J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: LGL 200

Credits: 1

Course Title: Ethics for the Paralegal

Course Description: Examines general principles of ethical conduct applicable to paralegals. Includes the application of rules of ethics to the practicing paralegal. Lecture 1 hour per week.

General Course Purpose: Serves as a course requirement for the Paralegal Studies AAS degree. Familiarizes students with the Rules of Professional Conduct and their application to the paralegal.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites: None

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:
a. Apply the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct to the role and function of the paralegal; and
b. Identify unethical conduct in a given situation.

Major Topics to Be Included:
a. Integrity and competence
b. Available legal services
c. Unauthorized practice
d. Preserving confidences and secrets
e. Representing adverse interests
f. Competence and professional negligence
g. Zealous representation within the bounds of the law
h. Working to improve the legal system
i. Avoiding the appearance of impropriety

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