

Minnesota State University Moorhead

PARA 420: Criminal Litigation

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites:

- PARA 251 - Legal Research and Writing

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

A practice-oriented study of the procedures, documents, and techniques in criminal law cases. Emphasis on the preparation, organization, and management of criminal litigation documents and materials; discovery; interviewing and investigation; trial preparation; assistance at trial and other proceedings; and post-conviction relief.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 03/09/2005 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Foundations of Criminal Law
2. Administration of Criminal Justice and the Role of The Paralegal
3. Components of a Crime
4. Specific Crimes
5. Defenses
6. Intake and Drafting the Complaint
7. Search and Seizure
8. Confessions and Pretrial Identification Procedures
9. Pretrial: Appearance to Preliminary Hearing
10. Pretrial: Grand Jury to Pretrial Conference
11. Trial: Rights, Procedure, Tasks
12. Sentencing, Punishment and Review

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. A practice-oriented study of substantive criminal law, procedures, documents, and techniques.
2. Emphasis on the preparation, organization, and management of criminal litigation documents and materials; discovery; interviewing and investigation; trial preparation; assistance at trial and other proceedings; and post-conviction relief
3. To understand the structure of the criminal legal system, the processing of a criminal case from initial appearance to appeal, and the underlying substantive legal principles which impact criminal cases.

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

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted