

Legal Investigation Certificate Course – Online

About This Course

This intensive online program is designed to teach legal investigation to those interested in pursuing a new career and those presently working in the legal field.

Course Objectives:

Participants will demonstrate the following skills through successful completion of all required coursework and assignments:

- Discuss the origins and history of the American legal system
- Define and apply important legal terminology
- Discuss ethics for the law office
- List the elements of tort law and contract law
- Explain the important rules of civil procedure
- Demonstrate how to interview clients and witnesses
- Demonstrate how to conduct a legal investigation: gathering facts, gathering evidence and taking statements of clients and witnesses
- Demonstrate how to handle evidence that has been gathered
- Explain the important rules regarding the admissibility of evidence in court
- Describe how to perform legal research
- Discuss how to create a freelance legal investigation business

Expectations

This is an accelerated course. You will be expected to spend an average of at least 8 hours per week reading and completing writing assignments. Please note that extensions will not be granted for this online course. 70% is the minimum passing score on all tests and assignments for this course.

Course Books

Required textbooks for this course:

- *Federal Civil Rules Booklet*, LegalPub.com, Inc.

Highly Recommended Legal Resources:

- *Oran's Dictionary of the Law*, 4th Edition, by Daniel Oran. Clifton Park: Delmar Cengage Learning

For more information, call The Center for Legal Studies at 888-238-5204, or visit our Online Store to order.

Lesson Topics:

Lesson One: Introduction to the American Legal System

Lesson Two: An Overview of Civil Procedure, Contract Law, and Tort Law

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Lesson Three: The Rules of Evidence and Hearsay

Lesson Four: Fact and Evidence Gathering Techniques

Lesson Five: Handling Evidence and Interviewing Techniques

Lesson Six: Legal Research, Ethical Considerations, and the Job Search

Course Wrap-Up and Job Hunting Techniques

Tests:

For each lesson you will submit a 50-point short answer/essay exam covering the topics in the assigned reading. These tests are due by 9:00 a.m. each Friday.

Writing Assignments:

You will be asked to complete a writing assignment worth 50 points, which is due by 9:00 a.m. on the last Monday of class.

Bulletin Board Assignments:

You will also post your responses to six class participation assignments. These assignments are referred to as Bulletin Board Submissions and will be submitted by either selecting Bulletin Board Submission from within the lesson material, or by selecting 'Forums' under Activities on the Left Hand Block.

All lesson objectives, assignments, and tests can be found in the Lesson Materials.

Additional resources are available by accessing the URL Library tool.

Grading

Your grade will be based on your completion of six tests, one writing assignment, and class participation/Bulletin Board Submissions. The tests and writing assignments can be accessed from within the lesson material, or by selecting 'Assignments' under Activities on the Left Hand Block. You will have the opportunity to engage in "class participation" by using the Bulletin Board tool to respond to the bulletin board assignments throughout the course. Also, participating in the bulletin board assignments will enhance your understanding of the reading material.

Your final grade will be figured as follows:

- The six tests are 50 points each and comprise 70% of your grade.
- The one writing assignment is worth 50 points and comprises 20% of your grade.
- Your participation in class participation assignments comprises 10% of your grade.

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Withdrawal Policy

Students may drop the course with a full tuition refund less a non-refundable \$15 administrative fee if written notice is sent to The Center for Legal Studies by email at info@legalstudies.com by the Wednesday before class begins. Students may drop the course with a 50% tuition refund if written notice is sent to The Center for Legal Studies by email at info@legalstudies.com anytime from the Thursday before the course begins until the first Thursday of class. After the first Thursday of class, no refunds will be issued.