LEG 400 – Family Law

Course Description

This course reviews substantive and procedural law relative to divorce, adoption, guardianship, custody, and other family law matters within the jurisdiction of the Probate Court. It covers the legal status of children, legal rights of women, illegitimacy and paternity proceedings, as well as divorce procedures and child custody and support issues. The course will simulate factual situations using legal concepts to enhance analytic skills.

Instructional Materials


Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the evolution of the laws regulating marriage and premarital agreements.
2. Explain the legal rights of women surrounding domestic violence.
3. Explain the various actions involved in the divorce process (complaint, discovery, relief, resolution, hearing, trial, appeal)
4. Explain the legal framework of child custody proceedings (parent and non-parent custodial arrangements, visitation rights, etc.)
5. Explain the administrative framework for child and spousal support, including guidelines, enforcement, duration, and tax implications.
6. Describe the approaches to marital property division, including classification, valuation, distribution, and tax implications.
7. Explain the legal framework for paternity issues.
8. Explain the legal framework for adoption.
9. Use technology and information resources to research issues in family law.
10. Write clearly and concisely about family law using correct grammar and mechanics.