

Arapahoe Community College  
Competency Based Syllabus

<b>Course Number Identifier: PAR 118</b>		<b>Course Title: Contracts</b>			<b>Credits: 3</b>
<b>Hours:</b> 45	<b>Lecture/Discussion:</b> 45	<b>Occupational Lab:</b>	<b>Academic Lab:</b>	<b>Coop/Intern/Clinical:</b>	
<b>Instructor: Andrew J. Contiguglia</b>			<b>Instructor's Contact Information: <a href="mailto:ajc@ajcpc.com">ajc@ajcpc.com</a></b> 44 Cook Street, Suite 100 Denver CO 80206 303-780-7333 Office; 303-905-0156 Cell		
<b>Course Description:</b>  The course will explore the basic principles of contract law.					
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b> None.					
<b>Corequisite(s):</b> None.					
<b>Textbook(s), Title, Author, Publisher and ISBN Number:</b>  Contract Law for Paralegals by Melinda R. Thomas (ISBN# 0-314-20180-7)					
<b>Required Materials:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Class Text:</b></li> <li><b>The Contiguglia.com Blog.</b> All of the pages and posts on this blog are required reading for the semester, and I reserve the right to create exam questions directly from the blog postings. You should review it, at the very least, the evening before each class.</li> </ol>					

Effective Starting Date: 1/2008

Semester: Spring

Year : 2008

Arapahoe Community College provides accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. To request accommodation, please contact Disability Services in M2750 or call 303-797-5937.

Students who find that they are unable to continue a class should complete a Withdrawal form in the Admissions and Records office. All students are encouraged to read the academic requirements in the College Catalog.

Division: Business and Professional Services Division Room : A2000 Phone: 303 797-5873

After successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

NO.	COMPETENCY	COMP CODE	EVAL CODE
1.00	Define a contract.	G	W
2.00	Identify the elements necessary for formation of a valid contract.	S	W
2.10	Define capacity.	S	W
2.20	Demonstrate understanding of offer and acceptance in formation of contract.	S	W
3.00	Define and apply consideration in contract law.	S	W
3.10	Identify situations where promissory estoppel applies.	S	W
4.00	Distinguish between unilateral and bilateral contracts.	S	W
5.00	Describe unconscionability.	S	W
6.00	Identify elements of invalidity in contract, including contracts violating public policy.	S	W
7.00	Define and apply the concept of conditions to contract law.	S	W
8.00	Demonstrate understanding of the statute of frauds and its applicability in Colorado.	S	W
9.00	Define third party beneficiaries and distinguish among categories of third party beneficiaries. and define and apply concepts of assignment and delegation.	S	W
10.00	Discuss breach of contract, and identify remedies and damages available for breach.	S	W
11.00	Demonstrate an ability to analyze contract provisions.	S	W
12.00	Draft contractual provisions.	S	W

TIME

**Competency Code:**

B = Basic Skill

G = General Occupational Skill

S = Specific Occupational Skill

**Evaluation Code:**

A = Authentic

W = Written

O = Oral

PF = Portfolio

**Make-up Policy:**

No examinations may be made up.

**Examination Retake Policy:**

No examinations may be retaken.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is required and will be taken into consideration as part of the student's final grade. Students are responsible for materials covered in a missed class lecture.

Instructor's Name: Contiguglia, Andrew

Instructor's Phone: 303-905-0156

Instructor's Office Hours: By Appointment

### Grading in this course will be as follows:

**Your three exams will be worth 60% of your grade. A final project will be worth 20% of your grade.**

The exams will be lengthy multiple choice exams. There will be approximately 50 questions each, but I may make it longer if the progress of the class lends itself to more questions. It will be designed to be completed in two hours, but I will confess that in the past, my exams have taken longer than I anticipated.

The exams will be, for the most part, **limited materials access which means the following items will not be allowed under any circumstances:**

1. Commercial Outlines
2. Notes or outlines that are not your own
3. Electronic Communications Devices, palm pilots, cell phones, or anything of that type.

### **Participation**

**Your Class Participation grade and Blog Participation grade will combine to equal 20% of your overall grade** in this course. I think that basing your entire grade on three exams is mighty unfair, and want to give you an opportunity to shine elsewhere. This page should make it clear what you need to get a good class participation grade.

### **Overall Participation**

1. **Overall Participation will generally be 10% class and 10% blog.** Exceptional participation in either department can make up for some a deficiency in the other. So, if you are a "quiet person," you may want to hit the blog pretty effectively.
2. Nevertheless, if you never participate in class, but you have an A++ blog history, the best you will do is 75% overall for Participation (and vice versa). You are training to be paralegals. I expect you to be able to be able to *both speak and write* effectively.

### **Class Participation**

1. How often you participate in class. This includes completing homework assignments.
2. The quality of your participation – when you participated.
3. The degree of collegiality and respect shown to your colleagues during participation.
4. Class participation can help you AND hurt you. If you are going to participate, you don't need to be right all the time, nor even often. However, participation that is disrespectful to the class, participation that shows you have not prepared, and unhelpful participation will not affect your class participation grade in a positive manner. I am looking for professionalism and insightfulness in your participation. Gunners (in the pejorative sense) will not find their class participation grade to be to their liking, but neither will the silent.

### **Blog Participation**

1. Comments of 500 words or less on this blog that are helpful to the class **will be worth 10% of your grade.**
2. Cramming comments at the end of the semester will not be helpful to your grade, so keep up with it on a regular basis.
3. I do expect to see at least 5 well thought out comments, with links to other articles, posted over the course of the semester by each of you. However, 5 is the minimum. Less than that will not be helpful to your class participation grade, but sheer volume of comments will not get you a good grade either.
4. You must sign each comment with your first and last name. If you prefer to use another identifier, like a screen name, you may discuss with me.
5. Spelling and grammar counts.

Course Calendar

Course: PAR 118  
 Instructor: Contiguglia  
 Office Hours:  
 E-mail: ajc@ajcpc.com

Week	Text	Assignments
1 1/16/08	Chapter 1	<i>Introduction to course</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 2.</b> Be prepared to discuss <u>Lucy v. Zehmer</u> and related cases.
2 1/23/08	Chapter 2	<i>The Offer, learn briefing techniques</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 3.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss.
3 1/30/08	Chapter 3	<i>Acceptance</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 4.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss
4 2/6/08	Chapter 4	<i>Consideration</i> <b>Homework: Prepare for First Exam</b>
5 2/13/08		<i>Exam #1 Covering Chapters 1-4</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 5.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss.
6 2/20/08	Chapter 5	<i>Term Interpretation</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 6.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss. <b>NOTE: I will be out of town. You will have a substitute... be nice!</b>
7 2/27/08		<b>NO CLASS: I am in LA taking the California Bar Exam. YUK!</b>
8 3/5/08	Chapter 6	<i>Performance and Breach</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 7.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss.
9 3/12/08		<b>SPRING BREAK NO CLASS (YAY YAY YAY!!!)</b>
10 3/19/08	Chapter 7	<i>Excuse and Discharge</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 8 and 9.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss.

11 3/26/08	Chapters 8 & 9	<i>Defenses to Formation 1 &amp; 2</i> <b>Homework: Prepare for Second Exam</b>
12 4/2/08		<i>Second Exam covering Chapters 5 - 9</i> <b>Homework: Chapter 10.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss.
13 4/9/08	Chapter 10	<i>Statute of Frauds</i> Homework: <b>Chapter 11.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss. Hand Out Project 1 (Will be available on blog)
14 4/16/08	Chapter 11	<i>Remedies</i> Homework: <b>Chapter 12 &amp; 13.</b> Read all cases and be prepared to discuss.
15 4/23/08	Chapters 12 & 13	<i>Assignment, Delegation and 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Beneficiaries</i> <b>Homework: Prepare for Third Exam</b>
16 4/30/08	Final Exam	<i>Third Exam covering Chapters 10 - 13; Project 1 Due</i>