

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 160 Computer Assisted Legal Research

UNIT VALUE: 1

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 32

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language skills.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITE: LS 155/PLS 155 Legal Writing

COREQUISITE: None

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: PLS 110 or BUS 170 and BUS 171

SCOPE OF COURSE:

Computer assisted legal research (CALR) addressing the role of the paralegal conducting legal research utilizing CD ROM's, database systems, Westlaw, Lexis, and the Internet.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES: Successful students will

1. utilize Westlaw for legal research;
2. utilize Lexis for legal research;
3. utilize CD ROM's to conduct research;
4. identify and apply various law web sites on the Internet;
5. compose and send E-Mail.
6. Utilize Lois Law.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

1. Computer-Assisted legal research (CALR).
2. CALR search query techniques.
3. Introduction to legal specific software.
4. Database management systems for Westlaw and Lexis.
5. Use of CD library.

REQUIRED READING:

Long, Judy A. Legal Research Using the Internet. West Legal Studies Thomson Learning, 2000.

SUGGESTED READING: None.

REQUIRED WRITING: Skills demonstration is more appropriate.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

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

In addition to studying textbook assignments and reviewing lecture notes, students will be doing legal research utilizing lab computers.

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.

- Television Course (Video one-way, e.g. ITV, video cassette, etc.)
- Online Course (Text one-way, e.g. newspaper, correspondence, electronic file, etc.)
- Two-Way Video Conferencing (Two-way interactive video and audio)
- One-Way Video Conferencing (One-way interactive video and two-way interactive audio)
- Computer Assisted Instruction (A specialized form of mediated instruction relying primarily on student access to information and prepared lessons or teaching materials through a computer terminal, but not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

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

Class is credit/no credit.

Students will be evaluated on the following basis:

Various assignments will be worth 300 points and a final test worth 100 points. Grades will be computed as follows:

90% X 400 points	=	360+	=	A
80% X 400 "	=	320+	=	B
70% X 400 "	=	280+	=	C
60% X 400 "	=	240+	=	D
		239-	=	F

Lab/Research Assignments	75%
Final Exam	25%

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 ON FILE: