Welcome to the Business 211 (Business Law I) course:

This course is an introduction to the legal environment of business. It is ideal for students who are business majors, interested in starting their own commercial enterprises, or simply possess a desire to increase their knowledge about the law as it pertains to the business environment.

The course covers such topics as constitutional law, torts, business crimes, contracts, bankruptcy, business associations, and real property, among others. Due to the extensive list of topics covered, the volume of reading in the course is quite significant. In addition to the time spent in the "virtual" classroom, you should be prepared to commit yourself to a minimum of 2-3 hours of out of class preparation for every hour spent in the virtual classroom per week.

Online learning can be an incredibly rewarding and exciting adventure. It provides flexibility and an opportunity for students who might not otherwise be able to take advantage of a college curriculum; however, you should be aware that self-discipline, self-motivation, and attention to detail are required to complete the course successfully in this format. Students must be committed to meeting deadlines for reading and homework assignments in addition to participating in the virtual classroom for a minimum of three hours per week (online time).

Students who have never taken an online course are encouraged to take a look at the Counseling 070 course which is a great introduction to online learning. You may find more information about this course by going to: www.canyons.edu/Offices/Distance_Learning/info/COUNS070.asp.

Many of you may be new to an online course and are somewhat apprehensive about the endeavor. Let's first discuss how to prepare for the class.

You should have a basic level of computer literacy that will permit you to perform tasks such as using a word processing program, a web browser, and email. You should also be able to send and open documents that contain attachments. Students should know how to use PowerPoint to view online presentations, and install “plug-ins” (additional software) needed to use the web site. You must also have a word processing program such as Microsoft Word, an Internet browser such as Internet Explorer, and an email address.

Your email account must be kept active during the term of the course as it is how your instructor will often communicate with you. Your email address will be available to your classmates. If you have privacy concerns, you should set up an email address specifically for this course. Additionally, the email address for this course must be one that is not shared with anyone else. For example, if you have an email address that you share with your spouse, sibling, parent, etc., you’ll need to set up another account that is solely your own.

The experience of taking an online course is quite different from that of taking a traditional on-ground course. Instead of attending a regular classroom, you will be “attending” a virtual classroom (web site). You will log onto the web site on a regular basis to read lecture materials and class notes. You will also use the web site to obtain assignments, read announcements, and communicate with your instructor. Be advised that you do not have total flexibility in attending the virtual classroom. Your instructor will provide you with parameters (time frames) within which you need to log in and read certain lecture materials, complete online quizzes, etc. For example, you may be required to log on a certain number of times per week or log on during particular days.

Provided that an online bulletin board is used, you will be required to click on the bulletin board after logging on to the web site and type in responses to posted questions. Class “participation” is important and participating in online
postings like these substitutes in part for traditional class discussion. The instructor can electronically monitor student participation and a record is maintained of the level of participation for each person taking the course.

Please be patient when awaiting a response from the instructor. Your instructor will discuss with you a reasonable time in which to expect a response to an email. Remember, sometimes your instructor will be online at the same time that you are sending an email and may respond very quickly. At other times it may be hours or the following day before the instructor can log onto the web site and correspond.

As you saw in the catalogue, this is an online course with no class meetings. All work will be conducted online including exams. You will need to log onto the course website beginning the first day of class. If you do not log on by the first day and participate by the third day of class, you will be dropped.

If you have not had a class using Blackboard, you will need to review the online orientation for Blackboard. If you have used Blackboard before, then you may need a reminder for your user name and password. This reminder is located at the online orientation for Blackboard.

The virtual door to the Blackboard classroom will not be open until the first day of class which is June 9, 2014. So wait until that day and then follow the instructions.

The textbook for the class is Contemporary Business and Online Commerce Law by Henry Cheeseman, College of the Canyons edition, I.S.B. N. # 9781256577065. The text is available from the campus bookstore and will be on a shelf under my name. You should take care to purchase the correct textbook as this author has several business law textbooks on the market and they are not interchangeable. Double-check the ISBN number when in doubt.

Note that the textbook is a custom edition and contains fewer chapters than the original textbook.

Your Professor, Dana Nasser, is an attorney and has several years of experience as a law professor. Note that it may take a couple of days to be added to the course. At that time you will be able to access the syllabus for the class, obtain your assignments for the first week, and review the course requirements.

Further information regarding the course is available by contacting:

Professor Dana Nasser
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