Casper College Course Syllabus

Course Number and Title: 44290 LEGL 2610-01 Family Law
Semester: Spring 2016
Lecture Hours: 3  Lab Hours: 0
Credit Hours: 3
Class Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  Day: MW  Bldg./Room: LH 172
Instructor’s Name: Mary Kubichek
Instructor’s Office Number: LH 175  Phone: 307-268-2618
(Home) 307-577-0720 (Please leave a message at home and at work. Please call between 7:00pm and 9:00pm and on weekends from 10:00am to 7:00pm)
(Fax) 307-268-3024
Academic Assistant: Crystal Sosalla – 307-268-2368
Office Hours: MTWTH 9-11 a.m. and other hours by appointment.
E-Mail: kubichek@caspercollege.edu. Email is the best way to contact me.

Course Description: Covers the substantive law of domestic relations with specific emphasis on the role of the paralegal in these cases.

Statement of Prerequisites: None.

Goals: Students will learn substantive and procedural domestic relations laws, how to draft interrogatories, a name change petition, a divorce decree and how to interview a client seeking a divorce.

Computer Competencies Requirement: Students must complete CMAP 1700, 1705 and 1710 or the equivalent before they graduate from the program. Students are encouraged to take CMAP 1700 during their first semester. Students must schedule flex-lap time to complete this requirement. Students must attend an orientation.

Outcomes: At the end of Family Law, students will be able to brief cases, explain Title 14 & 20 of the Wyoming Statutes, interview a client in a divorce case regarding answering interrogatories, and draft a name change and a divorce decree. Students will be tested over substantive family law. Rubrics will be provided for each work product assignment.

Casper College General Education Outcomes: This course’s objectives link to outcomes # 1, 3, 4 and 7.

X 1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication.
____ 2. Use the scientific method.

4. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives.

5. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities.

6. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research.

7. Describe the value of personal, civic and social responsibilities.

8. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data.

Course Objectives:

- Students will present oral briefs (#1 & 4)
- Students will conduct a discovery interview to answer interrogatories (#1 & 3)
- Students will participate in Casper College Legal Services (#7)

Methodology: The content of this class will be presented through lectures, student case presentations and examinations. Students will draft family law interrogatories, a name change petition, and a divorce decree. Students will conduct an interview regarding a divorce case to answer interrogatories.

Reading Assignments: All assignments on the syllabus are required reading. Copies of cases to brief will be handed out in class or directions will be provided to findlaw.com.

Required Texts:

- Paperback legal dictionary of your choice
- Wyoming Statutes (will be provided in class)
- You will also need from other classes:

*Do not sell back your books – you will need them throughout the program.
*Do not rent books for this program.


Preparation: You should come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading material. Everyone in class will have a better experience if you come to class ready to participate in the class discussion.

In class: While you are in class, this means from the top of the hour until the break or the end of class, online and similar activities such as chatting, texting, Facebook interactions, YouTube viewing, etc. is strictly forbidden. Accessing the internet for any purpose other than one assigned by the instructor will result in a request that you leave the classroom. Your electronic devices must be turned off and phones must be upside down.
Technology: During class, you are not to use laptops to play games, surf the web, email, text or other uses unrelated to class. In addition, please remember that if you use your laptop inappropriately, it may serve as a distraction to everyone around you. Refrain from using other electronic devices in class, such as cell phones and ipods. You should have these devices turned “off” or to vibrate and should not be using any applications. You will be asked to leave class for disturbing your classmates.

Social Network Policy: You may not use any social network, facebook, instagram, snapchat, twitter, email, etc. to disparage the college, the program, the instructors, your classmates, other legal professionals, etc. Violating this policy will result in a negative job recommendation and other penalties. We will randomly check whether your email address, your ringtone, your voicemail and facebook page etc. is professional. Take off everything that you don’t want an employer to hear or see. This policy applies whether you use campus or personal devices.

Assignments: Assignments are due at the beginning of class. You must print them off before class.

Class Policies:
- NEW STUDENTS MUST GET GENERIC HANDOUTS AND SIGN REQUIRED FORMS.
- Plagiarism will be punished with an “F” for the assignment. You are not to “borrow or lend” any writing assignment from another student or former student or any other source. Other unethical conduct will receive appropriate equitable penalties. Keys must not be shared. You may not ask another student or graduate to share their work with you. You will have samples and a rubric. When in doubt, check with me first.
- You must not visit with other students while the instructor or another student is talking.
- You must NOT pack up before the class is dismissed.
- Tests and quizzes with excused absences may only be made up at the time the instructor approves.
- Absences will be excused with prior approval. You must leave a message before class. You may call me at home, at work, send me an email or you may call our Academic Assistant.
- Other late work will only receive 50% credit.
- Unless these policies are followed, you will not be able to make up missed work.
- My office hours are posted on my door and inside and outside of LH 172. You are encouraged to come in, ask questions, seek clarification of assignments or other
issues. For your convenience, I encourage you to make an appointment so you will have my undivided attention.

- Your performance in the program will be enhanced if your materials are organized. Three ring notebooks, dividers, assorted tabs, highlighters and multicolored pens will assist you.
- All work, unless exempted, must be computer generated. All assignments must be saved on a flash drive.
- All work must be in 12 or 14 font in Times New Roman or Calibri.
- Learning is a cooperative activity. Civility, respect, tolerance and kindness to your classmates, instructor, guest speakers and staff is required in this class, this program and life.
- If you come in late, please do so quietly and sit in the back.
- If you must leave class early, please sit in the back and notify the instructor of the reason.
- This program is conducted as a job. You must treat it as such.
- You must sign a FERPA release in order to receive a job recommendation.
- If you change from credit to audit status, you must have the written approval of the instructor. You will be provided with a copy of the audit policy, which you must follow.
- Midterm grades do not predict your final grade. Most of the points are earned in the second quarter.
- You must be prepared to work in class. This is not a lecture only program.
- Assignments and the Syllabus will be modified in class, especially internet assignments.
- Any excused work, tests, etc. must be made up by April 21, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

Last Date to Change to Audit Status or Withdraw with a W Grade: April 14, 2016.

Students Rights and Responsibilities: Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student. These are in the Day Timer provided by the College.

Chain of Command: If you have any problems with this class, you must first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take your problem through the appropriate chain of command, starting with the Department Head, Program Director, the Dean and lastly the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Complaining to a classmate is not a part of the chain of command.

Academic Dishonesty – Cheating and Plagiarism: Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can
result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic. Major projects must be done independently.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student’s assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 334, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Employment Opportunities:** Your employment potential will be enhanced by networking, working or interning. Graduating from the program does not guarantee you a job. If you have a criminal conviction or have engaged in inappropriate social networking you may have a difficult time getting a traditional job.

**Professional Memberships:** You are encouraged to become a student member of LAW. You will receive applications in class. You should be a member by your second semester in the program. Once you are a member you become eligible for LAW scholarships for a seminar and the CP exam.

If you are eligible for the Phi Theta Kappa, join. It is the Community College Academic Honorary. If you have financial issues, see me.

**Service Requirement:** You must provide paralegal services to Casper College Legal Services’ clients and participate in service learning in a mock trial in your Litigation Support class. In Casper College Legal Services, when assisting your first clients, you will shadow an experienced paralegal.

**Portfolio:** Redo all major assignments and place them in your portfolio.

**Laptops:** If you have a laptop, bring it to classes when required. The classroom is not wireless. The library has laptops that can be checked out.
**Flash-drive:** You must have your flash-drive with you in each class. You may want a second one for back up. Always put your name on the flash drive.

**Extra Credit:** You will be given an opportunity for appropriate extra credit points but extra credit points will not substitute for a project, test, etc. and cannot account for more than one grade advance.

**Speakers and Substitutes:** This program has many speakers and this semester, some will be out of order with the syllabus. This will happen because I will need to spend time in Salt Lake City because my husband is having a bone marrow transfer. Amanda, qualified work study students and graduates will be covering classes. You must respect them. You may email me with questions. I will be grading your papers and supervising the classes. I am very appreciative of the support from everyone.

To be an effective paralegal and a successful paralegal student:
- You MUST be precise.
- You MUST proof your work many times.
- You MUST rewrite.
- You MUST pay attention to detail.
- You MUST maintain client confidentiality.
- You MUST **NOT GIVE LEGAL ADVICE**.

Letter grades will be based on the following percentages of total possible points:

- A=90%-100%
- B=80%-89%
- C=70%-79%
- D=60%-69%
- F=59% and below

**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

These assignments are subject to change upon the instructor’s notice. Significant changes will be provided in writing. You will be given rubrics and samples for assignments.

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<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
<th>Your Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ehrlich Chapter Quizzes</td>
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<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Chapter 2</td>
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Chapter 3
Chapter 4
Chapter 5
Chapter 6
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Chapter 12
Chapter 13
Kamp Brief
Oral Briefs – See Syllabus
Oral Briefs - Constitutional Issues
Interview regarding Interrogatories
Interrogatories Assignment
Internet Sites Assignment
Outline of a Law Review from a
Family Law Journal
Internet Article Summary
Name Change Petition
Divorce Decree Assignment
Federal and Constitutional Issue Quiz
Title 14 Assignment
Test 1
Test 2
Test 3
Class Participation
Case Holdings from Textbook
Vocab Worksheet
Statute Assignment Title 20

Check Out:

- www.lawyo.com
- www.facebook.com - search “Legal Assistants of Wyoming”
- nala.org
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS CONTENT &amp; ACTIVITIES</th>
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| Wednesday January 20th | • Orientation  
• Generic Handouts  
• Syllabus  
• Survival Tips  
• CCLS  
• Title 20 | • Read Ehrlich Ch. 1  
• Read Kinnison v. Kinnison | |
| Monday January 25th & Wednesday January 27th | • Assign Syllabus & Federal Cases  
• Overview of Family Law  
• Sources of Family Law  
• Briefing Practice – Kinnison v. Kinnison Group  
• Amanda discuss LAW and Mentoring – Monday, January 25th | • Read Kamp v. Kamp  
• Read Ehrlich pgs. 437-442, 10 points  
• Quiz – Chapter 1 | • Kinnison v. Kinnison must be read.  
| Monday February 1st | • Individual Briefing Practice  
– Kamp v. Kamp, 640 P.2d 48 (Wyo. 1982) | • Read Statute Sections:  
  o 20-1-101  
  o 20-1-102  
  o 20-1-103  
  o 20-1-105  
  o 20-1-106  
  o 20-1-107  
  o 20-1-108  
  o 20-1-109  
  o 20-1-110  
  o 20-1-111  
  o 20-2-101  
  o 20-2-103 | • Kamp v. Kamp  
• Ch. 1 Quiz – Ehrlich due, 10 points from Ehrlich 437-442 |
| Wednesday February 3rd | • Ethics  
• Law Review and Internet Article Assignment  
• Name Change Assignment | • Holding of Goodridge & Lewis  
• Name Change Assignment | • Department of Family Services v. Currier, 295 P.3d 837 (Wyo. 2013).  
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| Monday February 8th & Wednesday February 10th | - Unmarried Cohabitation  
- Marriage Regulations  
- Same Sex Unions  
- CD: Home is Where the Heart Is  
- Supreme Court Cases  
- Wyoming Federal Case | - Ehrlich Ch. 2 Quiz  
- Holdings of Posner & Bedrick |  |
| Monday February 15th | No School – President’s Day |  |  |
| Wednesday February 17th | - Antenuptial/Prenuptial Contracts  
- Annulment  
- Contracts Restraining Marriage | - Review Questions |  |
| Monday February 22nd | - Review for Test | - Vocab Assignment | - Review Questions |
| Wednesday February 24th | - Test #1 | - Read Statutes:  
  o 20-2-201 - 204  
  o 20-2-301 – 315  
  o 20-2-401 – 406  
  o 20-2-106 – 116  
  o 20-3-101 – 104  
  o 20-4-140 – 197  
  o 20-5-202 – 502  
  o 20-6-101 – 222  
  o 20-7-101 – 102  
- Ehrlich Quizzes: Ch. 5 – Child Custody; Ch. 6 – Child Support | - Name Change Assignment |  |
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<tr>
<td>Monday February 29th,</td>
<td>• Child Custody</td>
<td>• Holdings:</td>
<td>• Ch. 5 &amp; Ch. 6 Quizzes due</td>
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<td>Wednesday March 3rd,</td>
<td>• Visitation</td>
<td>• Danti (only the relocation issue)</td>
<td>March 3rd</td>
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<td>Monday March 7th,</td>
<td>• Child Support</td>
<td>• In re the Marriage of Dodd</td>
<td>Madson v. Wyoming Humane Society, 169 P.3d 36 (Wyo. 1917).</td>
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<td>March 7th to 11th</td>
<td>• Speaker Child Support Calculations</td>
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<td>Tanner v. Tanner, 482 P.2d 443 (Wyo. 1971).</td>
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<td>• Grandparents’ Rights</td>
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<td>Gurney v. Gurney, 899 P.2d 52 (Wyo. 1995).</td>
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<td>In re Guardianship of CPR &amp; AR, 209 P.3d 879 (Wyo. 2009).</td>
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<td>Tafoya v. Tafoya, 2013 WY 121 (Visitation).</td>
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<td>In re DRS, NJL &amp; KDL, 261 P.3d 697 (Wyo. 2011).</td>
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<td>Drake v. McCulloh, 43 P.3d 578 (Wyo. 2002).</td>
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<td>In re DMW and ALW, 214 P.3d 996 (Wyo. 2009).</td>
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<td>March 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; – March 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>No School – Spring Break</td>
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| Monday March 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> | Complete child custody and child support | Ch. 4 Quiz  
Holdings  
- In the Matter of Blanchflower  
In re DMW and ALW, 214 P.3d 996 (Wyo. 2009).  
Wills v. Davis, 2013 WY 44.  
In the matter of the Guardianship and Conservatorship of William G. Bratton, 2014 WY 87.  
Holdings:  
- Danti (only the relocation issue)  
- In re the Marriage of Dodd |
| Monday March 28<sup>th</sup> | Separation and Divorce  
Divorce decrees  
Drafting Divorce Decrees | Divorce Decree  
Ehrlich Quizzes: Ch. 7 – Spousal Support; Ch. 8 – Division of Marital Property; Ch 9 – Jurisdiction; Ch. 10 – The Divorce Process  
Holding:  
- Turner v. Turner  
Chapter 4 Quiz  
Holding In the Matter of Blanchflower and Lawrence  
Statute Test |
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<td>Wednesday March 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>• Mediation Speaker: Jackie Brown – 262-5369, <a href="mailto:jkbwyo@yahoo.com">jkbwyo@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>• Title 14 Assignment</td>
<td>• Underkofler v. Underkofler, 834 P.2d 1140 (Wyo. 1992).</td>
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<td>Monday April 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>• Economic Consequences of Divorce</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Allen v. Anderson, 253 P.3d 182 (Wyo. 2011).</td>
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<td>Advising Week: April 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; – 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>• Triggs v. Triggs, 920 P.2d 653 (Wyo. 1996).</td>
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<td>• Holding:</td>
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<td>• Turner v. Turner</td>
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<td>• Olesberg v. Olesberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday April 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>• Test #2</td>
<td>• Ch. 7, 8, 9, 10 Quizzes</td>
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<td>Monday April 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>• Preparation for Interviewing and Interrogatory Answers</td>
<td>• Property Division Assignment</td>
<td>• Law Review and Internet Article Assignment</td>
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<td>Wednesday April 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; and Monday April 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>• Constitutional Family Law Issues</td>
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<td>• Audio Tape – Loving v. Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday April 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; and Monday April 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>• Interviewing and Interrogatory Answers</td>
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| Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> | • Adoption  
• Termination of Parental Rights  
• Legitimacy  
• Paternity                                                                 | • Ehrlich Quizzes: Ch.11 – Determining Paternity; Ch. 12 – Child Abuse and Neglect; Ch. 13 - Adoption  
• Ehrlich Quiz Ch. 3 – Domestic Violence | • Ehrlich Ch. 11, 12, & 13 Quizzes Due April 27<sup>th</sup>.  
• In re SDL, AJL, and GASL, 2012 WY 78.  
• In re Termination of Parental Rights of KAT, SAT, JGS, 2012 WY 150.  
• In the matter of the Termination of Parental Rights of AGS and AMLD, 2014 WY 143. (4/27/15)  
• GDK v. State, 92 P.3d 834 (Wyo. 2004)  
• LP v. LF, 2014 WY 152 (2015)  
• L.W. v. State of Wyoming, Department of Family Services, 226 P.3d 873 (Wyo. 2010).  
• In re Adoption of AMD, 766 P.2d 550 (Wyo. 1988).  
• In re JW and BJ, Jr., 226 P.3d 873 (Wyo. 2010).  
• In re Estate of Kirkpatrick, 77 P.3d 404 (Wyo. 2003).  
• GDK v. Department of Family Services, 92 P.3d 834 (Wyo. 2004). |
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| Monday May 2nd and Wednesday May 4th | • Reproductive Rights  
• Surrogacy  
• Sexual Harassment  
• CASA  
• Self Help Center | • Ehrlich Quiz Ch. 3 – Domestic Violence | • Interrogatories Due Wed. May 4th  
• Title 14 Assignment – May 4th  
• Property Division Assignment – May 6th  
• Ehrlich Quiz Ch. 3 Due – May 6th  
• Davis v. Davis, 842 S.W.2d 588 (Tenn. 1992).  
• Tader v. Tader, 737 P.2d 1065 (Wyo. 1987).  
• Drake v. Drake, 43 P.3d 578 (Wyo. 2002).  
• Ch. 3 Quiz Due May 6th |                                                                                          |                                                                                           |
| Monday May 9th              | • Test #3  
• Finals Week |                                                                                        |                                                                                           |

**Finals are the week of May 9th, 2016**  
**LAW seminar: April 29th – 30th, Casper, Wyoming.**  
Friday, May 13, 2016: Casper College Commencement  
For Graduates: Graduation Party – May 11th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

**Our Mock Trial will be Friday, May 6, 2016. You may receive extra credit as witnesses and jurors. If you are a juror, you must be available all day (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.).**