



**Mahatma Gandhi University  
Kottayam**

Programme	Bachelor in Business Administration (Honours)					
Course Name	Legal and Ethical Issues in Business					
Type of Course	MDE					
Course Code	MG3MDEBBA200					
Course Level	NA					
Course Summary	<p>This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the key legal concepts, regulations, and ethical dilemmas that businesses face across various sectors. Through lectures, case studies, and interactive discussions, students will develop the ability to critically analyse legal scenarios and ethical issues and make informed decisions that align with both legal requirements and ethical business practices.</p> <p><b>Course Objectives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The course aims to provide students with the understanding of key legal and ethical issues in the business context of India</li><li>2. The course will help students analyse ethical dilemmas in business decisions</li><li>3. The course will help the students understand the legal and regulatory aspects of business ethics that concern the financial, competitive and charitable responsibilities of organisations.</li></ol>					
Semester	3	Credits			3	Total Hours
Course Details	Learning Approach	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	Others	
		3	0	0	0	
Pre-requisites, if any	NA					

## COURSE OUTCOMES (CO)

CO No.	Expected Course Outcome	Learning Domains *	MGU PO
1	Gain a foundational perspective on business law, including contracts, obligations, along with their significance in business operations.	U	1
2	Explore the legal dimensions of sales contracts, leases, and negotiable instruments in the context of business transactions and responsibilities.	A	1
3	Develop insights into ethical practices and social responsibility in business, emphasizing Indian legal and cultural settings.	U	6

## COURSE CONTENT

Module	Course description	Hrs	CO No.
<b>1. Introduction to Business Law</b>		<b>20 Hrs</b>	
1.1	Business law – definition, scope, importance of understanding the role of law in business.	4	CO1
1.2	Elements of a contract – offer and acceptance, consideration, contractual capacity; Essentials of a valid contract.	8	CO1
1.3	Types of contracts; Performance obligations; Types of contract breaches and remedies;	8	CO1
<b>2. Sales and Leases</b>		<b>15 Hrs</b>	
2.1	Formation of Sales Contract: Contracts for Leasing Goods, Title and Risk of loss, Performance and remedies	6	CO2
2.3	Introduction to Negotiable Instruments, Negotiability, Negotiation and Holders in due course; Liability and discharge	9	CO2
<b>3 Introduction to Business Ethics</b>		<b>10 Hrs</b>	
3.1	The definition and importance of business ethics, business ethics in the Indian context; Benefits of Ethical Conduct in Business.	6	CO3
3.2	Issues related to Business Ethics in marketing, finance & human resource functions.	4	CO3

## References

### Text Books (Latest Editions):

1. Tulsian, P. C. Business and Corporate Laws. S. Chand Publishing.
2. Fernando, A.C. Business Ethics and Corporate Governance. Pearson
3. Bayern, S. Business Law Beyond Business. J. Corp. L., 46, 521.
4. Sundar K. Business Ethics and values, Chennai Vijay Nicole Imprints Pvt Ltd 2019.
5. Tulsian, P. C. *Business Law*. Tata McGraw-Hill Education.

### Other References:

1. Ratan Tata: Ethical Leadership | By: Ashok K. Dua, Sumita Rai | Ivey Publishing | <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/product/W17258-PDF-ENG>
2. [www.https://scroll.in/tag/competition-commission-of-india](https://scroll.in/tag/competition-commission-of-india)
3. Mascarenhas, A. J. O. et al. (2019). J.R.D. Tata: Orations on Business Ethics. Rupa Publications India
4. Holloway, J. E. (2023). The Foundation of the Theory of Law and Business. Am. U. Bus. L. Rev., 12, 51.
5. Laasch, O. (2022). Principles of Management. Sage Textbook

### Suggestive Assessment Activities:

#### CO 1

**1.1. Case Study Analysis-** Students will be given real or hypothetical business contract cases involving offer, acceptance, or breach. They will analyse the case facts, identify key legal elements, and present the legal outcome based on contract law principles. (Individual or group written report or presentation.)

**1.2. Contract Drafting Exercise-** Students will draft a basic business contract (e.g., service agreement, lease agreement) incorporating essential elements like offer, consideration, and capacity. (Individual submission)

**1.3. Group Debate: Role of Law in Business-** Organise a classroom debate on topics such as "Business law promotes fair trade vs. Business law restricts entrepreneurial freedom."

**1.4. Quizzes/Exams:** For testing CO-based learning domains.

#### CO 2

##### 2.1. Role Play: Sales Contract Formation

Students will perform a role play simulating the negotiation and formation of a sales or lease contract between a buyer and a seller. (Group activity)

**2.3. Presentation: Negotiable Instruments and Holders in Due Course-** Prepare a short presentation explaining key features of negotiable

instruments and the concept of "holder in due course," using examples like cheques or promissory notes. (Individual or pair presentations.)

**2.4. Quizzes/Exams:** For testing CO-based learning domains.

### CO3

**3.1. Reflection Essay on Ethical Conduct in Business-** Students write a reflective essay on the role of ethics in business success, with examples from Indian companies.

**3.3. Group Discussion: Ethical Dilemmas in Business Functions-** Students participate in a moderated group discussion on case-based ethical dilemmas in marketing (e.g., false advertising), finance (e.g., insider trading), or HR (e.g., biased recruitment). (Group activity and individual report submission)

**3.4. Quizzes/Exams:** For testing CO-based learning domains.

### ASSESSMENT

#### Continuous Comprehensive Assessment (CCA) - Maximum Marks: 25

Sl. NO	Component	Activity	Max. Marks
1	Tests/ Quizzes		10
2	Role Play/ Assignment/ Reflection Essay on Ethical Conduct in Business/ Case Study/	Assessment methods specified in the syllabus	5
3	Case Study/ Contract Drafting Exercise/ Group Discussion/ Group Debate/ Assignment/	Assessments specified by the teacher (Assessment methods defined in the syllabus may also be used)	5
4	Group or individual presentation	Presentation of any of the assessment topics given	5
<b>Total Marks</b>			<b>25</b>

#### End Semester Assessment (ESE) Maximum Marks: 50

Sl. NO	Component	Activity	Max. Marks
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1	<b>Written Examination</b>	Long Essay (a choice between two options for each question- answer five long essay type answer questions, one from each pair (1a/1b, 2a/2b, 3a/3b, 4a/4b, 5a/5b).	5x10=50
<b>Total Marks</b>			<b>50</b>



**MGU-BBA (HONOURS)**

## Syllabus