# **Minnesota State University Moorhead**

# **PARA 325: Interviewing**

#### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3 Lab Hours/Week: \*.\* OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: PARA 250

Corequisites: None MnTC Goals: None

Development of the skills necessary to elicit comprehensive factual information about legal issues and to assist the client in understanding the process and procedures of the legal system.

#### B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/17/1997 - Present

#### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

- 1. General considerations
- 2. Motivation in client interviews
- 3. Listening in interviews
- 4. Questioning
- 5. Structure and techniques of interviews
- 6. Client reluctance to give information
- 7. Videotaping and critiquing of first mock interview
- 8. Witness interviewing and investigation
- 9. Investigation
- 10. Counseling
- 11. Videotaping and critiquing of second mock interview

### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

- 1. To learn various approaches to interviewing clients in a legal setting.
- 2. To understand the barriers to effective communication with clients, and how to overcome those barriers to facilitate full comprehension of the client's problems and needs.
- 3. To develop skills in obtaining information from the client and providing assistance to the client in resolution of problems.
- 4. To learn general concepts of investigation

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

None

#### F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

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## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted

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