

PL121
CONTRACT LAW
SYLLABUS

Course Title: Contract Law	Course Number: PL121	Effective Date: 01/18/2012 Revision Date: 01/13/2012 Applies to: All Campuses Online available for approved campuses	
Quarter Credit Hours: 2	Course Length: 12 weeks	Lecture Hours: 20 Laboratory Hours: 0 Externship/Clinic Hours: 0 Study/Prep/Review Hours: 40	
Instructor's Name: William Martin Sloane, LL.M. (Labor), Ph.D. Attorney at Law, Maryland & Pennsylvania	Instructor's Office Hours: Before and after class and by appointment	Meeting Days/Times: Mon-Tue, 9:15-10:20 am Term Dates/Year: 18 January to 4 April 2012 Room: 203	
Course Catalog Description: An introduction to the law of contracts, this course examines the formation of legally enforceable agreements, the Statute of Frauds, breach of contract, third party involvement, and the essentials of drafting a contract.			
Course Prerequisite(s): PL100 Course Corequisite(s): None	Challenge Examination available? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Research Component included? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Portfolio Piece(s) included? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Required Media/Equipment/Software: <u>Contract Law for Legal Professionals</u> , Andrea B. Yelin, Prentice Hall, 2011, ISBN 9780136131786 Note book, pen, pencil, highlighter, and computer disk.			
Resources: Library materials, periodicals, newspapers, and Internet resources may be used for research and other purposes. Bookmark these free online legal dictionaries: http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/dictionary.htm			
Teaching Strategies: Instructors utilize a variety of teaching strategies and methods in the instruction process. These may include, but are not limited to, lectures, demonstration, group projects, guest speakers, field trips, audio-visual presentations, on-line activities, and simulated work experiences.			
Additional Hours Outside of Class: Hours currently identified as Lecture, Laboratory or Externship hours are identified on the syllabus as calculated time required for delivery of content, demonstration of skill, and practical application required for reinforcement of course competencies. Additionally students will be assigned specific activities to incorporate out-of-class hours in achievement of course objectives. Out-of-class assignments will be graded as part of the overall course grade. Outside Hours: For converted clock hour programs, assigned outside hours may be used in the calculation of total credits awarded in the class. For specific assignments, see attached course outline. Study/Prep/Review Hours: Students are expected to be prepared for the distribution of information from their instructor through utilization of their required textbook, workbook, web resources or other outside materials. Time spent in preparation for or reflection of course lecture will approximate two hours outside of class for each lecture contact hour utilized by the instructor in delivery of the material and 1/4 hour outside of class for each hour of structured lab time. This outside preparation time may include the reading/skimming of textbook material, homework assignments, preparation for lab assignments, workbook activities, awareness/review of any safety precautions, or research of relevant supplemental information. Additionally, students are expected to record notes from course lecture to be reviewed as background for subsequent lessons, homework, or in preparation for exams. Review and reflection of classroom discussions, demonstrations, or presentation are included in the recognition of the additional outside course hours.			

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Determine the rules when federal and state law conflict, or when more than one state has an interest in the transaction;
2. Discuss the difference between an offer and a preliminary negotiation, the elements of an offer, and the alternatives of classical consideration;
3. Discuss the ways that an offer can die prior to acceptance;
4. Discuss the elements of acceptance and the methods for accepting an offer;
5. Discuss how a contract can be modified and terminated;
6. Draft a contract;
7. Discuss the enforceability of contracts in regards to minority, mental capacity, and incapacity due to drugs or alcohol;
8. Discuss the enforceability of contracts in regards to unconscionability and adhesion contracts;
9. Describe the Statute of Frauds;
10. Describe the defendant's response to a plaintiff's allegation of a breach of contract;
11. Describe the remedies that are available to the plaintiff if the defendant breaches the contract; and
12. Explain the possible interest that a third party might have in a contract.

Topical Outline:

The key topics/concepts in this course are as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. The Law of Contracts | 5. Breach of Contract |
| 2. The Offer and Acceptance Phases | 6. Third Party Interests |
| 3. The Uniform Commercial Code | 7. Remedies for Breach of Contract |
| 4. The Statute of Fraud | 8. Drafting a Contract |

Course Completion Requirements:

Complete all required homework/assignments, quizzes, examinations, and projects with a passing grade.

Grading and Evaluation:

Course requirements include evaluation in the areas of class participation (including attendance), homework, quizzes, examinations, and projects as follows:

<i>Final Grades will be determined by:</i>		<i>Grading Scale:</i>	
Class Participation	10%	90-100%	A
Homework/Assignments	10%	80-89%	B
Quizzes	10%	70-79%	C
Examinations	40%	00-69%	F
Projects	25%		
Portfolio	5%		
Total	100%		

Class Participation: This portion of the grade includes evaluation of self-directed work habits such as attendance, class preparedness, communication, and (where appropriate) professional vocabulary, dress, or grooming. Students are expected to have read the assigned chapter(s) as identified on the syllabus and be prepared to discuss the content during class hours. Class participation may include group activities, peer review, and demonstration. Class preparation will require additional study/preparation time outside of scheduled class hours. Instructor-facilitated discussions may be used in verification of course objectives

Homework/Assignments: Homework will be assigned in this course. Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date. Assignments turned in after the scheduled due date and time for any reason may be assessed as late credit by the instructor. Homework is assigned as indicated on the course syllabus. Homework assignments will require outside preparation on the part of the student to execute activities in assessment of course objectives.

Quizzes: There will be both announced and unannounced quizzes. Quizzes missed for any reason will receive grades of zero (0) and cannot be made up. The lowest recorded quiz will not be counted in the final grade. Announced and unannounced quizzes will be used as a means to verify attainment of course objectives. Students will be expected to spend time outside of class studying materials in preparation for any quiz as well as time spent reviewing quiz results in preparation for homework, class discussion or examination

Examinations: The number of examinations will be equivalent to the credit hours earned in this course and may include a comprehensive final examination. There is no makeup of examinations missed. Extreme cases of absence due to documented mitigating circumstances will be handled at the discretion of the instructor. Students are expected to utilize time outside of class in preparation for assessments. Assessments will be utilized to verify acquisition of course objectives.

Projects: Project requirements will be outlined in detailed separate instructions and will reflect the practical application of fundamentals and principles discussed in this course. Projects include library research and may also include classroom/laboratory, clinic/externship/practicum, and/or other activities. Project assignments require utilization of course materials and resources in demonstration of course objectives. Students are expected to incorporate time outside of class to research, create, and prepare projects for demonstration and assessment.

Portfolio: Instructor-identified portfolio assignments will require additional time outside of class in preparation for final submission of course portfolio. Portfolio assignments are an integral part of the recognition of attainment of course objectives.

Attendance Policy:

Because of the intensive nature of this course, attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to comply with the school's attendance policy as published in the school's catalog. All absences, late arrivals, and early departures are recorded and become a part of the student's permanent record. No distinction will be made between excused and unexcused absences. Failure to comply with the attendance policy can result in reduction of the final grade, course failure, suspension, or dismissal. Externship and clinic courses and programs which are considered clock hour programs for Title IV purposes, have their own specific attendance criteria and may require make-up of all hours missed.

Make-up Policy:

Students are accountable for all work missed during periods of absence. Students are responsible for contacting their instructors about any make-up of class work. All make-up is at the sole discretion of the instructor. Make-up of missed classes does not erase an absence from a student's record. See Grading, above, for additional information.

Special Needs:

Students in need of special accommodation should notify the instructor in writing by the second class session.

Course Outline:

See attached.

PL121
CONTRACT LAW
 COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION	DISCUSSION TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS FOR <u>NEXT</u> CLASS	NOTES DUE DATES
January Mon. 23rd #1	Welcome & Introductions Course Overview (Syllabus, Course Outline) Chapter 1: The Fundamentals of Contracts	Read Chapters 1 & 2	Announced & unannounced quizzes will be given by the instructor
Tue. 24th #2		Study for Exam	Discuss Research Project
Mon. 30th #3	Exam 1: Chapter 1	Read Chapters 2 and 3	Exam
Tue. 31st #4	Chapter 2: Constructing the Contract		
February Mon. 6th #5	Chapter 3: Acceptance	Study for Exam	Topics for research project due
Tue. 7th #6	Exam 2: Chapters 2 and 3	Read Chapters 4, 5, & 6	Exam
Mon. 13th #7	Chapter 4: Consideration Chapter 5: Formation of Contracts		
Tue. 14th #8	Chapter 6: Terms and Provisions	Study for Exam	
Mon. 20th #9	Exam 3: Chapters 4, 5, & 6	Read Chapters 7, 8, and 9	Exam
Tue. 21st #10	Chapter 7: Modifying the Contract		
Mon. 27th #11	Chapter 8: Third Party Contracts		
Tue. 28th #12	Chapter 9: Performance and Discharge Obligations	Study for Exam	Exam
March Mon. 5th #13	Exam 4: Chapter 7, 8, & 9	Read Chapter 10	
Tue. 6th #14	Chapter 10: Remedies		
Mon. 12th #15	Chapter 10	Study for Exam	Exam
Tue. 13th #16	Exam 5: Chapter 10	Read Chapter 11	
Mon. 19th #17	Chapter 11: Researching and Drafting Contracts		
Tue. 20th #18	Chapter 11	Study for Exam	Exam
Mon. 26th #19	Exam 6: Chapter 11		Research Project Due
Tue. 27th #20	Presentations Wrap up		