

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 255 Family Law and Procedure

UNIT VALUE: 2

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 32

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language skills.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITE: PLS 121 Introduction to Law

COREQUISITE: None.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: None.

SCOPE OF COURSE: A concentration on domestic relations concerned with such subjects as paternity, custody, support, child care, and separation, with special emphasis given to the dissolution of marriage. The student will prepare the proper forms for dissolution and related matters. Concepts of separate and community property and division of property upon dissolution are also covered. Various other aspects of family law are discussed.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES: Successful students will

1. prepare pleadings;
2. draft documents for discovery and motions;
3. conduct legal research and analyze statutes and case law;
4. demonstrate the ability to interview clients;
5. be able to draft various agreements such as custody, child and spousal support and property division.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

1. Scope of family law practice.
2. Ethics and malpractice.
3. Breach of promise.
4. Antenuptial agreements and contracts of cohabitation.
5. Annulment.
6. Separation agreements.
7. Child custody and support.
8. Divorce and judicial separation.

REQUIRED READING:

Waller, Marshall W. California Family Law for Paralegals. 3rd edition. New York: Aspen Publisher Inc., 2001.

SUGGESTED READING:

California Civil Code.

REQUIRED WRITING: Students will draft required forms for dissolution, legal separation and order to show cause. Additionally, students will draft custody agreements, child and spousal support agreements and various client paperwork. The students will complete various documents two to ten pages in length.

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.

In addition to the required writing, students will be studying chapter assignments, notes, and preparing for quizzes and tests. Students will be required to visit family court and become familiar with court procedures. In addition, students will be required to spend lab time at the law library doing research.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

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

This course may be offered as a distance learning 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):

A mid-term and a final test will be given during the semester. Each test will be equated on a basis of 100 points. Additionally, various writing assignments will be worth a total of 200 points. Final grades will be computed as follows:

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

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: