

**El Paso Community College**  
**Syllabus**  
**Part II**  
**Official Course Description**

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<u>Paralegal</u>
<b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b>	<u>LGLA 1359</u>
<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<u>Immigration Law</u>
<b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>	<u>3            3    :    0</u> Credits    Lec    Lab

**I. Catalog Description**

Presents fundamental concepts of immigration law including substantive and procedural law related to visa applications, deportation, naturalization, and citizenship emphasizing the paralegal's role in immigration law. **(3:0)**.

**II. Course Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Unit I. Overview of Immigration Law
1. Identify the role and ethical considerations of the paralegal in immigration law and draft the documents used in immigration law.
  2. Give a brief history of immigration law.
  3. Discuss U.S. sovereignty/borders.
  4. Identify and describe the functions of the government agencies that deal with immigration law.
    - a. INS
    - b. Border Patrol
    - c. Department of State
    - d. Immigration Court
    - e. Board of Immigration Appeals
    - f. Department of Labor
  5. Identify and use basic immigration terminology.
  6. Discuss the specific "billable" tasks associated with immigration law.
- B. Unit II. Non-Immigrants
1. Identify and describe the major non-immigrant classifications.
  2. Explain the non-immigrant visa process.
  3. Explain how to change non-immigrant status.
  4. Differentiate among various non-immigrant visa applications.
  5. Discuss the problems faced by non-immigrants who violate their status, i.e., grounds of inadmissibility.

- C. Unit III. Immigrant Visas Based on Family Relationships
  - 1. Identify the various petitions utilized to immigrate to the U.S. (I-130's, I-485's, Consular Processing).
  - 2. Describe the various Petitioner-Beneficiary relations.
  - 3. Explain how children immigrate to the U.S.
  - 4. Describe the preference system and explain how it works.
  - 5. Describe the grounds of inadmissibility as they pertain to applicants for legal permanent resident status.
  - 6. Discuss recent changes in the law.
- D. Unit IV. Other Methods of Obtaining Lawful Status  
Discuss the following additional methods of obtaining lawful status:
  - a. Registry
  - b. Political Asylum/Refugees
  - c. K-3 Visas
  - d. V visas
  - e. Temporary Protected Status
  - f. Deferred Action
  - g. Humanitarian Parole
  - h. Employment Based Visas
- E. Unit V. The Deportation/Removal Proceedings
  - 1. Describe the process for detention and removal of aliens from the United States
    - a. Expedited Removal by Immigration Inspectors
    - b. Removal by Immigration Judges
    - c. Removal by the INS
  - 2. Discuss the grounds for deportation/removal of aliens from the United States.
  - 3. Identify the types of criminal convictions that can and cannot be waived.
  - 4. Identify the types of applications or waivers that can be made for certain aliens to remain in the U.S.

### III. THECB Learning Outcomes (WECM)

- 1. Use terminology relating to immigration law.
- 2. Analyze sources relating to immigration law.
- 3. Draft documents used in immigration law.
- 4. Analyze the ethical considerations of the paralegal in immigration law.

### IV. Evaluation

Semester grade will be determined by an average of the tests, assignments, and discussions in conformance with the college policy.

Grading Scale:

90-100	=	A
80-89	=	B
70-79	=	C
60-69	=	D
Below 60	=	F
Incomplete	=	I
Withdrew or Withdrawn	=	W

**V. Disability Statement (Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA])**

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

**VI. 6 Drop Rule**

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.