

Sul Ross State University  
Course Syllabus – Fall 2025  
Business Law  
GBAA 3351



Tuesday & Thursday 12:30pm – 1:45pm  
Briscoe Administrative Building 318

**Course Description**

Survey the laws applicable to the conduct of business. Research the Federal and Texas State legal system, torts, crimes, contracts, the Sales Article of the Uniform Commercial Code, and agency. Explore employment law, forms of business, consumer and environmental protection law, provisions of the U.S. Constitution applicable to these laws, and ethics.

Course Topics: Federal and Texas State legal system; torts; crimes; contracts; commercial sales; agency law; employment and equal opportunity laws; forms of business; consumer protection; environmental protection; U.S. Constitution; ethics in the workplace.

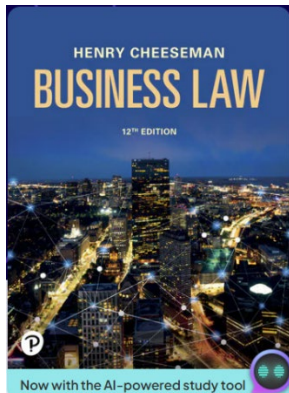
**Meeting Days, Times, and Dates**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm Briscoe Administrative Building (BAB) 317  
September 2, 2025

**Instructor Contact Information**

Paul M. Edwards, J.D., Esq. - Adjunct Professor  
Email: paul.edwards@sulross.edu (Response within 48 hours)  
Phone: (520) 405-4541

**Required Materials**



Textbook: Business Law, Cheeseman, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, Pearson Publishers

The eTextbook is access through your Follett account. A link to the book is in Blackboard.

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**Student Learning Objectives**

The Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree is a program designed with the express purpose of preparing individuals to understand, interpret, and successfully respond to dynamic environments of regional, national, and global enterprises, both in the private and public sectors.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the U.S. legal system, both Federal and Texas state.
2. Determine the possible civil and/or criminal liability of parties, applying elements/definitions of torts and crimes to fact situations.
3. Identify elements of a contract to determine legal and /or equitable remedies available in the event of a breach.
4. Compare the rights of employers and employees, independent contractors, principals and agents under Federal and state laws.
5. Distinguish between common law principles and the statutory provisions of the Sales Article of the Uniform Commercial Code.
6. Analyze the various provisions of the U.S. Constitution and case law with regard to business situations.
7. Select the appropriate legal documentation required to start and run a business, choosing between various forms of business available in Texas.
8. Contrast the various types of current and future interests in real property.
9. Communicate ideas effectively, in oral presentation and in writing.
10. Apply different ethical models to business situations.

**Course Schedule**

WEEK	DATE -> TOPIC & CHAPTERS	ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1	Our Legal System	
	Chapters 1-4, Chapter 43 (pp. 2-80, pp. 784-799)	
Week 2	Torts, Product Liability, Intellectual Property	
	Chapters 5-7 (pp. 82-151)	
Week 3	Criminal Law & Business Types and Organizations	
	Chapter 8 (pp. 152-182), Chapters 34-36 (pp. 612-670)	Exam 1
Week 4	Contract Law	

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	Chapters 9-12 (pp. 184-243)	
Week 5	Contract Law (Cont.)	
	Chapters 13-16 (pp. 246-289)	
Week 6	Digital Law & Corporations	
	Chapter 17 (307-319), Chapters 37-38 (671-714)	
Week 7	Sales Contracts	
	Chapters 18-19 (pp. 328-356)	
Week 8	Remedies for Sales Contracts, Warranties	Exam 2
	Chapters 20-21 (pp. 357-390)	
Week 9	Agency Law	
	Chapters 29-30 (pp. 512-541)	
Week 10	Immigration, Labor, Equal Opportunity	
	Chapters 31-33 (pp. 542-610)	
Week 11	Credit, Secured Transactions, Bankruptcy	Exam 3
	Chapters 26-28 (pp. 450-510)	
Week 12	Anti-Trust & Securities Law	
	Chapter 46 (pp. 834-854) Chapter 41 (pp. 745-768)	
Week 13	Personal & Real Property	
	Chapters 47-48 (pp. 856-894)	
Week 14	Negotiable Instruments & Banking	
	Chapters 22-25 (pp. 392-448)	
Week 15	Final Exam	Exam 4

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**Grading**

Your grade in this course will be based on the following:

Exams x 4: 400

Research Paper: 300

Homework Assignments & Quizzes: 200

Attendance/Participation: 100

900-1000 = A

800-899 = B

700-799 = C

600-699 = D

599 & Below = F

**MYLAB**

MyLab is the additional website you will use to do assigned work. You will access MyLab from the Pearson Access button in Blackboard. The first time you access MyLab, follow the directions detailed in GETTING STARTED above. This semester you will complete many activities on MyLab. The chapter “warm-ups” prepare and reinforce your efforts as you read the book and learn the material. Due either after coverage of a chapter or chapters, or sometimes before, simulations, videos and/or chapter quizzes assess your ability to apply the concepts. There is a time limit to the quizzes (60 minutes) and you will be allowed two (2) attempts, but there will be no limit to the number of attempts allowed to correctly complete the warmups, simulations and videos. Late assignments will not be accepted.

I will not reopen MyLab assignments after the due date and time unless you have a valid medical excuse supported by a doctor’s note. One of your obligations as a student is to know the dates and times assignments are due by familiarizing yourself with the schedule in the syllabus. After the due dates and times (found in the SCHEDULE), your grades for all MyLab work will be posted in the Blackboard gradebook. When you check your grades for MyLab assignments or other assignments using the Blackboard app to determine how well you are doing in the course (e.g., your “grade so far”), please make sure that you look at the grades of SUBMITTED/GRADED WORK in comparison to all WORK DUE. Please ask me if you are unable to calculate your grade in this course.

**Writing Assignment**

Sul Ross State University  
Course Syllabus – Fall 2025  
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There will be one written assignment due this semester. The Written Assignment is worth three hundred (300) points and will be submitted in Blackboard. Writing well and learning to write a draft and then edit for the final submission are important life skills. This assignment will be a 5–6-page research paper on a pre-selected topic. The research will be a closed universe, meaning I will provide you with all of the sources you will use for the paper. More details on the paper, draft requirements, and other specifics will be provided in class.

#### ADA Statement

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartze Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director or Ronnie Harris, LPC, Counselor, at 432-837-8203 or email [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) or [ronnie.harris@sulross.edu](mailto:ronnie.harris@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

#### Student Responsibilities

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the [Student Handbook](#) and the [Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog](#) and for abiding by the [University rules and regulations](#). Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize him/herself with the requirements of such laws.

#### SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

#### Counseling

Sul Ross State University  
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Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/365 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](https://timelycare.com/SRSU). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.

### Libraries

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu/](https://library.sulross.edu/). Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or by phone (432-837-8123).

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting [library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/](https://library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/) or ask a librarian by emailing [srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu).

Mike Fernandez, SRSU Librarian, is based in Eagle Pass (Building D-129) to offer specialized library services to students, faculty, and staff. Utilize free services such as InterLibrary Loan (ILL), ScanIt, and Direct Mail to get materials delivered to you at home or via email.

### Academic Integrity

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. Students should submit work that is their own and avoid the temptation to engage in behaviors that violate academic integrity, such as turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden. Students should also avoid using open AI sources *unless permission is expressly given* for an assignment or course. Violations of academic integrity can result in failing assignments, failing a class, and/or more serious university consequences. These behaviors also erode the value of college degrees and higher education overall.

### Classroom Climate of Respect

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or

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sexual preference. Still, we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

### Supportive Statement

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports various perspectives and experiences. I understand that the recent pandemic, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events may impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create a supportive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

### Tutoring Center

[The Lobo Den Tutoring Center](#) offers FREE tutoring support to help you excel in your courses. Whether you need assistance in Writing, Math, Science, or other subjects, we're here to help!

### Important Information:

- **Drop-in and Scheduled Appointments:** Flexible options to fit your needs.
- **Hours of Operation:** Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.
- **Workshops:** Attend our regularly hosted academic workshops on STEM topics and professional development, often in collaboration with specialized faculty.
- **Location:** BWML Room 128.
- **Contact Us:** For more information or to book an appointment, email [tutoring@sulross.edu](mailto:tutoring@sulross.edu) or call (432) 837-8726.

### Looking for additional support?

- Tutor.com offers FREE 24/7 online tutoring in over 200 subjects, including specialized support for ESL and ELL learners with native Spanish-speaking tutors.
- Access Tutor.com via Blackboard: Log in to your Blackboard account to get started anytime, anywhere.

Take advantage of these valuable resources to boost your confidence and performance in your classes. We look forward to helping you succeed!