

**SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
CITY, AND MIRAMAR COLLEGES
ASSOCIATE DEGREE COURSE OUTLINE**

SECTION I**SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER:** Legal Assistant 210**COURSE TITLE:** Immigration Law**Units: 3**
Grade Only**CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This legal specialty course is designed as an elective in the paralegal program. It also serves as a required class for students seeking an emphasis in Immigration Law. It provides an overview of the laws of Immigration and Naturalization involving a history of immigration migration, the evolution of this country's policies toward aliens and the interplay of the three administrative agencies which administer those laws: Justice Department, Labor Department and State Department.

REQUISITES:**Advisory:**

LEGL 105 with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent

FIELD TRIP REQUIREMENTS: May be required**TRANSFER APPLICABILITY:** Associate Degree Credit & transfer to CSU and/or private colleges and universities**TOTAL LECTURE HOURS:** 48 - 54**TOTAL LAB HOURS:****STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Express the requirements for a paralegal to practice successfully with the various agencies of government dealing with immigration; State, Justice and Labor, and especially with the U.S. Consulate and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.
2. Demonstrate the sensitive and special issues of working in a law office which represents aliens.
3. Demonstrate interviewing skills dealing with the alien client.
4. Accurately complete paperwork which needs to be processed in administrative proceedings dealing with aliens.
5. Demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to the special ethical issues arising in the field of immigration law through case study involvement.
6. Demonstrate skills dealing with the grounds of deportation and exclusion.
7. Compare and contrast familiarity with the non-immigrant categories.

SECTION II**1. COURSE OUTLINE AND SCOPE:**

A. **Outline Of Topics:**

The following topics are included in the framework of the course but are not intended as limits on content. The order of presentation and relative emphasis will vary with each instructor.

- I. History and Administration of U.S. Immigration Law
 - A. Early U.S. Immigration Law
 - B. Early Immigration Restrictions
 - C. The Quota System
 - D. The Preference System
- II. Terminology and Practice in:
 - A. Immigration Law: A Lexicon
 - B. What immigration practice and culture is like for the legal professional.
 - C. A view inside the "culture" of immigration practice.
- III. Family Reunification Provisions in Immigration
 - A. Filing for alien relative: spouses, children, parents and siblings.
 - B. Proof problems in Marriage Cases; Ethical Issues and Documentation.
 - C. Introduction to basic routine immigration practice.
- IV. Employment based Visas for Foreign Professionals
 - A. Obtaining entry to the U.S. based upon employment or profession.
 - B. The Temporary Worker and Labor Certification
- V. Interviewing Techniques for Alient Client
 - A. How to listen to your Client: The lost art of listening.
 - B. Taking down and gathering information
 - C. Ethical issues: confidentiality and honesty
- VI. Form Practice and Administrative
 - A. Structure of the Immigration Service
 - B. The District Director, Travel Control, Examinations, Adjudications, Enforcement, Border Patrol and Deportation Offices.
 - C. Talking to Immigration Officials and dealing with the system and the bureaucracy.
- VII. The U.S. Consulate Overseas
 - A. Consular Processing for Visas
 - B. State Department Overview
 - C. Issues in obtaining immigrant and non-immigrant visas from the U.S. Consulate in the Foreign countries.
 - D. Looking at Forms from the U.S. Consulate
- VIII. Sensitivity in Dealing with Aliens
 - A. Becoming an effective practitioner by understanding our client's feelings and emotions.
 - B. Transforming the client and yourself
 - C. Determining credibility in your client and yourself
- IX. Document Assembly and Forms
 - A. Affidavit Drafting Exercise
 - B. Specialized computer applications for immigration
- X. Nonimmigrant Categories
 - A. In the U.S. temporarily (Tourists, Students, and Temp Workers)
 - B. Technical issues in non-immigrant visa applications
- XI. The Expulsion Process
 - A. Deportation and Exclusion
 - B. Memo of Law Exercise
 - C. Issues in Administrative Litigation of Deportation and Exclusion cases.
 - D. Relief from Deportation/Exclusion, Adjustment, Suspension, Termination and Waivers.

B. **Writing Assignments:**

Writing assignments are required and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- I. Writing assignments are required. All written work will require application of critical analytical skills. Standard paper formats and structures will be applied. Students should be able to understand and apply affidavits and various immigration documents to given situation. Appropriate writing assignmets may include but are not limited to the following:
- II. 1. Document preparation in lieu of current immigration requirements.
- III. 2. Drafting Affidavits for immigration

- IV. 3. Essay Quizzes
- V. 4. Position papers on immigration issues

C. Reading Assignments:

Reading assignments are required and may include but, are not limited to, the following:

I. Students will be expected to understand and critique information from college level texts or the equivalent. The reading assignments may include, but are not limited to assignments such as the following:

- II. 1. Assigned textbook
- III. 2. Secondary sources of Law. Immigration Law and Procedure in a Nutshell, 4th ed., Weissbrodt, West Nutshell Series, St. Paul, MN. 1998.
- IV. 3. IDRA Newsletter on Immigration (Intercultural Dev. Res. Assoc.)
- V. 4. Planting Poverty, A Review of Poverty Amid Prosperity: Immigration and the Changing Face of Rural California, Taylor, Martin, The Urban Institute Press, 1997 (<http://www.cis.org/planting.htm>)

D. Appropriate Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking:

Critical thinking assignments are required and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- I. Critical thinking assignments are required and may include but are not limited to the following:
- II. 1. Position papers on the relationship between human situations vs. cases, statutes, and other legal authorities dealing with immigration.
- III. 2. Analyzing immigration issues that require students to solve a problem by indentifying and evaluating alternative solutions.
- IV. 3. Appraising situations to determine when and why varied facts make it appropriate to apply exceptions to genral rules.
- V. 4. Apply principles of professional ethics to specific fact situations.

E. Appropriate Outside Assignments:

Outside assignments may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- I. Out of class assignments are required to prepare affidavits and various other immigration documents to a given situation. Outside assignments may include, but are not limited to the following:
- II. 1. Individual visits to the Immigration Filing Office
- III. 2. Individual visits to Immigration Court
- IV. 3. Individual visits to an immigration law firm
- V. 4. Reading and writing assignments as specified in the course syllabus.
- VI. 5. Position Papers

2. METHODS OF EVALUATION:

A student's grade will be based on multiple measures of performance unless the course requires no grade. Multiple measures may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- I. Examinations and Quizzes: objective tests which evaluate a students ability to:
- II. Identify grounds of excludability of aliens and the waiver of excludability.
- III. Recognize the grounds of deportation. Student discussions and participation regarding the special ethical issues in immigration. Written assignments that demonstrate the students familiarity with immigration forms and paperwork. Completing optional written field trip exercises to the Immigration Filing Office, an immigration firm or an immigration court prodeeding.

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- * Other (Specify)
- * Distance Education
- * 1. Lecture

- * 2. Lecture/discussion
- * 3. Teaming and collaborative learning
- * 4. Technologically Mediated Instruction may be used
- * When this course is offered in a distance learning modality, no additional or special requirements in the areas of Course Content and Scope, Methods of Evaluation, and Required Texts will be necessitated except as specified in each of these sections of the course outline. All methods of instruction, when used in conjunction with distance learning modality, will be implemented in an equivalent manner as in a traditional classroom setting.

4. REQUIRED TEXTS AND SUPPLIES:

Textbooks may include, but are not limited to:

TEXTBOOKS:

1. Helewitz. U.S. Immigration Law, NA ed. Pearson Publications, Dallas TX, 1999, ISBN: NA
2. Lewis. How to Get a Green Card, 3rd ed. Nolo Press, Berkeley, CA., 1998, ISBN: NA
3. NA. Title 8 Code of Federal Regulations, NA ed. Government Printing Office, 1995, ISBN: NA
4. Scaros. Learning About Immigration Law, NA ed. Marlen Hill Publications, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1997, ISBN: NA
5. Weissbrodt. Immigration Law and Procedure in a Nutshell, 4th ed. West Nutshell Series, St Paul, MN., 1998, ISBN: NA

MANUALS:

PERIODICALS:

SOFTWARE:

SUPPLIES:

ORIGINATOR: Darrel Harrison

CO-CONTRIBUTOR(S)

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