



LawShelf Educational Media

Mergers and Acquisitions

Course Description

The Mergers and Acquisitions course focuses on the myriad of legal issues that are involved when firms combine or buy-out one another. These include securities and antitrust legal issues as well as practical issues.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Distinguish between a merger and an acquisition and describe each;
- Apply laws and regulations that apply to mergers, including securities laws;
- Describe antitrust laws that are applicable to the merger process and apply them to mergers and acquisitions;
- Identify issues and procedures relevant to mergers and acquisitions and how they are carried out;
- Illustrate the process of the hostile takeover and the various circumstances that make it possible, and explain the possible defenses available to the management of the targeted company.

Suggested Prerequisite

Business Organizations

Final Exam

Grades and credit recommendations are based solely on a final exam. When students are ready to take the final exam, they should register for a LawShelf account (or simply log in, for those with existing accounts). Go to the video-course page and click “Take the Final Exam” and pay the exam fee, where applicable. Students will be given instructions on how to take the exam. All exams are proctored by the Voice Proctor® proctoring system. An overview of the system is [provided here](#) and it requires no training or learning curve. Grades of 70% or above are considered passing grades and qualify for recommended transfer credit.

The final exam is based on the video course modules. Additional resources detailed in this syllabus are helpful for background and for building greater understanding of the course materials.

Inquiries can be made through the LawShelf Contact form on our website by clicking the “email us” button that appears at the bottom of most LawShelf pages. Transcripts can be ordered via Parchment, as detailed on our website.

Case Studies

Many LawShelf video courses include case studies. These do not necessarily teach new material but are meant to demonstrate how the materials covered in the course are applied by various courts. Concepts covered in the case studies are covered on the final exam; so watching the case studies is necessary before taking the exam. However, it is unnecessary to memorize the facts and details of the cases covered in these case studies.

Self-Quizzes

Video-course modules and case studies feature self-quizzes that consist of practice questions on the materials covered in the videos. These questions are presented for the benefit of the student and are **important to review before taking the final exam** because they are similar in style and substance to the questions on the final exam. These quizzes are not graded or monitored and there is no record of how students answer these questions. Students may answer these questions as many times as they like and are encouraged to keep re-taking the quizzes until they have mastered all the questions.

Study Guide

Courseware Readings

These courseware readings provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

The following sections of “Foundations of Law” courseware:

<https://lawshelf.com/coursewareview>

The following chapters under Business Law and Bankruptcy:

- **Mergers and Acquisitions:**
 - **Mergers and Acquisitions**
 - **Share Exchanges and Combinations**
 - **Purchase of All Assets**
 - **The Hostile Takeover**
 - **Poison Pills**

Read the following Article “Overview of the M&A Process:”

<https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/resources/knowledge/deals/mergers-acquisitions-ma-process/>

Video Course Modules

These videos constitute the main part of the course and are they sources of the questions on the final exam.

Mergers and Acquisitions Introduction

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursescontentview/mergers-acquisitions>

Legal & Business Issues: Module 1 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/legal--business-issues-module-1-of-5>

The Regulatory Environment - Module 2 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/the-regulatory-environment-module-2-of-5>

Hostile Takeovers - Module 3 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/hostile-takeovers-module-3-of-5>

The “Friendly” Merger Process - Module 4 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/the-friendly-merger-process-module-4-of-5>

Post Transaction Issues and Cross-Border and Private Company Mergers - Module 5 of 5

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/post-transaction-issues-and-cross-border-and-private-company-mergers-module-5-of-5>

Supplemental Suggested Readings

These materials enable students to achieve a deeper understanding of the course materials and in applying the course to real-life situations.

Federal Trade Commission’s Articles on Mergers:

<https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/competition-guidance/guide-antitrust-laws/mergers>

Federal Trade Commission’s Articles on Merger review:

<https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/merger-review>

