Commercial Law I

Assignment Guidelines:

This task evaluates the fundamental principles and legal frameworks of commercial law, focusing on the legal status and obligations of entrepreneurs, commercial establishments, industrial property rights, and competition law. Students are expected to analyse legal issues, interpret legal norms, and apply statutory frameworks to real-life commercial scenarios and corporate practices.

Submission Format:

- **Type:** Practical Analytical Report (Legal Analysis Project)
- **Font/Spacing:** Times New Roman, Size 12, Double Spaced
- **Word Count:** 1500 – 2500 words (excluding statutory references, case extracts, and legal appendices)
- **Submission Deadline:** To be announced by the respective professors

Assessment Criteria:

- Understanding and application of commercial law concepts and legal norms – 20%
- Accuracy of legal analysis, statutory interpretation, and case law application – 25%
- Critical interpretation of legal implications in entrepreneurial and business contexts – 20%
- Strategic legal insight, risk mitigation, and quality of practical compliance recommendations – 25%
- Structure, technical reporting clarity, legal presentation, and APA referencing – 10%

Mandatory Sections:

- Title Page
- Table of Contents
- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Theoretical & Legal Framework
- Legal Case Analysis & Statutory Application
- Discussion & Managerial/Legal Implications
- Conclusion & Recommendations
- References
- Appendices (Statutory Extracts & Legal Documentation)

Assignment Task – Choose ONE of the following practical projects:

Option 1: Entrepreneurial Status, Commercial Registration, and Enterprise Liability

Evaluate the legal status, statutory obligations, and liability frameworks governing individual and corporate entrepreneurs operating commercial establishments. Your paper should:

- Describe and differentiate between the legal responsibilities of sole traders vs. corporate commercial entities (e.g., accounting obligations, commercial registry filing, legal representation).

- Analyse the legal consequences of transfers of commercial establishments, lease agreements and corporate liability (under existing commercial legislation).
- Discuss real-life corporate cases where non-compliance with commercial obligations or registration requirements led to legal challenges, personal liability or regulatory penalties.
- Develop an actionable legal compliance roadmap and liability mitigation plan for a newly formed commercial enterprise.

Option 2: Industrial Property Protection and Brand Strategy in Business Practice

Investigate the legal protection mechanisms for industrial property rights - including trademarks, patents, and commercial names - and their strategic role in business operations. Your paper should:

- Investigate the statutory requirements and processes for registering, protecting and defending industrial property rights in the commercial arena.
- Assess the legal remedies and procedural tools available to commercial entities to address trademark infringement, patent infringement or unauthorized brand usage.
- Examine actual commercial cases in which industrial property rights played a key role in the valuation of a company, its access to a market or its brand protection.
- Propose a framework for industrial property management and IP protection that helps protect proprietary assets and brand identity.

Option 3: Competition Law, Anti-Competitive Agreements, and Unfair Competition

Analyse the regulatory framework governing market competition, anti-competitive practices, and acts of unfair competition in business activities. Your paper should:

- Relate banned collusive practices and abuse of a dominant position in the market to particular acts of unfair competition (e.g., false advertising, theft of trade secrets, denigration).
- Assess the scope and powers of the regulators to observe market conduct and enforce an equitable competitive environment.
- Debate real-life corporate examples where firms were penalised for unfair competition or collusive market conduct.
- Draft a fair competition compliance and risk mitigation policy for an organisation doing business in a highly competitive industry.