

DEPARTMENT Business & Office Administration
COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2024
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.

INSTRUCTORS:	Simon Bossen, J.D. Robert Belanger, J.D.	PHONE:	KMSC: 780-532-7771
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OFFICE HOURS:	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, 12th 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	15%
Quizzes	15%
Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

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.
- 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 15, 2024**, 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 17-24, 2024**. 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: January 8-14

Chapter 1 – The Law and the Legal System

- 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

Chapter 2 – The Judicial System and Alternative Dispute Resolution

- Development of the law courts
- Structure of the judicial system
- The judicial system in action
- Administrative tribunals

Week 2: January 15-21

Chapter 2 – The Judicial System and Alternate Dispute Resolution

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
 - Mediation & Arbitration
- The legal profession
- The role of the legal profession

Chapter 3 – Business Regulation

- Government regulation of business
- The hearing process
- Broad-policy administrative law
- Appeal process for administrative decisions

Week 3: January 22-28

Chapter 7 – An Introduction to Contracts

- Historical development of the law of contract
- Elements of a valid contract
- Intention to create a legal relationship
- Offer and acceptance

Chapter 8 – The Requirement of Consideration

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

Week 4: January 29-February 4

Chapter 9 – Legal Capacity to Contract and the Requirement of Legality

- The minor or infant
- Temporary or permanent mental impairment
- 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

- Formal and simple contracts
- The statute of frauds
- Requirements for the written memorandum
- Reduction to writing
- Sale of goods act

Chapter 11 – Failure to Create an Enforceable Contract

- Mistake
- Misrepresentation
- Undue influence
- Duress

Week 5: February 5-11

Chapter 12 – The Extent of Contractual Rights

- Privity of Contract
- Assignment of contractual rights and obligations

Chapter 13 – Performance of Contractual Obligations

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

Chapter 14 – Breach of Contract and Remedies

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

Week 6: February 12-18

Term Test Review / Term Test

Week 7: February 19-25

Winter Break – No Classes

Week 8: February 26-March 3

Chapter 15 – Law of Agency

- Role of an agent
- Historical development of the law of agency
- The nature of the relationship
- Ratification of contracts by a principal
- 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

- Forms of business organization
- Historical development of partnership
- 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
- Dissolution of a partnership
- Limited partnership
- Limited liability partnerships
- Advanced business applications for partnerships
- Registration of partnerships

Week 9: March 4-10

Chapter 17 – Corporation Law

- 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

Chapter 18 – Securities Regulation

- What is a security?
- Purpose and administration of securities regulation
- Mechanics of regulation
- Registration
- Disclosure
- Conduct of trading
- Insider trading
- Proxy voting and proxy solicitation
- Takeover bids
- “Going private” transactions
- Investigation and enforcement

Week 10: March 11-17

Chapter 19 – Employment and Labour Relations

- Contract of employment
- Nature of the relationship
- Form of the contract
- Duties of the employer
- Duties of the employee
- Termination of the contract of employment
- Dismissal for just cause and wrongful dismissal
- Cyber-law aspects of employee management
- Employer misrepresentation (wrongful hiring)
- Employer liability to third parties
- Employer liability for an employee's injuries
- Labour relations
- Development of labour legislation in Canada
- Collective bargaining legislation
- The union-membership relationship

Week 11: March 18-24

Chapter 20 – The Law of Bailment

- Nature of bailment
- Types of bailment

Chapter 21 – The Sale of Goods

- 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
- Electronic sale of goods

Week 12: March 25-31

Chapter 22 – Interest in Land

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

Chapter 23 – The Law of Mortgages

- The nature of mortgages
- Priorities between mortgages
- Rights and duties of the parties
- Special clauses
- Discharge of mortgage
- Assignment of mortgage
- Sale of mortgaged property
- Default, foreclosure, and sale
- Business applications of mortgage security

Week 13: April 1-7

Chapter 4 – Intentional Torts

- 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

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

Week 14: April 8-14

Chapter 6 – Special Tort Liabilities of Business Professionals

- The professional
- Professional standards and professional associations
- The professional-client relationship
- Accountants, lawyers, engineers, architects, semi-professional and other skilled persons

Week 15: April 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 PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

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>