



Law In Society

Instructor: Kala Brown

kala_brown@ecboe.org

No prerequisite required



Law in Society is a one-half or one-credit course designed to acquaint students with basic legal principles common to business and personal activities. This course is an overview of criminal, civil, contract, and consumer law. Topics include evaluating contracts, purchasing appropriate insurance, interpreting state and federal criminal law, and representing other businesses as employee or contractor. For a half-credit course, content standards I, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, and 14 must be included.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is a co-curricular component of this course. Career and technical student organizations are integral, co-curricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Course Goals:

1. Interpret components and categories of state and federal criminal law.
2. Differentiate between ethics and law using research results.
3. Critique influences, sources, and structure of the law and court systems.
4. Analyze classifications of law, including procedural and substantive and private and public, for distinguishing characteristics.
5. Determine career and entrepreneurial opportunities, responsibilities, and educational and credentialing requirements related to the legal profession.
6. Interpret components of civil law, including negligence, torts, intentional torts, strict liability, and absolute liability.
7. Critique components of contract law.
8. Critique components of national and international sales and consumer law.
9. Analyze labor relation components to determine effects on employees and employers.
10. Compare various relationships associated with agency law as they relate to conducting global business.
11. Explain legal rules that apply to real property ownership.
12. Compare various types of bankruptcy law and their impact on business and consumers.
13. Explain types of insurance options available to consumers.
14. Explain laws that apply to marriage, divorce, and child custody.
15. Analyze various resources to acquire legal assistance.
16. Explain the purpose of environmental laws.
17. Determine how trusts and wills are used in estate planning.
18. Analyze e-business and e-marketing laws, regulations, and procedures to determine their effects on business and consumers.

Course Outline:

- I. Criminal Law
- II. Ethics
- III. Classifications and Origins of Law
- IV. Career Opportunities
- V. Civil Law
- VI. Contract Law
- VII. Consumer Law
- VIII. Labor Relations
- IX. Agency Law
- X. Real Property
- XI. Bankruptcy Law
- XII. Insurance
- XIII. Domestic Law
- XIV. Legal Assistance
- XV. Environmental Law
- XVI. Estate Planning
- XVII. E-Commerce

Expectations:

- Be on time, prepared & ready to work.
- Meet deadlines: Make appointments for extra work time if necessary.
- Take care of computer hardware and workspace. Clean up after yourself.
- Cell phones must be turned OFF (not silent) & remain out of sight during class.
- Do not bring food, drink &/or candy in the computer lab.
- No computer games or web downloads.
- Students may not at any time tamper with or access another student's files, use another student's username and password, or access any prohibited programs or websites. Doing this is a violation of technology policies and will result in immediate termination of the student's user account and disciplinary action.

Essential Questions to be Explored:

1. When is there ever an ethical justification for violation of the law?
2. When is there sufficient ethical justification for violating the law?
3. What are the major influences on our legal system?
4. What information do students need in order to evaluate, analyze, and apply before making legal profession decisions?
5. What are the major influences to our legal system?
6. How does one create a legally enforceable contract?
7. Why are contracts necessary?
8. How does the phrase "let the buyer beware" apply in today's society? Why?
9. When can discrimination ever be legal?
10. How does an employer assume all responsibility for workplace injuries?
11. When can a minor ever act as an agent?
12. Why would someone ever need an agent?
13. How can you sublet an apartment?
14. What makes property "real"?
15. Should there be bankruptcy? Why or why not?
16. Why should a person be relieved from his/her debts?
17. What specific risks might an owner of a business want to insure against?

18. Why does the mother usually obtain child custody? Is that fair?
19. When should you hire an attorney?
20. Why do we have environmental laws?
21. How old should you be to have a will?
22. Who controls the Internet?

Culminating Product Examples

- Mock Jury Trial to allow students to discover, evaluate, and analyze a real criminal legal case.
- Position paper defending an ethical situation
- Prepare a position paper; have a class debate to argue position regarding computer use and misuse.
- PowerPoint presentation on legal careers.
- Prepare and participate in a mock trial that is based on civil law.
- Prepare position paper based on real cases that deal with contract law.
- Prepare position paper based on real cases that deal with consumer protection.
- Mock trial participation
- Position papers based on real cases
- Position papers based on real cases
- Debate about the fairness of a bankruptcy
- Determine which kinds of insurance that you can use and those kinds that you may can do without. Write a paper to describe the situation.
- Prepare an argument paper to support an opinion about a situation involving a domestic relations issue.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge by presenting a PowerPoint presentation of the community's legal resources.
- 2 minute talk about information obtained about regulatory agencies
- Create a last will and testament.
- Presentation of cases.

If you are absent, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to find out what you missed and make up the missing work in a timely manner.

Due dates/late work:

All projects have assigned due dates. Please turn in your work on time for full credit. Students may communicate difficulties/emergencies with the teacher as needs arise. Excused absences may have due date extensions, unexcused will not.

Delivery Plan

This course will consist of but not limited to: readings, presentations, discussions, lectures, research, and project based learning.

Grading and Assessment Procedures

Nine weeks grades will be determined by an average of daily grades, tests, and projects.

Grading Scale

90 - 100 A
89 - 80 B

Grade Breakdown

Test - 100 points each
Projects - 100-200 points each

79 - 70 C
69 - 60 D
59 & Below F

Classwork - 25 points each
Final project - 100 points

Embedded numeracy and literacy anchor assignments

Improve the mathematical level (skills), reading, writing, and comprehension level (skills) in a project-based learning environment through technical related activities that fully prepares students for successful transition into a high demand-high wage job in skilled labor in the 21st century workforce.

Numeracy - Last Will and Testament project - students will use and improve their mathematical skills while organizing and dividing their future estate.

Literacy - Career Research project - students will use and improve their reading, writing, and comprehension skills as they research, write, and present about potential careers.

Supplies Required:

Most classroom supplies such as printing paper and envelopes will be provided. However, we will have frequent worksheets, notes, and tests that will require paper and pen or pencil. Students should have these supplies with them each day, plus some type of notebook or folder to hold worksheets and printed class work. (Requested Class Donations: Hand Sanitizer, and Kleenex)

Computer Fee: \$20

This money will be used to purchase paper and ink cartridges for existing printers, maintenance of equipment, and the purchase of additional computers, printers, software, books, and supplies.

Student Organization: FBLA

Students enrolled in this class are eligible to join Future Business Leaders of America. The club meets monthly and dues are \$15. Our club has been active in regional, state, and national conventions.

Available Industry Credential(s)

Microsoft Office Specialist
NOCTI credential

Dual enrollment opportunity

ACCS Career & Technical Education (CTE) postsecondary courses are approved as credit-eligible options that satisfy the CTE graduation requirement(s) for the Alabama High School Diploma. Students may apply for scholarships for the program. Click on the link below to see the list of approved courses.

Dual Enrollment opportunities for Business classes include but are not limited to the following:

Principles of Accounting I
Principles of Accounting II
Managerial Accounting
The Legal and Social Environment of Business
Business Statistics I
Principles of Management
Principles of Marketing
Personal Finance
Business Math
Human Relationships
Business Communication
Business Internship I

Click on the link below to see the complete list of approved courses.

<https://www.alsde.edu/sec/isvcs/Dual%20Enrollment/2019-2020%20Dual%20Enrollment%20Equivalency%20List.pdf#search=dual%20enrollment>

It is the policy of the Etowah County Board of Education that no student shall be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity on the basis of gender, age, marital status, race, religion, belief, national origin, ethnic group, disability, immigrant status, non-English speaking ability, homeless status, or migrant status. Inquiries regarding compliance with state or federal equal opportunity rules (Title IX, ADA, IDEA, section 504, etc) and/or for reporting discrimination concerns may be made to the Federal Programs Coordinator, Etowah County Board of Education, 3200 West Meighan Boulevard, Gadsden, AL 35904, (256) 549-7560.