

North Central Michigan College

NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS FOR YEARS 2001-2003

DIVISION/AREA: Business and Technology

DEPARTMENT:

DIVISION DIRECTOR: Robert J. Marsh, Ph.D., P.E.

ORIGINATOR:

DEAN OF INSTRUCTION: Timothy Dykstra, Ph.D.

TOTAL HOURS OF INSTRUCTION: 3 LECTURE: 3 LAB: 0 TOTAL CONTACT HOURS: 52.8

COURSE NUMBER: LA 201

CREDIT HOURS: 3

COURSE TITLE: Research, Writing and Analysis I

TRANSFERABLE

YES:

NO: X

TO:

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S)/ADVISORY: None

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the Law Library and its use in the Law Office. Students begin to conduct research through all media including the Internet. Students will be able to prepare legal memoranda on all issues researched. Students enrolled in LA 201 must have strong writing and grammar skills. Students must have completed the equivalent of two semesters of English Composition prior to enrolling in this course.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:

- Think critically and analytically
 - Write and speak effectively
 - Independently acquire knowledge
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COURSE OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, you will:

- Understand the sources of law and the hierarchy of law
- Be able to properly cite legal authority
- Perform IRAC analysis for any issue

- Analyze and apply statutes
- Brief cases, including identification of key facts and issues
- Apply case law and perform counteranalysis

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, assignments and in class discussion

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Weekly written assignments	50%
Final paper	50%

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- *Legal Analysis and Writing for Paralegals*, William H. Putman, West Publishing, 1998
- *Ballentine's Legal Dictionary and Thesaurus*, Jonathan Lynton, Lawyers Cooperative Publishing, 1995
- *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*, 15th ed, Columbia Law Review et.al., Harvard Law Review Association, 1991

OPTIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

Reasonable accommodations may be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, and/or psychiatric disabilities. Please contact the Education Opportunity Program (EOP) at (231) 348-6687 to arrange services for this course.

TIME ALLOWANCE AND SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION:

Week	Topic
1	Introduction
2	Legal Principles
3	Legal Authorities
4	Introduction to Legal Analysis
5	Statutory Analysis
6	Citation Forms
7	Case Law and Case Briefing
8	Field trip: Research in the Law Library
9	Review and extras on Legal Research
10	Key/material Facts
11	Identifying Issues
12	Break (spring or Thanksgiving)

13	Stating the Issue
14	Case Law Application
15	Updating and Counter Analysis
16	Final Paper due

APPROVED FOR ADOPTION BY THE CRD/AP COMMITTEE ON _____