# **Construction Law**

# CMGT2870 001

### Instructor Information



### **Course Description**

Course examines Construction Business start-up procedures, Contract Management, Risk Management (Insurance), Tax Basics, and Construction Lien Laws. Business Ethics and Contractor Licensing Requirements are studied.

Prereq: CMGT 1410, 1450, 2640 & 2670. Semester: Fall & Spring

### **Course Student Learning Outcomes**

- Evaluate different construction related business structures.
- Contractor licensure requirements are identified.
- Risk Management (insurance) is examined.
- Business Ethics are interpreted.
- Construction Contracts, Contract Management, Roles and Responsibilities of Parties, and current Lien Laws are studied and evaluated.

- National and Local Labor Laws and employee management is analyzed.
- Federal and State Tax Basics are reviewed

#### **Course Prerequisites**

CMGT 1410, 1450, 2640 & 2670

### **Communication Plan**

• I will respond to email within 1 day. I will offer feedback on major assignments within 3 days. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.

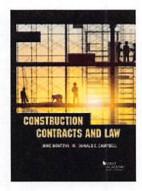
### Keys for Success (how to succeed in the course)

This class is designed to familiarize students with some of the basic principles of construction law. In the construction industry, it is essential that industry professionals understand contracts and become familiar with the statutory and common laws that govern this industry. Many of the disputes between owners and contractors can be prevented simply by anticipating legal issues common to construction and by taking reasonable steps to avoid costly legal consequences.

The objectives of this class will be to assist students to be able to recognize in advance legal dangers that they may face in the construction industry by (i) becoming familiar with common law and statutory law pertaining to the industry, (ii) understanding various rights and obligations regarding contracts entered; and (iii) becoming proactive in business dealings to potentially avoid legal pitfalls before it is too late. In addition to reviewing legal issues regarding construction contracts and claims that are common within the construction industry, each student should also develop an overall understanding of the legal systems and gain a better perspective of how governments are organized and how they regulate development and construction activities through codes and ordinances.

Many of the legal questions which will be discussed in class may not have specific right or wrong answers. For example, questions of law involving almost identical circumstances are sometimes interpreted differently by courts in unrelated jurisdictions. This "common law" then becomes the focus of arguments used by attorneys in future cases. Students will be expected to identify and understand issues involved in construction law cases and be able to defend different points of view according to the principles of law that apply. Much of the classroom time will be spent in thoughtful discussion of the subject(s) assigned for the day and how the issues may relate to the "real world." Active participation in class is encouraged and expected. Students will be called upon to discuss the reading material on current class materials and experience. All students are required to attend each class session. If the student must miss a class, the student is required to make arrangements with the instructor to make up missed assignments or other work.

### **Required Text or Materials**



Title: Construction Contracts and the Law ISBN: 9781683282129 Authors: MIKE. CAMPBELL MONTOYA (DONALD E.), Donald E. Campbell Publisher: West Academic Publishing Publication Date: 2019-08-16

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at <u>ads@slcc.edu</u>.

### Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
9/24	<u>Exam 1 (Midterm 1)</u>	Quiz	100
10/11	Case Review	Assignment	25
10/29	Exam 2 (Midterm 2)	Quiz	100
12/6	<u>City Meeting and/or</u> Legal Forum Report	Assignment	25

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
12/10	Exam 3 (Final)	Quiz	125
12/10	Roll Call Attendance	Assignment	100

# Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

#### Assignment 1: Case Review

Each student will be required to submit a brief (2-pages, double-spaced) review of one construction law case from an appellate court. The original citation of the case should be included, and the facts and legal issues dealing with each case should be summarized.

#### Assignment 2: City/County Meetings and Legal Proceedings

Each student will also be required to observer one municipal meeting for a minimum of one hour (city or county of choice) OR observing at least one hour of an acceptable legal forum during this term. A written report of double-spaced pages (no more than two pages) of the meeting will be required.

#### <u>Exams</u>

Two exams will be given during the term, and a final exam will be given at the end of the semester. Exams will focus on class discussions, textbook readings and other assigned materials. Exams may consist of multiple choice and true/false questions, short answers, as well as essay or situational problems.

# Grading Scale

Grades will be calculated based on the total number of points earned during the semester and may be modified to the curve of the class. The approximate distribution of points is shown below.

<u>Assignment/Exam</u>	<u>Points</u>
2 exams (100 pts each)	200

1 final exam	125
Written case review	25
City meeting/legal forum report	25
Class Participation	100
Tota	d 475

# Additional Policies

#### Policy regarding Late Homework

Due dates for assignments will be noted on the schedule and/or in class. One of the essential components of successful construction companies is to submit bids, plans and complete construction projects on time. To help prepare students to become construction professionals who can properly manage project duration and efficiency, it is the policy to not accept any late homework. Exceptions to this policy may be granted in the event of unusual or uncontrollable circumstances. Such exceptions are rare, and students should not expect preferential treatment. Determination as to whether an exception is warranted will be on a case-by case basis.

### How to Navigate to Canvas

### Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone. You can access the document by clicking on the following link: <u>https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus</u>

### Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: <u>https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus</u>. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

# Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: <u>https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus</u>. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

### Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

SLCC Student Academic Calendar