

Kingsborough Community College of the City University of New York  
Department of Business

**BA 12 – Business Law I** (3 credits/ 3 hours/ wk)

**Instructor:** Professor XXX  
**Department Phone:** 718-368-5555  
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**Catalogue Description:** The American legal system: analysis of the essential principles of law in the operation of a business entity, with emphasis on the application of the laws of torts and contracts. Review of appropriate Appeals Court decisions.

**Text:** Business Law: Text and Cases, by Clarkson, Miller, Jentz, Cross (Cengage). Selections by Norman Adise and Jeffrey Lax.

**Supplemental Readings:** 1) [www.abajournal.com/news/](http://www.abajournal.com/news/), 2) [www.bloomberg.com/news/law/](http://www.bloomberg.com/news/law/), 3) <http://online.wsj.com/public/page/news-law-legal.html>

**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Midterm #1	20%
2. Midterm #2	20%
3. Attendance, Class Participation, and Other Assignments	20%
4. Final Examination	40%

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completing this course, you will be able to:

- 1) Identify the basic principles of law underlying business transactions particularly in the area of contracts;
- 2) Identify/analyze legal problems commonly associated with contractual relations of parties in commercial enterprises;
- 3) Explain how Civil Law applies to two primary aspects of private enterprise: the laws of contracts and torts.

**Miscellaneous:** 1) You are limited to six (6) absences and attendance will be taken daily! **Absences in excess of this limit will result in a “WU” grade** – in effect, an automatic administrative withdrawal from the course (no credit given regardless of work done or tests taken). Three (3) latenesses will result in one absence; 2) Assignments must be handed in by the due date- late submissions will result in a penalty; 3) **There are no make-up examinations** and no credit given for missed assignments; 4) Please be courteous to your instructor and fellow students- **NO CELL PHONES (Texting, Talking, Tapping) DURING CLASS.**

**Office Hours:** After class or by appointment in room M-355.

**Course Transferability (3 credits):** Baruch: LAW 1101; Brooklyn: ACCNT 40; City College: ECO 38000; Hunter: ECO 280; John Jay: as elective; Lehman: ECO 336; Medgar Evers: LAW 210; New York College: ACCNT 122; Queens: as elective; Staten Island: BUSINESS 160; York College: BUSINESS 283

**Case Brief Assignment:** Each student will be required to complete a written report (a “case brief”) on an appellate court opinion to be assigned. The case brief must be typed and must include each of following sections separated by paragraph:

1. The Case Title
2. The Date and Location of the Court
3. The Claims of the Respective Parties
4. The Lower Court Decision
5. The Appellate Court Decision and its Reasoning
6. Your Opinion of the Court's Decision and Reasoning

The case brief **should be no more than one side of a page**. Text should be 12-point font only, single spaced within each section and double-spaced between sections.

**Course Schedule:**

Week	Chapter	Topic	Exams
1	1	Introduction to Law and Legal Reasoning	<b>Exam #1 (20%)</b> Chapters 1,2,5, and 3
1	2	Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution	
2	5	Criminal Law and Cyber Crime	
3	3	Intentional Torts	<b>Exam #2 (20%)</b> Chapters 4,6,7, and 8
3	4	Negligence and Strict Liability	
4	6	Contracts: Nature and Terminology	
5	7	Agreement	
6	8	Consideration	<b>Final Exam (40%)</b> Chapters 1 to 12
7	9	Capacity and Legality	
8	10	Mistakes, Fraud, and Voluntary Consent	
9	11	The Statute of Frauds-- The Writing Requirement	
10	12	Third Party Rights	
11	13	Performance and Discharge	
12	14	Breach of Contract and Remedies	
*	15	E-Contracts and E-Signatures	

\*-Time permitting

**Kingsborough Accessibility Policy:** Access-Ability Services (AAS) serves as a liaison and resource to the KCC community regarding disability issues, promotes equal access to all KCC programs and activities, and makes every reasonable effort to provide appropriate accommodations and assistance to students with disabilities. Please contact this office if you require such accommodations and assistance. Your instructor will be glad to make the accommodations you need, but you must have documentation from the Access-Ability office for any accommodations.

**Academic Dishonesty:** You are expected to do your own work. If you cheat or copy someone else's work (or allow yours to be copied) you will be graded with ZERO or course failure. (KCC's plagiarism policy is at [www.kingsborough.edu](http://www.kingsborough.edu).)

**Civility:** Civility and respect for others is essential in an academic environment. Any acts of harassment and/or discrimination based on race, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, or ability will not be tolerated.