

CUYAMACA COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

PARALEGAL STUDIES 151 – FAMILY LAW (CUSTODY, VISITATION, SUPPORT)

1 hour lecture, 1 unit

Catalog Description

This course will cover Family Law matters such as child custody and visitation, child and spousal support are included. California law regulating these matters and the drafting of appropriate documents will be emphasized.

Prerequisite

“C” grade or higher or “Pass” in PARA 100 or equivalent

Recommended Preparation

PARA 150

Entrance Skills

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Have a basic understanding of the American legal system.
- 2) Be familiar with basic legal concepts and basic legal language.
- 3) Knowledge of the state and federal court system.
- 4) Understand administrative law and the administrative system.
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge of the major substantive areas of the law and how they differ from procedural law.
- 6) Understand the importance of keeping track of billable hours and the ability to do so.
- 7) Understand the importance of ethics and the rules of Professional Responsibility.

This course will deal with a major area of substantive law and how it relates to other areas of the law, so an understanding of substantive and procedural law is critical.

Course Content

- 1) Collect background information on client
- 2) Draft a motion for temporary orders, declarations, and orders after a hearing
- 3) Learn how to calculate child and spousal support
- 4) Draft an income and expense declaration
- 5) Draft subpoenas and accompanying notices
- 6) Demonstrate how to seek enforcement of family law orders

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Understand and research family law to draft memoranda.
- 2) Prepare forms and documents required for these family law matters.
- 3) Draft pleadings and discovery in hypothetical cases.
- 4) Investigate facts and prepare case for settlement or trial.
- 5) Assist client with referrals to other professionals and agencies.
- 6) Understand the role and ethical responsibilities of the paralegal.

Method of Evaluation

A grading system will be established by the instructor and implemented uniformly. Grades will be based on demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter determined by multiple measurements for evaluation:

- 1) Discussion board participation
- 2) Exams
- 3) Written assignments

Special Materials Required of Student

Computer or device with consistent internet access or regular time scheduled in a computer lab on campus.

Minimum Instructional Facilities

Computer Lab access for students on a regular basis

Method of Instruction

- 1) Reading online lecture materials or watching online lectures, and participating in online discussions or chats
- 2) Case studies
- 3) Research methodologies

Out-of-Class Assignments

- 1) Reading assignments
- 2) Written assignments

Texts and References

- 1) Required (representative example): Kaite Burke et al., *California Child and Spousal Support: Establishing, Modifying, and Enforcing*, 2023, CEB-Family Law-California Child and Spousal Support: <https://onlaw-ceb-com.ezproxy.cuyamaca.edu/onlaw/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=OnLAW:CEB>.
- 2) Supplemental: None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Prepare forms, memoranda and documents for these family law matters.
- 2) Investigate facts and prepare cases for settlement or trial.
- 3) Draft pleadings and discovery in hypothetical cases (Work-Based Learning Outcome).
- 4) Explain the role and ethical responsibilities of the paralegal.