



11/15/2023

Legal Studies BA and Paralegal Studies AAS/PBCT

College of Health

Anchorage KOD KPC MSC PWSC

Assoc. Prof. H. Ryan Fortson, Legal Studies Program Coordinator, hrfortson@alaska.edu

*Example: 1. Communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and formats Exceeded faculty expectations; 2. Adopt critical perspectives for understanding the forces of globalization and diversity Met faculty expectations.*

The Legal Studies program evaluated two measures within the same PSLO. This PSLO applies to all three degree programs.

F.1. Prepare legal investigation and discovery plans and draft legal pleadings that conform to the rules of civil procedure and incorporate standard techniques and resources for managing a case in litigation: Investigative Plan Identification of Information Resources -- Met faculty expectations

F.2. Prepare legal investigation and discovery plans and draft legal pleadings that conform to the rules

*(1000 words or less)*

Pursuant to our Assessment Plan, PSLOs are evaluated in Spring using student work that incorporates the PSLOs selected by the faculty in the Fall for evaluation. Legal Studies has 9 PSLOs (with 26 total measures). All student work is taken from the same course (though potentially from different

semesters), with the names removed for evaluation purposes. The program cycles through PSLOs and related measures from year to year. Assessment of some PSLOs is split between multiple years because of the number of measures within each respective PSLO.

Typically, work from later in the standard course sequence is chosen. The samples are then evaluated on the same scale (0-2) by both faculty and members of the Legal Studies Program Advisory Committee (LSPAC), an external advisory board composed of attorneys, paralegals, and court administrators from the local legal community. A rubric is provided for each PSLO measure with criteria for exceeds expectations, meets expectations, and does not meet expectations. Each sample is scored by each of the four Legal Studies faculty and by four LSPAC members. This provides comparisons between faculty standards and those of the local legal community. Results are shared and discussed with both the faculty and the LSPAC in the Fall semester meeting.

*(1000 words or less)*

A total of 13 student artifacts from the LEGL A377 (Evidence, Investigation and Discovery) were evaluated. The number of artifacts chosen was based on the number of available LSPAC members and comprised 60% of the total number of students (22) from the academic year. The artifacts

Yes

---

---

*(200 words or less)*

I appreciate that faculty are working to keep the curriculum current with national trends in legal education and practice. For example, as advances in technology impact the practice of law, faculty are updating the curriculum so that students are still acquiring the technical skills and specialized knowledge that will enable them to build a career working in legal service settings. To keep the curriculum current, the faculty maintain a strong connection to the legal profession and they regularly update the curriculum and assessment process. Overall, the faculty are demonstrating a strong commitment to academic assessment and student success.

*(200 words or less)*

Public Craig, MD