

**Northern Marianas College**  
**CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST**

**Effective Semester / Session:** Spring 2015

**Type of Action:**

- New
- Modification
- Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- Cancellation

**Course Alpha and Number:** MG 251

**Course Title:** Business Law I

**Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:**

With the launch of a Bachelor of Science in Business Management degree, we will move away from a single, three-credit, broad but shallow survey of business law geared towards familiarizing the student with a broad array of legal concepts appropriate in the context of an Associate of Applied Science degree. The Business Department will now offer two three-credit business law courses covering much of the same subject matter, but allowing time for more in-depth learning. This new course, "Business Law I" will be offered at the Associate's level.

Christopher Timmons

Proposer

Date

12/23/14

Chavel Green

Department Chair

Date

12/23/14

Barbara K. Merfalen

Dean of Academic Programs and Services

Date

12/23/2014

Acting Amanda Allen

# Northern Marianas College

## Course Guide

Course: MG 251 Business Law I

### 1. Department

Business Department

### 2. Purpose

This course introduces students to the law primarily as it relates to business transactions with a goal of providing students with a working knowledge of the structure of the law generally and in the context of business professions. Topics discussed include the history and development of our legal system, risk management and prevention, business crimes, business torts, contracts, agency and consumer protection with a view towards providing students a functional familiarity with basic legal principles affecting businesspersons and transactions. These topics are taught from a perspective of planning, risk prevention, and managerial participation in the resolution of legal issues.

### 3. Description

#### A. Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials

Required:

Goldman, Arnold J., and William D. Sigismond. *Business Law Principles and Practices, 8<sup>th</sup> ed.* Mason, OH: South-Western/Cengage, 2011.

Readability level: College Level

#### B. Contact Hours

1. **Lecture:** 3 hours per week / 45 hours per semester
2. **Lab:** None
3. **Other:** None

#### C. Credits

1. **Number:** 3
2. **Type:** Regular Degree Credits

#### D. Catalogue Course Description

This is an introductory course covering legal systems, risk management, torts, contracts, agency, and consumer protection as applied to business professions and transactions. Critical thinking and practical application to the conduct of business in the CNMI and US are emphasized. English Placement Level: EN 202. Math Placement Level: None. (Offered: Spring).

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### E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course

Business Law I is required for the A.A. Degree in Business, the A.A.S. Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting, the A.A.S. Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Business Management, and the B.S. Degree in Business Management.

### F. Course Activities and Design

Lectures, periodic quizzes/exams, participation in problem-solving exercise, case studies, projects and homework assignments.

### 4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment; Required English/Mathematics Placement Level(s)

Prerequisite(s): None

English Placement Level: EN 202

Math Placement Level: None.

### 5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed

Cost to the College: Instructor's salary

Cost to the Student: Tuition for a 3-credit course and any applicable fees

Instructional resources needed for this course include whiteboard, dry erase markers, overhead projector, and a television.

### 6. Method of Evaluation

Student grades will be based on the regular letter grade system as described below:

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| A: Excellent-grade points:     | 4.0; |
| B: Above average-grade points: | 3.0; |
| C: Average-grade points:       | 2.0; |
| D: Below average-grade points: | 1.0; |
| F: Failure-grade points:       | 0.0. |

NMC's grading and attendance policies were followed.

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### 7. Course Outline

This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented.

#### 1.0 Understanding the Law

- 1.1 Foundations of the Law and the Role of Ethics in Business
- 1.2 The Federal and State Court Systems and their Constitutional Foundations
- 1.3 Criminal Law: Crimes and Criminal Procedure (with focus on business crimes)
- 1.4 Tort Law: Intentional Torts and Negligence
- 1.5 Litigation and Alternatives for Settling Civil Disputes

#### 2.0 Contracts

- 2.1 Introduction to Contract Law
- 2.2 Agreement: Offer and Acceptance
- 2.3 Consideration
- 2.4 Capacity
- 2.5 Legality
- 2.6 Formal Requirements: Statute of Frauds
- 2.7 Transfer of Contract Rights and Obligations
- 2.8 The Termination of Contracts: Discharge
- 2.9 The Termination of Contracts: Breach of Contract

#### 3.0 Agency

- 3.1 Principal Agent Relationships
- 3.2 Duties and Liabilities among parties
- 3.3 Duties and Liabilities to Third-parties

#### 4.0 Consumer and Creditor Protection

- 4.1 Protecting the Consumer and the Taxpayer
- 4.2 Protecting the Borrower
- 4.3 Protecting the Creditor

#### 5.0 Insurance

- 5.1 Property, Casualty, and Automobile Insurance
- 5.2 Life Insurance
- 5.3 Health Insurance

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## 8. Instructional Goals

This course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 The legal system and its role in the conduct of business;
- 2.0 The application of the law relating to torts, contracts, agency relationships, consumer and credit protection, and insurance; and
- 3.0 The relevance of law to everyday life, the community, and the world.

## 9. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1.0 Identify and report on the major legal principles in tort, contract, agency and consumer protection law as applied to business professions and transactions;
- 2.0 Differentiate between the common law and statutory law and identify the sources of law impacting business professions and transactions;
- 3.0 Evaluate traditional and alternative ways to prevent and resolve issues and disputes affecting their business;
- 4.0 Describe the elements of a valid and enforceable contract and classify contracts as being valid, void, voidable, or unenforceable; and
- 5.0 Critically apply the learning outcomes 1-4 using real life scenarios, fact, patterns and situations.

## 10. Assessment Measures

Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1.0 Exams and Quizzes;
- 2.0 Homework assignments;
- 3.0 Projects and presentations;
- 4.0 Case studies; and
- 5.0 Class participation.