Douglas College

EFFECTIVE: MAY, 2008
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A.	Division:	**Education**	Effective Date:		**May, 2008**
B.	Department / Program Area:	**Commerce & Business Admin. Business**	Revision	**X**	New Course
			If Revision, Section(s) Revised:		**F, H, J, M, N, O, P, Q**
			Date of Previous Revision:		**September, 2004**
			Date of Current Revision:		**November, 2007**

C:	**D:**	**E:**
BUSN 1320	**Business Law I**	**3**
Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits

F: Calendar Description:

The course will provide a general review of the meaning, sources and administration of business law and, in particular, will cover the three main pillars of private law – the law of contracts, the law of torts and the law of real property. The course will also address various legal relationships in the private law setting, legislation regulating business, consumer protection issues, and recent and relevant changes in Canadian law that may potentially affect the business climate.

G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings

Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:

Lectures and Seminars

Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor)

Lecture: **2 Hours**
Seminar: **2 Hours**
Total: **4 Hours**

Number of Weeks per Semester:

15 Weeks X 4 Hours per Week = 60 Hours

H: Course Prerequisites:

Nil

I: Course Corequisites:

Nil

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite

BUSN 2420

K: Maximum Class Size:

35

L: PLEASE INDICATE:

	Non-Credit
	College Credit Non-Transfer
X	College Credit Transfer:

SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, the successful student should:

1. demonstrate a knowledge of Canada's legal environment and understand his/her personal rights;
2. understand the basic principles of common law and statute law that apply to most business situations. Although the course is not designed to make the student a lawyer, it will provide the student with sufficient background and sophistication to understand under what circumstances a lawyer may be required;
3. be aware of the main aspects of the Canadian judicial system including the sources of law, the levels and roles of courts in the judicial system, and the basic elements of the court process;
4. be able to explain the difference between common law, statute law, administrative law, and criminal law and understand the distinction in both the creation and application of such laws;
5. understand the methods by which legal precedents are established and applied;
6. know in detail the law of contracts (including sale of goods contracts), its principles and application to various business situations;
7. know the main principles of tort law and be able to identify many of the important common law torts;
8. be able to identify and distinguish between the different possessory and non-possessory interests in land;
9. understand the main elements of a leasehold relationship and the common provisions contained in a lease agreement;
10. be aware of the main aspects of the land registration system, agreements of purchase and sale and mortgages;
11. be able to recognize some of the economic, legal, political and social consequences of situations that may arise in the business world.

N: Course Content:

1. Introduction to the field of law and the administration of justice
2. Sources of Canadian and British Columbia law
   a. distinction between private and public law
   b. Acts of the Canadian Parliament and the provincial legislatures (emphasis on British Columbia)
   c. Canadian Constitution and the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*
   d. subordinate legislation including by-laws and government regulations
   e. the court process, case law, and judicial precedent
3. Law of Torts
   a. general principles including liability insurance, vicarious liability and alternative compensation schemes
   b. intentional torts including assault, battery, false imprisonment, trespass, and invasion of privacy
   c. business torts including nuisance, occupier's liability, defamation, injurious falsehood, deceit, unlawful interference with economic relations, and conspiracy
   d. the tort of negligence including duty of care, breach of standard of care, causation of harm, and defences

4. Law of Contracts.
   a. nature of contract
   b. elements of a contract
      i. mutual agreement (offer, acceptance, and invitation to treat)
      ii. capacity of parties
      iii. legal consideration and the concept of privity of contract
   c. grounds of impeachment including mistake, misrepresentation, undue influence, duress, unconscionable transactions, and illegality
   d. discharge and breach of contract
   e. contractual remedies

5. Contract of Sale
   a. provincial *Sale of Goods Act* including passing of property, implied conditions and warranties, consumer protection provisions, delivery and payment, and special remedies
   b. consumer protection provisions in other federal and provincial statutes

6. Law of Real Property
   a. interests in land – possessory and non-possessory
   b. leases
   c. land registration systems
   d. sale agreements – real property
   e. mortgages

O: Methods of Instruction

Lectures, videos, analysis of legal issues, discussion of legal cases, case assignments, and group activities

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

McInnes, Kerr, VanDuzer and Carmody, *Managing the Law: The Legal Aspects of Doing Business* Latest Edition, (Toronto: Pearson Education Canada). *also used in BUSN 2420*
(or such other textbook as agreed upon by the Business Law Instructors)

Q: Means of Assessment

Term examinations (2)	30 - 40%
Mid-semester examination	20 - 25%
Final examination	25 - 35%
Class participation	5 - 10%

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No

Course Designer(s): **Don Valeri and Brian Sugg**

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dean / Director: **Rosilyn G. Coulson**

Registrar: **Trish Angus**

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