

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

WELCOME TO BUSINESS LAW 1! I am delighted to be your child's Business Law teacher during this important academic semester. I will work hard to provide students with opportunities to improve their reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

I have reviewed the course information and expectations with the students. However, knowing the benefits of strong home-school communication, I would appreciate your acknowledgement that you have also read and reviewed this packet of information with your child. As films are part of the classroom experience and some movies are rated "R", I need your permission to allow your son/daughter to watch in class, your signature below confirms that they can watch these types of films in class.

I look forward to working with your child and meeting you at an upcoming Parent and Teacher meetings anticipated to be in October. Students are welcome to come into school early to complete any work on the computer as I am usually in my classroom, which is a computer lab classroom 629, by 7:30 AM each morning, they can also come during advisory or by appointment after school.

The class uses Google Classroom, if you would like to see a weekly summary of assignments as well as missing work for your student, please join your students Google Classroom at:
Google Classroom:

Period 1 – Use code "o1y7u3"

I have also set up a "Remind" application for the students and parents of this class. The phone application is free. I will not get your cell phone number and you will not get mine. I will only know your name so you will have to let me know who your student is. All you have to do to join is to go into your text application on your phone. Where you would normally enter a persons name or phone number, type what is inside the quotation marks, do not enter the quotation marks, "81010". Then in the message section type what is inside the quotation marks, do not enter the quotation marks, "@p1blaw19"

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time through my House Office, D-House: (978) 446-7424. My email is wtaylor@lowell.k12.ma.us

Respectfully,

Wayne C. Taylor, MBA, M.Ed.
Business Management & Finance Academy

Welcome to Business Law 1

Lowell High School Business Management & Finance Academy
Course Syllabus and Classroom Policies and Procedures

I have read and reviewed the class rules, disclosure about R rated movies, course goals and requirements with my student in the class, and I understand the expectations in Business Law 1 for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Parent/Guardian's Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Parent/Guardian email _____

Parent/Guardian cell phone# _____

I have read and reviewed the class rules, disclosure about R rated movies, course goals and requirements with my student in the class, and I understand the expectations in Business Law 1 for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Student Name (please print) _____

Student ID# _____

Student's Signature _____

Student's email _____

Please sign and return this page by Friday, September 6, 2019.

Course Content

The major goals of this course are to expose students to the basics of our laws in the United States. The primary focus of this semester is to analyze the relationship between ethics and the law, sources of law and courtroom procedure.

Core Ideas: Laws have played a major role in shaping our country. Students need to have an understanding of where our laws come from as well as why we have laws in the first place. Students will then apply their knowledge to gain a better understanding of the legal process.

Semester Content and Objectives:

By the end of this semester students will be know:

- The sources of our laws in the United States
- The elements and classifications of crimes
- The alternatives available to use as a defense of a crime
- Proving and defenses to negligence
- Procedures of preparing for trial
- The advantages and disadvantages of buying and renting a home

By the end of this semester students will be skilled at:

- Analyzing scenarios regarding the law
- Identify consequences of unethical and illegal conduct
- Distinguishing between torts and crimes
- Preparing documents needed for litigation

National Business Education Standards:

BL 1: Analyze the relationship between ethics and the law and describe the sources of the law, the structure of the court system, the different classifications of procedural law, and the different classifications of substantive law.

BL III: Analyze the role and importance of agency law and employment law as they relate to the conduct of business in the national and international marketplace.

BL V: Explain the legal rules that apply to personal property and real property.

BL VII: Explain how the advances in computer technology impact upon such areas as property law, contract law, criminal law, and international law.

Common Core Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Speaking and Listening

SL1: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on grades 10-11-12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

SL 3: Evaluate a speakers' point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric assessing the stance, premises, links among ideas, word choice, points of emphasis, and tone used.

Reading

RH 1: Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole.

RH 6: Evaluate authors' differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.

Writing

WHST 1: Write arguments focused on discipline specific content.

WHST 5: Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising , editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

WHST 8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively, assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose and audience.

Essential Questions

Why do we need laws?

What is the relationship between Ethics and Law?

How does the Dual Court system in the United States operate?

What information must be considered when preparing for a trial?

What rights do I have as a citizen?

Long Term Assignments and Due Dates

Quarter 1:

Students will select identify one of the 1st ten amendments and discuss its impact on today's society and cite an example of how it has been interpreted in a landmark case

Quarter 2:

Students will prepare for and perform a Mock Trial based on a fictional Civil Case

Texts*:

Business and Personal Law: Real World Connections

You Be the Judge

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism and Cheating

- The willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized text, unfair, dishonest, or unscrupulous advantage in academic work over other students using fraud, duress, deception, theft, trickery, talking, signs, gestures, text messaging, copying, or any other methodology will not be tolerated. Any student participating in any of the above behaviors will be referred to their House Dean and will be issued a 0 for any assignment(s) pertaining to these behaviors.
- **Plagiarism** is the submission or presentation of another person's work, language, thoughts, ideas, or expressions as your own original work. This includes all information downloaded from the internet. Any student who submits plagiarized work may be referred to their House Dean and will be given a 0 for the assignment. It is important to remember to correctly cite another person's work using the MLA or APA format.

Classroom Expectations

- How to participate in class: Contribute to the class discussion, complete your classwork during the class period.
- Textbooks are available to take home as well as available by chapter in a PDF online in Google Classroom.
- Your ID badge must be visible at all times-do not enter the room without it prominently displayed. Do not take it off once the class has begun.
- What to do if you're absent: Almost everything is on Google Classroom, the student can log on and complete the work online and submit their work online.
- When to arrive to class: Within 5 minutes of the bell ringing, for each minute you are late to class, you may be asked to stay after school for the same amount of time to make up the lost time in class. For every 4 times you are late to class, you may be asked to serve an after school detention for the amount of time you have been tardy to class, for up to 30 minutes or longer if tardiness exceeds that time, in room 629. If you arrive after 5 minutes of the bell, without a pass, you will be marked Tardy, if more than 10 minutes after the bell, Absent Tardy, if you arrive with a valid pass you will be marked, Tardy Excused. Period 1 begins at 7:55 AM or when the bell rings indicating the start of class, if you come to class after the bell and before 8:06 AM, (or less than 10 minutes after the bell rang) you will be marked Tardy. If you come after 8:05 (or 11 minutes or more after the bell rang) you must come with a Tardy slip/pass from your house office or another teacher, at which point you will be marked Absent Tardy.
- Hoodies, hats with brims, Durags, headbands, bandannas, earbuds, earphones, in ear headphones (or the like) (or anything else prohibited by the Student Handbook) are not allowed to be on, in or used during class time without prior approval from the teacher. If this policy is violated you may be required to serve an after school detention, for up to 30 minutes, in room 629.
- Phones, watches or any other device, which can be used to communicate with, are not to be used during class time without prior approval from the teacher. If this policy is violated you may be required to serve an after school detention, for up to 30 minutes, in room 629.
- No food or water should be eaten at the desk over or near the computer, as room 629 is a computer lab and the food or water may damage or ruin the equipment.
- If a student breaks any of the classroom rules, an after school detention may be assigned, for up to 30 minutes, in room 629.
- If a student does not serve their after school detention, they will be referred to their house office for additional consequences, in addition to serving the original detention.

Classwork and Homework:

Homework can be crucial to improving your skills in reading, writing and thinking critically. Homework takes many forms: long-term reading assignments, writing, studying or working on long-term projects. All homework will be accounted for through collection, class discussion, quizzes or peer work. In most cases, homework and classwork is graded using the rubric below:

Grade Equivalent	Criteria (Late is determined by the time on Google Classroom for the assignment, if there is no time assigned, it is midnight on the day of the assignment)
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Work is complete, thorough and on time•Work demonstrates <i>earnest</i> effort and original thinking•Work demonstrates <i>exemplary</i> neatness and attention to writing conventions
90	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Work is complete and one day late•Work demonstrates <i>satisfactory</i> effort and <i>some</i> original thinking•Work demonstrates <i>general</i> neatness and attention to writing conventions
65	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Work is incomplete <u>or</u> two days late•Work demonstrates <i>some</i> effort but <i>lacks</i> original thinking•Work is sloppy and shows disregard for writing conventions
50	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Work is incomplete <u>or</u> three or more days late, but turned in during the quarter•Work demonstrates <i>basic</i> effort but <i>lacks</i> original thinking•Work is sloppy and shows disregard for writing conventions
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Work is substantially incomplete or not turned in during the quarter•Work is more than three days late•Work is copied from another student

Late work:

Each student **EARN**s his or her own grade. Expectations will always be clearly outlined and discussed in advance of an assignment's due date.

Distribution and explanation of grade percentages as it applies to each category:

Classwork/Homework 40% Students must complete classwork as homework if it is not completed during class. Homework will be assigned as necessary.

Quizzes: 20% Expect quizzes after each section of a chapter.

Tests/projects/writing: 25% Assessments will be announced and occur during the quarter.

Quarterly Assessment: 15% This assessment will be a research project or a case study, assigned during the quarter. You will be provided with plenty of time to help you organize your time.

Movies During class:

To instruct my classes I try to use various approaches to convey the true meaning of actual or fictional cases as portrayed in movies to my students. With the assistance of technology and film, the events of the case(s) are more than just learned they are experienced and felt by students.

Throughout the school year we may watch films such as A Civil Action, Erin Brockovich, The Insider, The Informant, etc. These films give students a first hand perspective of real and fictional court cases and other types of applicable law related movies. However, these films may be or are rated “R” and as a result I need your permission to allow your son/daughter to watch in class.

I am looking forward to working with you this school year. It is my hope that you will learn a lot from the work that we do. I also hope to learn a great deal from you. I welcome communications from parents/guardians as well as feedback from students.