

# American Business Legal Systems

<b>Primary Career Cluster:</b>	Business Management & Administration
<b>Course Contact:</b>	<a href="mailto:CTE.Standards@tn.gov">CTE.Standards@tn.gov</a>
<b>Course Code(s):</b>	C12H20
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b>	Computer Applications (C12X00)
<b>Credit:</b>	½
<b>Grade Level:</b>	10-12
<b>Focus Elective Graduation Requirements:</b>	Satisfies one-half credit in <i>U.S. Government</i> .
<b>POS Concentrator:</b>	This course satisfies one out of two required courses to meet the Perkins V concentrator definition, when taken in sequence in an approved program of study.
<b>Programs of Study and Sequence:</b>	This course is available for elective credit in the <i>Business, Management &amp; Administration</i> and <i>Law, Public Safety, Corrections &amp; Security</i> career clusters.
<b>Aligned Student Organization(s):</b>	DECA: <a href="http://www.decatn.org">http://www.decatn.org</a> FBLA: <a href="http://www.fblatn.org/">http://www.fblatn.org/</a>
<b>Promoted Tennessee Student Industry Credentials:</b>	Credentials are aligned with postsecondary and employment opportunities and with the competencies and skills that students acquire through their selected program of study. For a listing of promoted student industry credentials, visit <a href="https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/student-industry-certification.html">https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/student-industry-certification.html</a> .
<b>Teacher Endorsement(s):</b>	030, 033, 037, 039, 041, 052, 054, 055, 057, 152, 153, 158, 201, 202, 203, 204, 311, 430, 431, 432, 434, 435, 436, 471, 472, 474, 475, 476, 952, 953, and 958
<b>Required Teacher Certifications/Training:</b>	None
<b>Teacher Resources:</b>	<a href="https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/career-clusters/cte-cluster-business-management-administration.html">https://www.tn.gov/education/educators/career-and-technical-education/career-clusters/cte-cluster-business-management-administration.html</a>  Best for All Central: <a href="https://bestforall.tnedu.gov/">https://bestforall.tnedu.gov/</a>

## Course at a Glance

CTE courses provide students with an opportunity to develop specific academic, technical, and 21st century skills necessary to be successful in career and in life. In pursuit of ensuring every student in Tennessee achieves this level of success, we begin with rigorous course standards which feed into intentionally designed programs of study.

Students engage in industry relevant content through general education integration and experiences such as career and technical student organizations (CTSO) and work-based learning (WBL). Through these experiences, students are immersed with industry standard content and technology, solve industry-based problems, meaningfully interact with industry professionals and use/produce industry specific, informational texts.

### Using a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) in Your Classroom

CTSOs are a great resource to put classroom learning into real-life experiences for your students through classroom, regional, state, and national competitions, and leadership opportunities. Below are CTSO connections for this course, note this is not an exhaustive list.

- Participate in CTSO Fall Leadership Conference, DECA and FBLA Fall Leadership Camps, FBLA Regional and State Leadership Conferences, and DECA Emerging Leader Summit to engage with peers by demonstrating logical thought processes and developing industry specific skills that involve teamwork and project management.
- Participate in conferences that promote career development such as DECA Career Pathways and Career Development Conferences.
- Participate in FBLA career competitive events that highlight career development, including developing an electronic career portfolio, interviewing skills, and career exploration.
- Participate in DECA competitive events such as Business Law and Ethics Team Decision Making, Business Services Operations Research, Business Growth Plan, and Principles of Business Management and Administration.
- Participate in FBLA competitive events such as Business Communication, Business Etiquette, Business Law, Business Plan, Client Service, Future Business Leader, International Business, Impromptu Speaking, Spreadsheet Applications, and Word Processing.

For more ideas and information, visit Tennessee DECA at <https://www.tndeca.org/> and Tennessee FLBA at <https://www.fblatn.org/>.

### Using Work-Based Learning (WBL) in Your Classroom

Sustained and coordinated activities that relate to the course content are the key to successful work-based learning. Possible activities for this course include the following. This is not an exhaustive list.

- **Standard 1.1–1.6** | On-the-job training in a business environment for students to develop knowledge and skills in human relations, safety, communication, and leadership.
- **Standard 2.1–2.5** | Integrated project with multiple interactions with government and legal professionals for students to gain expertise in the organization structures of various levels of government.
- **Standards 6.1–6.4** | Guest speakers from business, government, and law to discuss contract law and domestic relations law and their effects on business.
- **Standard 7.1–7.3** | Integrated project with multiple interactions with business and industry professionals for students to practice implementing consumer protection laws.
- **Standards 10.1–11.4** | Guest speakers from business, government, and law to discuss government regulations, as well as agency law and employment law and the effects on business.

## Course Description

The *American Business Legal Systems* course provides students with an understanding of the legal framework in which American business functions. The students will evaluate the influence of the free enterprise system in a democratic society on daily decisions. Students will analyze the alliance between capitalism and democracy and be better prepared to influence future decisions in the public and private sectors of the United States of America.

## Course Standards

### 1. Global Workplace Skills

- 1.1 Sensitivity to Community and Global Issues: Develop sensitivity to **personal, societal, corporate, and governmental** responsibility to **community and global issues**.
- 1.2 Teamwork and Leadership Skills: Demonstrate the **interpersonal, teamwork, and leadership skills** needed to function in **diverse business settings**, including the global marketplace. Investigate online and office safety procedures.
- 1.3 Effective Communication: **Communicate effectively** as **writers, listeners, and speakers** in diverse social and business settings.
- 1.4 Critical Thinking and Soft Skills: Apply the **critical-thinking and soft skills** needed to function in students' multiple roles as **citizens, consumers, workers, managers, business owners, and directors** of their own futures.
- 1.5 Legal and Ethical Issues: **Analyze and follow** policies for managing **legal and ethical issues** in organizations and in a technology-based society.
- 1.6 Parliamentary Procedure: Demonstrate **parliamentary procedure** through office staff/chapter **organizational meetings**.

### 2. United States Constitution and Business

- 2.1 Legal System Background: Examine the **historical background** of the United States legal system.
- 2.2 Principles of the Constitution: Analyze the **basic principles** upon which the Constitution of the United States is based.
- 2.3 Preventing Abuse of Power: Demonstrate the **role of constitutions** in **preventing abuse** of governmental power.
- 2.4 Impact on Business: Analyze the impact of the **Constitution, Constitutional Amendments, and federal acts** on American **business practices**. Determine the effect of rule of law on business and employees.

2.5 Rule of Law: Critique the effect of **rule of law** as it applies to **business and employees**. Demonstrate the way laws affect individuals as well as American business.

### 3. Bill of Rights

3.1 Bill of Rights: Examine the **basic freedoms** guaranteed by the **Bill of Rights**.

3.2 Individual Rights and Freedoms: Analyze the **effect of laws on individual rights** and freedoms. Research a legal case that demonstrates basic freedoms obtained by the Bill of Rights.

3.3 Balance of Rights and Welfare: Investigate the **balance** between the protection of **individual rights** and the **general welfare of all citizens**.

### 4. Organization of Governments

4.1 Branches of Government: Compare and contrast requirements and duties for the **executive, judicial and legislative** branches.

4.2 Legislation: Examine the process for **proposing and passing legislation**. Design an effective representation of steps necessary to have a student written bill passed.

4.3 Requirements and Duties of Government Officials: Relate the **duties and requirements** for serving in **state and local governments**. Research requirements and current members of the federal executive and legislative branches, and of state and local governing bodies.

4.4 Checks and Balances: Analyze the function of a system of **checks and balances**.

### 5. Ethics and Law

5.1 Ethics and Law: Compare **the relationship between ethics and the law**.

5.2 Court Structure: Analyze the structure of **federal, state, and local courts** in the American legal system.

5.3 Juvenile Court: Connect the role of the **juvenile court** with the **role of other courts** within a state, territory, or province.

5.4 Substantive and Procedural Law: Differentiate between **substantive and procedural law**.

### 6. Contract Law

6.1 Parts of a Contract: Analyze the essential **parts of a contract**.

6.2 Classifications of Contracts: Analyze the different **classifications of contracts**.

6.3 Offer and Acceptance: Compare **requirements of an offer and an acceptance**.

6.4 Valid Consideration: Analyze **requirements for valid consideration**.

## 7. Consumer Protection Laws

7.1 Consumer Laws: Identify consumer laws that **regulate consumer protection**.

7.2 Law and Consumer Credit: Investigate consumer laws that **regulate consumer credit**.

7.3 Law and Sales: Differentiate the **law of sales** from various **transactions** relating to sales.

## 8. Domestic Relations Laws

8.1 Marriage: Analyze **legal considerations in marriage**. Investigate age requirements for marriage in different states.

8.2 Divorce: Analyze **legal considerations in divorce**.

8.3 Child Custody: Analyze **legal considerations in child custody**.

8.4 Domestic Abuse: Analyze legal considerations in **domestic abuse, child abuse, neglect**, or other related issues to domestic abuse.

## 9. Law and Finance

9.1 Borrowing Money: Apply correct procedures for borrowing money with **secured transactions**.

9.2 Purchasing on Credit: **Evaluate** criteria used in making wise **decisions** when purchasing on credit.

9.3 Negotiable Instruments: Analyze types of negotiable instruments, including **commercial paper**.

9.4 Insurance: Relate the **purchase of insurance** to specific individual **needs**.

9.5 Bankruptcy: Examine **bankruptcy laws**.

## 10. Business Organizations and Government Regulations

10.1 Business Organizations: Compare and contrast the **four types of business organizations**.

10.2 Legislation and Business Organizations: Analyze ways **legislation affects business** organizations. Create a list of legislative acts that affect businesses, the provisions of each act, and those organizations protected under the acts.

## 11. Agency and Employment Laws

- 11.1 Agency Relationship: Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of an **agency relationship and types of agents**.
- 11.2 Duties of Employers: Analyze the **duties of the employer**.
- 11.3 Duties of Employees: Analyze the **duties of the employee**.
- 11.4 Legislation and Workers: Interpret the **impact of legislation** on **worker benefits, employment conditions, and employee rights**. Analyze the cases or issues about incidents or court cases that deal with employment issues.

## 12. Property and Real Property

- 12.1 Personal Property: Investigate items that are considered **personal property**. Analyze case studies related to personal property.
- 12.2 Real Property: Determine the characteristics of items that would deem them **real property**. Analyze case studies related to real property.
- 12.3 Estate Planning: Analyze the various **components of estate planning** and determine when estate planning is advisable.

## 13. American and Global Legal Systems

- 13.1 Global Differences: Investigate types of **legal systems** that are **different from the U.S.** system.
- 13.2 Global Business Law: Analyze **business law** and practices in other countries which are different than the US practices.
- 13.3 Imports and Exports: Examine **laws and practices** related to the **import and export** of goods and services (i.e., trade agreements, protectionism, trade balance). Debate the advisability of **imposing a tariff** on a given product.
- 13.4 Trade Agreements: Assess the role of **trade agreements** and **international legal and political bodies** in the resolution of **trade disputes**. Simulate one country taking a trade dispute to the International Court of Justice against the practices of another country.

## Standards Alignment Notes

\*References to other standards include:

- P21: Partnership for 21st Century Skills [Framework for 21st Century Learning](#)  
Note: While not all standards are specifically aligned, teachers will find the framework helpful for setting expectations for student behavior in their classroom and practicing specific career readiness skills.