

**COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2010**

COURSE NO: LAW 101

COURSE TITLE: Fundamentals of Law I

Credits: 3 credits

Location: C227@ West Charleston Campus

Day/Time: Saturdays 8:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Prerequisites: ENG 100 or 101 with a grade of "C" or better and IS 101

Required Text: Foundations of Law Cases, Commentary and Ethics, Fourth Edition, Pyle, Ransford C. and Bast, Carol M.

ISBN: 1-4180-1384-6

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Patrick W. Lindemann

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Office Hours: 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

8:00 AM-8:30 AM Saturdays

Appointments available upon request

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Relationship and delineation of the function and responsibility of the legal assistant, the attorney, and the client. Prerequisite: English 100 or 101 with a grade of "C" or better and IS 101.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide the legal assistant student a general understanding of the legal process.
2. Familiarize the legal assistant student with the legal principles and subject areas within the legal system in the United States.
3. Inspires students to dedicate themselves to high standards of professional performance and strong ethical and moral commitment to client and attorney.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS: Lectures, class discussion, case briefs

GRADING POLICY: Grading will be based on the successful completion of an internet exercise, 2 quizzes, a midterm and final examination. The point breakdown is listed below:

Two (2) Quizzes	100 points (50 points each)
Midterm Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100 points
Internet Exercise	25 points
Participation/Attendance*	<u>25 points</u>

Total Possible Points 350 points

*Class participation is required of all students. Class participation is defined as students being randomly called upon by the instructor and providing an answer that shows the student has read the assigned material.

GRADING STANDARD:

350 – 315 points	A
314 – 280 points	B
279 – 245 points	C
243 – 210 points	D
209 - below	F

Note: The Plus (+) and Minus (-) in the grading scale will not be used.

PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENTS: Students will be required to read a case and provide a written brief of the case and present it to the class. Also the students are required to complete an Internet exercise to find various legal websites.

INSTRUCTOR POLICIES ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR MAKEUP

WORK: All tests/assignments are due on the date assigned. Assignments/Tests may be made up or accepted after the date of the class period that the test or assignment was due if approved by the instructor, but the student will receive at least one grade lower. If a student misses an exam or quiz, the student **MUST** notify the instructor within 48 hours of the exam or quiz explaining the reason for the absence and to schedule a makeup exam. Students **MUST** complete the makeup exam/quiz within one week of the originally scheduled exam or the student will not be given credit for that exam or quiz.

COURSE CONTENT WITH TIME ALLOCATION:

September 4, 2010	Introduction
September 11, 2010	Chapter 1/Appendix A
September 18, 2010	Chapter 2
September 25, 2010	Chapters 3, 4
October 2, 2010	Quiz/Chapter 5
October 9, 2010	Chapters 6, 7
October 16, 2010	Chapter 8
October 23, 2010	Midterm Examination
October 30, 2010	Internet Exercise Due/Chapter 9
November 6, 2010	Chapter 10
November 13, 2010	Quiz/Chapter 11
November 20, 2010	Chapter 12
November 27, 2010	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
December 4, 2010	Chapter 13

December 11, 2010 Final Exam Review
December 18, 2010 **Final Examination**

COURSE INSTRUCTION:

Week 1 (September 4th): Class introductions, Course overview, Introduction to Law
3 hours

Week 2 (September 11th): Law and the profession of law; how to become a lawyer- law school and obtaining a license to practice law, bar examinations, attorney employment; what lawyers do-the lawyer as provider of legal services, the lawyer as advisor, the lawyer as counselor, the lawyer as negotiator; paralegal- origins, paralegal training, paralegal courses, what paralegals may not do, what paralegal do
3 hours

Week 3 (September 18th): Introduction to legal ethics; history of ethical rules; model code and the model rules; codes for legal assistants; disclosure; defining the practice of law; unauthorized practice of law; confidentiality; conflicts of interest; solicitation; fees; reporting misconduct; trust accounts; malpractice
3 hours

Week 4 (September 25th): Law and the courts; judicial restraint; common law; stare decisis; distinguishing cases; dictum; nonbinding authority; legislation; evolution of legislation; nature of legislation; legislative process; judicial deference to legislation; statutory interpretation- legislative intent, plain meaning rule, strict construction
3 hours

Week 5 (October 2rd): Quiz (Chapters 1-4)
1 hour
Trial and appellate courts; the adversary process; questions of law and questions of fact; what is a trial court; role of the appellate court; prejudicial error
2 hours

Week 6 (October 9th): State and Federal courts; U.S. Constitution as the Supreme law of the land; due process; equal protection; cases and controversies; full faith and credit; subject matter jurisdiction; federal subject matter jurisdiction- federal question, diversity of citizenship; conflicts of law; law and equity; procedure in civil cases; service of process; jurisdiction-in personam, in rem; venue; pleadings; the complaint; discovery; pretrial hearing; procedure at trial; rules of evidence; res judicata and collateral estoppel
3 hours

Week 7 (October 16th): Criminal procedure; double jeopardy; privilege against self-incrimination; exclusionary rule; pleas bargaining; steps in processing a crime- arrest, indictment, arraignment, trial, post-trial motions and appeals
3 hours

Week 8 (October 23rd): MIDTERM EXAMINATION
3 hours

Week 9 (October 30th): Review Internet exercise; introduction to criminal law; what is a crime; *mala in se and mala prohibita*; model penal code; criminal act and criminal intent (general and specific); crimes-rape, murder, conspiracy, attempt crimes, strict liability; insanity defense
3 hours

Week 10 (November 6th): Introduction to torts; tort versus crime; elements of tort; respondeat superior; concept of fault; intentional torts, negligence, and strict liability; product liability; damages 3 hours

Week 11 (November 13th): Quiz (Chapters 9-10) 1 hour
Contracts and commercial law; elements of a contract-offer, acceptance, consideration; limitations on contract formation; mistake; illegality; statute of frauds; damages for contract breach; remedies- rescission and reformation, specific performance, injunctive relief, promissory estoppel; UCC 2 hours

Week 12 (November 20th): The law of property; estates in land-fee simple, life estate, joint tenancy; tenancy in common; liability of landowners- invitee, licensee, trespasser; adverse possession; deed; title; estate planning and wills; restrictive covenants; easements; eminent domain 3 hours

Week 13 (November 27th) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week 14 (December 4th): Introduction to family law; law and marriage; annulment; void and voidable marriage; premarital agreements; divorce-property settlements, alimony, child support, child custody; adoption; federal involvement in family law 3 hours

Week 15 (December 11^h): Final Exam Review 3 hours

Week 16 (December 18th): FINAL EXAMINATION 3 hours

TOTAL: 45 hours

EXTRA CREDIT: None

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are responsible for all course work whether in class or absent. Attendance in this class is critical; therefore, **three** or more absences from class will lower a student's grade one letter grade. Excessive tardiness or leaving early will have a negative impact on a student's grade.

TUTORIAL SERVICES: Students are entitled to 12 hours free tutoring per semester. For appointment call 651-4232 (Cheyenne), 651-5732 (Charleston), and 651-5089 (Henderson).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY: Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook (published by Student Services) regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior.

ADA STATEMENT (DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER): If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact the Disability

Resource Center (DRC) located in the Student Service Center on each campus. The DRC can be contacted at the following numbers: Cheyenne Campus (651-4045), Henderson (651-3795), and West Charleston (651-5644).

For those students that would like to earn some additional income, stop by the Disability Resource Center to fill out a job interest card. The DRC hires students as note takers, readers, proctors, lab assistants, and research assistants as needed.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Approved classroom safety procedures are posted in each classroom and are to be followed.

DISRUPTIVE AND ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner in the classroom and on campus at all times. Disruptive and abusive conduct will not be tolerated. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline per CSN's Disruptive and Abusive Student policy. Examples of disruptive behavior include: repeated side conversation in the classroom, consistently arriving to class late or consistently leaving class early, repeated emotional outbursts in class, exchange of personal insults between students in class or through electronic media, fighting words exchanged among students in class or through electronic media or physical altercations between students. A copy of the complete Student Conduct Code and Disruptive and Abusive Student Policy is available for review on the CSN web page under the Student Affairs link or the Policies and Procedures link under "Quick Links" or "Administration."

FINAL REMARKS: If you must have a cellular phone, please set it on the "vibrate" mode. Unless it is an emergency, students are expected not to answer their cell phones during class.

Any information contained in this syllabus, other than the Academic Integrity Policy and the ADA statement may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.