

Course: LIB 734    Division: 90    Also Listed As:

Term Effective: 201070, INACTIVE COURSE

Short Title: LEGAL RESOURCES

Full Title: Legal Resources for Older Adults

<u>Contact Hours/Week</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Total Contact Hours</u>
Lecture: 3	0	17.34	Lecture: 52.02
Lab: 0			Lab: 0
Other: 0			Other: 0
Total: 3			Total: 52.02

Credit Status: N - Non Credit

Grading Modes: N - Non Credit

Repeatability: Repeatability: R - Course may be repeated  
 Maximum of 99 times, 100 credit hours

Schedule Types: 02 - Lecture and/or discussion  
 72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

**Course Description:**

Older Americans face a gamut of legal issues in planning their future and must be aware of their rights in order to stay in charge of their lives. Finding the way through the maze of legal resources is a learned process. This course touches on basic legal issues including elder law, consumer and small claims, wills and estate planning, power of attorney and health care directives.  
 ADVISORY: LIB 730, Internet Literacy for Older Adults.

## ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Associate Degree:

CSU GE:

IGETC:

CSU TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

UC TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

## PREREQUISITES:

## COREQUISITES:

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will differentiate primary and secondary sources of law - federal, state and local.

ILO: 3,2,7,6

Measure: Class discussions, & participation.

2. Students will distinguish basic issues related to protection of their independence and finances.

ILO: 3,7,2,1,6

Measure: Class assignments, practices & participation.

3. Students will interpret how the law allows them to authorize another person the right and authority to act on their behalf with powers of attorney.

ILO: 3.7,2,1,6

Measure: Class participation & assignments/quizzes.

4. Students will recognize how tax laws allow them to stay in charge of their future, and decide who will inherit their property with a will or living trust.

ILO: 3.7,2,1,6

Measure: Class participation & assignments/quizzes.

5. Students will locate free reliable information, in print and online, from the State Bar, Office of Attorney, and other legal programs.

ILO: 3.7,2,1,6

Measure: Class participation & small group discussions.

6. Students will identify, locate and access free legal help available.

ILO: 3.7,2,1,6

Measure: Class participation & small group discussions.

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## TOPICS AND SCOPE:

Inactive Course: 11/22/2010

3 Hours

Introduction and overview. A) Discuss with practical examples primary vs. secondary sources of law, California law, Federal law vs.

California law vs. Municipal laws. B) Small Claims Court.

Examples of class activities: Secondary sources: Nolo.com, and Cornell Legal Information Institute. CA local codes:

[www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/calcodes.html](http://www.igs.berkeley.edu/library/calcodes.html). Small claims basics:

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/smallclaims/> and the State Bar's

pamphlet "How do I use the small claims court?"

<http://calbar.ca.gov/calbar/pdfs/publications/Pamphlets-Small-Claims->

2006.pdf

Student Performance Objectives: Students will differentiate issues at the federal, state or local level, and where to find a specific piece of law or local ordinance. They will also learn what kind of disputes to take to small claims court.

Assignment: Download or obtain a print copy for personal use of "Seniors & the law"

<http://www.calbar.ca.gov/calbar/pdfs/publications/Seniors-and-the-Law.pdf>.

3 Hours

Discuss general areas of legal concerns, e.g. consumer protection, elder abuse and elder law (estate planning, guardianship issues), etc..

Examine definitions, terminology and substantive evaluation of resources.

Examples of class activities: Survey class on topic(s) of special interests. Compare resources on elder rights and issues. Navigate through reliable resources , e.g. Administration on Aging, AARP, and Nolo Press.

Student Performance Objectives: Students will understand the vocabulary and terminology, where to find reliable information, recognize advertisements and commercial services, and more importantly the basic issues and decisions regarding their independence, finances and protection.

3 Hours

Planning ahead - wills and estate planning. A) Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. B) A will vs. a trust. C) Probate. D) Estate related taxes, including the gift tax, transfer tax and inheritance tax. E) "Trust mill" scams - a living trust is not for everyone.

Examples of class activities:

<http://usgovinfo.about.com/library/weekly/aa.htm>

Review key codes and abbreviations, e.g. Probate Code, Civic Code.

Review State Bar's consumer pamphlets "Do I need a will?" and "Do I need estate planning?"

[http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar\\_generic.jsp?cid=10581&id=2189](http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=10581&id=2189)

[http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar\\_generic.jsp?cid=10581&id=2206](http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=10581&id=2206)

Student Performance Objectives: Students will understand how tax laws allow them to stay in charge of their future affairs, to decide who will inherit their property and to have their wishes carried out later.

Assignment: Read and/or download or obtain a copy of "Do I need a will?" and "Do I need estate planning?" Read chapter on Avoiding Consumer Scams in "Seniors & the law."

3 Hours

Planning ahead - health care directives and powers of attorney. A) Health care directives. B) A power of attorney vs. a durable power of attorney. C) Health care provisions and living will.

Examples of class activities: Define "attorney-in fact", "agent" and other relevant terms. Revoking a power of attorney. Review advance health care directive checklist from the CA Office of Attorney General: [http://www.ag.ca.gov/consumers/general/adv\\_hc\\_dir.htm](http://www.ag.ca.gov/consumers/general/adv_hc_dir.htm).

Student Performance Objectives: Students will learn how the law allows them to prepare written instructions to appoint someone to make critical medical care decisions for them when necessary, and to consider their options early to ensure the quality of life.

3 Hours

Planning ahead - retirement plans and more. A) Retirement plans, e.g.

Roth IRA. B) Find and complete legal and tax forms. C) Income tax planning, e.g. property tax and rent rebates. D) Finding attorneys.

Examples: Use <Tab> key

to complete forms. CA State Bar pamphlet "How can I find and hire the right lawyer?"

[http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar\\_generic.jsp?cid=10581&id=2165#lawer1](http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=10581&id=2165#lawer1)

Student Performance Objectives: Students have the basic information on retirement plans, forms and on finding and hiring a lawyer.

3 Hours

More on topic(s) of special interests from week 2. Review and summarize. Shortcuts, tips, and common mistakes.

Examples: Senior Legal Hotline <http://www.seniorlegalhotline.org/> for free legal advice for 60+. Class survey.

Student Performance Objectives: Students will understand that elder law underscores planning ahead and with "an ounce of prevention," they can be sure that their future, financial or otherwise, is in order. They will also know where to get extra help.

#### METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lectures and discussions on key concepts . Students will be assessed through class discussion and exercises.

#### METHODS OF EVALUATION:

#### REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

#### SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N

Classification: L

Noncredit Category: H

Cooperative Education:

Program Status: 2 Stand-alone

Special Class Status: N

CAN:

CAN Sequence:

CSU Crosswalk Course Department:

CSU Crosswalk Course Number:

Prior to College Level: Y

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: E

Maximum Hours:

Minimum Hours:

Course Control Number: CCC000438476

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 160100