

# Legal Studies (LAW)

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## Courses

### **LAW 120 Introduction to Paralegal Studies (3 Hours)**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to describe the paralegal profession and explain the role of the paralegal in a legal environment, including necessary skills, education and training, common duties, and representative tasks. The student should be able to explain the regulation of the legal profession and ethical issues relevant to attorneys and paralegals. The student should be able to draft a professional resume and design an effective job-search strategy. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

### **LAW 121 Introduction to Law (3 Hours)**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to describe the structure and organization of the American legal system and explain its role, functions, and legal powers. The student should be able to explain the fundamental principles of the major subject areas of the law, including criminal law, tort law, contract law, business and employment law, family law, property law, and estate planning and probate law.

### **LAW 132 Civil Litigation\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program and LAW 121 or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to identify the various sets of court rules that regulate the civil litigation process and explain the stages of a civil lawsuit. The student should be able to describe the role of the paralegal in a civil litigation practice and be able to draft documents commonly used in the civil litigation process.

### **LAW 132H HON: Civil Litigation (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

### **LAW 134 Introduction to Legal Technology\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the role of technology within a legal work environment, and use software customarily available in a modern legal work environment, including word processing, spreadsheet and presentation software. In addition, students will demonstrate the ability to create, edit and share common legal documents and forms, and to use the internet within a legal work environment.

### **LAW 142 Tort Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the major principles of tort law and personal injury litigation. The student should be able to identify the elements of intentional torts, negligence torts and strict liability torts, as well as the types of damages available and defenses to each of these torts.

### **LAW 142H HON: Tort Law (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

### **LAW 144 Contract Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to describe the elements of a contract and explain the formation of a contract. The student should be able to discuss the ways in which a contract is discharged, including discharge by performance or breach, relevant defenses and available remedies. The student should also be able to explain the rights and obligations of third parties to a contract.

### **LAW 148 Criminal Litigation\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the objectives, substantive principles and procedural rules of the criminal process in the Kansas and federal judicial systems. The student should be able to explain the role of the paralegal in criminal litigation practice and draft documents relevant to criminal litigation.

### **LAW 152 Real Estate Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to describe the rights of property ownership and public and private limitations on those rights. In addition, the student should be able to describe the common types of real estate transactions, and be able to comprehend and prepare key documents commonly used in a real estate transactions.

**LAW 162 Family Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites :** Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to describe the substantive and procedural principles of family law, including issues related to adoption, divorce, custody, support and visitation. The student should also be able to draft pleadings, including a petition for divorce, a petition for adoption, decrees, settlement agreements and motions for modification.

**LAW 162H HON: Family Law (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 165 Forensic Science and the Law (3 Hours)**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain legal constraints on the use of scientific evidence, including U.S. Supreme Court decisions and other legal rules. The student should be able to describe the major fields of forensic science and their applications, and explain current challenges facing the forensic science community and their implications for the application of forensic science to the law. The student should be able to explain career opportunities available to persons interested in a forensic-related career.

**LAW 195 Legal Research\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites :** Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to demonstrate sophisticated skills for the retrieval of information from authoritative legal literature sources, including both print and electronic media. The student should be able to manage the research process by utilizing a research model that will enhance the student's efficiency and effectiveness as a legal researcher.

**LAW 195H HON: Legal Research (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 201 Advanced Legal Technology\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites :** LAW 134 or CPCA 128 or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to evaluate and use specialized legal software to perform customary tasks within a legal environment, including litigation support, discovery, case management, office management, file management, timekeeping and billing, docket control, and preparation of courtroom presentations.

**LAW 201H HON: Advanced Legal Technology (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 205 Legal Analysis and Writing\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites :** Admission to the Paralegal program and LAW 195 or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to analyze case law, statutes and secondary legal authority. The student should be able to communicate research results, analysis and conclusions professionally and effectively.

**LAW 205H HON: Legal Analysis and Writing (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 226 Immigration Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites :** Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the various aspects of immigration law. The emphasis in the course is on the functions of the paralegal in an immigration law practice and on the preparation of related documents.

**LAW 226H HON: Immigration Law (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 245 Elder Law and Estate Planning\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the legal aspects of aging. The student should be able to discuss financial planning, healthcare, personal planning and protection, taxation, housing and other legal matters affecting the elder client. The student should also be able to articulate the use of wills and trusts in estate planning.

**LAW 245H HON: Elder Law and Estate Planning (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 247 Intellectual Property Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the types of intellectual property: patent, copyright, trademark and trade secrets. The student should be able to prepare documents related to the protection of intellectual property rights.

**LAW 247H HON: Intellectual Property Law (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 266 Employment Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to classify the relationship between employer and worker. The student should be able to apply federal and state laws that address equal opportunity, workers' compensation, and employment protections and benefits.

**LAW 269 Bankruptcy Law\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain the purpose of the federal Bankruptcy Code. The student should be able to prepare bankruptcy forms and documents, especially those related to Chapter 7, Chapter 11 and Chapter 13 bankruptcy filings.

**LAW 269H HON: Bankruptcy Law (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 271 Legal Ethics, Interviewing and Investigation\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program and LAW 134 or department approval.

**Prerequisites or corequisites**: LAW 205.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to explain ethical rules and standards governing the legal profession, interview clients and witnesses, and investigate the facts as part of a legal analysis or proceedings. A major emphasis will be on recognition of ethical problems commonly encountered and the development of interviewing and investigating skills. The course is also designated as the capstone course for the paralegal program. The course will draw the student's paralegal learning and provide an opportunity to demonstrate that the student has accomplished the program's educational goals. This opportunity will focus on finalizing and reviewing the student's e-portfolio.

**LAW 271H HON: Legal Ethics, Interviewing and Investigation (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**LAW 275 Paralegal Internship I\* (1 Hour)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program and LAW 120 and LAW 121 or department approval.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to apply classroom knowledge to an actual work situation. This course consists of supervised work experience in an approved training situation. It is designed to provide practice experience in a legal setting. The student must complete 120 hours of work at the internship site. Obtaining an internship is the responsibility of the individual student.

**LAW 276 Paralegal Internship II\* (1 Hour)**

**Prerequisites** : Admission to the Paralegal program and LAW 275.

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to apply classroom knowledge to an actual work situation. This course consists of supervised work experience in an approved training situation. It is designed to provide practice experience in a legal setting. The student must complete 120 hours of work at the internship site. Obtaining an internship is the responsibility of the individual student.

**LAW 291 Independent Study\* (1-7 Hour)**

**Prerequisites :** 2.0 GPA minimum and department approval.

Independent study is a directed, structured learning experience offered as an extension of the regular curriculum. It is intended to allow individual students to broaden their comprehension of the principles of and competencies associated with the discipline or program. Its purpose is to supplement existing courses with individualized, in-depth learning experiences. Such learning experiences may be undertaken independent of the traditional classroom setting, but will be appropriately directed and supervised by regular instructional staff. Total contact hours vary based on the learning experience.

**LAW 292 Special Topics:\* (1-3 Hour)**

**Prerequisites :** Admission to the Paralegal program or department approval.

This course periodically offers specialized or advanced discipline-specific paralegal topics related to law not usually taught in the curriculum to interested and qualified students within the program.