer users; freedom of speech; obscenity; defamation; privacy; computer crimes; encryption; emerging issues.
Fall

BLAW 450 (3) Contracts, Sales, and Professional Responsibility
Fundamentals of contracts, the law of sales under the UCC; the legal liability of accountants to clients and third parties. Formation of contracts; statute of frauds and parol evidence rule; contract performance; remedies for breach of contract; scope of UCC Article Two; sales warranties; remedies for breach of contracts.
Pre: BLAW 200
Fall, Spring

BLAW 452 (3) Employment and Labor Law
Federal employment discrimination laws; sexual harassment; first amendment rights; employee safety; workers’ compensation; privacy; wrongful termination; federal laws governing the right to organize and bargain collectively; emerging issues.
Pre: BLAW 200
Spring

BLAW 453 (3) International Legal Environment of Business
Legal aspects of United States global trade policies, regulation of imports, contracting in the global marketplace, international marketing concerns, structure of various international organizations and treaties. Legal aspects of international licensing and technology, transfers risks of nationalization and expropriation, international dispute resolution, comity, the Act of State, and sovereign immunity doctrines.
Pre: BLAW 200
Variable

BLAW 455 (3) Legal Aspects of Banking and Finance
Legal aspects of checks and promissory notes, forgery and the use of counterfeit currency. Discusses the Federal Reserve check collection process, electronic banking, the purchase and sale of commercial paper, debtor and creditor rights, securities regulation, fundamentals of collateral foreclosure, the federal bankruptcy code and insurance law.
Pre: BLAW 200
Variable

BLAW 474 (3) Environmental Regulation and Land Use
Legal aspects of land use planning, drainage, surface water rights and boundaries, mining and land reclamation, clean air, clean water, waste disposal, noise control and environmental permit processes. Discussion of legal aspects of Historic Landmark Preservation, National Environmental Policy, CERCLA, the Superfund, liability for environmental contamination and emerging environmental issues.
Pre: BLAW 200
Variable
BLAW 476 (3) Construction and Design Law
Legal responsibilities of architects, engineers and contractors in dealing with each other, the project’s owner, sureties and subcontractors. Special emphasis on performance problems, forms of business association, legal relationships with independent contractors, the AIA contract documents, mechanics liens, AAA Construction Arbitration Rules, dispute avoidance, claims management and collection strategies.
Pre: BLAW 200
Fall, Spring

BLAW 477 (3) Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
Negotiation theory and techniques, mediation theory and techniques, use of neutrals, limits of confidentiality and ethical duties. Rule 114 and laws governing arbitration and management of the arbitration process. Extensive use of cases and role play.
Pre: BLAW 200
Variable

BLAW 483 (1-3) Special Topics
Seminar topics may include women and the law, legal aspects of entrepreneurship, mergers and acquisitions, legal rights in computer software, investigating sexual harassment claims, copyright on the internet, immigration law, steps to become an IPO, privacy rights on computer networks, case studies in deregulation, legal aspects of leveraged buyouts, corporate takeover and ESOP’s, complying with NAFTA. Variable

BLAW 497 (1-8) Internship
Variable

BLAW 498 (1-3) Internship
Variable

BLAW 499 (1-4) Individual Study
Variable