

**Department of Human Dimensions in Natural Resources
Masters in Tourism Management Program (MTM)
NRRT660 Law and Legal Liability in Tourism
Spring 2017; Session 2; Section 001**

Important Note: NRRT660 is not intended to replace the advice of a licensed attorney; this course is intended to inform students of law and liability issues without providing specific legal advice.

Course Description and Student Experience

This course will focus on enhancing student understanding of concepts of legal liability, business law, and risk management applied to travel and tourism organizations. The course will begin with an introduction to legal concepts and the law. Subsequent course topics include contracts; agency law and business formation; crimes and torts; civil rights law; employment law and labor-management relations, risk management, and other special topics. A predominant characteristic of this class is that all lectures, discussions, and exercises will require students to think about the application of concepts in legal liability and law to unique situations that travel and tourism organizations must deal with.

Course Objectives

By taking this course, students will be able to...

1. Describe the evolution of the U.S. legal system, the U.S. court system, and the legal process.
2. Describe factors that influence the legal formation of contracts, including the capacity of parties, offer/acceptance, consideration, and the statute of frauds.
3. Apply knowledge of contract law to travel and tourism issues and situations.
4. Apply knowledge of agency law to the operation of travel and tourism issues and situations.
5. Describe the legal formation of travel and tourism proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, and other types of organizations.
6. Apply the advantages, disadvantages, and characteristics of the different legal forms of business formation to decisions about what types of formation are most appropriate for travel and tourism organizations
7. Describe negligence and other torts and their application to travel and tourism organizations.
8. Apply concepts of standard of care to clients, customers, and guests of travel and tourism organizations.
9. Describe the connection between civil rights law and the travel and tourism industry.
10. Apply the tenets of employment law and labor relations to the travel and tourism industry
11. Describe and develop a risk management plan designed to protect the tourism business assets and its customers from injury and damages.

Sources of Course Readings and other Materials

Textbook

- Emerson, R.W. (2015). Business Law (6th edition). Published by Barron's Educational Series. [BARRON'S] (www.barronseduc.com); ISBN: 978-1-4380-0511-9

Readings selected from and provided online

- Cournoyer, N.G. & Marshall, A.G. (2008). Hotel, Restaurant, and Travel Law (7th ed.) [CMM]
- Peterson, J.A. & Hronek, B.B. (2011). Risk Management for Park, Recreation, and Leisure Services (6th ed.) [PH]

Grading

Assignment

	Points	≈Percent	Grade Scale
Learning Module Review Questions (8 @ 2½ points each)	20	6.7%	A+ ≥ 98.0%
Legal Application Assignments (2 @ 100 points each)	200	66.6%	A 94.0% - 97.9%
Group Legal Issues Paper (80 points)	<u>80</u>	<u>26.7%</u>	A- 90.0% - 93.9%
Total	300	100.0%	B+ 88.0% - 89.9%
			B 84.0% - 87.9%
			B- 80.0% - 83.9%
			C+ 78.0% - 79.9%
			C 70.0% - 77.9%
			D 60.0% - 69.9%
			F < 60.0%

Course Assignments

Learning Module Review Questions (LMRQ)

Several questions will be assigned for each learning module for students to complete individually. Each LMRQ assignment will be worth 2½ points for a total of 20 points. The purpose of the LMRQs is to serve as a supplement to your study of the basic content of each learning module. You do NOT need to include every fact related to the question, but answer them in a way such that someone who knows little of the topic will have a general understanding of what the key issue addressed by the question is. I would suggest that your approach to each learning module is to first read through the questions assigned for that learning module, then as you read the chapter, take notes, or at least make note of, the basic answers to each of these questions. Students can feel free to consult other students on some answers if they desire, however, everyone's submission should be their own work. They should be typed, doubled-spaced, using WORD, and submitted to the course website by midnight on the due date.

Legal Application Assignments (LAA)

Students will complete two **legal application assignments** (LAA), worth 100 points each, for a total of 200 points. Each LAA will be a response to several questions regarding the material and will represent an application of legal concepts to a travel and tourism situation provided by the instructor. The LAAs must be done individually. They should be doubled-spaced, using WORD, and posted on the course website by midnight on the due date.

Group Legal Issues Paper (GLIP)

Students will complete a **group legal issues paper** worth a total 80 points. The focus of this assignment will be an identification of the primary legal issues relevant to a particular sector of the travel and tourism industry. Below is a list of the sectors of the travel and tourism industry that the students may draw from. At the discretion of the students, the paper may focus on one sector as a whole, OR, a more specific business type within that sector. The GLIP will be done in groups of 2 or 3 individuals in the class, which will be created at random by the instructor on the first day of class. GLIPs should be typed, doubled-spaced, using WORD, and submitted to the course website by midnight on the due date. As part of this assignment, reference and cite readings sources where appropriate.

Supplier Sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodging • Restaurants and Food Service • Cruise Line • Car Rental • Attraction and Travel • Casino and Gaming • Hospitality 	Carrier Sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airline • Railway • Ferry • Bus and Motor coach • Canal
Travel Trade Intermediary Sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail Travel Agency • Tour Operator and Wholesaler • Corporate Travel • Incentive Travel Planning • Convention/Meeting Planning • Online Travel Company • Global Distribution System (GDS) 	Destination Marketing Organization Sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National, State, Provincial, and Territorial DMO • City and County DMO

Due Dates for Assignments

<i>Assignments</i>	<i>Week/Date Assigned</i>	<i>Date Post is Due*</i>
Learning Module Review Questions	Weekly	Every Sunday**
Legal Application Assignment 1	Week 1; 3/20	Sunday; week 4; 4/16
Legal Application Assignment 2	Week 4; 4/10	Sunday; week 7; 5/07
Group Legal Issues Paper	Week 1; 3/20	Tuesday; week 8; 5/09

*All assignments are due by midnight on the date due. Late assignments will be docked 10% for each day late.

Note: When you submit the group assignment online, be sure that your name, and the names of all the members in your group are on the submitted assignment at the top of the first page.

**The final LMRQ #8 will be due on Wednesday May 10, by midnight.

The Course at a Glance

Dates	Topics	Reading
<i>Section 1. Foundations, Civil Rights, & Contracts</i>		
3/20 – 3/26	Learning Module 1. Introduction to Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality Law and the Judicial Process	CMM: Introduction to Tourism Law; The Court System
3/27 – 4/02	Learning Module 2. Civil Rights in Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality	CMM: Civil Rights
4/03 – 4/09	Learning Module 3. Contract Law in Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality	Barron's: chapters 4 – 9 CMM: Contract Law
<i>Section 2. Agency, Crimes & Torts, & Employment Law</i>		
4/10 – 4/16	Learning Module 4. Agency Law & Business Formation	Barron's: chapters 14 – 18
4/17 – 4/23	Learning Module 5. Crimes, Torts, and Standard of Care	Barron's: chapters 19 PH: Standard of Care CMM: Negligence
4/24 – 4/30	Learning Module 6. Employment Law & Labor Management Relations Law	Barron's: chapters 24 & 25 CMM: Employment
<i>Section 3. Special Topics</i>		
5/01 – 5/07	Learning Module 7. Negotiable Instruments	Barron's: chapters 10 & 11
5/08 – 5/14	Learning Module 8. Environmental Law and Property	Barron's: chapter 20 & 23