

TRANSNATIONAL LEGAL ISSUES FOR BUSINESS

COURSE NO.: BUL3320

Credit(s) 3.00

Contact Hours 47.00

Effective Term: Summer 2021 (590)

Course Description:

This course examines the formulation, interpretation, and application of law to business both domestically and internationally with an emphasis on Portugal and the European Union. Covered are the major areas of legal regulation to which businesses are subject including agency, contract law, licensing and intellectual property law, financial regulation including foreign direct investment, cross border trade controls, labor and employment as well as foreign laws, relations and policies and their effect on the multinational company doing business in countries outside of the U.S. Emphasis is placed on active, experiential application of legal reasoning and analysis and on the global and comparative dimensions of legal and ethical issues. (Note: This course may be used as an alternative to BUL2241, BUL3320, BUL3322, BUL3564 and PLA4938). 47 contact hours.

Learning Outcomes and Course Objectives:

Students will,

1. define the American legal system and explain the type of courts as well as differentiate between constitutional, administrative, civil and criminal laws, and the implications of each by,
2. define the Portuguese and European Union political and legal systems, and explain the type of courts as well as differentiate between constitutional, administrative, civil and criminal laws, and the implications of each by,
3. analyze social, legal, political and ethical issues that multi-national businesses face both domestically and globally by,
4. define the sources of international law and demonstrate how they apply to various business ventures by,
5. analyze international jurisdiction principles and various international dispute resolution processes to determine how they affect multi-national enterprise transactions by,

6. both understand and analyze agency law and how it affects business organizational structures, resources and liability domestically and abroad by,
7. examine and analyze contract law in the traditional and online settings both domestically and abroad by
8. compare and contrast structures regulating commerce while also evaluating the meaning of international investment and its effect on the multi-national's decision-making process from a banking, finance, trade and transportation of goods and services perspective by,

STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Approval for participation in the program is subject to the participant:

- *Being 18 years old or older, or duly admitted and registered as a dual enrolled high school student.**

- *Being in good academic standing at the time of application (cannot be on academic warning, probation or suspension).*

- *Being enrolled for credit in an approved Study Abroad program course.*

- *Interviewing with program's lead faculty member.*

- *Being approved by the Center for International Programs. Paying all deposits and fees according to the fee schedule.*

- *Obtaining all immunizations required by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). In addition, participants are strongly encouraged to get all immunizations and preventative treatments recommended for the particular country and regions through which they will be traveling.*

** Participation as a dual enrolled student is subject to approval of this application and an interview conducted by the program's lead faculty member or designee, as well as any stated prerequisites or additional eligibility requirements.*

Contact information:

Instructors:

Deborah Cerminaro Eldridge, J.D.

Miguel Paiva Antunes, J.D.:

Office and Online Chat Hours:

To be determined

Online Hours: By appointment

Office Location: St. Petersburg, Florida: Gibbs Campus: EI-121/Lisbon

Lisbon, Portugal: Campus of Catholic University, Room to be determined

Telephone: Dr. Eldridge Gibbs Campus: (727) 791-2783

Dr. Antunes: TBP

Email: Primary: through course email Secondary: Eldridge.Deborah@spcollege.edu

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. **International Business Law and Its Environment, 10th Ed.; Authors – Schaffer, Agusti, Dhooge; Publisher-Cengage; ISBN: 978-1-305-97259-9**
2. **Online Resources Posted in MyCourses**

GRADING

Grading Policy:

A	90-100%	D	60-69%
B	80-89%	F	Less than 60%
C	70-79%		

Grading:

You will be returned “graded” assignments. Weekly assignments account for 26% of your grade. **Be sure to understand that the textbook is only your starting point when completing assignments. Also, the textbook is our starting point because the information provided in it is general and it is only by reading the supplemental materials and links that you will have a deeper understanding of the course content.**

General writing assignments and discussions are graded based on two criteria:

- (1) Substantive content; i.e. whether the student understood the assignment task(s) and provided complete answers to same.

- a. Complete answers means you not only provide the answer but that you fully explain it. In other words, if the question calls for you to list the elements of negligence, not only list the elements, but, explain the meaning of each element as well.
- (2) Written communication skills; i.e., whether you were able to clearly communicate your answer to the question using proper grammar and sentence structure.

TENTATIVE WEEKLY CLASS AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Week #	Chapter Title/Projects	Reading Assignment Reg. Text Custom Text	Written Assignment	Points
1	Introduction and Course Format United States Constitution	Syllabus Module 1 Materials Chs. 2	Introductions Syllabus Quiz Identify and explain 5 of the first 15 Constitutional Amendments 1	10 10 10
1	Basics of the Portuguese Legal System	Assigned Course Readings (See Module)	Compare and Contrast U.S. & Portugal Legal Systems	10
1	Portugal's Constitution	Assigned Course Readings (See Module)	List 5 Attributes of Portugal's Constitution and its differences compared to the U.S. Constitution	10
1	European Union Structure and Laws	Ch. 15	Quiz I	20
1	Course Excursion to emphasize learning objectives	Ch. 8	Summarize the excursion and how it applied to this week's content	10
2	Introduction to International Business	Ch. 1	No Assignment	
2	U.S. Extraterritorial Jurisdiction	Ch. 16 & Assigned Course Readings (See Module)	Identify 1 treaty between the U.S. and Portugal and explain	10
2	The U.S. Business Organizational Structure	Assigned Course Readings (See Module)	What is the best option and why	10

2	Business organizational structures benefits and liabilities	Assigned Course Readings (See Module)	QUIZ II	20
2	Class Excursion		Post to SPC F/B	10
3	ADR and Jurisdiction Contracts 101, an overview of both U.S. and international laws	Chs. 3 & 4	Compare & Contrast	10
3	Portugal and the EU contracting law Documentary Sales and Terms of Trade	Chs. 5 & 6	Identify and Discuss	10
3	The World Trade Organization & General Trade Principles (speakers) Currency exchange and currency baskets – risks and benefits	Ch. 9	No Assignment	
3	Laws Protecting, Encouraging and Regulating Trade	Chs. 10 & 11	QUIZ III	20
3	Class Excursion		Post to SPC F/B	10
4	Finance, Taxation, Imports and Customs	Chs. 12 & 18	Research & Discuss	10
4	Technology Exporting EU and Business (Guest speaker from both countries) Data Protection Regulations	Ch. 13	Identify 3 primary Portuguese laws concerning data security	10
4	The Environment & Labor Law	Chs. 19 & 20	No Assign.	
4	Closing Remarks and Final Exam	Cumulative	In Class	100

We reserve the right to alter this schedule, assignments, and assignment due dates as circumstances warrant. It is very likely that we may extend particular topics into subsequent classes if necessary. You will receive reasonable notice of any such changes!

Remember, this is a study abroad course so all in-country events are subject to change and we will need to be flexible.

ATTENDANCE:

ATTENDANCE/ACTIVE PARTICIPATION/WITHDRAWAL POLICIES

This is a face to face course with online associated content and assignments therefore physical in class attendance is required to be considered present. If you don't attend class, you will be considered absent. If you are absent two times, you will be dropped from the course.

Students who miss 2 classes, unless excused by the Professor, must be dropped after the second absence with a grade of WF.

As faculty we are required to publish our own participation/attendance policies in our syllabi. However, **please note that instructors must verify that students are in attendance during the first two weeks of class. Students classified as “No Show” for both of the first two weeks will be administratively withdrawn from any class which they are not attending. The student’s financial aid will be adjusted based on their updated enrollment status. If a student is administratively withdrawn from a class because they were a “No-Show” during the first two weeks of class, financial aid will not pay for the class and the student will be responsible for paying for that class.**

Students who are not actively participating in class as defined in this syllabus will be reported to the Administration during the week following the last date to withdraw with a “W” (as posted in the academic calendar on the college’s web site). A grade of “WF” will be assigned to students who are not actively participating during the week following the last day to withdraw with a W grade.

Students will be able to withdraw themselves at any time during the term. However, requests submitted after the last date to withdraw with a “W” (see academic calendar) will result in a “WF.” Students and instructors will automatically receive an email notification through their SPC email address whenever a withdrawal occurs.

Withdrawing after the “Last Date to Withdraw with a Grade of ‘W’” can have serious consequences. If the student withdraws from a class after the deadline posted in the academic calendar, the student will receive a final grade of ‘WF,’ which has the same impact on the student's GPA as a final grade of “F.” A “WF” grade also could impact the student's financial aid, requiring repayment of financial assistance. Students should consult with an academic advisor or financial assistance counselor prior to withdrawing from a class.

60% Participation

Participation for the 60% point of this class will be determined based on your active participation for 60% of the class by the SPC determined 60% date. That means you must not only attend class you must also timely submit your assignments and any discussion forums plus

timely complete quizzes and tests as well as participate in excursions. If you do not actively participate this will be reflected in your grade which may result in a grade below 60% at that designated point in the semester or modmester. At that point we must report that you have not participated at 60% and you will be administratively withdraw with a grade of WF. Receiving a WF may negatively impact your financial aid so it is important to keep up with the course and assignments and contact your instructor if you are having difficulty or an issue arises.

Again, please Note: Not achieving attendance nor 60% participation leads to a WF (Withdrawn and Failed) implying serious financial and GPA consequences.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

Because of the intensive 4 week intensive schedule, there is a very limited Make-up Policy. If there is an emergency, or some other valid reason you will not be able to meet a deadline, contact me directly. I'll need verifiable documentation evidencing the reason for the delay. At such time as discussed a deadline may be extended depending on the reason.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

View the [Academic Honesty Policy](#)

It is your responsibility to be familiar with St. Petersburg College's Academic Honesty policies and the consequences of violations. There is no tolerance for any form of academic dishonesty. Discipline can range from a zero on a specific assignment to expulsion from the class with a grade of "F" and the possibility of expulsion from the college. Note that copying/pasting published information without citing your sources, whether the information is from your textbook or the Internet is plagiarism and violates this policy. Even if you slightly change the words from an outside source, the ideas are someone else's so you still have to cite your sources. Cheating, plagiarism, bribery, misrepresentation, conspiracy, and fabrication are defined in Board Rule 6Hx23-4.461.

Student Affairs: Academic Honesty Guidelines, Classroom Behavior.

<https://www.spcollege.edu/studentrights/>

This policy applies to **all** work and assignments, tests, and any documents produced for this course.

All quizzes, the midterm and the final exam are open book, however, that does NOT mean open forum. Under no circumstances may students collaborate, in any manner, with one another in taking quizzes, the midterm or the final. That means that you may not discuss any question or any proposed answer with any other student, period. Only after the quiz, midterm, final exam are closed, may you discuss the questions and your answers with other students. Any students who are found to collaborate on quizzes, the midterm, or the final exam will be considered in violation of the school's academic honesty policy and the conduct will be addressed accordingly.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Preparation, Preparation, Preparation and Participation.

ITEMS TO PACK:

- Laptop
- Comfortable Walking Shoes
- Comfortable Clothing and Beach Attire
- Work attire for course related excursions
- Business Casual Evening Attire (1 outfit)
- Adapters for electric outlets
- Own hair dryer, curling iron, etc.
- Toiletries
- Any required medication
- Any over the counter required medication as that may not be available there

STUDENT CONDUCT / ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY:

Please refer to important information about student conduct and related policies in your study abroad application package.

EMERGENCIES/HEALTH & SAFETY:

Please refer to important information in pre-departure orientation materials.

LINK TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE ADVISORY FOR STUDY ABROAD DESTINATION(S):

www.state.gov/

This information is subject to change; please check this source again as departure time nears.

Although it is not required by the CDC, two inoculations are recommended when traveling abroad and it is strongly suggested that all participants acquire them: hepatitis A & B (\$56.00 in 2008)

The lead faculty member on the trip will carry emergency safety supplies appropriate for the environment and first aid care.

In addition, specifics regarding safety in an unfamiliar environment are covered in participant orientation, including the Study Abroad Emergency Checklist. This checklist covers knowing

where to go in emergencies (how to get there, transportation options), emergency contact information (home and local) and contact numbers (local 911 equivalent, embassy, police, hospital, etc.), back-up plans, special conditions, emergency kits, and cash reserves and alternatives. Closer to the time of travel, current safety conditions can be obtained from the State Department via the Internet. All participants are required to carry international health insurance that covers \$100,000 accident/sickness

coverage, including evacuation and repatriation of remains that will be included in your trip fees.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you anticipate requesting of the Learning Specialist an accommodation for a documented disability, it is important to notify the International Programs office as soon as possible that you plan to make a request. Please also make an appointment with the Learning Specialist on campus to make your request as soon as possible. The Learning Specialist can be reached at 791-2628 or 791-2710 (CL), 341-4758 (SP/G), 394-6108 (SE), 712