

Business and Commercial Law (FNSBLW 341)
Suggestions for Improving Assessment Results
Summer 2006

Goal: Students should be ethical and able to identify ethical issues.

Faculty teaching this core course:

- Adopted a new text, West's Business Law, Alternate Edition, 9th, which explicitly addresses the AACSB's broad array of requirements, including a focus on ethics. Every unit ends with a *Focus on Ethics* section which explores the concept of corporate social responsibility, including examples of the interrelationship between ethics and business law. Additionally, one chapter in each unit includes *A Question of Ethics* at the end of the questions and case problems section.
- Include in-class discussion on Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the corporate scandals that led to the passage of that legislation.
- Teach as final unit of the course, Accountant Liability, concerning to what extent accountants and similar professionals may be held liable for breaches of fiduciary and related responsibilities and to whom.
- Discuss consequences of breaches of ethical conduct and the ethics and limitations of exculpatory clauses concerning tort and contractual liability.
- Include in-class discussions on current legal and ethical debates which introduce students to controversial issues currently being litigated, including eminent domain, privacy rights, corporate responsibility and governance, identification of stakeholders, and stakeholder conflicts of interest.
- Discuss intellectual property rights, including downloading of music and propriety of mobile phone camera use issues, and the effects of same on various stakeholders.
- Assess students' ability to identify various stakeholders' interests, potential conflicts, and proposed solutions via assignments and case study examinations, including mid-semester contract negotiation and formation project.