

**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.

**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.