

**BUSINESS LAW IN THE MODERN ECONOMY**  
**LAW6440-290**

Professor Jeff Schwartz  
(801) 581 – 3773  
[jeff.schwartz@law.utah.edu](mailto:jeff.schwartz@law.utah.edu) (preferred way to contact)  
Zoom Office: <https://utah.zoom.us/j/4958898554>  
Office Hours: By appointment (email to set up an appointment)

**Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes**

This course provides an introduction to the role of law in governing businesses, including substantive law that controls different forms of business formation, employee versus contractor designations, business ethics, and intellectual property in a globalizing and increasingly technological economy. The course provides perspectives on how lawyers can add value to business relations.

At the end of the course, you will be able to evaluate the rights and obligations, as well as the liability implications, associated with corporations, partnerships, and limited liability companies. You will also be able to provide guidance on how to form and operate such entities.

**Readings**

There is no required text for this course. Readings for each module are posted on Canvas.

**Grading and Assessment**

Your grade will be based on three quizzes: one following the Agency module (25%) (30 minutes), one following the Partnership and Limited Liability Companies modules (25%) (30 minutes), and one following the Corporations module (50%) (1 hour). Exams will be open book and open internet. They will consist of multiple choice and/or short answer questions.

**Modules**

**Module 1—Agency**

Module 1 / Topic 1—Formation of the Agency Relationship  
Module 1 / Topic 2—Contractual Liability  
Module 1 / Topic 3—Tort Liability of Principals  
Module 1 / Topic 4—Fiduciary Duties of Agents

**Module 2—Partnerships**

Module 2 / Topic 1—Formation of the Partnership Relationship  
Module 2 / Topic 2—Partner Fiduciary Duties  
Module 2 / Topic 3—Economic Rights of Partners  
Module 2 / Topic 4—Management Rights of Partners  
Module 2 / Topic 5—Partnership Dissolution  
Module 2 / Topic 6—Partnership Accounting  
Module 2 / Topic 7—Partnership Agreements  
Module 2 / Topic 8—Limited Partnerships and Limited Liability Partnerships

### **Module 3—Limited Liability Companies**

### **Module 4—Corporations**

Module 4 / Topic 1—The Corporate Form  
Module 4 / Topic 2—Fiduciary Duty of Care  
Module 4 / Topic 3—Fiduciary Duty of Loyalty  
Module 4 / Topic 4—Obligation of Good Faith  
Module 4 / Topic 5—Piercing The Corporate Veil  
Module 4 / Topic 6—Corporate Purpose

### **University Policies**

#### **Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)**

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities.

All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the [Center for Disability & Access](#) (CDA). CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. Prior notice is appreciated. To read the full accommodations policy for the University of Utah, please see Section Q of the [Instruction & Evaluation regulations](#).

In compliance with ADA requirements, some students may need to record course content. Any recordings of course content are for personal use only, should not be shared, and should never be made publicly available. In addition, recordings must be destroyed at the conclusion of the course.

If you will need accommodations in this class, or for more information about what support they provide, contact:

#### **Center for Disability & Access**

801-581-5020  
[disability.utah.edu](http://disability.utah.edu)  
162 Union Building

200 S. Central Campus Dr.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

## **Safety at the U**

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more safety information and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit [safeu.utah.edu](https://safeu.utah.edu).

To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, contact:

### **Campus Police & Department of Public Safety**

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)  
[dps.utah.edu](https://dps.utah.edu)  
1735 E. S. Campus Dr.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

## **Addressing Sexual Misconduct**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status, or genetic information.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to university officials:

### **Title IX Coordinator & Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action**

801-581-8365  
[oeo.utah.edu](https://oeo.utah.edu)  
383 South University Street, Level 1 OEO Suite  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

### **Office of the Dean of Students**

801-581-7066  
[deanofstudents.utah.edu](https://deanofstudents.utah.edu)  
270 Union Building  
200 S. Central Campus Dr.  
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

To file a police report, contact:

## **Campus Police & Department of Public Safety**

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)

[dps.utah.edu](https://dps.utah.edu)

1735 E. S. Campus Dr.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

If you do not feel comfortable reporting to authorities, the U's Victim-Survivor Advocates provide free, confidential, and trauma-informed support services to students, faculty, and staff who have experienced interpersonal violence.

To privately explore options and resources available to you with an advocate, contact:

### **Center for Student Wellness**

801-581-7776

[wellness.utah.edu](https://wellness.utah.edu)

328 Student Services Building

201 S. 1460 E.

Salt Lake City, UT 84112

### **Academic Misconduct**

It is expected that students comply with University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Students are expected to adhere to the prescribed professional and ethical standards of the profession/discipline for which they are preparing. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty or who violates the professional and ethical standards for their profession/discipline may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: [Policy 6-410: Student Academic Performance, Academic Conduct, and Professional and Ethical Conduct.](#)

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code:

*"...Includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information...It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct."*

For details on plagiarism and other important course conduct issues, see the U's [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.](#)