

Course Name:	Business and Personal Law		
Credits:	0.5		
Prerequisites:	NA		
Description:	Students study the underlying legal concepts that personal and business law are based on to understand the importance of the law in general.		
Academic Standards:	Business Law and Ethics (BLE 1-6.c) WI Business & IT standards book; https://dpi.wi.gov/bit/standards		
Units:	Unit Length:	Unit Standards:	Unit Outcomes:
What is Law	4 weeks	Social Responsibility	Students will learn about morals and ethics and how are they applied to our legal system. Students will identify different kinds of laws and crimes. About the relationship between ethics and the law, and the structure of the court system in the United States. Ethics are the rules we use to distinguish right from wrong and guide our behavior.
Consumer Contracts	2 weeks	Sales & Consumer Law	This unit gives students the basic elements found in an offer and acceptance. Given a case study the students will analyze the case to determine if an acceptance occurred and explain why the contract is legal or not. General agreements will be examined and how they apply to real life. Elements of contracts are identified and who becomes a party. How contracts come to an end or are ended are also determined.
Consumer Law	3 weeks	Legal Process	Students will consider what an offer and acceptance are and what they are not. Students will research on how we are protected under our consumer laws. Contracts can be voided or voidable, students will examine the details in the difference and when it can happen.
Mock Trial	2-3 weeks	Legal Process	Students will practice trial proceedings in a classroom set up court. The mission of the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program is to foster understanding and respect for the legal system and the rule of law.
Forms of Business organizations	1 week	Types of Ownership	How businesses form and start are the focus of this unit. Students will examine how a sole proprietorship and a corporation are different. Students will define different forms of business that can be created in our economic system.
Employment Laws	1 week	Employment	Students will understand what laws protect our employment. A general understanding of employment laws and how they affect their positions.

<p>Unit Name: What is Law?</p>	<p>Length: 4 weeks</p>
<p>Standards: Social Responsibility: BLE5.a & b & c & e & BLE 1.a</p>	<p>Outcomes: Students will learn about morals and ethics and how are they applied to our legal system. Students will identify different kinds of laws and crimes. About the relationship between ethics and the law, and the structure of the court system in the United States. Ethics are the rules we use to distinguish right from wrong and guide our behavior.</p>
<p>Essential Questions: What protection does the Constitution provide to US citizens? Why are ethics important in business decisions and law? What is strict liability? What are the elements of negligence? What is negligence?</p>	<p>Learning Targets Explain how ethical decisions are made. Identify the different ethical character traits. Describe how the law relates to ethics. Explain the importance of the law. Identify the parts of the Constitution. Explain the components of common law. Explain the purposes of statutory law. Identify the ways that the courts make law. Explain the differences between categories of crime. Distinguish federal from state criminal law. Describe the elements of a crime. Determine several defenses to criminal acts. Explain the differences between penalties for committing felonies and misdemeanors. Explain the differences between categories of crime. Distinguish federal from state criminal law. Describe the elements of a crime. Determine several defenses to criminal acts. Explain the differences between penalties for committing felonies and misdemeanors. Describe the different categories of crime. Identify several special crimes that involve the use of motor vehicles. Define different types of business crimes, such as arson, forgery, and embezzlement. Define negligence. Explain the concepts of the reasonable person test and proximate cause. Explain the concept of strict liability. Compare and contrast negligence, strict liability, and proximate cause. Distinguish between a tort and a crime. Differentiate between and give examples of negligence and intentional torts. Explain a person’s rights and duties in relation to tort law. Describe remedies available in tort law. List the main intentional torts against people and property.</p>
<p>Topic 1: Foundations of Law</p>	<p>Length: 1 week</p>
<p>Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e</p>	<p>Academic Vocabulary: empathy, prevalent, mediator, jeopardy</p>
<p>Lesson Frame: What are ethical decisions</p>	<p>We will: analyze what is a law. I will: understand the four ethical character traits.</p>
<p>Lesson Frame: What is common law</p>	<p>We will: explain why laws are necessary. I will: understand my legal rights and responsibilities.</p>
<p>Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions</p>	<p>Notes:</p>
<p>Topic 2: The Court System and Procedures</p>	<p>Length: 1/2 week</p>
<p>Standard(s): BLE 1.a</p>	<p>Academic Vocabulary: appellate court, common law, statute, arraignment, jeopardy.</p>
<p>Lesson Frame: Crimes and Criminal Justice</p>	<p>We will: investigate what kind of court that a teenager might have to appear in if they commit an offense. I will: identify alternative dispute resolution techniques.</p>
<p>Lesson Frame: Types of Crimes</p>	<p>We Will: differentiate between civil and criminal cases. I will: list the steps in a criminal prosecution.</p>
<p>Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions</p>	<p>Notes:</p>

Topic 3: Crimes and Criminal Justice	Length: 1/2 week
Standard(s): BLE 5. a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: intent, motive, impulse, larceny, robbery, murder
Lesson Frame: Crimes and Criminal Justice	We will: define entrapment. I will: determine several defenses to criminal acts.
Lesson Frame: Types of Crimes	We will: examine how the federal government keeps up with changing American society. I will: examine changes in society that law should keep up with.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:
Topic 4: Types of Crimes	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: defendant, plaintiff, prosecutor, infraction
Lesson Frame: Crimes and Criminal Justice	We will: examine property crimes. I will: define different types of business crimes.
Lesson Frame: Types of Crimes	We will: look at the differences between assault and battery. I will: look at hot issues in our current society that affect crime.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:
Topic 5: Definition of a Tort	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: negligence, assumption of risk, compensate, distress, foreseeable
Lesson Frame: Torts and Crimes	We will: identify elements of a tort. I will: understand the history and necessity of tort law.
Lesson Frame: Negligence and Intentional Torts	We will: be able to prove negligence. I will: define a misdemeanor and a felony.
Lesson Frame: Legal Options	We will: list the main intentional torts against people and property. I will: discuss a case study involving an intentional tort.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:
Topic 6: Negligence and Liability	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: vandalism, burglary, larceny, robbery, intent, motive

Lesson Frame: Rationality and Fairness	We will: differentiate between negligence and strict liability. I will: give examples of strict liability.
Lesson Frame: Realistic and Impartial	We will: explain the concepts of reasonable person test and proximate cause. I will: compare negligence with strict liability.
Lesson Frame: Reasonably Anticipated	We will: discuss if the injured party is required to prove negligence. I will: discuss a case study involving a negligence.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:

Unit Name: Consumer Contracts	Length: 2 weeks
Standards: Sales and consumer law	Outcomes: This unit gives students the basic elements found in an offer and acceptance. Given a case study the students will analyze the case to determine if an acceptance occurred and explain why the contract is legal or not. General agreements will be examined and how they apply to real life. Elements of contracts are identified and who becomes a party. How contracts come to an end or are ended are also determined.
Essential Questions: What are the differences among valid, void, and voidable contracts? What are the differences between express and implied contracts? What is a unilateral contract? What are the requirements of an offer? What are the requirements of an acceptance? When is an offer terminated? How are most contracts discharged? What is substantial performance? What is breach of contract?	Learning Targets: Explain the nature and importance of contracts. Identify the elements of a valid contract. Analyze the different classes of contract. Differentiate between express and implied contracts, unilateral and bilateral contracts, and oral and written contracts. Explain the requirements of a valid offer. Recognize the requirements of an acceptance. Distinguish between an offer, an invitation to negotiate, an acceptance, and a counteroffer. Explain how offers are terminated. Assess contractual capacity. Explain the Statute of Frauds and the parol evidence rule. List minors' contractual rights and responsibilities. Define legality and illegality. Explain how and when contracts can be discharged. Analyze the concept of performance. Describe the rules that apply to transfer of rights and duties. Understand the difference between delegation and assignment.
Topic 1: What is a contract?	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: Capacity, Consideration, Legality, Offer, Acceptance, Genuine agreement
Lesson Frame: Identify Federal statutes and objectives	We will: Identify unfair trade practices. I will: explain the importance of contracts.
Lesson Frame: Identify Federal Agencies and areas of protection	We will: Distinguish between an offer, an invitation to negotiate, acceptance and a counteroffer. I will: Identify mislabeling goods.
Lesson Frame: How government promotes consumer protection	We will: Explain the requirements of a valid contract. I will: discuss remedies for injured consumers.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:
Topic 2: Elements of a Contract	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: assumption, usury, dispensing, capacity, minor, majority, emancipated

Lesson Frame: Define When an Offer Has Been Made	We will: define offer. I will: assess contractual capacity.
Lesson Frame: Classify contracts	We will: identify parties to a contract. I will: list minor's contractual rights and responsibilities.
Lesson Frame: Consideration	We will: give examples to mutual consideration. I will: list exceptions to consideration.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:
Topic 3: How Contracts Come to an End	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE5.a & b & c & e	Academic Vocabulary: substituted, expire, affected, tender, delegation, breach, discharge
Lesson Frame: Transferring and Ending Contracts	We will: explain how contracts can be discharged. I will: analyze the concept of performance.
Lesson Frame: Voidable Contracts and Remedies	We will: describe the rules that apply to transfers of rights and duties. I will: define breach of contract. We will: understand the difference between delegation and assignment. I will: differentiate among the ways contracts can be undermined.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:

Unit Name: Consumer Law	Length: 2 weeks
Standards: UCC Consumer Protection (BLE3.a & b)	Outcomes: Students will consider what an offer and acceptance are and what they are not. Students will research on how we are protected under our consumer laws. Contracts can be voided or voidable, students will examine the details in the difference and when it can happen.
Essential Questions: To what kinds of transactions does the law of sales apply? When must sales contracts be in writing? What are the exceptions? When do title and risk of loss pass from the seller to the buyer in a delivery contract? What is the warranty of title? What are the three ways an express warranty can be made? What is the cooling-off rule?	Learning Targets: Students will be able to: Explain the Uniform Commercial Code. Compare and contrast service contracts and contracts for the sale of goods. Explain when title and risk of loss pass in a sale of goods. List the remedies of the buyer and seller when a sales contract is breached. Distinguish different types of consumer fraud. Describe laws and agencies that protect consumers. Identify various types of warranties. Describe how warranties may be excluded or modified. Determine where to get consumer protection assistance.
Topic 1: Consumer Law and Contracts	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE3.a & b	Academic Vocabulary: uniform, dominant, revoke, UCC, firm offer, title, bill of sale, risk of loss
Lesson Frame: Sales contracts	We will: discuss receiving damaged goods on how to remedy the situation. I will: list remedies of the buyer and seller when a sales contract is breached.
Lesson Frame: Consumer Protection	We will: discuss the "buyer beware" quote and how it applies to our purchases. I will: identify various types of warranties.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:
Topic 2: Personal Property	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE3.a & b	Academic Vocabulary: disclose, option, exclude, warranty, express warranty, implied warranty
Lesson Frame: Types of Property	We will: discuss the rules that apply to a sale made at another location other than the main business. I will: explain the concept of intellectual property.
Lesson Frame: Bailments	We will: define bailment. I will: discuss the standard care of bailees must use. We will: define a hotel keepers liability

	I will: identify a common carrier's liability of loss or damaged goods.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:

Unit Name: Mock Trial	Length: 2-3 weeks
Standards: Legal Process: BLE1.b & c We will be following the State Bar of Wisconsin's mock trial competition set up on: https://www.wisbar.org/mock_trial/Pages/Teams.aspx	Outcomes: Students will practice trial proceedings in a classroom set up court. The mission of the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program is to foster understanding and respect for the legal system and the rule of law.
Essential Questions: Who controls our local courts? How do our local courts run? Who do I contact if I have a legal issue? What can I expect when I attend a courtroom proceeding?	Learning Targets: Goals of mock trial (a) To promote greater understanding and appreciation for the law, court procedures, and the American judicial system; (b) To improve basic life skills, such as critical thinking, communication, and advocacy skills; (c) To improve communication and cooperation among community members, including students, teachers, government leaders, law professionals and citizens; (d) To heighten appreciation for the principle of equal justice for all; (e) To promote an awareness of current legal issues; (f) To promote the exchange of ideas among students from throughout Wisconsin while providing a fun, rewarding and memorable experience of interaction; (g) To foster teamwork, collaboration, and cooperation among young people of diverse interests and abilities.
Topic 1: Preparing for Trial	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): Legal Process: BLE1.b & c	Academic Vocabulary: evidence, witness, attorney, judge, bailiff, court reporter
Lesson Frame: Analyze and Prepare for Case	We will: be courteous to witnesses, attorneys and judges. I will: rise when addressing the judge.
Lesson Frame: Analyze and Prepare for Case	We will: direct all remarks to the judge or witness. I will: limit the amount of objections.
Performance Tasks: Prepare witnesses, write out case points for presentation, dress appropriately, prepare short questions	Notes: Make posters for rules of the court for ease of following
Topic 2: Trial	Length: 1-2 weeks
Standard(s): Legal Process: BLE1.b & c	Academic Vocabulary: plaintiff, defense, cross-examination, closing arguments, proof, affidavit, presumption of innocence
Lesson Frame: Opening and Closing of Trial	We will: prepare judge for the case. I will: present an opening statement.

Lesson Frame: Opening and Closing of Trial	We will: examine all witnesses.
Lesson Frame: Opening and Closing of Trial	I will: correctly question the witness.
Performance Tasks: Writing case notes, preparing closing arguments, write out cross-examinations, prepare visual aids	We will: prepare a timekeeper so the daily trial does not go over the time limit. I will: use a stopwatch and notify both sides everyday when starting and stopping. Notes: We will also follow the mock trial competition in Madison that involves this case.

Unit Name: Forms of Business Organizations	Length: 1 week
Standards: Types of Ownership (BLE2.a & b)	Outcomes: How businesses form and start are the focus of this unit. Students will examine how a sole proprietorship and a corporation are different. Students will define different forms of business that can be created in our economic system.
Essential Questions: What are the three advantages of a sole proprietorship? What are the two essential elements of a partnership? How is a limited partner different from all the other types of partners? What does "perpetual existence" refer to? What is the difference between a C corporation and an S corporation?	Learning Targets: Describe how to form and run a sole proprietorship. List the advantages and disadvantages of a sole proprietorship. Explain the rights and responsibilities of partners. Identify the different types of partners. Explain how a partnership can be terminated. Characterize corporations. Explain the different types of corporations. Discuss the steps involved in forming a corporation. Explain what a limited liability company is. List the steps in forming a limited liability company.
Topic 1: Sole Proprietorships and Partnerships	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE2.a & b	Academic Vocabulary: perpetual, dormant, incompetence, partnership, joint liability, dissociation
Lesson Frame: Sole Proprietorships and Partnerships	We will: discuss the basic attributes of the sole proprietorship and partnership. I will: explain the rights and responsibilities of partners.
Lesson Frame: Corporations and LLC's	We will: determine which one form of organization may be best in a particular situation. I will: characterize corporations. We will: explain the risks of utilizing each form of business organization. I will: list the steps in forming a limited liability company.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes:

Unit Name: Employment Law	Length: 1 week
Standards: Employment (BLE 2.c, BLE 6.c)	Outcomes: Students will understand what laws protect our employment. A general understanding of employment laws and how they affect their positions.
Essential Questions: What is the general rule of employment that guides hiring and firing in the U.S.? What is the equal pay rule? What law bans discrimination based on age?	Learning Targets: Discuss the employer-employee relationship. Define employment-at-will. Name the exceptions to employment-at-will. Explain the collective bargaining process. Describe the laws that regulate labor unions. Explain how the law protects employee health and safety. Describe the laws that guarantee fair wages and benefits. Identify the laws that prohibit different forms of discrimination. Define disparate treatment and disparate impact.
Topic 1: Employment Law	Length: 1 week
Standard(s): BLE2.c & BLE6.c	Academic Vocabulary: employment at-will, disparate treatment, disparate impact, union, collective bargaining
Lesson Frame: Employment Agreements	We will: identify an employment agreement. I will: describe how terms in employment contracts are created.
Lesson Frame: Employee Rights	We will: recognize when an employer is responsible for acts of an employee. I will: describe the laws that guarantee fair wages and benefits. We will: discuss what an implied contract means. I will: explain situations where an implied contract might exist.
Performance Tasks: Case study, discussion, articles, writing activity, self-check, chapter questions	Notes: We will debate employment policies.