

COURSE SYLLABUS
Southeast Missouri State University

Department of Accounting, Finance & Business Law

Course : BA667

Title of Course: **Liability Risks in Products and Services**

New Course: Spring 2000

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours:

This course examines liability laws and how those laws impact American businesses in the production of goods and services.

Credit Hours: 3

II. Prerequisite: Admission to the MBA graduate program.

III. Purpose or Objectives of the Course:

- A. To understand the fundamentals of Tort law and how it relates to business.
- B. To understand liability issues unique to the service sector with particular emphasis on malpractice liability.
- C. To understand consumer protection issues in a regulatory environment and how they impact business operations.
- D. To develop skills in critical thinking and reasoning, and to learn to analyze legal cases, journal articles, and other written materials as they relate to the business decision-maker.
- E. To develop proficiency in using information technology and legal research skills.
- F. To develop student oral and written skills.
- G. To build on the following objectives:
 - Demonstrate the ability to locate and gather information.
 - Demonstrate capabilities for critical thinking, reasoning, and analyzing.
 - Demonstrate an understanding of human experiences and the ability to relate them to the present.
 - Demonstrate the ability to integrate the breadth and diversity of knowledge and experience.
 - Demonstrate the ability to make informed, intelligent value decisions.

IV. Course Content or Outline:

Suggested Time in 50-minute periods

Introduction	8 hours
Fundamentals of Tort Law	
Intentional Torts	
Negligence	
Strict Liability	
Fundamentals of Products Liability	7 hours
Product safety issues	
Responsibility for Defective Products	
Warranties	

Theories of Legal Action	
Damages	
Product and Service Providers	6 hours
Service Providers	
The role of Sellers and Buyers	
Third parties	
Selecting Remedies	6 hours
Defenses	
Disclaimers and limitations	
Defects in Production and Design	6 hours
Production Defects	
Design Defects	
Consumer Warnings and Instructions	6 hours
Duty to Warn	
Exceptions	
Required Elements	6 hours
Proving Causation	
Foreseeability	
Consumer Misconduct	
	45 hours
Total:	

V. Expectations of Students

To demonstrate the purposes and objectives of the course, students will be expected to:

- A. To carefully prepare assignments on a timely basis, including readings, written assignments, research and oral presentations.
- B. To participate actively in all class discussions.
- C. To make satisfactory scores on all periodic exams/quizzes.
- D. To demonstrate the ability to research and analyze legal cases.
- E. To formulate and defend his or her judgments and solutions to liability problems for business decision-makers in both oral and written form after analyzing and interpreting the results of the student's research.

VI. Basis for Student Evaluation:

- A. Content Mastery: Written examinations
- B. Writing Skills:
 1. Periodic short writing assignments
 2. Research paper.
- C. Oral Skills:
 3. Oral presentations.
 4. Class participation.

VII. Textbook(s): Selection is at the discretion of the professor.

Students needing accommodations for documented disabilities must see the professor.