



Florida Atlantic University
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

HFT 3603.001, CRN 82169, PRINCIPLES OF HOSPITALITY LAW
Boca Campus, Mondays, 7:10 pm – 10:00 pm
Fall Semester, 2014; August 18th – December 12th
College of Business Building (COB) Room 203

Professor Information

Professor: Jeffrey R. Miller, JD, MBA
Phone: (561) 297-3039 (office); (410) 404-9328 (cell)
Email: jmill196@fau.edu *Email is my preferred method of communication

Office Hours

Physical Location: 321 Fleming Hall, Boca Raton Campus

Office Hours Mondays 3:00 pm-7:00 pm; Tuesdays 5:00 pm-7:00 pm; Wednesdays 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and by appointment any day and time with advanced notification and scheduling.

Required Text

Title: *Hotel, Restaurant & Travel Law, A Preventative Approach*, Norman G. Cournoyer, Anthony G. Marshall and Karen L. Morris.

ISBN: 978-1-4180-5191-4; Publisher: Delmar-Thomson Learning; Years: 2008, 7th Edition

This textbook should be available at the FAU bookstore as well as online from various retailers.

Course Description

This course focuses on the nature and function of the US legal system which applies to hospitality operations. The course includes cases and the discussion of owners/innkeepers, guest relationships, services contracts and torts (primarily negligence and attractive nuisance), civil rights as they apply to both employees and guests as well as insurable interests.

Credit Hours

3

Course Prerequisites and Credit Hours and Class Time Commitments

The prerequisite includes a minimum of 30 credits earned at a postsecondary institution. There are no co-requisites for this course.

HFT 3003, Introduction to Hospitality Management, is the first required course for students interested in pursuing a *major* or a *minor* in the Hospitality Management Program. Further, it also serves as a pre-requisite for all other hospitality management courses at Florida Atlantic University.

This course also serves as an upper division elective course in the College of Business.

“According to Florida State Statute 6A-10.033, students must spend a minimum 2,250 minutes of in class time during a 3-credit course. Additionally, students enrolled in a 3-credit course are expected to spend a minimum of 4,500 minutes of out-of-class-time specifically working on course-related activities (i.e., reading assigned pieces, completing homework, preparing for exams and other assessments, reviewing class notes, etc.) and fulfilling any other class activities or duties as required.” The course schedule for this course reflects this expectation of students.

Course Learning Objectives

The learning objectives of HFT 3603, Principles of Hospitality Law, are upon completion of this course students should be:

- Familiar with basic terminology in hospitality, restaurant and travel law;
- Understand basic concepts with regard to preventative legal care;
- Demonstrate a proficiency and understanding in evaluating risk situations;
- Understand the interaction between different components of the travel industry;
- Have a basic knowledge of statutes and regulations that impact the travel industry.

Student Learning Outcomes (SOLs)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the core elements of a contract;
- Distinguish between the legal concepts of contributory negligence and comparative negligence and which of the 2 theories apply under Florida law;

- Define the term “theft of services” and how it applies to the hospitality industry;
- Define the term “dram shop liability” with regard to the sale of alcohol in hotels and restaurants;
- Apply the main concepts of “dram shop law” to minimize liability under state statutes;
- Identify the basic components of the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 and how the statute has impacted and will continue to impact the travel industry.

Grading Scale

A	90.00-100%	B	80.00-89.99%
C	70.00-79.99%	D	60.00-69.99%
F	< 59.99%		

Course Evaluation Method

Exam #1: 35% of final grade

Exam #2: 35% of final grade

Exam #3: 30% of final grade

All letter grades are calculated using the weighted average from the items listed above.

Curving: There are no curves provided in this course on any individual assessments *or* on overall course grades.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit in this course.

Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see **University Regulation 4.001** at [http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001 Code of Academic Integrity.pdf](http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf).

In this course, *any* violations of FAU’s academic integrity University Regulation 4.0001 will result in a grade of “F” in the course. Additionally, students will be reported to the appropriate FAU administrators including program, department, college, student conduct board, dean of students’ office, etc.

Disability Policy Statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) – in Boca Raton, SU 133, (561) 297-3880; in Davie, LA 240, (954) 236-1222; in Jupiter, SR 110, (561) 799-8010- and follow all OSD procedures. You may also visit their website at: www.fau.edu/osd

Students will experience a vast array of services at the FAU Office for Students with Disabilities including, but not limited to: reader software, speech recognition, digital pens, ergonomic keyboards, alternative mice devices, standard and scientific calculators with speech, etc.

Religious Accommodation Policy Statement

In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. For further information, please see <http://www.fau.edu/academic/registrar/catalog/academics.php>

Illness or Extreme Emergency

A student who misses an exam may receive a make-up exam if he or she suffered from a documented illness or extreme emergency. By “documented,” the professor **requires** a note from a medical professional (doctor, on-campus clinic visit, etc.) or other verification. Additionally, the student (or his or her designee) **MUST** notify the professor within 24 hours of the missed event (i.e., midterm or final). The professor may be reached via telephone or email (contact information listed above). Failure to contact the professor in the time frame provided will result in a grade of 0 being recorded for that particular assessment. The make-up assessment (if provided) will be at the identical level of difficulty and course evaluation percentage as the original assessment.

Documentation (i.e., a doctor’s note) must be turned in directly to the professor in their **original** format. Scanned, photographed, copied, or otherwise manipulated formats will **not be considered acceptable**.

Please note that this policy applies only to illnesses and **extreme** emergencies (i.e., death in family, severe illness, etc.). It will not apply to technical issues as stated below in the Technical Difficulties during Assessments section.

University Approved Absence Policy Statement

In accordance with rules of the Florida Atlantic University, students have the right to reasonable accommodations to participate in University approved activities, including athletic or scholastic teams, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to notify the course instructor at least one week prior to missing any course assessment and to provide official University documentation in its *original* format. Scanned, photographed, copied, or otherwise manipulated formats will *not be considered acceptable*.

Make-up Assignments or Assessments/Late Assignments or Assessments

No assessments (i.e., exams) may be taken late *except* as indicated elsewhere in the syllabus for approved reasons (i.e., illness or extreme emergency, university-approved absences, or religious accommodations).

Further, there are no make-up assessments in this course *except* for approved scenarios as indicated above (i.e., religious accommodations, illness, or university-approved absences).

College of Business Minimum Grade Policy Statement

The minimum grade for College of Business requirements is a "C". This includes all courses that are a part of the pre-business foundation, business core, and major program. In addition, courses that are used to satisfy the university's Writing across the Curriculum and Gordon Rule math requirements also have a minimum grade requirement of a "C".

According to these guidelines, students are required to earn a C or higher grade in this course if they are pursuing a major or minor in hospitality management.

For those students who are taking this class as an elective (both College of Business and Non-College of Business), verification of the minimum acceptable grade requirements may be discussed with their respective academic advisors, program directors, department chairs, or other appropriate university representatives.

Incomplete Grade Policy Statement

A student who is passing a course, but has not completed all the coursework due to exceptional circumstances, may, with the consent of the professor, temporarily receive a grade of Incomplete ("I"). The assignment of the "I" grade is at the discretion of the professor, but is allowed only if the student is passing the course and if the student has an exceptional circumstance prohibiting him or her from the course completion during its regularly scheduled time frame.

The specific time required to make up an "I" grade is at the discretion of the professor. However, the College of Business (CoB) policy on the resolution of "I" grades requires that *all* work required to satisfy the "I" grade must be completed within a period of time not to exceed one calendar year from the initial assignment of the "I" grade. After one calendar year, the "I" grade will automatically convert

to a failing grade of "F" if the student has not fulfilled his or her promised course work completion agreement.

Grade Appeal Process

A student may request a review of the final course grade when he or she believes that one of the following conditions applies:

- There was a computational or recording error in the grading
- Non-academic criteria were applied in the grading process
- There was a gross violation of the professor's own grading system

The procedures for a grade appeal may be found in FAU Regulation 4.002, Student Academic Grievance Procedures for Grade Reviews. This document may be accessed at the following link: http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.002_Student_Academic_Grievance_Procedures_for_Grade_Reviews.pdf

Holidays

There is one (1) FAU-approved holiday which affects this course. It is Labor Day, Monday, September 1, 2014. There will be no class meeting on this date.

Withdrawals

Any student who decides to drop the course is responsible for completing the proper paper work required to withdraw from the course according to FAU guidelines and deadlines.

Attendance Policy

There is no requirement that you attend class in this course.

Email Account Requirements

FAU students sometimes have problems if they have their FAU emails forwarded to their personal account on another Internet Service Provider (ISP).

As a student in this course, you are **required** to utilize your FAU email address for all electronic mail correspondence. All electronic mail correspondence from the professor will be sent to the FAU email address you have on file. Please make sure this address is functioning and able to accept incoming emails.

The professor prefers communication via email. Further, the professor will utilize electronic communication frequently as a means to foster a strong relationship between teacher and student.

Students are required to check their FAU email address a minimum of 3 times per week during the entire course time period.

Reaching Your Goal of a College Degree

In today's busy world, it's easy for students to get off track due to their busy lives with work, families, significant others, financial problems, etc. Florida Atlantic University is committed to helping you make it through to your goal of earning a college degree. We encourage you to use any or all of the resources below if you encounter some problems along the way. Remember that if you attend class regularly, take good notes, and read the assignments in a timely manner, you should succeed and reach your goals. If you have problems understanding the lecture topics, specific components within the lectures or reading assignments, or would like to review your exams in person, please set up an appointment with the instructor. He or she will be as flexible as possible to accommodate your busy schedule. Remember; do not wait until the end of the semester to seek assistance! Reach out to the professor as early as possible when the need arises.

Instead of just dropping a course or putting a stop to your attendance when "life gets in the way", the professor encourages you to use the vast resources here at FAU. Please see the extensive, but not exhaustive, list below:

UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN WRITING

<http://www.fau.edu/UCEW/WC/>

TUTORING, STUDY ASSISTANCE, & ACADEMIC SUPPORT

<http://www.fau.edu/ctl/TutoringStudyHelpAndAcademicSupportStudentResources.php>

CENTER FOR LEARNING AND STUDENT SUCCESS

<http://www.fau.edu/CLASS/>

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

<http://www.fau.edu/sil/>

OFFICE OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

<http://www.fau.edu/wellness/index.php>

COUNSELING CENTER

<http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

STUDENTS IN DISTRESS

<http://www.fau.edu/studentsindistress/index.php>

Tentative Course Schedule (Fall Session, 2014) *
HFT 3603 – Principles of Hospitality Law

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Assignment</i>
8/18/14	Class and professor introductions, discussion of class expectations, review of syllabus; discussion of hospitality management major/minor/careers and discuss Chapter 1	Read Chapters 2, 3
8/25/14	Discuss Chapters 2, 3	No assignment
9/1/14	No class; Labor Day holiday	Read Chapter 3
9/8/14	Discuss Chapter 3 Class will be taught through internet	Read Chapters 4, 5
9/15/14	Discuss Chapters 4, 5	Read Chapters 5, 6
9/22/14	Discuss Chapters 5, 6	Study for 1 st Exam
9/29/14	1 st Exam Chapters 1-6	Read Chapters 7, 8
10/6/14	Discuss Chapters 7, 8	Read Chapters 9, 10
10/13/14	Discuss Chapters 9, 10	Read Chapters 11, 12
10/20/14	Discuss Chapters 11, 12	Study for 2 nd Exam
10/27/14	2 nd Exam Chapters 7-12	Read Chapter 13
11/3/14	Discuss Chapter 13	Read Chapter 14
11/10/14	Discuss Chapter 14	Read Chapter 15, 16
11/17/14	Discuss Chapter 15, 16	Study for 3 rd Exam
11/24/14	3 rd Exam Chapters 13-16	
12/8/14	Final Exams Returned	

*This schedule serves only as a tentative overview of the course progression. It is subject to change infrequently based on the learning pace, students' rate of comprehension, and other needs deemed appropriate by the professor. Please be sure to check your FAU email address a minimum of 3 times per week for the latest class information.

Students are expected to spend approximately 6-10 hours per week on assignments outside of the class (i.e., mandatory reading, exam preparation, reviewing notes, etc.) during this fall semester course.