The Legal & Ethical Environment of Business

Summer A Syllabus
Dr. F. E. Guerra-Pujol
University of Central Florida
Course Description

Are you Team Carole or Team Joe? This term, we will explore the legal and ethical environments of business firms through the lens of the hit Netflix docuseries “Tiger King.” Among other things, we will identify the main sources of law that apply to most business firms, including State, federal, and international law. We will then study the common law, an important area of law that applies to every single business firm, even a private zoo like Carole’s Baskin’s non-profit Big Cat Rescue or Joe Exotic’s controversial, for-profit G.W. Zoo. Later, we will explore the law of ideas (intellectual property rights) and see why this area of law is so essential for modern-day business firms. Also, it turns out the Million-Dollar lawsuit between the two central characters in Tiger King—Carole Baskin and Joe Exotic—involved intellectual property rights! Next, we will explore the criminal case against Joe Exotic as well as the criminal allegations against Carole Baskin. We will also distinguish between civil and criminal liability and explore the main aspects of civil and criminal cases. Last but not least we will conclude this course with an exploration of ethics, including animal rights and the legal regulation of sex.
Since the surprise-hit docuseries “Tiger King” will be the common theme of this course (as mentioned on the previous page), the only thing you are required to have is a subscription to Netflix, or a friend who has a subscription to Netflix.

You do not need to purchase a textbook or any other reading materials for this course, since textbooks are too damn expensive and since the Professor will post all required readings on Canvas (UCF Webcourses). These readings will consist of book chapters, law cases, legislative materials, law review articles, and other legal and ethical readings.

Warning: Students will need access to WiFi during these next six weeks in order to complete the assignments (all assignments in this course will be posted on Canvas) and watch the Professor’s law lectures (all lectures will be posted on Canvas via YouTube), so if for whatever reason you will not have access to WiFi this semester, you should consider dropping this course.
This course will consist of six separate modules—one per week as follows:

- Module 1 = Introduction to the Course
- Module 2 = Sources of Law (State, Federal, and International Law)
- Module 3 = The Common Law (Torts, Property, and Contracts)
- Module 4 = The Law of Ideas (Trademarks & Copyrights)
- Module 5 = Civil & Criminal Cases (Due Process & Burdens of Proof)
- Module 6 = Ethics (CSR, Sex, and Animal Rights)

Note: The Professor will open a new module every Monday, beginning on Monday, May 11. (See “Course Schedule” on the next page of this syllabus.) The reading materials, video lectures, and course assignments for each week will be found in that week’s corresponding module.
# Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 1 (begins on Monday, 5/11)</th>
<th>Watch “Tiger King” and complete the required Academic Activity.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 2 (begins on Monday, 5/18)</td>
<td>Watch the Professor’s lectures on “Sources of Law,” read all the cases and materials in Module 2, and complete a quiz and a discussion post.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 3 (begins on Monday, 5/25)</td>
<td>Watch the Professor’s lectures on “The Common Law,” read all the cases and materials in Module 3, and complete a quiz and a discussion post.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 4 (begins on Monday, 6/1)</td>
<td>Watch the Professor’s lectures on “The Law of Ideas,” read all the cases and materials in Module 4, and complete a quiz and a discussion post.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 5 (begins on Monday, 6/8)</td>
<td>Watch the Professor’s lectures on “Civil &amp; Criminal Cases,” read all the materials in Module 5, and complete a quiz and a discussion post.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEEK 6 (begins on Monday, 6/15)</td>
<td>Watch the Professor’s lectures on “Ethics,” read all the materials in Module 6, and complete the Final Project.</td>
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Course Assignments

During the first week of this course, the Professor will assign an “Academic Activity” as required by UCF. This assignment will be posted on Canvas and must be complete by Friday, May 15, 2020 (11:59PM).

During weeks 2 though 5 (inclusive) of this course, the Professor will assign one discussion post and one quiz per week. Beginning on Friday, May 22, 2020, these assignments will be posted on Canvas every Thursday night and will remain open for 72 hours.

During the last week of this course (week 6), the Professor will assign a final project. This assignment will be posted on Canvas on Friday, June 19, 2020, and will remain open for one full week. The above set of assignments will be weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUIZZES</th>
<th>DISCUSSION POSTS</th>
<th>FINAL PROJECT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>240 points</td>
<td>240 points</td>
<td>240 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1/3 of the grade)</td>
<td>(1/3 of the grade)</td>
<td>(1/3 of the grade)</td>
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Grading

In accordance with the policies of the College of Business, the grades in this course will be awarded based on the following grading scale:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>GPA = Letter Grade</th>
<th>% Range</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.00 = A</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
<td>648 – 720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.25 = B+</td>
<td>87 – 89.99</td>
<td>626.4 – 647.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00 = B</td>
<td>80 – 86.99</td>
<td>576 – 626.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.50 = C+</td>
<td>77 – 79.99</td>
<td>554.4 – 575.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00 = C</td>
<td>70 – 76.99</td>
<td>504 – 554.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.50 = D+</td>
<td>67 – 69.99</td>
<td>482.4 – 503.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00 = D</td>
<td>60 – 66.99</td>
<td>432 – 482.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00 = F</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>&lt;432</td>
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Maps

Big Cat Rescue (Tampa, FL)

G.W. Exotic Animal Park (Wynnewood, OK)
F. E. Guerra-Pujol

Dr. Guerra-Pujol attended college at UC Santa Barbara (#GauchoForLife), double-majoring in political philosophy and Spanish literature and graduating with Highest Honors. He then studied at Yale. Before becoming a professor and devoting himself full-time to research and teaching, he practiced business law in San Juan, Puerto Rico, representing such clients as Banco Popular, Miller Brewing Company, and Proctor & Gamble. Dr. Guerra-Pujol is married to Sydjia Robinson (#TeamJamaica) and a father of four.

BLOG: https://priorprobability.com/
TWITTER: @lawscholar
FACEBOOK: fe.guerrapujol
INSTAGRAM: @guerra_pujol

Christy Champnella

Christy is a masters of accounting student at UCF. After completing her CPA, she will start working at a big four accounting firm in their tax practice starting in October. When she was in undergrad at UCF, she was very involved in campus activities, so please reach out to her if you have any further questions regarding accounting, the CPA exam, or how to get involved in the College of Business.
Morgan is in her last semester as a graduate student in the Masters of Accounting program at UCF. After graduation, she will continue to live in Orlando to work as an audit associate at RSM. She loves biking, hiking, and traveling the world, and has been to countries as far away as China, Japan, and Norway. Her goal is to visit a new country each year to experience different cultures and gain new perspectives on life.

Ben Mayo

[COMING SOON: PHOTO & FAVORITE TIGER EMOJI]

Short bio here (coming soon).

Antonella Vitulli

[COMING SOON: PHOTO & FAVORITE TIGER EMOJI]

Short bio here (coming soon).
**Boilerplate**

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**Makeup Policy**

There will be absolutely no makeups or deadline extensions in this course. No exceptions!

**Academic Integrity**

If a student is caught cheating in this course, he or she will receive an automatic F for the entire course. Cheating includes the use of Course Hero, Chegg, Quizlet, and other such websites.

**Students with Disabilities**

The University of Central Florida and the Professor are committed to providing reasonable accommodations to all students with disabilities. Students who need a reasonable accommodation must first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). After registering with SAS, students who need a reasonable accommodation must also contact the Professor via email or in person during the first week of class. No exceptions.

*** THE END ***