

EMPIRE COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

CLASS SYLLABUS ELDER LAW CLINIC FALL SEMESTER 2009

COURSE NUMBER: C515

INSTRUCTOR: Barry L. Adams;

DAY/TIME: Thursday, 3:45 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
1st class will be held at Empire College
2nd-15th class will be held at Salvation Army/Silvercrest Retirement
Center 1050 3rd Street, Santa Rosa, 95404

HOURS/UNITS: 30 hours—2 units

TEXT: *Elder Law in a Nutshell*, Frolik West. 4th Edition.
ISBN# 9780314167774

GRADING: Pass/Fail.

Student grades are based on participation in the clinic, which includes regular attendance, completion of assignments, client work and/or research in a timely manner, and acting in a professional manner.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: To provide the student with real life client counseling opportunities with elderly persons. This clinic allows students to interact with clients, provide advice and follow up and direct clients to legal and non-legal resources. The students will draft legal documents and correspondence under supervision of a practicing attorney. Students will also prepare and present a paper/pamphlet on a topic of their choice. (Topic to be approved by instructor). The paper will be written about a legal topic of interest to elderly persons and will be written for the layperson. The presentation will be made to the class and may also be to a group of senior citizens. The paper will be in lieu of a final. The clinic will provide the public with free legal advice.

ATTENDANCE: Regular and punctual attendance is essential for the successful completion of law school. Students should plan to attend every class. Students must attend a minimum of 80% (24 hours — 11 of 14 classes) of the class sessions during each semester. Roll will be taken at each class. If you are more than ten minutes late to class you will be marked absent. In addition, students must complete the week's work on time, or they will be marked absent.

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CLASS SCHEDULE:

- WEEK 1 and 2** Introduction to basic estate planning, overview of basic elder law issues, including Medi-Cal, conservatorships, probate, administration of trusts, elder abuse. Instruction in interviewing and providing legal advice to elderly persons. Read first 4 chapters of book prior to first class.
- WEEK 3:** Client counseling begins. Students must attend first and second session and complete required reading to begin client counseling.
- WEEK 4
AND BEYOND:** Remainder of classes consists of client counseling and advice. The beginning of class will be a forum for student questions regarding legal advice to Professor and advisory board students. Students will meet with clients off campus at Silvercrest Retirement Home, 1050 3rd Street, Santa Rosa. Students may be asked to make home visits to shut-in clients.