COURSE INFORMATION FORM

DISCIPLINE             Paralegal Practice
COURSE TITLE          Legal Research
CR.HR  3.0  LECT HR.  3.0  LAB HR.  CLIN/INTERN HR.  CLOCK HR.  ______

CATALOG DESCRIPTION
Introduction to sources of laws and legal research methods. Students will learn the techniques and skills necessary to conduct legal research and evaluate factual scenarios to formulate research issues and topics.

PREREQUISITES
PARA 100

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES IN THE COURSE
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate the use of research tools found in the law library in oral presentations.
2. Evaluate factual situations; in the law library find cases, statutes, and administrative regulations, which will determine legal outcomes of these factual situations.
3. Create effective research strategies using examples of court cases.
4. Use computer assisted legal research tools (Lexis-Nexis, Lois law, West Law).

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES (ESO)
Specify which general education outcomes, if any, are substantially addressed by the course. Numbers in parentheses identify the Expected Student Outcomes linked to the specific General Education Outcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>(ESO)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Communication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Listening and Speaking Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Find, organize and correctly cite/credit material for oral presentations</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Writing Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Gather information, evaluate its credibility, analyze and synthesize sources</td>
<td>(1,2,3)</td>
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<td>3. Lifelong Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Open Minded Inquiry</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Utilize modern information sources</td>
<td>(1,4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Awareness of Social, Political, and Behavioral Environments</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Research and evaluate information from a variety of sources</td>
<td>(1,2,3,4)</td>
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PROGRAM-LEVEL OUTCOMES

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Specify which Career and Technical program outcomes, if any, are substantially addressed by the course by completing the “Career and Technical Education template” to show the relationship between course and program outcomes to assessment measures.

Upon completion, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze and evaluate a legal or factual issue
2. Conduct efficient and productive legal research, investigation and analysis using current technology
   a. Identify and classify research references and sources in a library setting or online
   b. Formulate legal research issues and arguments
   c. Conduct legal research in a library setting or online
   d. Update the research done, whether cases or statutes
   e. Understand the structure of the court system and how it impacts legal research and sources of law

CLASS-LEVEL ASSESSMENT MEASURES
Student accomplishment of expected student outcomes will be assessed using the following measures. (Identify which measures are used to assess which outcomes.)

1. Classroom discussions/oral presentations (1,2,3,4)
2. Exams (2,3)
3. Online training in class (4)
4. Project in UMKC Law Library (1)
5. In class projects (2,3)
COURSE OUTLINE FORM

DISCIPLINE  Paralegal Practice

COURSE TITLE: Legal Research

Individual instructors may order this outline as fits the needs of their individual courses. In addition, they may place more emphasis on some areas than on others. What is assured is that this particular list is covered in the course. Other topics may be added to a course as the instructor sees fit, and as time and interest allow. An *asterisk can be used to mark an item as optional.

I. Library Skills/The Process
   A. Working knowledge of the law library – overall familiarization
   B. Parts of publications
      1. Preface
      2. Indexes
      3. Tables (Contents; parallel references; abbreviations; cases)
      4. Outlines – topical and specific e. latest information-pocket parts and loose-leaf f. series v. edition
   C. How to access
      1. Index (locations)
      2. Table of contents / topical outlines
      3. Known citations / authority
      4. Annotations defined

II. Secondary Authority
   A. How to use an index
   B. Commentary Sources
   C. Encyclopedias
   D. Treatises
   E. Continuing Legal Education materials
   F. Legal Periodicals
   G. ALR Annotations
   H. Pattern Jury Instructions
   I. Pleading and Practice sources
   J. Dictionaries

III. Primary Authority
   A. Updating and validating
      1. Slip Opinions
      2. Subsequent History tables
      3. Advance Legislative History (session laws)
   B. Issue formulation
   C. How to Order Issues
   D. Goals of case law research

IV. Research Tools Used to Brief a Court Case