

# COURSE SYLLABUS



Education That Works For a Lifetime

<b>Course Title:</b>	Introduction to Law		<b>Date submitted:</b>	2/27/2020 (AAC: 20-13)		
<b>Department:</b>	Business					
<b>Curriculum:</b>	Paralegal					
<b>Course Descriptors:</b> Make certain that the course descriptors are consistent with college and Board of Trustees policies, and the current course numbering system.	<b>Course Code:</b> (eg. ACC 101)	<b>POL*120</b>	<b>Prerequisites:</b>			
	<b>Course Type:</b>	<b>L/D</b>	C- or better in Integrated Reading Writing II (ENG*075) OR Introduction to College Reading & Writing (ENG*O93), OR Introduction to College English (ENG*O96), OR Reading and Writing VI (ESL*162), or placement into Composition (ENG*101) (including embedded ENG*101E)			
	A: Clinical B: Lab D: Distance Learning I: Individual/Independent L: Lecture N: Internship M: Seminar P: Practicum U: Studio X: Combined Lecture/Lab Y: Combined Lecture/ Clinical/Lab Z: Combined Lecture/Studio	<b>Elective Type:</b>	<b>G/HU/L AS/SS</b>			
	AH: Art History E: English FA: Fine Arts FL: Foreign Language G: General HI: History HU: Humanities LAS: Liberal Arts & Sciences M: Math S: Science SS: Social Science	<b>Credit Hours:</b>	3	<b>Corequisites:</b>		
	<b>Developmental:</b> (yes/no)	No	<table border="1"> <tr><td>None</td></tr> </table>	None		
	None					
	Lecture:	3				
	Clinical:	0				
	Lab:	0				
	Studio:	0				
Other:	0					
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	3	<b>Other Requirements:</b>			
<b>Class Maximum:</b>	35	<table border="1"> <tr><td>None</td></tr> </table>	None			
None						
<b>Semesters Offered:</b>	F/Sp					
<b>Catalog Course Description:</b>	<p>This course serves as an introduction to the study of law with an overview of fundamental concepts and principles of our legal system. A variety of legal topics, terminology, and areas of law are discussed in order to assist students in acquiring an appreciation of the dynamic role of law in our changing society. Students are introduced to the roles of legal professionals, including paralegals. Legal reasoning, legal ethics, and legal research methods are also presented.</p>					

<p><b>Topical Outline:</b> List course content in outline format.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Definitions</li> <li>2. Historical Roots of the American Legal system</li> <li>3. Legislative, case, and administrative law</li> <li>4. Overview of the court systems in the United States</li> <li>5. Roles of legal professionals</li> <li>6. Legal reasoning</li> <li>7. Torts</li> <li>8. Contracts</li> <li>9. Litigation</li> <li>10. Criminal Law and Procedure</li> <li>11. Constitutional Law</li> <li>12. Application of the law to the Individual</li> <li>13. Legal ethics</li> <li>14. Legal research</li> </ol>
<p><b>Outcomes:</b> Describe measurable skills or knowledge that students should be able to demonstrate as evidence that they have mastered the course content.</p>	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the American legal system and explain its historical roots</li> <li>2. define and differentiate legislative, case, and administrative law</li> <li>3. define and explain torts and contracts</li> <li>4. describe criminal law procedures</li> <li>5. apply legal reasoning to basic problems of law</li> <li>6. recognize and describe issues of constitutional law</li> <li>7. identify ethical issues in law and legal practice</li> <li>8. use legal research methods to conduct basic legal research</li> </ol> <p><b>PROGRAM:</b> <i>(Numbering reflects Program Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)</i></p> <p>This course is required for the paralegal certificate. The outcomes of the certificate are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize and describe the proper role of the paralegal in the delivery of legal services to the public and apply the ethical rules that govern the conduct of the legal profession</li> <li>2. Demonstrate critical thinking, reasoning and analytical skills; conduct factual and legal research using print and computerized methods; and organize and present information effectively, both orally and in writing</li> <li>3. Describe the organization of the American legal system, apply procedural law to litigation and administrative agency law, and demonstrate substantive knowledge of principles of law</li> <li>4. Draft and interpret legal documents, including pleadings, deeds, mortgages, probate documents, court forms, business documents, and contracts for review by the supervising attorney</li> <li>5. Perform file and case management tasks in accordance with office policy and court procedures, using problem-solving, organizational and computer skills</li> <li>6. Recognize opportunities for professional development through continuing education and affiliation with professional organizations</li> </ol> <p><b>GENERAL EDUCATION:</b> <i>(Numbering reflects General Education Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)</i></p>

	<p>1. <b>Critical Analysis/ Logical Thinking</b> - Students will be able to organize, interpret, and evaluate evidence and ideas within and across disciplines; draw reasoned inferences and defensible conclusions; and solve problems and make decisions based on analytical processes.</p> <p><b>Demonstrates:</b> Identifies the issue(s); formulates an argument; explains and analyzes relationships clearly; draws reasonable inferences and conclusions that are logical and defensible; provides support by evaluating credible sources of evidence necessary to justify conclusions.</p> <p><b>Does Not Demonstrate:</b> Identifies few or no issues; formulates an argument without significant focus; provides an unclear explanation of analysis and relationships; drawing few reasonable inferences and conclusions that are illogical and indefensible; provides little to no support using credible sources of evidence necessary to justify conclusions.</p> <p>2. <b>Ethical Dimensions</b> - Students will identify ethical principles that guide individual and collective actions and apply those principles to the analysis of contemporary social and political problems.</p> <p><b>Demonstrates:</b> Identifies and reflects critically on ethical issues presented in classroom instruction or in assigned co-curricular or civic activities and/or professional internships and practica.</p> <p><b>Does Not Demonstrate:</b> Does not sufficiently identify or reflect critically on ethical issues presented in classroom instruction or in assigned co-curricular or civic activities and/or professional internships and practica.</p>
<p><b>Evaluation:</b> List how the above outcomes will be assessed.</p>	<p><b>Assessment will be based on the following criteria:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Examinations</li> <li>2. Quizzes</li> <li>3. Cases analyses</li> <li>4. Papers</li> <li>5. Oral Presentations</li> <li>6. Group projects</li> </ol>
<p><b>Instructional Resources:</b></p> <p>List library (e.g. books, journals, on-line resources), technological (e.g. Smartboard, software), and other resources (e.g. equipment, supplies, facilities) required and desired to teach this course.</p>	<p><b>Required:</b> None</p> <p><b>Desired:</b> Westlaw or equivalent database</p>
<p><b>Textbook(s)</b></p>	<p>Textbook: Refer to current academic year printout.</p>