

MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

LEG 232
Course Number

Civil Litigation III
Course Title

3
Credits

45
Class Hours

0
Laboratory Hours

Text: Title: Civil Practice and Court Rules of New Jersey
Edition: Current
Publisher: Gould Publications

Catalog Description:

An advanced litigation course stressing the preparation of the broad range of pleadings involved in a civil suit. Other topics include insurance and workers compensation. Approximately one third of the class time will involve practical litigation exercises.

Prerequisite: LEG 132 3 lecture hours

Co-requisite: None

Eric M. Perkins
Course Coordinator

Instructor's Name _____
Time/Location _____
Office Hours _____
Office #/Phone #'s _____
E-mail _____

Revised August 2007

Method of Instruction

A combination of lecture, discussion and frequent in and out of class assignments will be utilized. The course will stress the actual preparation of various pleadings including complaints, answers, counterclaims, cross-claims, motions and affidavits. Written assignments will stress practical litigation experience and applications.

Method of Evaluation

There will be two exams which will be approximately two-thirds of the final grade. The remaining third of the grade will be based upon the various assignments involving the preparation of pleadings.

Grading will be consistent with the Mercer grading system. Plus and minus grades may be utilized for students at the minimum or maximum of some grade ranges.

A= 90 to 100%

B= 80 to 89%

C= 70 to 79%

D= 60 to 69%

F= Below 60

Academic Integrity Statement and Student Conduct Statement

“A student who a.) knowingly represents work of others as his/her own; b.) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in the execution of any academic work; or c.) gives fraudulent assistance to another student is guilty of cheating. Violators will be penalized.” (Student Handbook)

It is the student’s responsibility to attend all of their classes. If they miss a class meeting for any reason, students are responsible for all content that is covered, for announcements made in their absence, and for acquiring any materials that may have been distributed in class. It is expected that students be on time for all their classes. If students walk into a class after it has begun, it is expected that they choose a seat close to where they entered the room so that they do not disrupt the class meeting.

Students are expected to follow ordinary rules of courtesy during class sessions. Engaging in private, side conversations during class time is distracting to other students and to the instructor. Leaving class early without having informed the instructor prior to class is not appropriate. Unless there is an emergency, leaving class and returning while class is in session is not acceptable behavior. Disruptive behavior of any type, including sharpening pencils while someone is speaking, is not appropriate.

General Course Objectives:

The student will understand the New Jersey Court Rules related to the civil litigation process.

The student will be able to prepare various types of pleadings ranging from very simple to complex, including the preparation of complaints, answers, counterclaims, cross-claims, and third party practice pleadings. The student will also be able to effectively prepare discovery materials, affidavits and motions. Additionally, the student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of general principles and procedures related to insurance and workers compensation law.

Specific Course Objectives:

The student will be able to:

1. Understand the New Jersey Court Rules related to civil complaints.
2. Prepare civil complaints based on various causes of action associated with tort matters.
3. Understand the New Jersey Court rules as they relate to answers.
4. Prepare appropriate answers to complaints as mentioned above.
5. Understand the New Jersey Court rules as they relate to various forms of ancillary pleadings.
6. Prepare various ancillary pleadings such as counterclaims, cross-claims, and third party practice pleadings.
7. Understand the New Jersey Court rules related to the discovery process.
8. Prepare various discovery items including interrogatories and requests for admissions.
9. Learn how to digest and index deposition transcripts.
10. Learn how to prepare settlement letters and settlement brochures.
11. Learn how to prepare a civil case for trial, including electronic filing requirements.
12. Understand the impact and application of insurance law principles on civil litigation.
13. Under the process of subrogation as it relates to insurance matters.
14. Understand the requirements and mechanics of a workers compensation action.