

**DEPARTMENT Business & Office Administration**  
**COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2025**  
**LR3010 (A3): Legal Relations – 3 (3-0-0) UT 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation, and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land, and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

<b>INSTRUCTORS:</b>	Robert Belanger, J.D. Justin Monahan, J.D.	<b>PHONE:</b>	KMSC: 780-532-7771
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<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	By appointment only		

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

A synoptic view of the Canadian legal system, with emphasis on underlying considerations of social policy. While considering the nature, sources, philosophy, and policy objectives of the law, selected topics from the fields of tort and contract will be analyzed.

**PREREQUISITE:** none

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Willes, John A., and Willes, John H., Contemporary Canadian Business Law: Principles and Cases, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, McGraw Hill

This text includes Connect with SmartBook Online Access. Students must have a Connect access code to gain access to online resources and assessments. It is the student's choice if they purchase a new print text with a Connect access code, *or* an e-book with a Connect access code. If you have purchased a used textbook, you will have to purchase a Connect access code separately. *Note: the time zone in Connect must be set to Canada/Mountain time for duration of course.*

For device, software, and network requirements, please visit the following link:

<https://www.nwpolytech.ca/doc.php?d=TECHREQ>

**DELIVERY MODE:** On-campus (face-to-face)

This type of course will be delivered on campus in a specific location which will be indicated on the student timetable. Students are expected to fully attend in person.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- recognize, interpret, and evaluate the fundamental legal concepts, legislation, and legal issues important to Canadian business, to better manage risk;
- Analyze and apply legal concepts to specific legal business problems and suggest appropriate legal remedies;
- Assess real-life legal problems in order to formulate creative solutions;
- Value law as a “real life” practical subject, not as a matter of theory or history.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page

<http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Assignments	10%
Attendance	10%
Quizzes	10%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Evaluation Policies:**

- Assignments in Connect will be automatically submitted on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted and missed assignments will receive a grade of zero. No extensions or re-writes will be granted.
- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Each student will be required to initial the sign-in sheet for each class.
- Quizzes will be scheduled as the course progresses. Students will be given advanced notice of quiz dates. Unexcused absences during a quiz will be assigned a grade of zero. Re-writes or extra work will not be granted for missed quizzes or unsuccessful attempts.
- The Mid-Term Exam is tentatively scheduled for **February 6, 2025**, during the scheduled lecture. Do not plan activities or trips during this period. Unexcused absences will be assigned a grade of zero. No re-writes will be granted for missed or unsuccessful attempts.
- Textbook materials, class discussions, videos or any materials distributed in handouts may all be used for the quizzes or exams. The quizzes and exams will all be timed and will be written in person.

- Final exams will be written as scheduled by the Registrar’s Office during the exam period from **April 14-23, 2025**. Do not plan activities or trips during this period. Re-writes or extensions for the final exam will **not** be granted, and any unexcused absences will be assigned a grade of zero.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System. Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

**Week 1:**

**Chapter 1 – The Law and the Legal System (pp. 2-6, 9-13, 15-27)**

- Legal environment for business
- The role of law
- The early development of law
- The rise of the courts and the common law
- Sources and components of modern Canadian law
- The constitutional foundations of Canadian law
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Classification of laws

**Week 2:**

**Chapter 2 – The Judicial System and Alternative Dispute Resolution (pp.30-39, 40-44, 47-53)**

- Development of the law courts
- Structure of the judicial system
- The judicial system in action
- Administrative tribunals
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- The role of the legal profession

**Chapter 3 – Business Regulation (read the whole chapter)**

- Government regulation of business

- The hearing process
- Broad-policy administrative law

**Week 3:**

**Chapter 7 – An Introduction to Contracts (Read the whole chapter)**

- Elements of a valid contract
- Intention to create a legal relationship
- Offer and acceptance

**Chapter 8 – The Requirement of Consideration (Read the whole chapter)**

- Consideration
- Quantum Meruit
- Debtor-creditor relationship
- Equitable or promissory estoppel

**Quiz Between Week 3 & 4**

**Week 4:**

**Chapter 9 – Legal Capacity to Contract and the Requirement of Legality (pp. 184-197)**

- Corporations, First Nations bands, labour unions, bankrupt persons
- The requirement of legality
- Legality under statute law
- Legality at common law: public policy
- Contracts in restraint of trade

**Chapter 10 – The Requirements of Form and Writing (Read the whole chapter)**

- Formal and simple contracts
- The statute of frauds
- Written Contracts
- Reduction to writing
- Sale of goods act

**Chapter 11 – Failure to Create an Enforceable Contract (Read the whole chapter)**

- Mistake
- Misrepresentation
- Undue influence
- Duress

**Week 5:**

**Chapter 12 – The Extent of Contractual Rights (Read the whole chapter)**

- Privity of Contract
- Assignment of contractual rights and obligations

### **Chapter 13 – Performance of Contractual Obligations (Read the whole chapter)**

- The nature and extent of performance
- Discharge by means other than performance

### **Chapter 14 – Breach of Contract and Remedies (Read the whole Chapter)**

- The nature of breach of contract
- Remedies
- Remedies for particular situations
- Enforcement of judgments

### **Mid -Term Rewiew**

#### **Week 6:**

#### **Mid-Term Exam**

#### **Week 7: (Read pp. 310-319, 321-325)**

### **Chapter 15 – Law of Agency**

- Role of an agent
- The nature of the relationship
- Third parties and the agency relationship
- Liability of principal and agent to third parties in a tort
- Termination of the principal-agent relationship

### **Chapter 16 – Law of Sole Proprietorship and Partnership (Read 331-332, 334-348)**

- Forms of business organization
- Nature of partnership
- Liability of a partnership for the acts of a partner
- Liability of a partnership for the acts of its employees
- Rights and duties of partners to one another
- Limited partnership
- Limited liability partnerships
- Registration of partnerships

#### **Week 8:**

#### **TERM BREAK**

#### **Week 9:**

### **Chapter 17 – Corporation Law (Read the whole Chapter)**

- The nature of a corporation
- Methods of incorporation
- Incorporation process
- Shareholders' agreements
- Corporate securities

- Taxation of corporations
- Division of corporate powers
- Considerations in the purchase and sale of a corporation

**Week 10:**

**Chapter 19 – Employment and Labour Relations (read pp. 406-428)**

- Contract of employment
- Nature of the relationship
- Duties of the employer
- Duties of the employee
- Termination of the contract of employment
- Dismissal for just cause and wrongful dismissal
- Employer misrepresentation (wrongful hiring)
- Employer liability to third parties
- Employer liability for an employee's injuries
- Labour relations

**Quiz between week 9 & 10**

**Week 11:**

**Chapter 20 – The Law of Bailment (Read the whole chapter)**

- Nature of bailment
- Types of bailment

**Chapter 21 – The Sale of Goods (Read the whole chapter)**

- Codification of the law
- Nature of a contract of sale
- Contractual duties of the seller
- Contractual duties of the buyer
- Remedies of the buyer
- Remedies of the seller

**Week 12:**

**Chapter 22 – Interest in Land (Read the whole chapter)**

- Historical development
- Estates in land
- Registration of property interests
- Lesser interests in land
- Fixtures
- Title to land

## **Chapter 23 – The Law of Mortgages (read from pp. 526-540)**

- The nature of mortgages
- Priorities between mortgages
- Rights and duties of the parties
- Discharge of mortgage
- Sale of mortgaged property
- Default, foreclosure, and sale

### **Week 13:**

#### **Chapter 4 – Intentional Torts (read the whole chapter)**

- Tort law defined
- Development of tort law
- Intentional interference with the person
- Intentional interference with land and chattels
- Business-related torts and crimes

#### **Chapter 5 – Negligence and Unintentional Torts (read the whole chapter)**

- Negligence
- Occupier's liability
- Manufacturer's liability
- Nuisance
- General tort defenses
- Tort remedies

### **Week 14:**

#### **REVIEW**

### **Week 15:**

**FINAL EXAM – to be written during exam week as scheduled by the Registrar's Office**

#### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Registered students are expected to abide by the rules and regulations of NWP. It is the student's responsibility to be fully acquainted with and adhere to NWP's policies, procedures or rules; see <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/> and <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=69>

#### **Time Management**

Adopting and adhering to effective learning habits in this course will likely take up a great deal of time so plan your schedule accordingly. See **Course Schedule/Tentative Timeline** section above.

Course materials and announcements will be available on myClass, Connect, and NWP Webmail. Students are responsible for checking all three websites regularly.

## **Email**

Students may contact the instructor by NWP Webmail. Webmail will be answered within two business days outside of stated office hours. Webmail correspondence must be sent to your instructor from your NWP Webmail account. Webmail should be professionally formatted with correct spelling and grammar. Webmail must include a subject line and reference to the course code and material(s) and/or textbook pages, etc.

## **Copyright**

NWP respects Canadian and International laws and agreements with respect to the use of copyright materials. It is the responsibility of the individual using copyrighted materials to ensure said use is compliant with Canadian law, the Use of Copyright Materials Policy, and the Copyright Practices Guide for NWP instructors and Staff. See <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html> and <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=71> .

## **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

## **Additional Information:**

### **Study Skills Hub**

Adopting and adhering to effective learning habits in this course will likely take up a great deal of time so plan your schedule accordingly.

The NWP Study Skills Hub will help you develop the skills you need to succeed in your program and cope with the demands of higher education. Click on the following link for free access:

<https://libguides.nwpolytech.ca/learningportal/studyskills>