

## Course Outcomes Guide

**Directions:** Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

**Course/Program Title:** PLS-104 Principles of Litigation

**Date:** Fall 2009

**Course/Program Team:** Loretta Thornhill and William P. Young, Jr.

### **Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate knowledge of terms and facts of this subject  
(These include knowledge of interviewing and investigative techniques, pleadings practice, discovery techniques, pretrial preparation, and court proceedings. Emphasis is given to the paralegal's role in assisting the attorney in the different stages of the process.)
2. Apply basic knowledge to new situations
3. Solve problems
4. Communicate solutions
5. Demonstrate professional and ethical behavior

**Assessment** (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

Students demonstrate achievement of the outcomes through quizzes and exams. In addition, the outcomes are assessed through the production of homework assignments. Outcomes are also assessed through class discussions and class projects.

**Validation** (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

To be determined

**Results** (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

Learning outcomes assessments indicate that students are weak in writing skills.

Also, assessments indicate that students are not prepared for the workplace through a lack of professional attitudes and behaviors.

**Follow-up** (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

It has been recommended by the Paralegal Studies Advisory Committee that we re-instate ENG 101 as a pre-requisite or concurrent registration. In addition, more practice writing assignments will be given. Also, all instructors in all Paralegal courses should incorporate

discussions and exercises to focus on the need to dress professionally, demonstrate good manners, and demonstrate self-motivation and initiative. Finally, the speaker series should be continued to expose our students to working professionals to focus on expectations and realities in the legal field.

**Budget Justification** (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)