LEGAL STUDIES

Mission Statement
The mission of the Division of Criminal Justice and Legal studies is to inspire and challenge students, faculty, and staff through a variety of opportunities to achieve personal and professional growth for a lifetime.

Student Learning Outcomes
UWF Legal Studies graduates should be able to do the following:

Content
- Recognize and apply concepts in legal studies, specifically in the core substantive areas including tort law, contract law, evidence law, and probate or real estate law
- Recall, identify, and describe the major theoretical principles relating to the American legal system
- Identify and define legal research methods and sources

Critical Thinking
- Analyze and solve legal studies problems
  - Analyze and categorize key facts, factual omissions, and inconsistencies in a legal situation
  - Identify and evaluate alternative solutions
  - Construct logical arguments to support specific position
- Identify interrelationships among cases, statutes, regulations, and other legal Authorities;
  - Determine which areas of law are relevant to a particular situation.
  - Identify appropriate exceptions to general legal rules
- Identify, locate, and appropriately use and evaluate both electronic and print resources to solve legal studies problems
- Prepare and execute a legal research plan
- Identify and prepare the necessary pleadings to pursue a civil case from inception to trial

Communication
- Convey legal theory in a clear and concise manner
- Draft various communication formats (e.g., legal documents, client correspondence, standardized forms, databanks) in keeping with professional standards including writing conventions
- Make oral presentations of research findings
- Communicate solutions to legal dilemmas in a clear and concise manner

03/05
**Integrity/Values**
- Articulate the legal and ethical principles that guide attorney and paralegal conduct
- Apply principles of professional ethics to complex ethical situations
- Promote increased access to legal services
- Identify how professional associations contribute to the legal and paralegal profession
- Identify and resolve ethical dilemmas that may be confronted in the workplace
- Justify the importance of continuing legal education for attorneys and paralegals

**Project Management**
- Explain the professional obligations and responsibilities of members of the legal team
- Develop plans for completing projects on time and other dimensions of self-management
- Collaborate effectively with peers and others
  - Develop planning skills for performing group projects
  - Provide leadership to facilitate project completion
  - Evaluate individual and team member performance

**Applied Outcomes**
- Integrate skills and knowledge of the legal system with community service
- Articulate the potential for creating positive change in court system and practice of law
- Collaborate with diverse individuals to develop programs that enhance the community
- Participate as an integral member of the legal team, making contributions to achieve successful outcomes for clients

**Job Prospects for Legal Studies Graduates**

Paralegal or legal assistant positions in a variety of settings including:
- private law firms, government agencies and departments, corporations and non-profit organizations.
- Court Clerk
- Judicial Assistant
- Law Firm Administrator
- Human Resource Officer
- Law Librarian

**Find Out More about Legal Studies at UWF:**
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