Frequently Asked Questions
Mgmt 101 Legal Environment of Business
Professor Donald L Carper

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1. Question: How is MGMT 101 offered and taught to students?

Most sections of Mgmt 101 including Professor Carper’s are taught in the traditional classroom setting. However, Professor Carper’s course is also a web-assisted course with much of the course available on WebTV.

2. Question: What is a WebCT course?

WebTV is a product from a private company used by many leading Universities including CSUS to provide various forms of e-learning. Some WebTV courses are completely taken and available online. My course is a web-assisted course. The course is taken in the usual way but students take textbook quizzes online. Course materials are also available online. The students can download from WebTV class syllabi; handouts and most other needed materials except the textbook. Also about a week before each exam, a practice examination can be taken on-line.

To participate in a WebTV course, a student must have a Sac Link password. Do NOT disclose your password to anybody. You can access information about WEBCT at https://online.csus.edu/

3. Question: How do I contact the instructor?

Students may contact Professor Carper via email. Also, they are welcome to visit him during his office hours. Professor Carper is willing to make special appointments at mutually convenient times for the student and Professor Carper. In addition, WebTV offers a discussion page, where the students can chat with the Professor and each other.

4. Question: How do I take chapter quizzes?

About 2-4 days before textbook Chapter is to be discussed in class a quiz is made available on WebTV. You may take the quiz at any time from anywhere during the available time. You have seven minutes to take 10 true and false questions. You can see your score after you complete the quiz. The quiz is no longer available about one hour before class on the day the chapter is to be discussed. My goal is to get you to carefully read the material before we discuss it in class.

The midterm tests will cover the textbook, class lecture and discussion all with a higher value in points. The test questions are also generally harder. The midterm tests are taken in class.

Each quiz is worth 5 points and there are a minimum of 12 available. I will count your highest 10 quizzes. There are no makeup's but if you miss some then I just score the ten you took.

You must take the quiz without consultation with others and without using the textbook while taking the quiz. To do otherwise will not help learning and will not ultimately
help your grade. You will probably do poorly or fail the midterms. Each quiz for each student will be somewhat different because they are randomly selected from a large bank of questions.

Quiz questions were prepared by the author of the textbook or someone else who was working with the textbook author and/or publisher. Very few if any of the questions are mine because they geared only to the book and not classroom activities.

5. Question: Can I see the quiz questions after I get my grade so I can see which ones I missed?

Sorry no. I don’t blame you for wanting to see the ones you missed. I would want to as well. I cannot, however, have an on-line quiz that counts toward your grade with that level of availability.

The quiz purposes are limited; including to motivate you to read the textbook and give you a limited appraisal of your mastery of the chapter. If you wish to practice on similar quizzes and see the correct answer you are still in luck. The Student Study Guide has quizzes and answers for every chapter. The publisher also has an interactive quiz site at http://www.swlearning.com/blaw/beatty/legenv2e/legenv2e.html

One caution. Testing yourself while useful is not as useful as learning the material. Students tend to want to study questions they missed and likelihood of getting the same question again is very low. Understanding the concept is what is important.

6. Question: Where can I get the MGMT 101 course syllabus?

The syllabus is available for viewing on WebCt. It is also available at my faculty website. http://www.csus.edu/indiv/c/carperdl/

7. Question: When does the class meet?

Professor Carper’s class meets

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am to 10:15am (Section 9)</td>
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8. Question: How many examinations are administered in Mgmt 101?

Three. The examinations are not cumulative, that is, the first examination covers the material in the first third of the course; the second examination covers the material from the second third of the course; and, the third examination covers the material from the final portion of the course. That is somewhat deceptive however, because the material builds and understanding of early concepts are used as applied concepts in understanding the later material.
9. Question: Can I review my examination after it is graded?

No and Yes. The no first-Because of the nature of Multiple Choice examinations, I am unable to provide students with the examination after they have completed the examination. It takes several years to develop questions which fairly test students without being ambiguous or misleading. I take a great deal of time preparing exams, making them balanced, and assuring they cover what you read and what we spoke about. They are not random examinations using test banks supplied by the textbook publisher. The Yes-I will provide access to the exams in my office during office hours.

10. Question: How are the examinations scored?

Each examination consists of 50 multiple choice questions. Each question is worth two points. Thus, the three examinations are worth a total of 300 points.

11. Question: How do I find out my examination score?

When all the examinations have been graded I will post your score on WebCt so you can see your score. I also hand out the ScanTron forms in class.

12. Questions: Can I get my class grade on WEBCT

No. However, you can get your scores. The reason is this-I drop some scores from quizzes. WebTV does not allow me to do this so I must keep a separate grade book. The result is your Webct grade book may look higher or lower because all your scores will be recorded. If you perform the calculations I identify in the syllabus you should be able to estimate your grade with great accuracy. I also have a tally sheet under content on WebCt so you can keep track of your scores.

13. Question: Are the examinations rigorous?

Yes. Students must answer 50 multiple choice questions in 75 minutes. Many of the questions have an essay component built into them which requires students to apply legal concepts to business problems and disputes. In other words, I do not simply ask you to define or recognize a concept, I ask you to solve a problem showing that you understand the concept and can apply it to a simple situation.

14. Question: Are examinations scores curved?

No. Students are not competing against each other. Students should strive to get the highest score possible and they will achieve the grade specified in the table in the syllabus regardless of how other students perform. Thus, every student could conceivably receive an “A” in the course. But, the opposite is also possible.

15. Question: Do you provide Study Guides for examinations
Yes I supply them about a week before an examination. If you have kept up with the readings and class lectures, you should not be surprised by my expectations.

16. **Question: Does the course provide for extra credit?**

Sometimes but not probably when you want it. I provide for extra credit in the syllabus to cover the possibility that some event occurs on campus or something in the news happens and I want a means to encourage student involvement. Read what I say about it in the syllabus. Sometimes I do give extra questions on a test allowing students to get extra points on the examination itself.

17. **Question: Some former students of Mgmt 101 recommended that I not purchase the textbook. Is this good advice?**

No. Professor Carper presents the material differently from the textbook presentation. Some students like Professor Carper's approach while others prefer the textbook presentation. Coming to class and reading the text is the only insurance that students will attain a mastery of the material. In addition, several topics in the textbook are not covered in class yet; the topics are covered on the examinations. That is likewise true as to lectures which introduce material not covered in the textbook.

18. **Question: What if I took Mgmt 101 with Professor Carper and received less than a C-? Should I repeat the course with Professor Carper?**

Professor Carper strongly suggests that students not repeat the course with him if they did not do well the first time. However, ultimately, it is the student’s choice. Students have tendency to think it best to repeat with the same book and professor because they believe they have an advantage using some of the work from the prior class. Bad idea--You did not do well the first time and should throw away everything you did and start over as if you had never taken the course. Students who repeat are more likely to fail than pass unless there has been some time between the two efforts and/or a significant change in the students motivation and study habits.

19. **Question: What is the likely grade distribution for MGMT 101?**

Answer: As stated earlier students do not compete against one another so, the grade distribution for any semester is not likely to be a bell curve. Most students, if they work hard, do well.

20. **Question: I do not do well on tests but I usually know the material.**

I probably hear that statement from students more than any other comment. My colleagues all across the nation tell me they hear a similar refrain. The simply honest truth is very few students who know the material have problems with the test. While I believe the student who says this is sincere, I do not believe they are correct. If the student does not do well they probably do not know the material very well. Over the
years, I have tried other testing methods including oral tests with students who made this declaration. I have never had a student improve performance by using other methods. In every class there are students who think my tests and assignments are too easy. If you really know the material you will no doubt be in that group.

21. Question: I am having trouble with the course. What can I do?

See me. Seek tutoring. Read my study suggestions. Don’t wait until it is too late. See the response to the prior and following question.

22. Question: I did not do well on the examination but I worked really hard in this class. What am I supposed to do?

Grades like much in life is based on performance not effort. If your other University experiences are otherwise you were short changed. You are being educated to compete successfully against the best, not to compete successfully against the mediocre. When I went to school I was competing against other classmates. You are competing against students all over the world for jobs that will go to the best, the brightest and hardest working.

The expected standard of study for a class is 3 hours for every hour of class. Based on my conversations with students, few students at CSUS work this hard on the class material. I hope I am wrong. If you believe you are working hard and you did not work that hard then your self evaluation is wanting. I have a study self appraisal available under content in WebCt that might help you realistically look at what you are doing.

Two skills most likely to be lacking if you are having performance problems are reading comprehension and critical thinking. Do you understand what you read and can you use it in a new application. Did you use your time efficiently? If you are reading and not understanding what you read the value of that time is zero. Read the study hints in the syllabus. They were successful for the student who wrote them and many others who have adopted the suggestions. Google the phrase study habits and look at some of the suggestions. For example

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I strongly support the use of study groups but if you are not prepared you will not get much out of a study group nor will the group want you.

23. Question: The student next to me is getting A’s and not working very hard. Why?
Three possibilities and probably more. The first is he or she is working harder than you think. Some understate their level of effort for a variety of reasons. Second maybe he or she is not working hard but neither are you. The third is the material maybe easier for that student. All of us have different skill sets and aptitudes. If my skill set would have matched my aspirations, I would have dunked over Michael Jordan while finishing the last of the unified social theory on ending world hunger and violence.

No matter how well you perform in this class you are probably smarter than the student next to you and the professor in some and maybe many areas of endeavor and knowledge.

Donald L. Carper
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Revised: 08/24/06.