This course examines the law and practice of business organizations and the paralegal’s potential functions in this area of law. It begins with an examination of basic agency law, followed by a study of the fundamental structure and most important legal doctrines relating to general partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, small closely-held corporations, and large publicly-traded corporations.

Business law is not, in itself, a field of law. Rather, it is the study of how civil (and sometimes criminal) law affects the operation of businesses. Any study of business is increasingly concerned with the legal environment. This course is designed to provide paralegals with the information they need to work under the supervision of counsel in the legal department of a corporation or to assist attorneys that specialize in providing counsel to businesses. It also provides the general public with knowledge of the legal environment in which businesses operate.

**EXPECTATIONS:** This is an accelerated course. You will be expected to spend an average of at least 8 hours per week reading and completing assignments. Please note that, barring extenuating circumstances, extensions will not be granted for this online course. This course is the equivalent of at least 50 clock hours of study. 70% is the minimum passing score on all tests and assignments for this course.

**There is no required text for this course.**

The following texts are recommended but not required:

- *Paralegal Career for Dummies* by Scott A. Hatch, J.D. and Lisa Zimmer Hatch, M.A.

To order texts, call The Center for Legal Studies at 800-522-7737 or [Click Here to Order Online](#).

**LESSON TOPICS:**

- **Lesson One:** SOURCES OF LAW AND BUSINESS TORTS
- **Lesson Two:** INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND CONTRACTS
- **Lesson Three:** BAILMENTS AND THE SALE OF GOODS
- **Lesson Four:** NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS, SECURED TRANSACTIONS, AND BANKRUPTCY
- **Lesson Five:** AGENCY, PARTNERSHIP, AND EMPLOYMENT
- **Lesson Six:** CORPORATIONS AND OTHER BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:** For each lesson you will submit a 50-point short answer/essay assignment covering the topics in that lesson’s reading. These writing assignments are due by 9:00 a.m. each Friday.
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Fax: +1-706-583-0180
Email: questions@georgiacenter.uga.edu

EXAMS: You will complete two exams. Each is worth 100 points. The Midterm
exam is to be submitted with your Lesson Three Assignments; the Final exam is
to be submitted with your Lesson Six Assignments.

BULLETIN BOARD ASSIGNMENTS: You will also post your responses to six
class participation assignments. These assignments are referred to as Bulletin
Board Submissions and will be submitted by either selecting Bulletin Board
Submission from within the lesson material, or by selecting ‘Forums’ under
Activities on the Left Hand Block.

All lesson objectives, assignments, and tests can be found in the Lesson
Materials.

GRADING: Your grade will be based on your completion of six writing
assignment assignments, two exams, and class participation/Bulletin Board
Submissions. The exams and writing assignments can be accessed from within
the lesson material, or by selecting ‘Assignments’ under Activities on the Left
Hand Block. You will have the opportunity to engage in “class participation”
by using the Bulletin Board to respond to the bulletin board assignments
throughout the course. Also, participating in the bulletin board assignments
will enhance your understanding of the reading material.

Your final grade will be figured as follows: The six assignments are worth
50 points each and comprise 40% of your grade. The two exams are worth
100 points and comprise 40% of your grade. Your participation in class
participation assignments comprises 20% of your grade. Every assignment
must be completed with a 70% or better to pass the course.