



Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education (www.cool4ed.org). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextbooks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

Foundations of Business Law and Legal Environment



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Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

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Reviewed by:

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Title/Position:

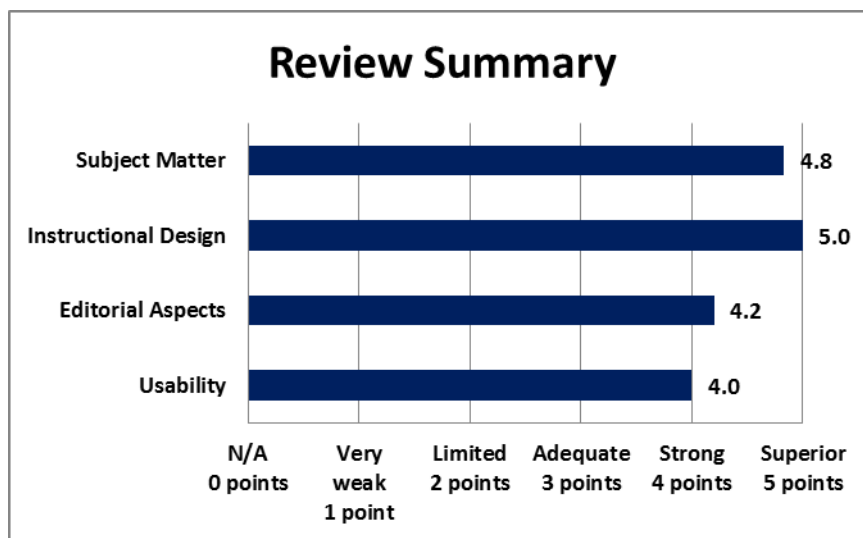
Professor

Format

Reviewed:

[Online](#)

A small fee may be associated with various formats.



Date Reviewed:

December 2015

California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [BUS 120](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
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Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?							X
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?							X
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?							X
Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?							X
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?							X
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)						X	

Total Points: 29 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- The subject matter of this book is comprehensive. It is a massive textbook that reads well and covers everything about the law. The book covers all of the major foundations of the subject.
- If any 'requirement' that might be of good value, a chapter or clearly stated section on ethics and morality might lend to the narrative. One of the enduring question of 'business law' is what are the rules? But one of the challenges of managing a firm within the rules, is a test of the moral judgment of the manager.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?						X
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)						X
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?						X
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?						X
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?						X
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)						X
Is the textbook searchable?						X

Total Points: 35 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

- The book's instructional design is impressive offering clear learning outcomes, helpful application-centered exercises and relevant case studies. These instructional features greatly enhance the overall practical and theoretical learning for the student.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?						X
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?						X
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)						X
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)				X		
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)				X		

Total Points: 21 out of 25

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook:

- The general editorial presentation is well-polished. However, a book of this density would benefit from visuals of data, legal institutions, historical figures, etc. The law is already dry - enhancing the study of the law with legal personalities is important for learning comprehension. For example, seeing a photo of

the US Constitution or the Supreme Court, etc. strengthens student learning.

Usability (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?					X	
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)					X	
Can the textbook be printed easily?					X	
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?					X	
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?					X	

Total Points: 20 out of 25

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook:

- The book's PDF is simply and elegant - very easy to navigate.

Overall Ratings	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?					X	
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
					X	

Total Points: 8 out of 10

Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- The most important merit of the book is that it is comprehensive and delivers the student a fully-developed learning text. The book is supported by a readable narrative, practical exercises and effective case studies.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- None - only the opportunity to incorporate corresponding images to the institutions and historical figures.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#)
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For questions or more information, contact the [CA Open Educational Resources Council](#).



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