Course Information
Division: Business Division
Contact Hours: 45 Contact Hours
Theory: 45 Contact Hours
Lab Hours: 0 Contact Hours
Off-Campus Clinical Hours: 0 Contact Hours
Total Credits: 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites:
RDG 090 and ENGL 090 or qualifying scores on accepted placement tests

Course Description:
The goal of the course is to provide a basic understanding of the U.S. legal system from a variety of perspectives, both civil and criminal. The course focus includes essential history and the working structure of the government, procedural issues in the courts, specific concepts of basic categories of law such as contract law and property, the distinctive characteristics of criminal law and procedure, and, the roles of various legal professionals and the effect of legal ethics on the practice of law. Also, the course will introduce legal terminology. It is intended that the course lay a solid foundation for those who intend to pursue advanced legal courses and to provide a functional appreciation for students of other disciplines with regard to the impact of the legal system on those disciplines.

This course is a required core course for students pursuing an AAS in Paralegal.

Program Outcomes
A. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
B. Demonstrate computer competency including technology commonly used in law offices.
C. Explain the concepts of and engage in legal research, including computer-based legal research.
D. Explain and apply the standards of conduct, including ethics, expected of the legal professionals.
E. Articulate the structure of the legal system and the paralegal’s duties and responsibilities for the delivery of legal services within that system.
F. Demonstrate knowledge of substantive and procedural law including applying that knowledge to factual scenarios.
G. Prepare legal documents using proper legal reasoning and analysis of issues, facts, and law.

Course Outcomes
In order to evidence success in this course, the students will be able to:

1. Students will explain the history and structure of the American Legal System including the Judicial, Legislative, and Executive components.
   Applies To Program Outcome: E

2. Students will articulate the role and basic duties of a paralegal in the delivery of legal services.
   Applies To Program Outcome: E

3. Students will interpret the rules of professional responsibility and the ethical standards applicable to paralegals.
   Applies To Program Outcome: D
Course Outcome Summary
Required Program Core Course

LAW 151
Introduction to Paralegal Studies

4. Students will identify and be able to appropriately use basic legal terminology.
   Applies To Program Outcome: F

5. Students will review the overview of the study of law including substantive legal concepts and procedural process.
   Applies To Program Outcome: F

Date Updated: 01/02/2024
By: Leon Letter