



COURSE SYLLABUS

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL Program office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in the courses build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount your time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend nine-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, it is recommended that you drop the course. We look forward to your academic success in each course and the ultimate completion of your degree.

Course No. & Title: BLAW 251 ID8W2, Business Law I

Semester and Term: FALL 2014

Day and Dates: Tuesdays, 10/21/2014 – 12/9/2014

Time: 6pm – 9pm

Campus Location: Bridgeport

Course Description: Court system, sources of law in the United States, the constitutional basis of the legal system, government power to regulate business, the types and powers of administrative agencies, civil dispute resolutions and alternatives to civil litigation; the law of contracts, fairness and good faith in interpretations of contracts, and the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods; problems in Agency and Employment, the ethical implications of business decisions, the broad function of criminal and tort law, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and the constitutional limitations on criminal procedure.

Prerequisite Courses: None

Course Code: BC, BUS, BUSM

Instructor & Contact Information: Dawn Bradanini

Email: dbradani@bridgeport.edu

Required Textbook: *Essentials of Business Law* by Anthony L. Liuzzo, Eighth Edition, McGraw-Hill, c. 2010, ISBN 9780073511856

To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at <http://bridgeport.textbooktech.com/>
Select IDEAL Campus and login to the bookstore. Select the course and follow instructions.

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to: Efficiently and perhaps profitably conduct any business enterprise within the United States requires a fundamental knowledge of a number of legal concepts, relationships, rules and regulations, as well as an awareness of the risks and range of consequences connected with failing to recognize or comply with them. It is at best risky, and at worst perilous, for those who choose to be engaged in business in the United States, at any level, from start-up entrepreneur to Fortune 500 board chair, to dismiss certain legal issues as “things we’ll let the lawyers will worry about later,” because often, by the time the lawyers have become involved, irreversible and damaging business consequences may well have already occurred because of the speed at which present-day business is conducted. The course will provide the student with an awareness of the laws that control, regulate, shape and determine the form, method and means by which business is conducted. Specifically, the student will gain an understanding of: (i) the various sources of U.S. law; (ii) the structure of the two U.S. court systems; (iii) the several categories and types of law which impact upon business operations; (iv) the process of U.S. litigation; (v) the fundamental legal instrument which is the basis for conducting business, the Contract; (vi) the various structural forms business organizations may take; and (vii) the ethical standards and expectations of business conduct.

First Assignment Prior to the First Class: Please answer typed each question for the FIRST day. You may email, upload to Canvas or hand in during first class.

1. **Case Questions on Page 17 – Chapter 1 – Number 42 and 44**
2. **Case Questions on Page 48 – Chapter 3 – Number 38**
3. **Critical Thinking on Page 69 – Chapter 4 – Number 38**

Assignments:

NOTE: THE COURSE OUTLINE HAS A HUGE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION. MANY TIMES WE COVER A LARGE AMOUNT OF MATERIAL IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. I HAVE PUT THE PAGE NUMBERS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH CHAPTER.

WEEK 1: October 21

Introduction. Course Overview.

Part One: Introduction to Law

Our System of Law– Chapter 1 p. 2-19
Ethics and the Law – Chapter 2 p. 20-29
Criminal Law – Chapter 3 p. 29-35
Tort Law Chapter 4 p. 52-71

WEEK 2: October 28 (DISCUSSION BOARD)

Part Two: Introduction to Law

Constitutional Law – Chapter 5 p. 72-89
Administrative Law – Chapter 6 p. 90-104

*******QUIZ ONE: CHAPTERS 1-4**

WEEK 3: November 4 (DISCUSSION BOARD)

Part Two: Contracts

Introduction to Contracts – Chapter 7 p. 106-123
Offer and Acceptance – Chapter 8 p. 124-139
Mutual Agreement – Chapter 9 p. 140-153
Consideration – Chapter 10 p. 154-169
Competent Parties– Chapter 11 p. 170-183

WEEK 4: November 11 (DISCUSSION BOARD)

Part Two: Contracts

Legal Purpose of Contracts – Chapter 12 p. 184-199

Form of Contracts – Chapter 13 p. 200-215

Operation of Contracts – Chapter 14 p. 216-231

Discharge of Contracts – Chapter 15 p. 232-250

*******QUIZ TWO: CHAPTERS 5-11**

WEEK 5: November 18

Part Three: Sales, Agency and Business Organizations

Transfer of Title – Chapter 16 p. 252-287

Sales – Chapter 17 p. 268-287

Warranties – Chapter 18 p. 288-301

Agency – Chapter 19 p. 302-319

WEEK 6: November 25 (DISCUSSION BOARD)

Part 7: Legal Environment of Business

The Employer– Employee Relationship - Chapter 31 p. 522-537

Employment Law – Chapter 32 p. 536-552

WEEK 7: December 2

Part Three: Sales, Agency and Business Organizations

Business Organizations– Chapter 20 p. 320-335

Part Five: Property

Real and Personal Property – Chapter 24 p. 397-413

*******QUIZ THREE: CHAPTERS 12-19**

WEEK 8: December 9 (DISCUSSION BOARD)

Landlord – Tenant Relations - Chapter 26 p. 430-446

Wills, Intestacy and Trusts – Chapter 27 p. 448-464

FINAL PAPER DUE: December 9, 2014

****The instructor reserves the right to adjust dates/chapters to compensate for any unforeseen changes.**

Description of Weekly Sessions: Class sessions will be devoted to reviewing assigned reading materials, examining key concepts and involving constructive participation for the in class discussions. Important material, not always presented in the textbook, will be incorporated into class lectures. Electronic devices such as cell phones must be turned off before entering the classroom.

Grading Criteria: Your final grade will be comprised of several quizzes worth 30 points, class participation worth 10 points, discussion board utilizing Canvas 10 points, in-class presentation worth 20 points and a writing assignment worth 30 points (see below).

Quiz Format: The quizzes may be “closed book” or “open book” which will require you to incorporate the material discussed in class. The quiz format may consist of essay, multiple choice, true/false or any combination. Generally, at the start of each class session, you will be given a quiz covering the subject matter for the prior session. The final quiz of the term will be more in depth covering all the material from the term.

Class Participation:

Class participation is 10 points of the overall grade. Class participation will be derived from an assessment as to involvement in the course material. It is not solely based on speaking in class. Hopefully students will feel comfortable to speak, since the class will only benefit from various perspectives. However, students will have other means of demonstrating involvement in the course objective, including:

- Regular Class Attendance;
- Involvement in Group Discussions;
- Satisfactory completion of in-class exercises; and
- Completion of Homework Assignments

Discussion Board: This class will utilize Canvas on a regular basis. During the weeks indicated I will post discussion question(s). You are required to log online and answer the question. You will then be required to respond to another student’s post of your choice. You will receive a Complete or Incomplete for this comprised of 10 points.

Presentation: Each student will be required as a group to present a topic to the class utilizing one visual aid. During the first day of class, groups will be formed and topics will be chosen. You will be required to present on a topic and engage in a question/answer session. Details to follow. This is worth 20 points of your final grade.

Writing Project: Each student will be given the opportunity to choose a topic and write a paper. This is NOT a research paper however you still must utilize 3 sources. The paper will be 30 points of your final grade. Details of the assignment will be provided during the first day of

class. See attached assignment sheet for due dates. No LATE papers will be accepted – No Exceptions – even for good cause.

Late Work Policy: Certain works will not be accepted late regardless (listed on syllabus). Otherwise the policy is the following: One day late reduces grade by 10%, two days late by 20%, after two days late grade is zero. One day, two day does not refer to classes. I will calculate the days immediately following the due date. In today’s day and age of technology there is no excuse for late work!

Grading: Point System

Quizzes:	30 points	(10 points x 3 = 30 points)
Participation:	10 points	(1.25 points per class x 8 = 10 points)
Discussion Board:	10 points	(2 points x 5 = 10 points)
Presentation:	20 points	(20 points)
Writing Assignment:	<u>30 points</u>	(30 points)
	100 points*	

*5 points will be added directly to your lowest quiz if you write a summary on a current news article that discusses a topic related to our course material. You then should be prepared to discuss the article in class.

Letter Grading Scale:

% of Points Earned	Letter Grade	% of Points Earned	Letter Grade
100-94	A	76-74	C
93-90	A-	73-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-84	B	66-64	D
83-80	B-	63-60	D-
79-77	C+	Below 60	F

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attendance Policy

Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should communicate with the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for submission of any missed assignments. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:

- Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if a student earns a grade of “B” in the course, the final grade would be a “C”).
- Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.
- Note: For 15-week courses; missing two class sessions will result in a letter grade drop and three or more will cause a failing grade.

Drop Procedures

To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage:

<http://www.bridgeport.edu/academics/continuinged/ideal-academic-degree-programs-and-certificates/ideal-course-schedule/>.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the drop fees and tuition refunds at the Academic Calendar; accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage (same link above).

Cell Phones

Cell phones must be turned off (or placed on “vibrate”) while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty

The IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory psychology course. He has co-workers who have taken the same course. As the end of the course approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the research paper finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a research paper that he submitted in a similar course. The student makes minor modifications to the paper, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a humanities course is unsure about how to structure an essay. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across an essay written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and

pastes the essay into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called “research papers” without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one’s own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn’t have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own courses; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site:
http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

Ethics Statement of Confidentiality

An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2209.asp> The Center is located on the 5th Floor of the Wahlstrom Library. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online Tutoring** is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access MyUB; the portal for grades, library services, Canvas online learning system. Also, the account

allows you access to computers in the Library and computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet> - Click on “New UBNET Account” and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other private email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNET account (takes 24 hours), login at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/email> and click on “forwards” at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

Learning Management System (LMS) - Canvas

For all courses that use Canvas, you can access Canvas through the portal by using the myUB link. Faculty post class documents on Canvas e.g. syllabus, power points, discussion questions, case studies, current event articles, papers, reports etc. (save some trees). All students have access, and can download and copy the documents.

Canvas Tutorial For Students: <https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/985903>

For assistance contact the UB Help Desk at 203-576-4606 or email helpdesk@bridgeport.edu
<https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/829447/>

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. To access WebAdvisor, login in to MyUB and follow the WebAdvisor menu on the right. If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library

Access to the Digital Library is through MyUB. On the MyUB home, in the central column, click on “myEureka Digital Library.” Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

Using Computers

Open access computer labs are available at three locations:

- Bridgeport – 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/library>.
- Stamford – Room D; Check open hours at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford>
- Waterbury – Computer Lab; Check open hours at: <http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury>

Course Cancellations

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under “Latest News” on the UB home page, (www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to

day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Office	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security	(203) 576-4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	(203) 576-4692	bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	(203) 576-4682	cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid	(203) 576-4568	sfs@bridgeport.edu
Registrar	(203) 576-4635	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone	(203) 576-4159	
IDEAL Office	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT 06750	(203) 358-0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu

Directions to IDEAL Campus locations	http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp
---	---

To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is **001416**.
Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243

WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Topic: You must approve your topic by Week 2. You may choose any topic that is pertinent to our class discussions. I suggest you look at the syllabus for ideas. This paper is not a research assignment. You should **formulate a particular question with regard to your topic**. For example, if you were interested in medical law, you may wish to examine the issue of whether or not human beings should be used for experimentation.

Format: 5-7 pages total; typed; double spaced with a 12 font.

Contents: 1-2 pages must contain an introduction to your topic. The introduction should include a description of your particular issue. You do not have to complete extensive research however you must include accurate information. The remaining body of your paper will consist of your reflection. Your reflection should include any observations, opinions, advantages, disadvantages, perceptions and conclusions. You should analyze the position you take and discuss the issue thoroughly.

Due Date: Your final paper is due Week 8, **NO EXCEPTIONS!** The paper constitutes 30 points of your final grade.

Any questions or concerns please let me know. I look forward to the papers.