



## BUSI 2601A: Business Law

FALL 2025

<b>Instructor</b>	Sam Schwisberg
<b>Email Address</b>	SamSchwisberg@cunet.carleton.ca
<b>Class Times</b>	Thursday 6:05 PM to 8:55 PM
<b>Modality</b>	Lectures in Person
<b>Office Hours</b>	Thursdays 4-5 PM; TEXTS accepted at 613 262 2951
<b>Office Location</b>	TBD
<b>TA Name/Email</b>	TBD

### Pre-Requisites & Preclusions:

Prerequisites: NONE

Preclusions: NONE

### Course Description/Instructor's Statement

Carleton Calendar Description: The legal system and legal ordering as they affect those engaged in business activities. Emphasis on the law of tort, law of contract, agency and bailment, business associations (partnerships/proprietorships/corporations) and real estate.

Instructor's Description: Called to the Bar of Ontario in 1983, served as General Counsel in multiple businesses and as a partner in the firm of Talarico & Schwisberg LLP. Obtained LLM in International Business Law, Osgoode Hall Law School.

### Course Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the implications of the law on business at the operational and strategic levels.
2. Understand why compliance with the law forms an essential part of operating a business.
3. See how that the law forms a key element within the strategic planning process of any well-run business and learn how to plan accordingly.
4. Develop a working understanding of some legal concepts.

### Required/Optional Materials & Prices

Legal Guide for the Ontario Entrepreneur, published by Top Hat, 2019, revised 2023 and 2025 ("The text")

Author: Samuel Schwisberg,

**Top Hat Textbook ISBN:** 978-1-77412-144-3

**Top Hat 1 Semester Subscription ISBN:** 978-0-9866151-0-8

**This is a digital book ordered from Top Hat**

- **PRICE \$** The cost of the textbook *Legal Guide for the Ontario Entrepreneur* is \$45.00, and the *Top Hat Classroom One Semester Subscription* is \$33.00. That is a total of \$78.00 excluding taxes.

### Grading Scheme

Participation	10
Quiz 1	10
Quiz 2	10
Quiz 3	15
Quiz 4	15
Final Exam	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Important Dates to Note

Quiz 1	SEPT 25 2023
Quiz 2	OCT 16 2025
Quiz 3	NOV 6 2025
Quiz 4	NOV 27 2025
Deferred Quiz (if necessary)	NOV 17 / DEC 1 2025
Participation	ONGOING

University Academic Calendar: <https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/>

### Policies & Accommodations

<https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>

<https://carleton.ca/pmc/current-students/academic-accommodations/>



## Evaluation – Important PLEASE READ

### Participation: Multiple Ways to Earn Ten Participation Marks!

1. Textbook Questions: Answer the questions in Top Hat: Each chapter of the text contains several questions worth 0.2 participation marks each. They must be answered before the deadline stated in the text. Top Hat tracks this and allocates the marks.
2. Every lecture will, during specified breaks, feature segments I call “Vexed? Why not Text?” I will, during these breaks, invite students to text me questions or comments that I will read out loud and address. You must include your name to earn participation marks. Each text is worth up to 0.1 participation marks if its bona fide. I may not be able to answer all texts in class if there are too many. Texts must be received during the time window allocated for that purpose to qualify.
3. Earn one full participation mark by scheduling an in person visit with me during office hours for a one-on-one discussion of any topic related to the course.

### Quizzes

1. There are 4 quizzes. The first two are worth 10% and will each be composed of 20 multiple choice questions worth 0.5 marks each, You will have one hour to complete these.
2. The second 2 quizzes are worth 15 marks each and will comprise 30 questions, each worth 0.5 marks. You will have 1.5 hours to complete each quiz.
3. You need only bring an HB pencil and a sharpener to each quiz.
4. Only one student at a time will be permitted to leave the examination for a bathroom break. The duration of the quizzes has been kept short for that purpose among others, owing regrettably to significant attempts in the past at cheating during bathroom breaks in past midterm examinations. This policy will be strictly enforced.
5. If a quiz is missed owing to illness or other good and justifiable reasons, it will be deferred and rescheduled. Please refer to the section that follows entitled **Deferred Examinations/Assignments.**

### Final Examination.

1. The final examination, worth 40% of your final grade, will cover the entirety of the course, and will be held during the formal examination period.
2. The rules governing a deferral, if necessary, are summarized in the next section.

3. It will comprise 80 multiple choice questions worth 0.5 marks each and you will have 3 hours to complete it.
4. All you will need is an HP pencil and a pencil sharpener.

### **Deferred Examinations/Assignments:**

If you wish to defer a **Formal Final Exam**, you – the student – must reach out to the registrar's office with the proper documentation prior to the deadline (please refer to <https://carleton.ca/registrar/deferral/> for dates). Once the request has been put through, your instructor will be notified for their approval. Your final exam will be formally scheduled. If you miss the deadline for applying for a deferral, please reach out to your instructor personally to discuss.

In the event that you are unable to write a quiz due to extenuating circumstances (such as a death in the family, illness, etc.), you must provide appropriate supporting documentation to your professor. Upon review, a deferred test may be offered. Please note that students who do not provide valid documentation or fail to offer a reasonable explanation for missing an assessment will receive a grade of 0% for that quiz.

**The deferral will be held on Monday, November 17, 2025 or Monday, December 1, 2025, at 7:15am.**

### **Preparation:**

Students should study the textbook to prepare for examinations but focus on the material and issues contained in the slides used during lectures. Class questions are encouraged and may be asked directly by raising a hand to call attention to oneself or texted to me during the "Vexed? Why Not Text?" designated interludes during the lecture.

## **Course Schedule**

### **LECTURE 1- SEPT. 4 - FOUNDATIONS OF LAW**

**Readings** Chapter 1 of the Text and slides and notes posted under Lecture 1

### **LECTURE 2 - SEPT. 11 - FROM PHILOSOPHY TO THE CANADIAN LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted under Lecture 2

Chapter 2 of the Text

### **LECTURE 3 - SEPT. 18 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION and CONTRACTS**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted under Lecture 3 and Chapters 3 and 4 of the Text

### **SEPT 25, 2025 - QUIZ # 1 – 10% - Covers Lectures 1,2 and 3**

### **LECTURE 4 – SEPT 25 - CONTRACT DISPUTES**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted for Lecture 4 and Chapter 4 of the Text

### **LECTURE 5 – OCT 2 - TORTS**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted for Lecture 5 and Chapters 5 the Text

### **LECTURE 6 – OCT 9 – TORTS**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted for Lecture 6 and Chapters 6 the Text

### **OCTOBER 16, 2025 - QUIZ # 2 – 10% - Covers Lectures 4, 5 and 6**

### **LECTURE 7–OCT 16 – STRUCTURING BUSINESS**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted for lecture 7 and Chapter 7 of the Text

### **THERE IS NO LECTURE ON OCTOBER 23 SINCE THIS IS STUDY WEEK**

### **LECTURE 8 – OCT 30 - A CLOSER LOOK AT CORPORATIONS**

**Readings:** Slides and any notes posted, Chapter 8 of the Text

### **NOV 6, 2025 - QUIZ # 3 – 15% - Covers Lectures 6, 7 and 8**

## **LECTURE 9- NOV 6 - THE REGULATION OF BUSINESS – EMPLOYMENT LAW**

**Readings:** Slides and notes posted for lecture 9 and the first part of Chapter 9 of the Text dealing with employment law and human rights up to but excluding privacy law.

## **LECTURE – 10 – NOV 13 - THE REGULATION OF BUSINESS – PRIVACY, ANTI TRUST, SECURTIES AND MORE**

**Readings:** Slides and notes posted for Lecture 10 and the rest of Chapter 9 of the Text

## **LECTURE - 11- NOV 20 - PROPERTY LAW**

**Readings:** Slides and notes posted for lecture 11 and Chapter 10 of the text

## **NOV 27, QUIZ # 4 – 15% - Covers Lectures 9, 10 and 11**

## **LECTURE 12 –NOV 27 - DEBT FINANCING, INSOLVENCY AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Readings:** Slides and notes posted for lecture 12 and Chapter 11 of the Text.

## **LECTURE 13 – DEC 4 – ANALYSIS OF BUSINESS SCENARIOS - REVIEW AND PREPARATION FOR FINAL EXAMINATION**

The objective here is to enhance understanding rather than introduce more material.

**Readings:** Scenarios posted for lecture 13

Program Learning Goal	Competencies Not Covered	Competencies Introduced (only)	Competencies Taught but Not Assessed	Competencies Taught and Assessed
<b>CHECK (X) ONE PER ROW</b>				
<b>BC1 Knowledge</b> <i>Graduates will be skilled in applying foundational business knowledge to appropriate business contexts.</i>				X
<b>BC2 Collaboration</b> <i>Graduates will be collaborative and effective contributors in team environments that respect the experience, expertise and interest of all members.</i>	X			
<b>BC3 Critical Thinking</b> <i>Graduates will be discerning critical thinkers, able to discuss different viewpoints, challenge biases and assumptions, and draw conclusions based on analysis and evaluation.</i>				X
<b>BC4 Communication</b> <i>Graduates will be effective and persuasive in their communications.</i>			X	
<b>BI5 Global Awareness (BIB ONLY)</b> <i>Graduates will be globally minded.</i>				X

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Course Sharing Websites

Materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

### Required calculator in BUSI course examinations.

If you are purchasing a calculator, we recommend any one of the following options: Texas Instruments BA II Plus (including Pro Model), Hewlett Packard HP 12C (including Platinum model), Staples Financial Calculator, Sharp EL-738C & Hewlett Packard HP 10bII

### Group work

The Sprott School of Business encourages group assignments in the school for several reasons. They provide you with opportunities to develop and enhance interpersonal, communication, leadership, followership, and other group skills. Group assignments are also good for learning integrative skills for putting together a complex task. Your professor may assign one or more group tasks/assignments/projects in this course. Before embarking on a specific problem as a group, it is your responsibility to ensure that the problem is meant to be a group assignment and not an individual one.

### Grading

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar (p 34), the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

Grades entered by Registrar:

WDN = Withdrawn from the course

DEF = Deferred

### Academic Regulations

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

### Requests for Academic Accommodation

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the *Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances*, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website ([students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)).



You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

### **Pregnancy Accommodation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](https://carleton.ca/pmc)

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

### **Academic Integrity**

Violations of academic integrity are a serious academic offence. Violations of academic integrity – presenting another's ideas, arguments, words or images as your own, using unauthorized material, misrepresentation, fabricating or misrepresenting research data, unauthorized co-operation or collaboration or completing work for another student – weaken the quality of the degree and will not be tolerated.

Process: If an alleged violation occurs, all relevant documentation will be forwarded to the Dean. If the allegation proves true, the penalties may include; a grade of Failure on the submitted work and/or course; academic probation; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; suspension from full-time studies; suspension from all studies at Carleton; expulsion from Carleton, amongst others. **For a first offence, at a minimum, the penalty assigned will normally be a zero on the submitted work and at least a minimum full grade reduction of the final course grade. For a second offence, at a minimum, the penalty assigned will normally lead to a suspension from studies.**

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy which is available, along with resources for compliance at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **Sprott Student Services**

The Sprott Undergraduate Student Services Office offers program advising and overall student success support. Our team is available to discuss your academic goals and your program progression plans. We can also work with you to develop strategies for success, including study skills for Business. If you experience any difficulty this term or if you would like to access support, please contact our team at [bcom@sprott.carleton.ca](mailto:bcom@sprott.carleton.ca) or at [bib@sprott.carleton.ca](mailto:bib@sprott.carleton.ca).

### **Centre for Student Academic Support**

The Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS) is a centralized collection of learning support services designed to help students achieve their goals and improve their learning both inside and outside the classroom. CSAS offers academic assistance with course content, academic writing and skills development. Visit CSAS on the 4th floor of MacOdrum Library or online at: [carleton.ca/csas](http://carleton.ca/csas).

### **Important Information:**

- Students must always retain a copy of all work that is submitted.
  - All final grades are subject to the Dean's approval.
  - For us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid CARLETON address. Therefore, in order to respond to your inquiries, please send all email from your Carleton CMail account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://carleton.ca/its/get-started/new-students-2/>
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