

## Course Outcomes Guide

**Directions:** Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

**Course/Program Title:** BUS 104 Legal Environment of Business

**Date:** Spring, 2017

**Course/Program Team:** Jim Pierne

### Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate the use of terms and concepts related to government regulation and the legal environment.
2. Understand the role that government has in the legal environment and how that impacts business activity.
3. Describe and analyze the legal system in terms of where our system comes from and how it works to place boundaries around business.
4. Describe and explain important legal concepts, demonstrate the ability to apply them to new situations, and communicate solutions.
5. Discuss ethical implications of the legal environment.
6. Demonstrate how the legal environment controls activities between businesses and private citizens, between businesses and competition and between businesses and the employees who work there.

**Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome? Please attach a copy of your assessment electronically.)**

Assessment will be demonstrated for all six Expected Learning Outcomes through the use of two exams, a mid-term and a final, thirteen discussion assignments, six quizzes, and two term papers. Class attendance for the face-to-face classes is important and students may not exceed three absences in a semester or it impacts the final grade for the course.

**Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)**

Validation will be accomplished by measuring the six Expected Learning Outcomes through a series of 25 multiple choice questions and a selected number of the discussion assignments in the class. It is assumed for the selected questions that the publisher validates any questions that may be used on tests and also test the questions for reliability.

**Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)**

The data that is collected can be used to determine whether the students are achieving the expected levels of understanding relative to the learning outcomes established for the course. The collection of the data is expected to begin in Fall Semester 2016.

**Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)**

Based upon the data, we will make the appropriate adjustments to the materials presented in the class to ensure student understanding. We will also utilize more web-based demonstrations of text context to help the student learning process as well as bring general practitioners into the classroom from the local legal community.

**Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)**

None at this time.

**LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS (BUS 104) SLOA SUMMARY – FALL 2016-  
SPRING 2017 EVALUATION**

In the Legal Environment of Business (BUS 104), there are six Learning Outcomes against which student performance is measured. The data collected for this course is also based on the use of a new Open Source textbook beginning in the Fall Semester 2016. All questions from the Mid-Term and Final Examinations were used and mapped against each of the six Learning Outcomes to determine student performance. The standard that we hope to achieve is that 80% of the students will achieve the Learning Outcome. Student performance data is also presented in terms of the results achieved by face-to-face classes versus web based classes.

**Outcome #1:** Demonstrate the use of terms and concepts related to government regulation and the legal environment

The Spring 2017 face-to-face classes outperformed the Fall 2016 classes 82% to 77% respectively while the Fall 2016 web classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 88% to 80% respectively. Overall the Fall 2016 classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes on this standard 83% to 81%. The face-to-face classes achieved 79% versus a web based performance of 85% for this standard. Overall 82% of the students met this Outcome performance.

**Outcome #2:** Understand the role of government has in the legal environment and how that impacts business activity

The Spring 2017 face-to-face classes outperformed the Fall 2016 classes 80% to 76% while the Fall 2016 web classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 82% to 75%. Overall the Fall 2016 classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes on this standard 79% to 78%. The web based classes achieved a 79% performance for this standard versus a 78% performance for the face-to-face classes. Overall 78% of student met this Outcome performance.

**Outcome #3:** Describe and analyze the legal system in terms of where our system comes from and how it works to place boundaries around business

The Spring 2017 face-to-face classes outperformed the Fall 2016 classes 84% to 74% while the web based Spring 2017 classes outperformed the Fall classes 82% to 79%. Overall the Spring 2017 classes outperformed the Fall 2016 classes on this standard 83% to 76%. The web based classes also outperformed the face-to-face classes on this standard 80% to 78% respectively. Overall 79% of the students met this standard.

Outcome #4: Describe and explain important legal concepts, demonstrate the ability to apply them to new situations, and communicate solutions

For Outcome #4, The Fall 2016 face-to-face classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 76% to 66% respectively. The Fall 2016 web based classes outperformed the Spring web based classes on this standard 85% to 66%. The Fall 2016 classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes on this Outcome 80% to 66% respectively. The web based classes also outperformed the face-to-face classes on this standard 74% to 71%. Overall 72% of all students exceeded the standard for this Outcome.

Outcome #5: Discuss the ethical implications of the legal environment

For Outcome #5, the Fall 2016 face-to-face classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 79% to 78% respectively, while the Fall 2016 web based classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 88% to 80%. The Fall 2016 classes overall outperformed the Spring 2017 classes for this Outcome 83% to 79% while the overall web based classes outperformed the face-to-face classes 84% to 78%. Overall 81% of all students exceeded the standard for this Outcome.

Outcome #6: Demonstrate how the legal environment controls activities between businesses and private citizens, between businesses and competition and between businesses and the employees who work there

For this Outcome #6, Fall 2016 face-to-face classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 70% to 66% while the Fall 2016 web based classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes 77% to 71%. The Fall 2016 classes outperformed the Spring 2017 classes for this standard 73% to 69% respectively, while the web based classes outperformed the face-to-face classes 74% to 68% respectively. Overall 71% of the students exceeded the standard for this Outcome.

For this course, the overall results would indicate the performance is stronger for the web based classes (79%) versus the face-to-face classes (75%) for the past academic year. The overall classes exceeded the 80% on two of the six Outcomes, however face-to-face classes did exceed the standard of 80% on three Outcomes (1, 4, and 5) while the web based classes exceeded performance on two Outcomes (1 and 3).

These results were obtained based our first year use of an Open Source textbook and also my first year teaching this class. While only 71% of the students did exceed the standards for performance in this class, I am satisfied with this given that I am teaching this class for the first time. It is clear however that I need to work on some topics in this class with greater emphasis—particularly the role of government in the legal environment, its impacts on business, and on the ethical implications of the legal environment.