



Course Description

HFT3603 | Hospitality Law | 3.00 credits

This course prepares the student with the legal aspects of the hotel, food and travel industry. Students will study the court system and basic legal principles governing the hospitality industry, with specific attention to hospitality business structures, innkeeper-guest relationships and the duty owed to each other, and emerging areas of concern in contracts, torts, civil and property rights law, and insurable risks.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will articulate knowledge of the history and origins of hospitality law by:

1. Explaining the history of common and civil law and the U.S. legal system
2. Considering the emergence of hospitality law
3. Critiquing civil rights laws and torts related to hotels and restaurants and how they affect operations
4. Distinguishing standard statutes, uniform statutes, common law, and case studies

Competency 2: The student will evaluate the legal obligations and duties of a hotel to their guests by:

1. Breaking down the essential elements of a contract
2. Summarizing penalties for failure to perform a contract and when contracts are unenforceable
3. Ranking the duties owed to guests regarding room conditions and public areas
4. Appraising the legal obligations involving safety and security

Competency 3: The student will consider the legal aspects of hotel, food, and travel operations by:

1. Dissecting the origins of the innkeeper-guest relationship
2. Summarizing the innkeeper-guest relationship
3. Compiling the conditions that establish the innkeeper-guest relationship
4. Comparing risk management, safety and security, and loss prevention techniques

Competency 4: The student will classify the liabilities and rights of food and beverage operations by:

1. Summarizing food safety and sanitation regulations and enforcement
2. Appraising potential liability to patrons and others, and when patrons cause harm to other patrons
3. Explaining liability limiting statutes
4. Justifying the risks and responsibilities of serving alcohol

Competency 5: The student will anticipate emerging legal concerns that impact the hospitality industry by:

1. Planning new and optional business structures
2. Arguing the importance of equal employment, discrimination, and sexual harassment laws
3. Weighing the impact of international human rights issues
4. Summarizing evolving employee and employer rights and obligations

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment