

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies

Legal Studies

LSTD 512

Immigration Law

Credit Hours: 3

Length of Course: 8 Weeks

Prerequisite: None

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Instructor Information

Instructor: See information provided in the in the classroom

Email: Please use internal classroom messaging system

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Course Description (Catalog)

This graduate course focuses on the procedural and substantive law surrounding immigration. Emphasis is given to legal changes enacted in the field since September 11, 2001, as well as current events. It provides students with the background, processes, and tools necessary for a working knowledge of immigration issues. Important topics such as immigrant status, citizenship, refugees, and asylum seekers will be explored. Students will analyze immigration law and policy.

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Course Scope

This course is an overview of immigration law and policy as applied in the United States. This course will provide a general overview of the various immigration laws and procedures used in the practice of immigration law. Topics include: the history and development of immigration law, adjustment of status, visas and citizenship, inadmissibility and removal, refugee and asylum law, cancellation of removal for permanent and nonpermanent residents, and alternative methods of removal. Students are provided a course textbook and detailed lesson plans that augment the course textbook. The course will provide an overview of the pertinent legal concepts within immigration legal practice and teach the student how to identify legal issues within an immigration case.

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Course Objectives

After completing this course the student will be able to:

- Describe the history and development of immigration law and policy
- Explain and discuss the sources of immigration law and identify the various agencies assigned to immigration policy, procedures, and enforcement
- Compare and identify immigrant and nonimmigrant visas, adjustment of status, and citizenship procedures
- Analyze the intricacies of admission and removal procedures under the Immigration and Nationality Act
- Understand, identify, and distinguish between various forms of relief from removal to include asylum and cancellation of removal
- Evaluate other methods of removal used by government agencies
- Explain citizenship and denaturalization requirements and procedures
- Analyze asylum and refugee law
- Apply immigration law and procedures within various vignettes presented
- Evaluate current immigration issues in the news or proposed legislation in light of existing law and policy
- Prepare a formal case brief on a selected immigration case
- Plan and develop an extensive research paper covering an aspect of immigration law and policy of interest

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Course Delivery Method

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This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examination, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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Course Resources

Required Course Textbook:

Maria Isabel Casablanca & Gloria Roa Bodin, *Immigration Law for Paralegals* (4th ed. 2015).

Required Readings: Course hand-outs and case law may also be required reading and found in the “Lessons” tab for each week’s assigned reading.

Recommended:

The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (Columbia Law Review Ass'n et. al. eds., 20th ed. 2015).

Immigration Law Handbook (LexisNexis 2016).

Web Sites:

In addition to the required course texts, the following public domain web sites are useful. Please abide by the University’s academic honesty policy when using Internet sources as well. Note web site addresses are subject to change.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigrations Services (USCIS)	http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis
9 th Circuit Immigration Outline	http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/guides/immigration_outline.php
Board of Immigration Appeals Precedent Decisions	http://www.justice.gov/eoir/vll/intdec/lib_indecitnet.html
Immigration and Nationality Act (“INA”)	http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis (go to LAWS tab and then look to the left to find the INA)
US Department of State (“DOS”) travel site	http://travel.state.gov/

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Evaluation Procedures

The grading will be based on six graded forum assignments, a case brief, a research paper, as well as an open book midterm and final examination.

1. Assignments & Forum Participation: There will be homework assignments during the course. They are selected to provide the student with hands on experience in applying the law and theories being discussed.
2. Exams: The midterm and final exams will be taken open book. The exams will be posted in the electronic classroom under "Tests and Quizzes." These examinations will cover selected sections of the textbook and assigned readings. They may consist of True/False, multiple choice, fill in the blank, and essays.
3. Grades: See Syllabus link in the classroom. Under "APUS Policies," click on "Grading Policy" for detailed information.

<u>Grade Instruments</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>	<u>% of Final Grade</u>
Research Paper Proposal	100	1%
Forum Introduction	100	1%
Forum Assignment 1	100	4.67%
Forum Assignment 2	100	4.67%
Forum Assignment 3	100	4.67%
Forum Assignment 5	100	4.67%
Forum Assignment 6	100	4.67%
Forum Assignment 7	100	4.67%
Case Brief	100	10%
Research Paper	100	20%
Midterm Exam	100	20%
Final Exam	100	20%
TOTAL	1000 Points	100%

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Course Outline

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference the University's [grading scale](#).

Course Outline

Week	Topics	Objectives	Readings	Assignments
1	Meeting with the Client Visitors for Business and Pleasure	Analyze the client review and case management system Explore the history of immigration law Review the visa for a visitor for pleasure and/or visitor for business	Text, Chapters 1-2 Week 1 Lesson	Introduction Week 1 Forum Research Paper Proposal Due
2	Temporary Visas for Working Temporary Visas for Studying	Explore the most widely used temporary work visas, i.e., H, TN, E, L and J Learn how to qualify for a visa to study full-time in the United States	Text, Chapter 3-4 Week 2 Lesson	Week 2 Forum
3	Temporary Visas for Special Occupations Visas for Victims	Review specific employment based, temporary occupations in the O, P, Q, and R categories Explore Temporary and Permanent Visas for Victims—T and U Visas	Text, Chapters 5-6 Week 3 Lesson	Week 3 Forum Case Brief Due
4	Midterm Exam	Study all course materials from Week 1-3.	Week 4 Lesson	MID-TERM EXAM covering all material

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				from Weeks 1-4.
5	<p>Family-Based Residency & Visas</p> <p>Employment-Based & Investor Immigrant Preferences</p>	<p>Explore family relationships and petitions for permanent residence</p> <p>Analyze the five preference categories based on an offer of employment or investment</p>	<p>Text, Chapters 7-8</p> <p>Week 5 Lesson</p>	<p>Week 5 Forum</p>
6	<p>Asylum</p> <p>Seeking Relief Before the Courts</p>	<p>Explore how to apply for asylum in the United States and what the determining factors are for persecution</p> <p>Evaluate the procedures for representing a respondent (alien) before the immigration court, the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) and Federal Court</p>	<p>Text, Chapter 9-10</p> <p>Week 6 Lesson</p>	<p>Week 6 Forum</p>
7	<p>Citizenship in the U.S.</p> <p>Representation before DHS</p>	<p>Analyze whether a lawful permanent resident qualifies for citizenship and what obstacles (bars) may exist</p> <p>Evaluate the necessary steps to be able to identify which cases can be reopened and reconsidered before USCIS and which cases to file an Appeal with the AAO</p>	<p>Text, Chapter 11-12</p> <p>Week 7 Lesson</p>	<p>Week 7 Forum</p> <p>Research Paper Due</p>
8	<p>Final Exam</p>	<p>Study all course materials from Week 5-8.</p>	<p>Text, Chapter 12</p> <p>Week 8 Lesson</p>	<p>FINAL EXAM covering all material from Weeks 5-8.</p>

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Policies

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Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

The central function of legal citation is to allow the reader to efficiently locate the cited source. All courses in the Legal Studies program require that any narrative essay or composition format follow the legal citation guidelines set forth in *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (Columbia Law Review Ass'n et. al. eds., 20th ed. 2015). More information can be found in the Web Resources and Course Material links in the classroom.

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

Writing must be well organized and presented in a way that clearly conveys your thoughts, using full sentences, correct spelling, and proper grammar. I prefer that you use the active voice, and ask that you avoid military jargon, slang, abbreviations, and text-speak. All written submissions should be typewritten in single-spaced Times New Roman 12 point font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor). Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side margins should be one inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations and online submission variances.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Deductions:

Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

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- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especiallysatire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

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Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. It provides access to subscription article databases, periodicals, books, video and more to support your research and studies. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources like tutoring services and Turnitin.com, which the University has contracted to boost your academic success.

- **Library Course Guides:** APUS librarians have created guides for each degree program and many courses. Each guide compiles the most relevant research tools (subscription article databases, journals and ebooks), as well as authoritative websites, multimedia and more. Explore the guides at <http://apus.campusguides.com/>.
- **Ask a Librarian:** Librarians are on duty approximately 18 hours per day, 365 days per year. At <http://apus.libanswers.com/>, you can search for answers to library questions, or use the “[Ask](#)” button to submit a question of your own.
- **Speak with a Librarian:** Librarians are now available on Adobe Connect, so that you may speak live and ask questions. You can speak with a Librarian by logging in here: <https://apus.adobeconnect.com/speakwithalibrarian>
- **Electronic Books and Journals:** You can use the online library to access over 150,000 ebooks and 40,000 journals, which are licensed for use by APUS students and faculty only. Visit the [Licensed Library Databases](#) guide to explore search options.
- **Research and Writing Help:** Librarians have created tutorials for college-level research and writing. [Click here to explore them all.](#)
- **Online Tutoring:** AMU and APU students are eligible for up to 10 free hours of online tutoring provided by APUS. Some military students are eligible for additional hours through their Armed Forces education offices. For more information, visit <http://apus.campusguides.com/tutor>.
- **Interlibrary Loan and other services:** when you need a book or article not held in the APUS Online Library, you may request it via interlibrary loan (ILL). [Read more about ILL and other library services.](#)

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Turnitin.com

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Turnitin is provided through the Assignment Link in the classroom.

Selected Bibliography

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The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (Columbia Law Review Ass'n et. al. eds., 20th ed. 2015).

Immigration Law Handbook (LexisNexis 2016).

Course handouts in the Lesson Plans, statutes, and specific immigration decisions will also be required reading.

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