



Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Business Law
(BE 6132)

One-half Credit, One Semester
Grades 10 - 12

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students examine the foundations of the American legal system and learn the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Students gain practical knowledge and life skills by exploring economic and social concepts related to laws governing business and individuals. Focus areas include contracts, consumer protection, criminal law, tort law, international law, family/domestic law, employment law, cyber law and careers in the legal profession. Students combine classroom instruction and supervised on-the-job training in an approved position with continuing supervision throughout the school year.

CERTIFICATION

None

STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is the co-curricular organization for secondary Business and Information Technology students. The organization enhances occupational preparation for students by helping them attain the following goals: leadership skills; knowledge of the American enterprise system; self-confidence; improvement of home, business, and community; scholarship; citizenship; and career goals.

PREREQUISITE

None

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

None

REQUIRED STUDENT TEXTBOOK

None

COMPETENCIES FOR BUSINESS LAW

Demonstrating Workplace Readiness Skills: Personal Qualities and People Skills

- 001 Demonstrate positive work ethic.
- 002 Demonstrate integrity.
- 003 Demonstrate teamwork skills.
- 004 Demonstrate self-representation skills.
- 005 Demonstrate diversity awareness.
- 006 Demonstrate conflict-resolution skills.
- 007 Demonstrate creativity and resourcefulness.

Demonstrating Workplace Readiness Skills: Professional Knowledge and Skills

- 008 Demonstrate effective speaking and listening skills.
- 009 Demonstrate effective reading and writing skills.
- 010 Demonstrate critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.
- 011 Demonstrate healthy behaviors and safety skills.
- 012 Demonstrate an understanding of workplace organizations, systems and climates.
- 013 Demonstrate lifelong-learning skills.
- 014 Demonstrate job-acquisition and advancement skills.
- 015 Demonstrate time-, task- and resource-management skills.
- 016 Demonstrate job-specific mathematics skills.
- 017 Demonstrate customer-service skills.

Demonstrating Workplace Readiness Skills: Technology Knowledge and Skills

- 018 Demonstrate proficiency with technologies common to a specific occupation.
- 019 Demonstrate information technology skills.
- 020 Demonstrate an understanding of Internet use and security issues.
- 021 Demonstrate telecommunications skills.

Examining All Aspects of an Industry

- 022 Examine aspects of planning within an industry/organization.
- 023 Examine aspects of management within an industry/organization.
- 024 Examine aspects of financial responsibility within an industry/organization.
- 025 Examine technical and production skills required of workers within an industry/organization.
- 026 Examine principles of technology that underlie an industry/organization.
- 027 Examine labor issues related to an industry/organization.
- 028 Examine community issues related to an industry/organization.
- 029 Examine health, safety and environmental issues related to an industry/organization.

Addressing Elements of Student Life

- 030 Identify the purposes and goals of the student organization.
- 031 Explain the benefits and responsibilities of membership in the student organization as a student and in professional/civic organizations as an adult.
- 032 Demonstrate leadership skills through participation in student organization activities, such as meetings, programs and projects.
- 033 Identify Internet safety issues and procedures for complying with acceptable use standards.

Examining the Foundations of a Legal System

- 034 Examine the constitutional basis for federal law and the establishment of Virginia's constitutional laws.
- 035 Explain the need for laws.

- 036 Differentiate between criminal and civil law.
- 037 Describe the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the legal system.
- 038 Compare federal, state, and local court systems.
- 039 Compare the main sources of law.
- 040 Differentiate between ethical and legal behavior.
- 041 Describe the legal rights and responsibilities of citizens and non-citizens.
- 042 Compare the legal rights and responsibilities of minors and adults.
- 043 Identify sources used to enforce the law at the local, state and federal levels.

Examining Contracts

- 044 Explain the six essential elements of a contract.
- 045 Analyze the need for a contract.
- 046 Compare types of contracts.
- 047 Describe the categories of persons who have rights and/or duties under a contract for the benefit of a third party.
- 048 Examine the effects of a contract on a minor.
- 049 Explain the effects of a breach of contract.
- 050 Describe the purpose of the Statute of Frauds.
- 051 Explain how the Uniform Commercial Code applies to the sale of goods and interstate commerce.

Examining the Rights and Responsibilities of Consumers

- 052 Compare federal agencies that provide consumer protection information.
- 053 Identify federal and state laws that afford consumer protection.
- 054 Identify the reasons bankruptcy laws were enacted.
- 055 Evaluate the impact of relevant laws on insurance requirements.
- 056 Identify the laws specifically related to negotiable instruments (e.g., drafts, checks, promissory notes, certificates of deposit).
- 057 Describe characteristics of a bailment and the responsibilities of involved parties.
- 058 Distinguish between real and personal property.
- 059 Describe ways in which real estate can be acquired.
- 060 Evaluate mortgage types and interest rates.
- 061 Describe the legal aspects of a real estate transaction.
- 062 Distinguish between the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants.
- 063 Identify the purpose of copyright and patent laws (e.g., tangible and intangible property).

Exploring Criminal Law

- 064 Define *criminal law*.
- 065 Explain penalties associated with crimes.
- 066 Differentiate between civil and criminal trial procedures.
- 067 Compare the purpose and characteristics of juvenile and adult justice systems.
- 068 Distinguish among an infraction, a misdemeanor, and a felony.
- 069 Identify crimes often associated with businesses and organizations (e.g., embezzlement, extortion, computer crimes).

Exploring Tort Law

- 070 Define *tort law*.
- 071 Identify common torts (e.g., assault, battery, defamation, negligence, product liability).
- 072 Explain penalties associated with torts.
- 073 Identify improper use of business technology and property (e.g., computers, personal digital assistants, cell phones, telephones).

Increasing Awareness of Family/Domestic Law

- 074 Explain components of estate planning (e.g., power of attorney, wills, trusts, living wills).
- 075 Identify laws regulating marriage.
- 076 Identify laws regulating separation and divorce.
- 077 Interpret laws that sever the parent-child legal relationship.
- 078 Identify situations where legal assistance is advisable.
- 079 Locate professional sources for legal advice.

Identifying Concepts in International Law

- 080 Compare the American legal system with legal systems in other countries.
- 081 Describe the impact of international laws on the U.S. economy.
- 082 Describe U.S. citizens' rights and responsibilities when conducting business, traveling, or living abroad.
- 083 Examine the impact of international regulations on the environment.

Examining Legal Aspects of Employment

- 084 Describe rights and responsibilities of employees and employers.
- 085 Identify federal, state, and local laws and agencies dealing with employment.
- 086 Examine the ethical basis for laws governing the workplace.
- 087 Analyze the process for filing a grievance.
- 088 Identify the legal grounds for employee termination.
- 089 Examine the legal and historical significance of unions and collective bargaining.

Analyzing Types of Business Organizations

- 090 Summarize the legal requirements and the advantages and disadvantages of a sole proprietorship.
- 091 Summarize the legal requirements and the advantages and disadvantages of a partnership.
- 092 Summarize the legal requirements and the advantages and disadvantages of a corporation.
- 093 Examine laws that would impact forming and operating your own business.

Examining Cyber/Computer Law

- 094 Explain cyber law and the various types of cybercrimes.
- 095 Compare cybercrimes and cyber torts.
- 096 Describe intellectual property rights and copyright laws related to digital purchases.
- 097 Describe laws related to e-commerce.
- 098 Examine how the use or purchase of technology affects a contract.
- 099 Explain how advances in computer technology affect the different areas of law.
- 100 Define common cybercrimes.
- 101 Describe the various types of federal and state statutes designed to combat computer crime.
- 102 Describe the ramifications of improper use of business technology and property.

Preparing for Industry Certification and/or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) Testing

- 103 Describe the process and requirements for obtaining industry certifications and/or taking CLEP examinations related to the Business Law course.
- 104 Identify testing skills/strategies for a certification and/or CLEP examination.
- 105 Demonstrate ability to successfully complete selected practice examinations (e.g., practice questions similar to those on certification or CLEP exams).
- 106 Successfully complete an industry certification or CLEP examination representative of skills learned in this course (e.g., IC3, NOCTI, CLEP).

Preparing for Business Law Careers

- 107 Research career opportunities in the legal profession.
- 108 Compose a letter of application for employment.
- 109 Create or update a résumé.
- 110 Complete a job application.
- 111 Participate in a mock interview.
- 112 Compose an interview follow-up letter.
- 113 Outline the steps to follow in resigning from a position.
- 114 Create or update a portfolio containing representative samples of student work.

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For further information please call (757) 263-1070.

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To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write The Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070 (voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email at Theresa.Dougherty@VBSchools.com.

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