

SYLLABUS

CLASS: WILLS, TRUSTS AND ESTATES, (PLS 315), Lincoln Campus

INSTRUCTOR: Edward "Ed" Hoffman

Email: ed@cadslaw.com

Wk Phone: (402) 477-2233

TEXT: WILLS, TRUSTS AND ESTATE ADMINISTRATION, Second Edition
(Pearson/Prentice Hall), Suzan Herskowitz

This is an introductory Estate law course which will use practical examples to provide an overview of wills, trusts and estate administration work. The class is designed to be flexible but will attempt to capture the complexities of this area of law. I will attempt to clarify concepts through the use of illustrations, charts, tables and appellate opinions. The text I have chosen is designed for paralegal students as well as those desiring to acquire additional knowledge in this area.

Your grade will be based on attendance and participation in class activities, as well as satisfactory completion of exams. Active class participation is vital to the overall learning process and your successful completion of the course. Extra credit will be given to students that bring in articles which discuss timely legal issues.

While attendance only carries a 20% weight for the final grade, it is important that students remember that we are only meeting six times during the term. For that reason, the following applies to attendance:

ATTENDANCE:

Perfect Attendance: A
One Excused Absence^{**}: A
Two Excused Absences: B
Three Absences: C
Four Absences: D
Five or more Absences: F

*** Students may have one excused absence without it affecting the attendance grade if the student emails in the absence prior to class time.*

Classes will be held on the following dates for the term:

DATE	ASSIGNMENT
October 18	Chapters 1, 2 (Introduction and Prop Law) and 3 (Testate or Intestate, Wills)
October 25	Chapters 4 (Testate or Intestate, Wills), 5 and 6 (Will Preparation, Advanced Directives)
November 8	Chapters 7 and 8 (Trusts)
November 15	Chapters 9 and 10 (The PR and Estate Administration)
November 22	HAPPY THANKSGIVING! (Class will not be held)

November 29	Chapters 11 and 12 (Taxes and Probate)
December 6	Projects due (<u>Class will not be held tonight</u>)
December 13	Final Exam

Both of the exams will be comprised of a mix of True/False, Multiple Choice, and Short Answer Essay. You will be responsible for anything assigned for class reading and class discussions. Each student may choose to do an optional project, which can be used to raise an exam grade by a full letter grade. Said optional project will be due no later than December 6, 2007. Potential project topics will be discussed with students and all project topics must be approved prior to the student beginning work.