STUDYWALKS · COURSE SYLLABUS

Introductory Business Law — High School Course with CLEP Preparation

Every business runs on law: the contracts it makes and the remedies when one is broken, the torts and product liability it answers for, and the regulation, employment, antitrust and consumer protection rules that shape how it competes. This course covers the sources of American law and the courts, contracts in depth, torts, the legal environment of business, agency, business organizations and sales under the UCC, one lesson at a time, each rule taught with a short case problem and every worked number checked by computer. It teaches general principles, not legal advice.

CREDIT LABEL	HOURS GOAL	STUDYWALKS LEARNING HOURS	SUGGESTED OFFLINE HOURS
1.0 credit	**120 h**	**36 h**	**84 h**
high school, with the study plan	the 1.0-credit convention	measured runtime plus assessment time	reading, review and writing

36 h StudyWalks (9.3 h of lessons, 17.5 h of lectures, 9.1 h of quizzes and exams) + **84 h** suggested offline study = **120 h**. 558 lessons in 27 units; prepares for the CLEP Introductory Business Law exam.

High school credit is granted by the homeschool parent under the state's rules. StudyWalks supplies the record: hours, scores and this syllabus. The credit label is a suggestion; the parent makes the final call.

Course contents

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
1	**Getting Ready: The Exam and What Law Is** The exam · What law is and what it does · Schools of legal thought · Categories of law	20	29 min
2	**Sources of American Law and Legal Systems** The six sources · Ranking and naming the sources · The common law and precedent · The UCC, legal systems and federalism	20	29 min
3	**The Constitution and Business** Structure and the branches · The commerce clause · State power and federal supremacy · Whom the rights bind · Speech and searches · Due process, takings and equal protection	22	41 min (2 parts)
4	**Courts, Jurisdiction and Civil Procedure** The court systems · Subject-matter jurisdiction · Parties, place and plaintiff · Opening the case · Before trial · Trial, appeal and judgment · Many plaintiffs, lawyers, and one whole case	22	43 min (2 parts)
5	**Alternative Dispute Resolution and Criminal Law in Business** Settling it themselves · Arbitration and choosing a method · Criminal liability · Crimes in business · Defenses, procedure and rights	22	42 min (2 parts)
6	**Introduction to Contracts: Kinds and Terms** What a contract is · Which law governs · How a contract is made and performed · Enforceability and the whole unit	20	31 min

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
7	**The Agreement: Offer and Acceptance** Assent and the offer · Definite terms · Ending an offer, and holding it open · Lapse and who may accept · Changed acceptances and timing · Other ways to accept, and the whole unit	22	41 min (2 parts)
8	**Real Assent: Duress, Undue Influence, Misrepresentation and Mistake** Real assent and pressure · Misrepresentation and fraud · Mistake and the whole unit	18	30 min
9	**Consideration and Promissory Estoppel** What consideration is · Promises that give nothing, and modifications · Settling debts · Enforcing promises without consideration	20	31 min
10	**Capacity and Legality** Minors · Limits on avoidance, mental incapacity and intoxication · Bargains that break a statute · Restraints and waivers · Unfair terms and the effect of illegality · The unit in one case	22	43 min (2 parts)
11	**Form and Meaning: The Statute of Frauds, Parol Evidence and Interpretation** The statute and its categories · Debts, estates and marriage · Land and time · Goods and the writing · Electronic, missing and changed writings · The parol evidence rule · Interpretation · The unit in one case	20	42 min (2 parts)
12	**Third-Party Rights and Joint Obligations** Outsiders and the assignment · Notice and defenses · Limits on assignment · Delegation of duties · Taking over an obligation · Third-party beneficiaries · Joint obligations · The unit in one case	20	42 min (2 parts)
13	**Discharge of Contract Obligations** Discharge and conditions · Time and satisfaction · Performance and breach · Discharge by agreement · When performance is excused · Time limits and other endings · The unit in one case	20	40 min (2 parts)
14	**Breach, Remedies and Bars to Remedies** Breach and the interests remedies protect · Measuring money damages · Token, punitive and agreed damages, and mitigation · Certainty and equitable remedies · Bars to remedies · The whole unit in one case	22	46 min (2 parts)
15	**Torts: Purpose and Intentional Torts** What a tort is · Intentional torts against the person · Reputation and privacy · Torts against property · Business torts · Defenses and the whole unit	20	39 min (2 parts)
16	**Negligence and Strict Liability** The standard and the elements · Businesses and landowners · Proving breach and cause · Damages and the defenses to negligence · Liability without fault, and for another's fault · The whole unit in one case	22	42 min (2 parts)
17	**Products Liability and Warranties** Theories and express warranties · Implied warranties · Limits on warranty claims · Negligence and strict liability · Defects and defenses · Regulation and the whole unit	20	40 min (2 parts)
18	**Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility** Ethics, law and business · Results and duties · Contract, character and core values · Whom a business serves · Beyond the shareholders · Governance and honesty · The unit in one case	21	40 min (2 parts)

Unit	Title and lecture topics	Lessons	Lecture
19	**Administrative Law and Government Regulation** Why agencies exist and what they do · Controlling agencies · Procedure under the APA · Investigations and inspections · Records and getting into court · Review and remedies · The environment and the whole unit	20	42 min (2 parts)
20	**Antitrust Law** The trusts and the statutes · Section 1 and its two standards · Horizontal and vertical restraints · Monopoly and the Clayton Act · Tying, price discrimination and mergers · Enforcement, remedies and exemptions · The unit in one case	20	42 min (2 parts)
21	**Consumer Protection and Unfair Trade Practices** Why the law and the agency · Deceptive advertising · Unfairness, labels and safety · Sales at the door and by mail · Remedies · The cost of credit · Fair access to credit · Debts and transfers · The unit in one case	22	45 min (2 parts)
22	**Employment and Labor Law** At will and its limits · Pay, safety and injury · Benefits, leave and notice · Privacy and hiring · Title VII · Title VII, continued · Age, disability and the charge · Labor statutes and organizing · Practices, shops and strikes · The unit in one case	27	53 min (2 parts)
23	**International Business Law** Sovereignty and its sources · Trade rules · International sales · Reach, immunity and disputes · The unit in one case	18	31 min
24	**Sales of Goods under UCC Article 2** What Article 2 covers · Forming the contract · Identification and title · Risk of loss · Nonowners and the seller's tender · The buyer's duties and the remedies · Excuses, leases and the whole sale	22	45 min (2 parts)
25	**Agency** The agency relationship · Duties between agent and principal · Authority and contracts · Torts · Ending an agency, and the whole	20	30 min
26	**Partnerships, Corporations and Other Business Forms** Choosing a form, and the sole owner · Forming a partnership · Inside the partnership · Leaving, ending, and limited partners · Limited liability without a corporation · The corporation and its taxes · Running a corporation · The whole unit	22	47 min (2 parts)
27	**Capstone: One Business Through the Law** Forming the business and its contract · Breach and harm · Workers, rivals, agents and ethics · Exam habits · The whole course	14	30 min

Assessment and grading

- **Unit quizzes.** 27 quizzes, 10 questions each, checked as the student goes, each answer with the lesson to review. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Mid exam.** 50 questions on units 1–14, drawn fresh each time and scored at the end with a breakdown by content area. Untimed; retakes are unlimited.
- **Final exam.** 100 questions, 90 minutes, on the whole course. Scored 20–80; 50 passes (67 of 100 correct, about 67%). Retakes are unlimited with a 24-hour wait, each a fresh draw.

Suggested composite grade

Part	Weight
Unit quizzes (average of best scores)	20%
Mid exam (best score)	20%
Final exam (percent correct)	60%

Suggested letter scale

Letter	Composite
A	90–100
B	80–89
C	70–79
D	60–69
F	below 60

Suggested; the parent sets the grade. A passing final is the completion standard for the course record.

Study plan

The 84 offline hours are spread over the units in proportion to each unit's StudyWalks time. For each unit: read the matching sections of *Business Law and the Legal Environment; Business Law I Essentials 2e (OpenStax); Fundamentals of Business Law*, review the unit quiz misses, and write a one-page unit summary. Log the time as you go.

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
1	Getting Ready: The Exam and What Law Is	49 min	2 h 35 min	3 h 24 min
2	Sources of American Law and Legal Systems	49 min	2 h 35 min	3 h 24 min
3	The Constitution and Business	1 h 3 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 18 min
4	Courts, Jurisdiction and Civil Procedure	1 h 5 min	3 h 25 min	4 h 30 min
5	Alternative Dispute Resolution and Criminal Law in Business	1 h 4 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 24 min
6	Introduction to Contracts: Kinds and Terms	50 min	2 h 35 min	3 h 25 min
7	The Agreement: Offer and Acceptance	1 h 3 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 18 min
8	Real Assent: Duress, Undue Influence, Misrepresentation and Mistake	48 min	2 h 30 min	3 h 18 min
Lessons and lectures		**26 h 51 min**	**84 h**	**110 h 51 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**9 h 6 min**	**—**	**9 h 6 min**

Unit	Title	StudyWalks	Offline, suggested	Unit total
9	Consideration and Promissory Estoppel	51 min	2 h 40 min	3 h 31 min
10	Capacity and Legality	1 h 5 min	3 h 25 min	4 h 30 min
11	Form and Meaning: The Statute of Frauds, Parol Evidence and Interpretation	1 h 2 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 17 min
12	Third-Party Rights and Joint Obligations	1 h 2 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 17 min
13	Discharge of Contract Obligations	1 h	3 h 10 min	4 h 10 min
14	Breach, Remedies and Bars to Remedies	1 h 7 min	3 h 30 min	4 h 37 min
15	Torts: Purpose and Intentional Torts	59 min	3 h 5 min	4 h 4 min
16	Negligence and Strict Liability	1 h 4 min	3 h 20 min	4 h 24 min
17	Products Liability and Warranties	1 h	3 h 5 min	4 h 5 min
18	Business Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility	1 h 1 min	3 h 10 min	4 h 11 min
19	Administrative Law and Government Regulation	1 h 2 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 17 min
20	Antitrust Law	1 h 2 min	3 h 15 min	4 h 17 min
21	Consumer Protection and Unfair Trade Practices	1 h 7 min	3 h 30 min	4 h 37 min
22	Employment and Labor Law	1 h 19 min	4 h 5 min	5 h 24 min
23	International Business Law	49 min	2 h 35 min	3 h 24 min
24	Sales of Goods under UCC Article 2	1 h 7 min	3 h 30 min	4 h 37 min
25	Agency	50 min	2 h 35 min	3 h 25 min
26	Partnerships, Corporations and Other Business Forms	1 h 9 min	3 h 35 min	4 h 44 min
27	Capstone: One Business Through the Law	44 min	2 h 15 min	2 h 59 min
Lessons and lectures		**26 h 51 min**	**84 h**	**110 h 51 min**
Quizzes, mid exam and final (stated time)		**9 h 6 min**	**—**	**9 h 6 min**

Unit times are the unit's lecture runtime plus its lessons at the course's measured average lesson length; totals can differ from the learning hours by rounding.

Sources

- **Anchor:** *Business Law and the Legal Environment*, version 1.0 (2012). Saylor Academy. CC BY-NC-SA 3.0
- **Witness:** *Business Law I Essentials 2e*. OpenStax, Rice University. CC BY-NC-SA 4.0
- **Witness:** Melissa Randall and Community College of Denver Students. *Fundamentals of Business Law* (2020). Pressbooks. CC BY 4.0

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