

Pellissippi State Community College  
Master Syllabus

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**CONTRACTS & UCC  
LAW 2300**

Class Hours: 3.0  
Laboratory Hours: 0.0  
Credit Hours: 3.0  
Date Revised: Fall 2011

Instructor:  
Office:  
Phone:  
E-mail:

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**Catalog Course Description:**

Fundamental principles concerning the formation, performance, and enforcement of personal and commercial contracts; sales and secured transactions under the Uniform Commercial Code; and overview of federal and state law regulating credit and collection procedures.

**Entry-level Standards:**

College-level competencies in logic, reading, and English are required.

**Prerequisites:** LAW 1000 for PARS Majors

**Textbooks and Other Supplies:**

Helewitz, Jeffrey A., *Basic Contract Law for Paralegals, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.* (Aspen Publishers, 2010), ISBN # 978-0-7355-8726-7

**I. WEEK/ UNIT/ TOPIC BASIS:**

WEEK	UNIT	TOPIC
1	Chapter 1	Overview of Contracts (1.0 hour); Basic Contract Requirements (1.0 hour); Classification of Contracts (1.0 hour)
2	Chapter 2	Offer: Definition (1.0 hour); Essential Terms of Offer (1.0 hour); Case Analysis (1.0 hour)
3	Chapter 3	Acceptance: Definition (1.0 hour); Method of Acceptance and Termination of the Ability to accept (1.0 hour); Case Analysis (1.0 hour)
4	Chapter 4	Consideration: Definition (1.0 hour); Sufficiency and Promissory Estoppel (1.0 hour); Special Agreements (accord and satisfaction, charitable subscription, debtor's promises, guarantees, formal contracts) (1.0 hour)
5	Chapter 5	Legality of Subject Matter (1.0 hour); Contractual Capacity (1.0 hour); Case Analysis (1.0 hour)
6	Chapter 6	Intent: fraud and misrepresentation, duress, mistake (2.0 hours); Case Analysis (1.0 hour)
7	Chapter 7	Statute of Frauds (1.0 hour); Covenants and Conditions (1.0 hour); Rules of Construction and Parol Evidence Rule (1.0 hour)
8-9	Chapter 8	The Sales Contract: Formation and Terms under the UCC (2.0 hours); Secured Transactions (1.0 hour)
10	Chapter 9, Handout	Collections Practice (2.0 hours); Third Party Contracts (.50 hour); Assignment and Delegation (.50 hours)
11	Chapter 10	Discharge of Obligations: excuse, performance, breach, agreement, impossibility, supervening illegality, death or destruction, frustration of purpose (3.0 hours)
12	Chapter 11	Remedies: Legal (damages) (1.0 hours); Equitable (1.0 hour); Waiver and Arbitration (1.0 hour)
13-14	Chapter 12	Review of Contracts (3.0 hours); Drafting a Contract (3.0 hours)
15	→	Final Examination

## **II. COURSE GOALS:**

The course will:

- A. Expand student understanding of legal ethics. I, III, IV
- B. Introduce the student to legal principles governing contract formation and enforcement. I, II, III, IV, V
- C. Increase the capacity of students to understand the basic law of commercial paper and secured transactions. I, II, III, IV, V
- D. Enable students to collect relevant data and draft initial documents to assist the attorney in commercial cases. I, II, III, IV, V
- E. Introduce the student to the Uniform Commercial Code. I,II,III,IV,V
- F. Introduce the student to the Statutes of Fraud. I,II,III,IV,V
- G. Enhance student understanding of legal terminology. I, II, III, IV

## **III. EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a complete and thorough understanding of legal ethics. (A)
2. Identify the elements of a contract. (B,E,G)
3. Demonstrate understanding of contracts clauses by drafting various clauses. (B,C,D,E,G)
4. Identify UCC forms. (D,E,F)
5. Identify and compute damages which may be recovered for breach of contract. (A,D,F)
6. Determine when a contract must be in writing to be enforceable. (F)
7. Recognize when purchase money security interest has been created by purchase on credit. (C,E)
8. Determine the priority of claims to a debtor's collateral which is subject to perfected or unperfected security interests. (B,C,D)
9. Recognize and understand the creation and enforcement of sales warranties. (C,D,E)

## **IV. EVALUATION:**

### **A. Testing procedures:**

Students are evaluated primarily on the basis of tests. The instructor's policies on exams, quizzes, homework, attendance, and grades will be provided on a supplement to the course syllabus.

### **B. Laboratory Expectations: N/A**

### **C. Field Work:**

Students will complete several out-of-class skills projects, which may include:

- Legal writing exercises
- Drafting initial drafts of contracts clauses
- Completing UCC forms
- Research to determine Tennessee's Uniform Commercial Code
- Research to determine Tennessee's statutes of frauds

### **D. Other Evaluation Methods:**

1. Class participation, group work, and homework will also comprise the final grade for the course. The instructor will provide full details the first week of class via a syllabus supplement.
2. All tests and papers will be graded for spelling and English usage in addition to content and format.
3. Any student encountering academic difficulty during the term is strongly encouraged to meet with the instructor to discuss options and solutions.

**E. Grading Scale:**

A	93-100
B+	88- 92
B	83- 87
C+	78- 82
C	73- 77
D	65- 72
F	64 and below

**V. Policies:**

**A. Attendance Policy:**

Pellissippi State Community College expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. (*Pellissippi State Online Catalog*)

Maintaining continuous attendance in your classes is very important. If you are considering dropping or withdrawing from a course, please check with the Financial Aid Office before doing so. Dropping or withdrawing from a class can adversely affect your financial aid and/or lottery eligibility.

**B. Academic Dishonesty:**

Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. A student guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, is immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through the regular Pellissippi State procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an F or a zero for the exercise or examination or to assign an F in the course. (*Pellissippi State Online Catalog*)

**C. Accommodation for Disabilities:**

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at [www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/](http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/).

**D. Extended College Closure:**

Pellissippi State Community College is committed to the educational process and student learning. In the event of a prolonged college closure (of at least a week), the educational process will continue through the use of the college's on-line learning environment (Desire2Learn). The instructor will post instructions, specific assignments, due dates, etc. in Desire2Learn (D2L). It is the student's responsibility to login to D2L and check posted instructions and assignments.