

Unit of Study Guide: BUS1006 Introduction to Business Law Trimester 1 2023

Overview

This unit introduces students to the fundamentals of business law and the Australian legal environment. It begins with an overview of the sources of law in society and the Australian law-making process, before examining topics such as the formation, operation, and termination of contracts, the nature of consumer law, trade practises law, and the law as it applies to different business structures. The unit also introduces the concept of agency.

This unit places emphasis on logical and critical thinking and requires students to apply these skills to the identification and resolution of legal problems through case study analysis and as they apply to business.

Course(s)	Bachelor of Business Bachelor of Business Information Systems Bachelor of Information Technology
Core or Elective	Core: Bachelor Business Studies Elective: Bachelor of Business Information Systems
Credit Points	6
Duration	12 weeks (10 teaching weeks; 1 study week; 1 final assessment week)
Level	Undergraduate Introductory
Student Workload	Students should expect to spend approximately <10 hours per week over 12 weeks (totalling approximately 120 hours) on learning activities for this unit.
Essential Requirements	N/A.
Mode(s) of Delivery	Online.
Pre-Requisites	None.
Unit Coordinator	As per current timetable
Contact Information	Consultation: 1 hour scheduled session .

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this units, students will be able to:

- ULO1: Discuss the Australian legal system and the legal context in which businesses operate.
- ULO2: Explain how Australian laws are created, changed, and applied.
- ULO3: Identify the laws that relate to establishing legal entities, and to the formulation, operation, and termination of contracts.
- ULO4: Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of various types of legal structures and business entities.

ULO5: Analyse legal issues and problems as they apply to businesses and recommend appropriate courses of action with emphasis on legal precedent.

Weekly Schedule

Detailed information for each week's activities can be found in the unit's weekly modules in Canvas.

Week	Topic
Week 1	The Origins of Australian Law. The importance of English roots. Common law vs civil code (British vs European law). Common law of Australia. Common law vs legislature. The doctrine of precedent. Citation of cases, and legislation
Week 2	The Constitution & Government – origin, content and coverage, structure, safeguards
Week 3	Business Organisations and Law A. The aims of appropriate business structures; characteristics of the main business structures in Australia: sole trader, partnership, business trust; corporations (public and private). Strengths and weaknesses of each structure. Regulation of each structure (role of States and Commonwealth). Taxation considerations.
Week 4	Business Organisations and Law B. The Corporations Act 2010, Role of directors. Directors Duties (ss 180 to181). Trading whilst insolvent. Agency.
Week 5	Contract Law A – Types of contracts; The formation of contract; the essential prerequisites. Intention, Agreement, Consideration, capacity, Genuine Consent, legality, and Form
Week 6	Contract Law B – Construction, Discharge, Rights and Remedies
Week 7	Business Torts -A: The law of Tort and Negligence
Week 8	Business Torts-B: Application of Negligence to Business
Week 9	Electronic Commerce
Week 10	Business Ethics
Week 11	Revision
Week 12	Final assessments

Assessments






1. All assessments are compulsory.
2. To pass the unit students must:
 - achieve a total of 50% or more of marks offered; and
 - pass all individual invigilated assessments; and
 - have attempted all assessments.


Where one or more of these requirements are not met, the Board of Examiners will consider a student's overall progress towards meeting the unit learning outcomes and any special circumstances before reaching a decision.

3. The Board of Examiners may grant a supplementary assessment where a student:
- achieves a total of 45% or more; and
 - has passed all individual invigilated assessments in the unit; and
 - has attempted all assessments; and
 - has a recommendation for supplementary assessment by the Unit Coordinator and the Head of Discipline?

Where one or more of these requirements are not met, the Board of Examiners will consider a student's overall progress towards meeting the unit learning outcomes and any special circumstances before reaching a decision. Attendance and engagement in class will be considered.

4. APIC awards common result grades as set out in the [Award of Grade Policy](#).
5. Detailed information for each assessment can be found on the Unit's Home Page and in the Assessment Brief.

Assessment Task	Type	Weight	Length	Due	ULO's Assessed
<p>Assessment 1: Weekly workshop activities Weekly workshop activities based on materials covered in week 1 - 8.</p>	<p>Individual  Invigilated </p>	40% (4x10%)	40 mins in each (equiv. 3000 words)	Week 3-9 (To be held in week 3, 5, 7 and 9)	ULO1 ULO2 ULO3 ULO4 ULO5
<p>Assessment 2: Case study Students must search Australian legal databases and find a court decision on contract law that has been decided over the past few years. Students need to critically review the decision and address the following points: -Summarise the facts of the case. -Identify the legal issues -Analyse the applicable laws and discuss the relevant aspects of contract law which are applied on the case. -Critically review the decisions.</p>	<p>Group </p>	30%	2500 words	Week 8	ULO4 ULO5
<p>Assessment 3: Debate Student will be required to prepare a debate presentation based upon the topic provided by the lecturer on that day just before the 10 minutes to start the debate. Presentations might include either support the resolution or against the resolution.</p>	<p>Individual  Invigilated </p>	20%	15 mins (equiv. 1500 words) presentation	Week 11 & 12	ULO1 ULO2

<p>Assessment 4: Report Student will be required to prepare a debate report of 300 words based upon their presented topics and submit it on that night before 11:59 pm.</p>	<p>Individual </p>	<p>10%</p>	<p>300 words report</p>	<p>Week 11 & 12 Depending upon debate presentation.</p>	<p>ULO1 ULO2</p>
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equiv. – equivalent word count based on the Assessment Load Equivalence Guide. It means this assessment is equivalent to the normally expected time requirement for a written submission containing the specified number of words.

Course Reserves

Course Reserve includes all required resources and reading material for the unit of study. You can access Course Reserve via [APIC Library](#) or via the Course Reserve link on the unit's homepage.

Prescribed text(s):

Gibson, A 2019, *Business Law*, 11th edn, Pearson Publishers, Melbourne.

Recommended Readings:

Barron, ML 2015, *Fundamentals of Business Law*, 7th edn, McGraw Hill Education, Australia

Graw, S 2017, *An Introduction to the Law of Contract*, 9th edn, Thomson Reuters, Sydney, Australia.

Latimer, P 2016, *Australian Business Law*, 35th edn, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, Australia

Vickery, R & Flood, M 2011, *Australian Business Law: Compliance and Practice*, 7th edn, Pearson Education, Frenchs Forest, Australia

Other Recommended Resources:

Harvard Business Review: www.hbr.org

Australasian Legal Information Institute: <http://www.austlii.edu.au>

Federal Court of Australia: <http://www.fedcourt.gov.Australia>

Law Society Online: <http://www.lawsociety.com.au>

Academic Integrity

Ethical conduct and academic integrity and honesty are fundamental to the mission of APIC and academic misconduct will not be tolerated by the College. It is the responsibility of every student to make sure that they understand what constitutes academic misconduct and to refrain from engaging in it. Please refer to APIC's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) for further details.

Other Important Information and Links

<p>Special consideration</p> <p>If your academic work is impacted by significant documented illness, hardship, or other adverse circumstances beyond your control, you may make an application for Special Consideration. Please refer to the Assessment Policy for further details.</p>	<p>Late submission</p> <p>Penalties apply when work is submitted after the due date without approval. Please refer to the Assessment Policy for information about late submission.</p>
<p>Assessment appeals</p> <p>If you are concerned about a mark you have received for an assessment or final grade, you may apply to formally appeal the grade. Please see the Assessment Policy for further details.</p>	<p>Award of grades</p> <p>APIC awards common result grades, set out in the Award of Grade Policy.</p>
<p>Expectations of student conduct</p> <p>Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with a safe and respectful study environment. More information can be found in the Student Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>Study resources</p> <p>APIC Library and Student Learning Support resources and services can be accessed via the Student Lounge or your Dashboard on the OLS (Canvas).</p>
<p>Student Services</p> <p>The Student Services team provides administrative support for students and handles enquiries about enrolment, timetables, important dates and submitting forms. More information can be found on the Student Services page on the OLS (Canvas).</p>	<p>Key dates</p> <p>Key dates through the academic year, including teaching periods, census, payment deadlines and exams can be found on the Academic Calendar section of the APIC website.</p>

Changes and Updates to the Unit of Study Guide

This Unit of Study Guide may be updated and amended from time to time. Students will be notified of any changes to the unit via the Online Learning System (Canvas) space for the unit.

This Unit of Study Guide was last modified on <21 Jan 2023>