

Course Outline: AB1301 Business Law

Academic Year	AY2022/2023	Semester	2
Course Coordinator	Asst Prof Corinne Tan		
Course Code	AB1301		
Course Title	Business Law		
Pre-requisites	None		
No of AUs	3		
Contact Hours	39		
A) Course Aims/ Description			
<p>The aim of this course is to provide you with the foundational and intellectual skills to navigate the legal aspects of business. Specifically, this course provides a solid foundation on the legal methodology and the main principles of law relating to business transactions. A number of topics will be discussed in this course ranging from the formation of contracts, terms of a contract, breach and termination of a contract, law of agency, business organisations and torts.</p> <p>At the completion of this course, you will gain foundational competencies in how commercial law and business practices interrelate and often influence each other in shaping modern commerce and industry. Key legal topics will be explained and illustrated from a business perspective. At the completion of this course, you will also gain a deeper understanding of the legal issues impacting on businesses.</p>			
B) Key Learning Outcomes			
<p>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the key legal principles pertaining to contracts, agency, torts and business organisations. 2. Describe how legal issues arise from contextual factors of a business scenario. 3. Explain the legal principles relevant to the resolution of legal issues. 4. Propose solutions to resolve legal issues relating to disputes/problems arising from a business scenario. 5. Effectively communicate and present arguments, views and ideas (both oral and written) by adopting appropriate presentation tools and techniques. 			

C) Course Content

This course will cover key topics pertaining to the law of contracts, agency, business organisations and torts. Students will be exposed to common law, equitable and statutory principles relating to each of the stated topics. Please see section K below for a detailed listing of topics covered in this course.

D) Assessment (includes both continuous and summative assessments)

Component	ILO Tested	NBS Learning Goal (Refer to Appendix 1 for list)	Weightage	Team/ Individual	Assessment Rubrics
Final written Examination	1 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of knowledge Critical thinking Written communication 	60%	Individual	N.A.
Class Presentation	1 & 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of knowledge Oral communication 	20%	Individual	Rubric 1
Class Participation	1 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of knowledge Problem solving Oral communication 	20%	Individual	Rubric 2
Total			100%		

E) Formative feedback

Seminars will be highly interactive and student inputs will be highly encouraged and assessed as part of **Class Participation**, and formative feedback will be provided during the class discussions on the basis of student inputs. You will also receive formative feedback on your **Class Presentation**.

F) Learning and Teaching approach

Approach	How does this approach support you in achieving the learning outcomes?

Seminar Discussions	<p>All seminars will be conducted in seminar rooms on campus (unless the University requires the course to be continued online due to unforeseen circumstances that prevents the use of the seminar rooms).</p> <p>All communications from your instructor to you will be made by email <i>via</i> the NTULEARN platform.</p> <p>Reading materials will be assigned prior to the seminar and you are expected to complete the relevant mandatory readings before each seminar. The conduct of the classes will depend on your instructor who will basically adopt a problem-solving approach.</p> <p>Each weekly seminar will be premised on hypothetical problems that mimic real-life legal disputes/problems and you are expected to have your personal points of view and prepared responses to the discussion questions.</p> <p>The seminars will allow ample opportunities to clarify your understanding of legal principles and concepts.</p> <p>Discussions will also provide you with the opportunity to gauge your level of understanding of the subject matter and to learn from both the instructor as well as your peers. In addition, one of the primary roles of your instructor is to use the discussion time to clarify and deal with student misconceptions and common errors of understanding relating to complex rules.</p> <p>The seminars will also provide your instructor with the opportunity to assess your problem solving and critical thinking skills, as well as your ability to formulate and present legal arguments coherently.</p>
E-Learning	<p>Week 11 will be e-learning week. Reading materials, audio-visual content and a hypothetical problem scenario will be made available in NTULEARN. You will be required to resolve the hypothetical problem having acquired the relevant knowledge by engaging with the content made available. Students will be provided with feedback on the hypothetical problem so that they can engage in a self-reflection exercise.</p>

G) Reading and References

Core textbooks

- Benny S Tabalujan *et al*, Singapore Business Law (9th edition, 2021) ['Tabalujan']
 - Ravi Chandran, Introduction to Business Law in Singapore (6th edition, 2020) ['Chandran']
 - Loo Wee Ling (ed), Principles of Singapore Business Law (3rd edition, Cengage Learning, 2020) ['LWL'] (available as a e-book, limited access at NTU Library)
 - George TL Shenoy & Loo Wee Ling, Principles of Singapore Business Law (2nd edition, 2013) (available as a e-book, unlimited access at NTU Library)
- [* Please note that the book is quite dated but may still be used with some caution. The e-book for the 2nd edition is available in NTU Library database and is free of charge with unlimited access to all students. The 3rd edition, however, is limited to only 10 concurrent

users for a 4-hourly loan period., after which it is automatically returned to the system so another student can access it.]

Statutes

- Application of English Law Act (AELA Cap 7A) ['Cap' refers to Chapter]
- Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act (CRTA Cap 53B)
- Electronic Transactions Act 2010 (Act 16 of 2010)
- Frustrated Contracts Act (FCA Cap 115)
- Limited Liability Partnerships Act (LLPA Cap 163A)
- Limited Partnerships Act 2008 (LPA Cap 163B)
- Minors' Contracts Act (MCA Cap 389)
- Misrepresentation Act (MA Cap 390)
- Partnership Act (PA Cap 391)
- Unfair Contract Terms Act (UCTA Cap 396)

Statutes may be accessed *via* <https://sso.agc.gov.sg>

[For e.g., to retrieve the "Application of English Law Act" simply type the chapter number "7A" (or the title) in the search box]

Case law

Cases may be accessed *via* the legal databases (such as Westlaw and LawNet) available on the NTU Library website.

H) Course Policies and Student Responsibilities

Your responsibilities include attendance, punctuality, preparation and participation.

Punctuality: You are expected to turn up at the designated seminar rooms before each seminar starts, as late arrivals will be disruptive to class activities and are considered disrespectful to the instructor and your fellow students.

Preparation: You are expected to prepare for each seminar by reading the assigned materials, viewing the instructor's slides (if any, made available before the seminar) and attempting the hypothetical problems. The quality of your and your peers' learning will largely depend on how well prepared you are for class.

Participation: You are expected to contribute to class discussions and exercises, as well as ask questions whenever in doubt. You are also expected to observe respectful behaviour such as raising your hand before speaking), not interrupting other students and not using electronic devices (except when permitted by the instructor for learning purposes).

I) Academic Integrity

As a student, it is important that you recognize your responsibilities in understanding and applying the principles of academic integrity in all the work you do at NTU. Not knowing what is involved in maintaining academic integrity does not excuse academic dishonesty. You need to actively equip yourself with strategies to avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, academic fraud, collusion and cheating. If you are uncertain of the definitions of any of these terms, you should go to the academic integrity website for more information. Consult your instructor(s) if you need any clarification about the requirements of academic integrity in the course.

You must observe and comply with the University's Academic Integrity Policy. The Policy can be accessed via the following link below:

https://www.ntu.edu.sg/docs/default-source/tlpd-documents/academic-integrity-handbook_july
https://www.ntu.edu.sg/docs/default-source/tlpd-documents/academic-integrity-handbook_july-2017.pdf?sfvrsn=fc5a5b24_22017.pdf?sfvrsn=fc5a5b24_2

J) Course Instructors

Instructors	Office Location	Email
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K) Planned Weekly Schedule

Seminar	Topic	ILO	Readings
1	Introduction: Society, business and the law	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 1 & 2; Chandran, Ch 1; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 3; LWL, Ch 3.
2	Formation of contracts I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Intention to contract – Offer – Acceptance – Electronic contracts 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 3; Chandran, Ch 6; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 7; LWL, Ch 7.
3	Formation of contracts II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consideration – Promissory estoppel – Privity 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 4; Chandran, Ch 6; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 8; LWL, Ch 8.
4	Contract terms I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Parol evidence rule – Terms & representations – Express & implied terms – Conditions, warranties, innominate terms – <i>RDC Concrete</i> 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 5; Chandran, Ch 7; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 10; LWL, Ch 10.

5	Contract terms II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exemption clauses 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 5; Chandran, Ch 7; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 11; LWL, Ch 11.
6	Vitiating factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Misrepresentations - Contracts in restraint of trade 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 6; Chandran, Ch 8; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 13 & 15; LWL, Ch13 & 15.
7	Discharge of Contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance - Breach - Frustration - Agreement 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 7; Chandran, Ch 9; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 16 & 17; LWL, Ch 16.
RECESS WEEK			
8	Remedies for breach of contract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Damages - Liquidated damages vs penalties - Equitable remedies 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 8; Chandran, Ch 10; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 18; LWL, Ch 18.
9	Law of Agency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relationship between principal and third party - Relationship between agent and third party - Relationship between principal and agent - Termination of agency relationship 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 16; Chandran, Ch 13; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 20; LWL, Ch 20.
10	Business organisations (e-Learning Week) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sole proprietorship - General partnership - Limited partnership - Limited liability partnership - Companies 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 9; Chandran, Ch 2; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 21; LWL, Ch 21.
11	Torts I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Duty of care / <i>Spandeck</i> - Breach of duty - Damages (Causation and Remoteness) - Defences 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 18; Chandran, Ch 14; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 6; LWL, Ch 6.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vicarious liability 			
12	Torts II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pure economic loss: Negligent Mis-statements - Psychiatric Harm 	1 - 5	Tabalujan, Ch 18; Chandran, Ch 14; Shenoy & Loo, Ch 6; LWL, Ch 6.	
13	FOR MAKE UP DUE TO PUBLIC HOLIDAY OR REVISION AT INSTRUCTOR'S DISCRETION			
<p><i>* Please note that the order of topics may be changed in order to take into account unforeseeable circumstances, etc.</i></p>				

ANNEX B: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR RUBRICSRubric 1: Class Presentation Rubrics

Assessment Traits	1	2	3	4	5
Knowledge of topic and the law 50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter does not demonstrate an understanding of the topic and the legal principles relevant to the topic. • Most of what is contributed is erroneous, irrelevant or unsupported with legal principles and sound logic. • Majority of the questions posed by the audience remained unanswered with incorrect information/arguments. 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive and complete knowledge of topic, while also demonstrating knowledge of the broader implications. • Most of what is contributed is accurate, thorough, directly on point and supported with legal principles. Consistently exhibits depth and insight of the law. • Accurately answered questions posed, while expanding further on the information/arguments made in the presentation.

<p>Communication and presentation skills, Image 50%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading a script instead of presenting. • Minimal eye contact with audience. • Grammar, pronunciation and word choice are deficient. • Delivered the presentation too quickly (or was too slow) or too softly, making it difficult to understand. • The presentation lacked a proper structure. • Presentation aids (if permitted) are not used appropriately. They contain either too much or too little information. • Sloppy or tardy behaviour. • Lacking in confidence. • Performance reflected lack of effort both in preparation and delivery of presentation. • Inappropriate/disinterested body language. • Inappropriate attire (expected of a business professional conducting a business presentation). 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presents without a script. • Regular/constant eye contact and spoke to every member of the audience. • Perfect grammar, excellent pronunciation and choice of words that enhanced clarity of expression. • Engaged the audience and responded with questions and comments. • The presenter held the audience's attention for the full duration of the presentation. • Appropriate speaking volume (heard by the entire audience) and pace, with complementary body language. • The presentation was structured in a systematic manner, with each part of the presentation identifying and addressing a particular aspect of the topic. • The presentation used the beginning, body and end of the presentation effectively. • Visual or other aids (if permitted) contained clear and concise information, with no linguistic blemishes, and are used creatively in an appealing manner to complement the information/arguments presented. • Dressed as a business professional in smart attire and outstanding poise, exuding confidence.

Rubric 2: Class Participation Rubrics

Assessment Traits	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Level of Engagement 50%</p>	<p>Student never contributes in class and during group discussions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offering ideas; • presenting arguments; or • asking questions. <p>Student is not attentive, listening or following the discussion.</p>				<p>Student proactively and consistently contributes in class and during group discussions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offering ideas; • presenting arguments; and • asking relevant questions.
<p>Quality Of Contribution 50%</p>	<p>Student shares ideas/raises questions that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • distract (i.e., takes the discussion off topic); • do not advance the discussions or topic; or • show a lack of understanding of the topic discussed. <p>Student is almost never:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepared for class; • making the effort to do the requisite reading; or • appears to not have read through and prepared responses to the worksheet for the class. 				<p>Student shares ideas/raises questions that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant to on-going discussions and the topic; • enhances discussion; and • demonstrates an excellent grasp of the topic discussed. <p>For example, the student will ask key questions, synthesise information, make pertinent connections between issues or topics and clarify doubts raised by peers.</p>

