FLCC Course Syllabus

General Information

Date
12/01/2016

Department
Business

Course Prefix:
PLG

Course Number:
225

Course Title:
Legal Research and Writing II

Course Information

Credit Hours
3

Lecture Contact Hours
3

Catalog Description
This course is a continuation of Legal Research & Writing I with an emphasis on clear and effective legal writing. In this course, the student is exposed to more complicated legal research requiring careful research and detailed legal analysis. Students will also be instructed in computer assisted legal research. Assignments include legal research memoranda and various pleadings.

Prerequisites
PLG 100 and PLG 125

Grading Scheme
Letter Grade

FLCC Values

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

Inquiry
Interconnectedness
Perseverance

Course Learning Outcomes
Course Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze fact scenarios to determine the legal issues raised by those scenarios.
2. Conduct research to determine the answers to various legal questions.
3. Draft well-written legal memoranda.
4. Use computers effectively in legal research

Program Affiliation

This course is required as a core program course in the following program(s)

- AAS Paralegal
- Paralegal Certificate

Outline of Topics Covered

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I. Review of Basic Legal Research Procedures
II. The Internet & Research
   A. Factual Research
   B. Legal Research
III. Computerized Assisted Legal Research
   A. Types of Computer Assisted Legal Research
   B. Finding Primary Authority
   C. Finding Secondary Authority
IV. Advanced Legal Analysis
   A. Numerous Issues in One Case
      1. Spotting the Issues
      2. How to Organize Issues for Research and Writing
   B. Counteranalysis
      1. Importance
      2. Techniques
      3. Where to Place It in a Memorandum
V. General Legal Writing
   A. Considerations
   B. Legalese
   C. Importance of Good, Basic Writing Skills
VI. Research and Writing of Legal Memoranda
VII. Specific Court Documents
    A. Pleadings
       1. Complaint
       2. Answer
    B. Affidavits
    C. Motions