

PALOMAR COLLEGE  
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR  
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

  X   Transfer course              X   A.A. degree applicable course  
(check all that apply)

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** PLS 121/LS 121 Introduction to Law

**UNIT VALUE:** 3

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 48

**BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS:** Appropriate language, analytical and legal writing skills.

**ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**PREREQUISITE:** None.

**COREQUISITE:** None.

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:** None.

**SCOPE OF COURSE:** An introduction to law and the legal system. Includes an examination of the federal and state court system, criminal law, civil law, administrative law, and procedural law.

**SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Successful students will

1. explain the historical basis and current structure of the American legal system;
2. analyze substantive and procedural legal issues;
3. identify the elements of a legal contract;
4. evaluate cases with regard to their relevant legal issues and related legal rules;
5. compare and contrast the elements of a case from the defendant's view with that of the plaintiff's view.

**CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:**

1. the historical basis and current structure of the American legal system.
  - a. the state and federal courts
  - b. the executive branch and administrative authority
  
2. Substantive and procedural issues
  - a. jurisdiction
  - b. the civil law suit
  - c. contracts
  - d. property
  - e. torts
  - f. criminal law
  - g. family law

**REQUIRED READING:**

Hames, Joann Baker. Introduction to Law. 1st edition. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Publisher, 1998.

**SUGGESTED READING:**

Legal section of the Wall Street Journal

**REQUIRED WRITING:**

Minimum of five one-page case reviews and five one-page legal article analysis.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:**

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes  No

**If yes, check all that apply.** (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction
- video conference (live instruction)

**GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS** (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Students are graded on the basis of written assignments, quizzes, four examinations, and a final examination.

GRADING:	Assignments.....	50 points	=	10%
	Quizzes.....	50 points	=	10%
	Tests.....	200 points	=	50%
	Final Exam.....	100 points	=	30%
	TOTAL Points Available..	<u>400</u>		

**IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?**

Yes  No  Number of times course may be taken for credit: 1.

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

**CONTACT PERSON:** Angelo Corpora, Ext. #2501

**SIGNATURES:**

SIGNATURES ON FILE