

North Hennepin Community College

PLEG 1610: Immigration Law

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 0

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites:

This course requires the following prerequisite

PLEG 1111 - Introduction to Law and Paralegal Studies

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Immigration Law aims to: (1) Introduce students to U.S. immigration law as an important and dynamic body of administrative policies and regulations with broad social, economic, and political impact; (2) Present an overview of substantive immigration law and its processes and procedures for those seeking to enter and remain in the United States as nonimmigrants and immigrants, including employment and family-based processes, waivers, humanitarian relief such as DACA, U visas for victims of crime, and asylum, defenses to deportation, and U.S. citizenship; and (3) Address the role, responsibilities, and ethics of paralegals within the field, with a focus on the practical skills needed to be successful, including client interviewing, case management and communication, factual and legal research, and case preparation (including writing cover and support letters, drafting forms, and collecting supporting evidence).

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 02/09/2021 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Gain a basic understanding of U.S. immigration law, including the federal agencies involved, available nonimmigrant visas and paths for U.S. permanent residency and citizenship, defenses to deportation/removal, appeals, and employer compliance. (ELO 1, 2a, 3a, 4b)
2. Identify and use primary and secondary sources to conduct relevant factual and legal case research (including the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services and Department of State websites, agency regulations, agency policy memoranda and practice manuals, and appellate decisions). (ELO 2a, 2e, 4a, 4d)
3. Learn and prepare components of an immigration case, including drafting immigration forms and cover/support letters; identifying and organizing supporting evidence; and filing with the correct agency/service center. (ELO 2a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 3b, 3c, 4a, 4c, 4d)
4. Learn and practice client interviewing skills to screen potential clients and gather relevant information from clients to draft case materials, including support letters and affidavits. (ELO 2a, 2b, 2c, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 4d)
5. Understand basic proceedings in federal immigration court. (ELO 1, 2a, 2b, 2e, 3b, 3c, 4a, 4c, 4d)
6. Become familiar with the role, responsibilities, and ethical considerations of paralegals within the field. (ELO 3b, 3c, 4a, 4d)
7. Study how individual and community biases/prejudices play a role in immigration law and policy, including the work of paralegals, from client interviewing to case preparation and managing client expectations. (ELO 1, 3b, 3c)

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted