

**PLS 63 Course Outline as of Spring 2011****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: PLS 63

Title: CONTRACTS

Full Title: Contracts

Last Reviewed: 10/12/2020

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade Only

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

This course is designed to acquaint the paralegal with the formal requirements and legal principles involved in contract law and drafting documents. In addition to lectures on the underlying legal theory, students gain experience in drafting and analyzing a broad range of agreements.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

Course Completion of PLS 51

**Recommended Preparation:****Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This course is designed to acquaint the paralegal with the formal requirements and legal principles involved in contract law and drafting documents. In addition to lectures on the underlying legal theory, students gain experience in drafting and analyzing a broad range of agreements. (Grade Only)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Course Completion of PLS 51

Recommended:

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Spring 2011	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Draft simple contracts and other agreements.
2. Perform accurate analysis of existing contracts.
3. Recommend appropriate changes in contractual language and terms and implementing those changes accurately.
4. Apply appropriate ethical standards in contract administration.

**Topics and Scope:**

- I. Overview of contracts
  - A. Sources of contract law
  - B. Six requirements of valid contracts
  - C. Classification of contracts
- II. Offer
  - A. Three requirements of an offer
  - B. Four required terms
  - C. Uniform Commerce Code (UCC) Exception: Sale of goods between merchants
- III. Acceptance
  - A. Requirements
  - B. Methods of acceptance - bilateral and unilateral
  - C. Termination of offers
- IV. Consideration
  - A. What is consideration
  - B. What is not consideration
  - C. Sufficiency of consideration
  - D. Promissory estoppel

- E. Special agreements
- V. Legality of subject matter and contractual capacity
  - A. Legality of subject matter
  - B. Contractual capacity
- VI. Contractual intent
  - A. No contract if induced by fraud
  - B. No contract if induced by duress
  - C. Mistake
- VII. Contractual provisions and drafting a contract
  - A. Statute of frauds--requirement of writing for enforceability
  - B. Contractual clauses
  - C. Court doctrines
  - D. Guidelines for Drafting a contract
- VIII. The Uniform Commercial Code(UCC)
  - A. Obligations
  - B. Sales
- IX. Third party contracts
  - A. Third party beneficiary contracts
  - B. Assignment
  - C. Delegation
- X. Discharge of obligations
  - A. Excuse of conditions
  - B. Performance
  - C. Breach
  - D. Agreement
  - E. Impossibility of performance
  - F. Supervening illegality
  - G. Death or destruction
  - H. Frustration of purpose - coronation cases
- XI. Remedies
  - A. Legal remedies
  - B. Equitable remedies
  - C. Contract clauses

### **Assignment:**

1. Read textbook and outside sources of approximately 40 pages per week.
2. Written homework assignments based on lecture and readings, one assignment every two weeks.
3. Analysis of contracts fact patterns, approximately one per week.
4. Participation in weekly discussions and group presentations.
5. Terminology assignments.
6. 1-4 exams and final.

### **Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written homework assignments.	Writing 10 - 30%
<b>Problem Solving:</b> Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.	
Analysis of contracts	Problem solving 10 - 30%
<b>Skill Demonstrations:</b> All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.	
Group work and presentations	Skill Demonstrations 10 - 30%
<b>Exams:</b> All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.	
Exams and final: Multiple choice, true/false, matching items	Exams 40 - 50%
<b>Other:</b> Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.	
Attendance and participation	Other Category 5 - 10%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Basic Contract Law for Paralegals by Jeffrey Helewitz, 6th, ed. Aspen Publishers, 2010