

Revised: Fall 2016

LGL 117 Family Law

COURSE OUTLINE

Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

Studies elements of a valid marriage, grounds for divorce and annulment, separation, defenses, custody, support, adoptions, and applicable tax consequences. Includes property settlement agreements, pre- and ante-nuptial agreements, pleadings, and rules of procedure. May include specific federal and Virginia consumer laws.

Semester Credits: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 No Lab Requirements

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Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. The primary goal of the course is to emphasize the terminology, content and practical application of the law regulating divorce, custody, support and other elementary domestic law issues.
2. I expect that 70% of students will achieve a mastery of the material, with the remaining 30% having at least a working knowledge. A mid-term and Comprehensive Final Exam will be administered.
3. These exams will test each student's ability to identify and address any of ten potential ethical issues and their likely results. A comprehensive final ensures that the student has a grasp of the general principles and their application to suggested scenarios, thereby permitting the student to expand on their answers.
4. The results of a mid-term exam will define the general level of most students' understanding. The Comprehensive Final can then focus on those areas that may be particularly difficult to grasp, while also addressing the basics that MUST be grasped. A particular strength of the course is to involve at least one but preferably two guest lecturers from the community, who will address real world application of the theory and principles covered in regular lectures and reading.

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Required Materials: None

Textbook:

FAMILY LAW FOR PARALEGALS , KENT, MCGRAW-HILL, ISBN: 9781308453224

The following supplementary materials are available:

- Understanding Your Domestic Relationship Rights in Virginia (A handout written and produced by the Richmond Women's Bar Association)

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Notes to Instructors

(List information about optional topics, departmental exams, etc)

1. None
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

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