

**DEPARTMENT Business & Office Administration**  
**COURSE OUTLINE – Spring 2024**  
**LR3010 (EC): Legal Relations – 3 (5.5-0-0) UT 45 Hours for 8 Weeks**

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation, and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land, and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Simon Bossen, J.D. **PHONE:** n/a  
**OFFICE:** n/a **E-MAIL:** SBossen@nwpolytech.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

A synoptic view of the Canadian legal system, with emphasis on underlying considerations of social policy. While considering the nature, sources, philosophy, and policy objectives of the law, selected topics from the fields of tort and contract will be analyzed.

**PREREQUISITE:** none

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Willes, John A., and Willes, John H., Contemporary Canadian Business Law: Principles and Cases, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, McGraw Hill

This text includes Connect with SmartBook Online Access. Students must have a Connect access code to gain access to online resources and assessments. It is the student's choice if they purchase a new print text with a Connect access code, *or* an e-book with a Connect access code. If you have purchased a used textbook, you will have to purchase a Connect access code separately. *Note: the time zone in Connect must be set to Canada/Mountain time for duration of course.*

**There will be an additional fee (\$17.50 US) per semester for the proctoring software.**

For device, software, and network requirements, please visit the following link:

<https://www.nwpolytech.ca/doc.php?d=TECHREQ>

## **DELIVERY MODE: Asynchronous**

This type of course will be offered online. There are no set class times and students will be required to self-study asynchronously. **This is a paced, online self-study course.**

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- recognize, interpret, and evaluate the fundamental legal concepts, legislation, and legal issues important to Canadian business, to better manage risk;
- Analyze and apply legal concepts to specific legal business problems and suggest appropriate legal remedies;
- Assess real-life legal problems in order to formulate creative solutions;
- Value law as a “real life” practical subject, not as a matter of theory or history.

## **TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page

<http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

## **EVALUATIONS:**

You will be tested on your understanding of and ability to apply the concepts presented in the readings. Textbook materials, discussions, videos, or any materials provided may all be used for the quizzes or exams.

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Assignments                             | 15%         |
| Quizzes                                 | 30%         |
| Mid-Term Exam                           | 25%         |
| Final Exam (Cumulative; all chapters) * | 35%         |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>100%</b> |

***\*In order to receive credit for LR3010, you must achieve 50 percent on the final examination, and a course composite grade of at least D (50%).***

***\*\*The course end date is June 28, 2024 at 11:59pm. The Final Exam must be attempted and completed before the end of day on June 28, 2024 at 11:59pm.***

## **Evaluation Policies:**

- Assignments in Connect will be automatically submitted on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted and missed assignments will receive a grade of zero. No extensions or re-writes will be granted.
- Quizzes will be scheduled as the course progresses. Students will be given advanced notice of quiz dates. Unexcused absences during a quiz will be assigned a grade of zero. Re-writes or extra work will not be granted for missed quizzes or unsuccessful attempts.

- There will be 2 quizzes, each worth 15% of your grade. Students will have 1 attempt at each quiz.
- The Mid-Term Exam must be completed between **May 18 – 23, 2024**.
  - The Mid-Term will account for 25% of your grade. Students will have one attempt at the Term Test. The Term Test will be timed, and students will receive 80 minutes to complete. Once the test has started it must be completed in one sitting. Logging off or losing internet connection during the test will result in a grade based only on the portion of the exam that is completed. Students must have reliable internet connection when completing tests.
  - The Mid-Term will be completed in Connect utilizing the proctoring software. **Please be advised that there will be an additional fee (\$15 US) per semester for the proctoring software.**
  - No rewrites will be granted for missed or unsuccessful attempts.
- The Comprehensive Final Exam must be completed between **June 26 – 28, 2024**.
  - The Final Exam will account for 35% of your grade. Students will have one attempt at the Final Exam. The Final Exam will be timed, and students will receive 180 minutes to complete. Once the exam has started it must be completed in one sitting. Logging off or losing internet connection during the exam will result in a grade based only on the portion of the exam that is completed. Students must have reliable internet connection when completing exams.
  - The Final Exam will be completed in Connect utilizing the proctoring software. **Please be advised that there will be an additional fee (\$15 US) per semester for the proctoring software.**
  - Re-rites for the final exam will *not* be granted.
- In order to receive credit for LR3010, students must achieve 50% on the Final Exam, and a course composite grade of at least a D (50%). Students are strongly encouraged to complete all assignments, quizzes, and tests/exams – you will receive a zero (0) for any missed items.
- All quizzes, tests and exams will be written as scheduled. Check myClass/D2L to confirm due dates. No rewrites or rescheduled quizzes or tests/exams will be given.

### GRADING CRITERIA:

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System. Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

| Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines | Alpha Grade | 4-point Equivalent | Percentage Guidelines |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| A+          | 4.0                | 95-100                | C+          | 2.3                | 67-69                 |
| A           | 4.0                | 85-94                 | C           | 2.0                | 63-66                 |
| A-          | 3.7                | 80-84                 | C-          | 1.7                | 60-62                 |
| B+          | 3.3                | 77-79                 | D+          | 1.3                | 55-59                 |
| B           | 3.0                | 73-76                 | D           | 1.0                | 50-54                 |
| B-          | 2.7                | 70-72                 | F           | 0.0                | 00-49                 |

## **COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

### **Week 1 – May 6-12, 2024**

#### **Chapter 1 – The Law and the Legal System**

- Legal environment for business
- The role of law
- The early development of law
- The rise of the courts and the common law
- Sources and components of modern Canadian law
- The constitutional foundations of Canadian law
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms
- Classification of laws
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
  - Mediation & Arbitration
- The legal profession
- The role of the legal profession

#### **Chapter 3 – Business Regulation**

- Government regulation of business
- The hearing process
- Broad-policy administrative law
- Appeal process for administrative decisions

### **Week 2 – May 13-19, 2024**

#### **Chapter 7 – An Introduction to Contracts**

- Historical development of the law of contract
- Elements of a valid contract
- Intention to create a legal relationship
- Offer and acceptance

#### **Chapter 8 – The Requirement of Consideration**

- Consideration
- Quantum Meruit
- Debtor-creditor relationship
- Equitable or promissory estoppel

**QUIZ (15%) Due Sunday, May 19**

### Week 3 – May 20-26, 2024

#### **Chapter 9 – Legal Capacity to Contract and the Requirement of Legality**

- The minor or infant
- Temporary or permanent mental impairment
- Corporations, First Nations bands, labour unions, bankrupt persons
- The requirement of legality
- Legality under statute law
- Legality at common law: public policy
- Contracts in restraint of trade

#### **Chapter 10 – The Requirements of Form and Writing**

- Formal and simple contracts
- The statute of frauds
- Requirements for the written memorandum
- Reduction to writing
- Sale of goods act

#### **Chapter 11 – Failure to Create an Enforceable Contract**

- Mistake
- Misrepresentation
- Undue influence
- Duress

#### **Chapter 12 – The Extent of Contractual Rights**

- Privity of Contract
- Assignment of contractual rights and obligations

#### **Chapter 13 – Performance of Contractual Obligations**

- The nature and extent of performance
- Discharge by means other than performance

#### **Chapter 14 – Breach of Contract and Remedies**

- The nature of breach of contract
- Remedies
- Remedies for particular situations
- Enforcement of judgments

### Week 4 – May 27-June 2, 2024

#### **MIDTERM EXAM (20%)**

## **Chapter 15 – Law of Agency**

- Role of an agent
- Historical development of the law of agency
- The nature of the relationship
- Ratification of contracts by a principal
- Third parties and the agency relationship
- Liability of principal and agent to third parties in a tort
- Termination of the principal-agent relationship

## **Chapter 16 – Law of Sole Proprietorship and Partnership**

- Forms of business organization
- Historical development of partnership
- Nature of partnership
- Liability of a partnership for the acts of a partner
- Liability of a partnership for the acts of its employees
- Rights and duties of partners to one another
- Dissolution of a partnership
- Limited partnership
- Limited liability partnerships
- Advanced business applications for partnerships
- Registration of partnerships

## **Week 5 – June 3-9, 2024**

### **Chapter 17 – Corporation Law**

- The nature of a corporation
- Methods of incorporation
- Incorporation process
- Shareholders' agreements
- Corporate securities
- Taxation of corporations
- Division of corporate powers
- Considerations in the purchase and sale of a corporation

### **Chapter 18 – Securities Regulation**

- What is a security?
- Purpose and administration of securities regulation
- Mechanics of regulation
- Registration
- Disclosure

- Conduct of trading
- Insider trading
- Proxy voting and proxy solicitation
- Takeover bids
- “Going private” transactions
- Investigation and enforcement

## **Week 6 – June 10-16, 2024**

### **Chapter 19 – Employment and Labour Relations**

- Contract of employment
- Nature of the relationship
- Form of the contract
- Duties of the employer
- Duties of the employee
- Termination of the contract of employment
- Dismissal for just cause and wrongful dismissal
- Cyber-law aspects of employee management
- Employer misrepresentation (wrongful hiring)
- Employer liability to third parties
- Employer liability for an employee’s injuries
- Labour relations
- Development of labour legislation in Canada
- Collective bargaining legislation
- The union-membership relationship

### **Chapter 20 – The Law of Bailment**

- Nature of bailment
- Types of bailment

### **Chapter 21 – The Sale of Goods**

- Codification of the law
- Nature of a contract of sale
- Contractual duties of the seller
- Contractual duties of the buyer
- Remedies of the buyer
- Remedies of the seller
- Electronic sale of goods

**QUIZ (15%) Due Sunday, June 16**

## **Week 7 – June 17-23, 2024**

### **Chapter 22 – Interest in Land**

- Historical development
- Estates in land
- Registration of property interests
- Lesser interests in land
- Fixtures
- Title to land

### **Chapter 23 – The Law of Mortgages**

- The nature of mortgages
- Priorities between mortgages
- Rights and duties of the parties
- Special clauses
- Discharge of mortgage
- Assignment of mortgage
- Sale of mortgaged property
- Default, foreclosure, and sale
- Business applications of mortgage security

## **Week 8 – June 24-28, 2024**

### **Chapter 4 – Intentional Torts**

- Tort law defined
- Development of tort law
- Intentional interference with the person
- Intentional interference with land and chattels
- Business-related torts and crimes

### **Chapter 5 – Negligence and Unintentional Torts**

- Negligence
- Occupier's liability
- Manufacturer's liability
- Nuisance
- General tort defenses
- Tort remedies

### **Chapter 6 – Special Tort Liabilities of Business Professionals**

- The professional



- Professional standards and professional associations
- The professional-client relationship
- Accountants, lawyers, engineers, architects, semi-professional and other skilled persons

**FINAL EXAM (35%)      Due Friday, June 28 by 11:59pm**

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Registered students are expected to abide by the rules and regulations of NWP. It is the student's responsibility to be fully acquainted with and adhere to NWP's policies, procedures or rules; see <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/> and <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=69>

### **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

#### **Participation**

Students are expected to complete all graded assessments. Students may be refused permission to write the final examination on advice of the instructor. This happens when students have completed less than 70% of the required graded assessments by the course add/drop date; see Examination Policy and Debarred from Examinations; <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=37>. Students who cannot mathematically pass the course by the add/drop date (cannot reach a course composite grade of 50% even with 100% success on the final exam), will be refused permission to write the final examination.

#### **Time Management**

Adopting and adhering to effective learning habits in this course will likely take up a great deal of time so plan your schedule accordingly. See **Course Schedule/Tentative Timeline** section above.

Course materials and announcements will be available on myClass, Connect, and NWP Webmail. Students are responsible for checking all three websites regularly.

#### **Email**

Students may contact the instructor by NWP Webmail. Webmail will be answered within two business days outside of stated office hours. Webmail correspondence must be sent to your instructor from your NWP Webmail account. Webmail should be professionally formatted with correct spelling and grammar. Webmail must include a subject line and reference to the course code and material(s) and/or textbook pages, etc.

#### **Copyright**

NWP respects Canadian and International laws and agreements with respect to the use of copyright materials. It is the responsibility of the individual using copyrighted materials to ensure said use is compliant

with Canadian law, the Use of Copyright Materials Policy, and the Copyright Practices Guide for NWP instructors and Staff. See <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html> and <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=71> .

### **Study Skills Hub**

Adopting and adhering to effective learning habits in this course will likely take up a great deal of time so plan your schedule accordingly.

The NWP Study Skills Hub will help you develop the skills you need to succeed in your program and cope with the demands of higher education. Click on the following link for free access:

<https://libguides.nwpolytech.ca/learningportal/studyskills>

### **Connect Lockdown Browser/Monitoring Software**

Term Tests and Final Exams in this course must be taken online with the use of Connect Lockdown Browser and Connect Monitoring exam proctoring software. Students must download Lockdown Browser and Connect Monitor will automatically start through Connect. The proctoring software is a requirement to uphold academic integrity and is necessary to meet accreditation requirements.

Lockdown Browser and Connect Monitor require Windows or Mac desktop, laptop, or iPad platforms. Chromebooks, smartphones, and other tablets are not supported. If you do not have access to a Windows or Mac desktop, laptop, or iPad, you can book a PC via the NWP App → On-Campus Reservations.