



MGT 200-702: LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS
Web Course (CRN 42766)
Spring 2022

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Office Hours: By appointment in person, phone, or Zoom. Email is often the best way to reach me. When emailing, please include **MGT 200-702** in the subject line.

Textbook: *The Legal Environment of Business – A Managerial Approach: Theory to Practice* by Sean P. Melvin & F.E. Guerra-Pujol (4th ed. 2021). In addition, we will be using Blackboard Ultra and McGraw-Hill Connect in this course.

Please note that this course participates in the WKU Store’s Day One Access program. Under this program, you will automatically have access to the ebook version of the required textbook and McGraw-Hill Connect, and will be billed for these items unless you opt-out of the program by following the instructions you receive in an e-mail message from the WKU Store. If you opt-out, you will be responsible for purchasing the required textbook and McGraw-Hill Connect on your own. Participants in this program can also purchase a reduced-cost copy of the book from the WKU Store.

This course will be using the Ultra Experience within Blackboard. As a result, the course site may look different from what you are accustomed in a good way. It is a much simpler layout and the various components are easy to access. Please review the “Introduction to Blackboard Learn with the Ultra Experience for Students” video (https://youtu.be/IKjBxIe_138).

Support Issues with Blackboard and associated technologies should be addressed via the technical support request link provided in the course site (<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8rznMdj6bEeKJE5fMzFc-zHwrfJq7mhEqOBZ-MNxi7IUQVhDN0NLQ1RaS1IyVTJMOUR0T1IYQVNVTy4u>.) Because we are using the Ultra course experience as part of an early pilot program, please use this form to report any issues. Please do not contact the ITS Service Desk for technical issues.

COURSE DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES

This course is an introduction to the American public law system and the use of law to achieve economic and social goals. It considers the elements of our legal system from the perspective of business manager. The course reviews constitutional and structural underpinnings of our legal system and examines the nature of legal concepts that include ethics, contracts, torts, property, criminal, and business structures. Consideration may be also given to the Uniform Commercial Code, social forces, governmental regulations, administrative agencies, consumer protection and environmental law.

The course learning outcomes are the following:

1. Exhibit a working knowledge of the American legal system and how it impacts business, as well as developing a fundamental understanding of certain legal doctrines and theories of liability
2. Demonstrate analytical skills by identifying legal issues and concepts which arise in the context of business decision- making
3. Apply substantive legal theory and ethical decision-making considerations that enhance a manager's practical ability to recognize and respond to legal challenges in a business context
4. Articulate ways in which legal acumen adds value to a business through risk-management, business planning and problem solving

CLASS INFORMATION

A copy of this syllabus and the course outline are posted in this course in Blackboard Ultra. Additional readings, videos, and handouts for selected module are also posted.

In general, late submissions for assignments or exams will not be accepted. With an online class, there are bound to be issues with technology (e.g., your computer, Blackboard Ultra, or Connect is not working). However, you are given ample notice of assignments, quizzes, and exams, and I have too many students to individually investigate each situation and pass judgment as to whether I feel an excuse is valid or acceptable. For these reasons and to be fair and consistent to everyone, all students must adhere to the same policies, and *no* exceptions will be made.

I reserve the right to amend the syllabus and the course outline as necessary throughout the semester and will make any updated version available in the course in Blackboard Ultra. These documents shall not be construed as a contract between you and me.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENTS AND PRIVACY POLICIES

Your accessibility needs are important to us at WKU. Below are links to the accessibility statements for the tools we will be using in this course.

- [Adobe Accessibility](#)
- [Blackboard Ultra Accessibility](#)
- [McGraw Hill Accessibility](#)
- [Microsoft Office Accessibility](#)
- [Screencast-O-Matic Accessibility](#)
- [YouTube Accessibility](#)

WKU also cares about protecting your privacy. Below are the privacy policies for tools we will be using in this course.

- [Adobe Privacy Policy](#)
- [Blackboard Ultra Privacy Policy](#)
- [McGraw Hill Privacy Policy](#)
- [Microsoft Office Privacy Policy](#)
- [Screencast-O-Matic Privacy Policy](#)
- [YouTube Privacy Policy](#)

READING ASSIGNMENTS

While this is an online course, the course material is *not* available on demand. Like a face-to-face class, you will read one or two chapters each week, as listed in course outline. You are expected to read each assigned chapter and any additional material I have posted in the course in Blackboard Ultra. There are posted lectures for each chapter. Be sure to check the Blackboard course on a regular basis for class announcements and any changes to the course outline.

ASSIGNMENTS

For each chapter, you will be assigned a SmartBook assignment and a homework assignment through McGraw-Hill Connect, which count towards your final grade in the course. These assignments are intended to increase your comprehension of the material. These assignments will be due at 11:59 PM CT on Sunday of the assigned week.

There will also be numerous application-based activities in McGraw-Hill Connect throughout the semester. These interactive activities require you to use problem-solving skills and apply your knowledge to realistic scenarios.

QUIZZES

There will be six quizzes, and each quiz will cover two modules. The due dates of the quizzes and the content covered are listed on the course outline.

PROCTORED EXAMS

You will also take three proctored exams, including the final exam. All exams will be closed-book, closed-note exams. It is your responsibility to register with the DELO Testing Center (dltesting@wku.edu or 270-745-5122) prior to taking each exam to take each at the DELO Testing Center or at an off-campus testing site coordinated through the DELO Testing Center. To register for an exam, follow the instructions in the email message you received from the DELO Testing Center at the beginning of the semester. To avoid scheduling difficulties, I strongly encourage you to register early. For this semester, the exams must be taken on one of the following dates:

Exam 1:	Feb. 17-19, 2022
Exam 2:	Mar. 31-Apr. 2, 2022
Final Exam:	May 3-5, 2022

If you will miss an exam, you *must* contact me in advance, if possible. At my discretion, you may make up the missed exam. While the final exam is not cumulative and will not test any material previously covered, you are still expected to retain the material covered earlier in the course.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

At Western Kentucky University, academic integrity is extremely important. In this course, plagiarism or any other form of cheating (which includes giving a false reason for requesting to make up missed course work) will not be tolerated. No student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by me in taking an exam, or assignment that is submitted for purposes of grade determination. Any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the act is detected or a failing grade in this course without possibility of withdrawal. The Student Code of Conduct can be found at <http://www.wku.edu/judicialaffairs/student-code-of-conduct.php>.

FINAL GRADES

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

SmartBook Assignments	85 points
Homework Assignments	85 points
Application-Based Activities	80 points
Quizzes	90 points
Exams	<u>180 points</u>
	<u>520 points</u>

Grades on all items will be posted in the course in Blackboard Ultra as soon as the grades are available. Your final grade will be based on the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	below 60%

I do not round your final percentage.

HEALTHY ON THE HILL

All students are strongly encouraged to [get the COVID-19 vaccine](#). Out of respect for the health and safety of the WKU community and in adherence with CDC guidelines and practices of all public universities and colleges in [Kentucky](#), the University requires that a cloth face covering (reusable or disposable) that covers both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times when in public areas within all buildings. Students must properly wear face coverings while in class regardless of the room size or the nature of the classroom activities. Students who fail to wear a face covering as required will be in violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct and will be asked to comply or will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the University. Accommodations can be requested in special cases through the Student Accessibility and Resource Center ([SARC](#)): [270-745-5004](#) (voice), [270-745-3030](#) (TTY), or [270-288-0597](#) (video).

All students must immediately report a positive COVID-19 test result or close contact with a person who has tested positive to the COVID-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019. The assistance line is available to answer questions regarding any COVID-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by public health agencies or the office of the governor. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website (www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill) for the most current information.

ADA ACCOMMODATIONS

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

TITLE IX/DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's [Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy](#) (#0.2070) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment, and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigator Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

WKU COUNSELING AND TESTING CENTER

The university experience should be challenging, but not overwhelming. To this end, the WKU Counseling Center provides a variety of services to help strengthen students' capacity to tolerate distress, form healthy relationships, and seek healthy expressions of their ideals and values. If you would like to speak with someone, you may contact WKU's [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159 or use its Here To Help service at <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/heretohelpemail.php>. If you need immediate help, please visit the Counseling Center in 409 Potter Hall or call the 24-hour emergency help line at 270-843-4357.