Course Description

Focuses on legal principles and precedents, and ethical considerations as they apply to exhibition and meeting management. Reviews laws dealing with letters of agreement, contracts, torts and other considerations peculiar to the meetings and exhibition industry. Covers legal and ethical aspects regarding tax, intellectual property, insurance, employment, antitrust, and liquor liability. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with the essential knowledge and background of laws and ethics that could affect them as meeting and exhibition managers.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

None.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Define the various classifications of law
- Summarize legal principles and precedents as they apply to trade shows and convention management
- Analyze case law dealing with letters of agreement
- Analyze case law dealing with contracts
- Analyze case law dealing with torts
- Review the law of commercial transactions
- Describe common law principles as they apply to the meetings and convention industry
- Review principles of statutory law as applied to the meetings and convention industry
- Identify types of risk inherent in the meetings and convention industry
- Enumerate the various methods of insurance protection
- Evaluate current ethical standards of business in the hospitality industry and identify areas of concern
- Develop a code of ethics for the meetings and convention industry
- Analyze the rights and duties of innkeepers
- Review the rights and duties of guests
- Summarize the laws dealing with restaurants, bars, and common carriers
- Review legal concerns related to international meetings and expositions
- Analyze tax issues related to international meetings and expositions
- Summarize the Americans with Disabilities Act as it relates to both employees and attendees
- Analyze responsibilities regarding intellectual property

Major topics to be included

- Principles of negotiation
- Contract law basics
- Negotiation: the hotel perspective
- Contracting for meetings
- Intellectual property issues
- Tort risks
- Liquor liability
- Insurance coverage
- Ethics and ethical dilemmas
- Employment issues: Americans with Disabilities Act
- Tax considerations
- Foreign meetings
- Exhibitions
- Convention centers
- Antitrust