

El Paso Community College
Syllabus
Part II
Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	<u>Paralegal</u>
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	<u>LGLA 1355</u>
COURSE TITLE	<u>Family Law</u>
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	<u>3 3 : 0</u>
	Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

Presents fundamental concepts of family law including formal and informal marriages, divorce, annulment, marital property, and the parent-child relationship with emphasis on the paralegal’s role in family law. **(3:0).**

II. Course Objectives

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

- A. Unit I. Contract Law as It Applies to Marriage Contracts
 - 1. List and discuss the elements necessary to form a valid contract.
 - 2. Distinguish between a valid, void and voidable contract.
 - 3. Discuss the legal principles associated with gifts.
 - 4. Identify and discuss the various ways of forming a valid contract.
 - 5. List and discuss the legal requirements necessary in order to have a valid Antenuptial Contract in Texas.
 - 6. Utilize the Texas Family Law Code.
 - 7. Identify the role and ethical considerations of the paralegal in family law.
 - 8. Discuss the specific “billable” tasks associated with family law.

- B. Unit II. The Formation of Ceremonial Marriages and Common Law Marriages
 - 1. Discuss social policy affecting marriage.
 - 2. List and discuss the major requirements for a ceremonial marriage in Texas.
 - 3. List and discuss the legal requirements necessary for proving a common-law marriage in the State of Texas.
 - 4. List the legal effects of marriages according to Texas Law.
 - 5. List and discuss the elements of a Putative Marriage.

- C. Unit III. Dissolution of Marriage
 - 1. Distinguish between an annulment, divorce, and legal separation.
 - 2. Distinguish between a valid, void, and voidable marriage.
 - 3. List and discuss the grounds under Texas law which can be used in order to obtain an Annulment.

4. List and discuss the grounds under Texas law which can be used to get a marriage declared void.
5. List and discuss the grounds available to a party in Texas who is seeking a divorce.
6. Discuss the impact that dissolving a marriage has on property, children, and child support.
7. Draft the documents necessary in Divorce, Annulment, and Suit to Declare a Marriage Void proceedings.

D. Unit IV. The Parent-Child Relationship

1. List and discuss the various methods available in Texas for establishing the parent-child relationship.
2. Discuss the legal effects under Texas law of establishing the parent-child relationship.
3. Draft the various documents necessary in establishing the parent-child relationship.
4. Identify the Juvenile Justice system

E. Unit V. Termination of the Parent-Child Relationship

1. List and discuss the requirements in Texas for terminating the parent-child relationship.
2. Draft the documents necessary in a termination proceeding.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (WECM)

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

IV. Evaluation

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.

VII. Title IX and Sex Discrimination

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.