**SUMMER 2017***

BL - 8113 LAW, ETHICS, AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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**DESCRIPTION**

This online course is designed to help the graduate student understand and resolve legal and ethical issues faced by the business firm with emphasis on prevention and resolution of disputes including mediation, negotiation, and alternative dispute resolution.

**PREREQUISITES**

There are no prerequisites for this class.

**COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS**

You will need a computer with access to high speed internet. Your web browser must be supported and configured properly for myCourses using the “Check Browser” feature.

Additionally, you will need the following:

3. Earphones or speakers.

**OVERVIEW**

This course is designed around five units or learning modules which you will complete.

1. Introduction/Law
2. Ethics
3. Negotiation
4. Alternative Dispute Resolution
5. Conclusion/Evaluation

These modules have been designed to address key issues in law, ethics, and alternative dispute resolution. There are multiple written assignments that you will need to complete to finish each module.

**VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS**

I am available any time by appointment for consultation. As I know many of you work full-time and do not get off from work until 5:00 PM CDT or later, I will be available to meet with you at any other time we can schedule it. I am here not only to facilitate learning, but also to support you and assist you in your academic endeavors. I assure you I will do all that I can to make sure you have access to me.

**AVAILABILITY**

Please expect a response from me within twenty-four hours of your query by email. Leaving me a voicemail at my office will get a substantially slower response. If you need to talk to me or communicate with me, the best way to do so is by either emailing me directly (slm3@msstate.edu). I check my email a minimum of once per day during the week, and usually once per day on the weekends.

**COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The goal of this instruction is to facilitate each student’s understanding of legal and ethical issues faced by businesses, learning skills to help each student become a much more skilled negotiator, and learning about alternatives to litigation in dispute resolution.
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A variety of teaching methods and strategies will be utilized in the five modules including, but not limited to, selected readings, case studies, video, audio, discussion postings, activities, Collaborate, and Camtasia presentations.

Each of the learning modules will start with a “CHECKLIST” which you can print out or just use to review to make sure you have completed all your work for a module. The Checklist will also include the grade breakdown for each assignment with a total at the bottom. The completion of most assignments will be noted in myCourses, but that will not be true for every assignment.

READINGS

There will be reading assignments throughout the course from the textbook as well as from numerous outside resources including listening to audio and watching video. References to page numbers in the textbook will be provided when the weekly unit is posted, and any other material will be provided/linked/cited in the module posting in myCourses. Information not included in the textbook is used with either the express permission of the copyright holder or is legally permissible to use in an educational setting.

EVALUATION

The nature of the subject matter does not lend itself to a traditional testing model. Assessments in this course will involve completing numerous reading and writing assignments as well as demonstrating comprehension of the material through discussion board posts and answers to responsive feedback questions. All papers submitted will need to be in PDF format and double spaced in a 12 point font.

Written assignments will be due on varying dates. Due to the compressed nature of a summer course, it will be imperative that you keep an eye on due dates as there will be little uniformity in that regard.

GRADING CRITERIA FOR ALL WRITING (ASSIGNMENTS AND DISCUSSION BOARD)

A writing assignment will receive the most points which meets the following criteria:

- **Formatting:** Adheres to correct standards set forth by the instructor
- **Mechanics:** Contains no grammar or spelling errors and avoids using jargon
- **Writing Styles:** Writing is clear, coherent, and presents appropriate tone that enhances the objective of the assignment
These are the standards set forth by the Mississippi State University M.B.A. program for written communication.

**COURSE POLICIES**

Please remember as you interact with your fellow students as well as with me the following:

1. No personal postings (i.e. “My band is playing at Rick’s tonight. Hope you’ll come.”)
2. All communications will be done via email through the registered email address for the student.
3. No internet acronyms (LOL, WTF, FML, etc.). Please communicate at all times as if you are trying to impress the person you are talking to with your impeccable grammar, spelling, and general command of Standard English.
4. Please sign message board posts with your preferred name and your email address.

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

For technical assistance, please call the ITS Help Desk at (662) 325-1403.

**DISABILITY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of Mississippi State University to accommodate students with special needs and learning disabilities as per the MSU Student Support Services policy. Students seeking accommodations on the basis of a disability or special need must identify themselves to the Office of Student Support Services, [http://www.sss.msstate.edu/disabilities/](http://www.sss.msstate.edu/disabilities/), to verify eligibility.

Additional documentation guidelines may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Support Services directly, or via the web at [http://www.sss.msstate.edu/](http://www.sss.msstate.edu/).

Academic accommodations and services are based upon an individual’s needs. All documentation is confidential. Please notify the lead instructor if you require accommodations for this class.

**TITLE IX**

MSU is committed to complying with Title IX, a federal law that prohibits discrimination,
including violence and harassment, based on sex. This means that MSU’s educational programs and activities must be free from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination, sexual violence and/or harassment by any member of the University community, you are encouraged to report the conduct to MSU’s Director of Title IX/EO Programs at 325-8124 or by e-mail to titleix@msstate.edu. Additional resources are available at http://www.msstate.edu/web/security/title9-12.pdf, or at http://students.msstate.edu/sexualmisconduct/.  

**HONOR CODE**

“As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do.”

Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Student Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Student Honor Code. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Mississippi State University community from the requirements or the processes of the Student Honor Code. For additional information, please visit: http://www.honorcode.msstate.edu

“I have read and understand the Honor Code. On my honor, as a Mississippi State University student, I will neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance on any academic work.”