

**SUMMER 1, 2008**  
**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**  
**Department of General Business and Finance**  
**Course Syllabus**

**COURSE NUMBER:** GBA 281

**COURSE TITLE:** Legal Environment of Business

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**INSTRUCTOR:** Martin L. Griffin, J.D.

**OFFICE:** Smith-Hutson Bldg. Room 200C

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday 2-4 p.m.  
Tuesday 9-10 a.m.; 2-4 p.m.  
Wednesday 9-10 a.m.; 2-4 p.m.  
Thursday 9-10 a.m.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** **West's Business Law**, Kenneth W. Clarkson, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition 2006.  
(Softback for 281)

**SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS:** TBD

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this course is to give students an insight into the environment in which businesses operate and to provide them with a basic understanding of solving problems using legal rules. It may be elected by nonbusiness students.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students will be expected to:

1. Develop the ability to recognize legal problems that arise in common business transactions.
2. Know selected legal rule and their impact on the decisions made in operations of businesses.
3. Develop the analytical thinking process by the application of legal concepts in the solving of problems.
4. Understand the environment in which business decisions are made and the effect of those environs on the decision process.

**COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS**

Three (3) major examinations = 25% each exam for a total of 75%  
Final exam = 25%

## **STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS**

A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable time frame in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

## **DISABLED STUDENT POLICY**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, Student Life program, or activity. Disabled students may request academic assistance when needed from a Committee for Continuing Academic Assistance for Disabled Students by visiting the Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Building Annex, or by calling ext. 41720.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance in this class is expected as is stated in the latest Sam Houston State University catalog. Three (3) hours of unexcused absences are permitted without penalty. The penalty for excessive unexcused absences, which is defined as ten (10) hours, is automatic failure (a grade of "F") of the class. Also, those who miss a substantial number of classes will penalize themselves by missing material that will be discussed in class, that may not appear in the texts, and over which the class will be tested. If a student arrives late for class and the roll has been taken, the student is considered absent for the day unless otherwise corrected. Perfect attendance will be rewarded for "borderlines". (1 point to final average)

Any examination missed because of an absence must be made up at the end of the semester by all students who missed examinations, unless otherwise adjusted.

**EXAMINATIONS:**

Exam 1:	Chapters 1-4; Mon., June 9, 2008
Exam 2:	Chapters 6-9; Mon., June 16, 2008
Exam 3:	Chapters 31 & 32; 35-40; Tues., June 24, 2008
<b>Final Exam:</b>	Chapters 33, 34, 41, 43, 46; Tues., July 1, 2008