Course Description

Examines general principles of ethical conduct applicable to legal assistants. Includes the application of rules of ethics to the practicing legal assistant. Lecture one hour per week.

General Course Purpose

To familiarize the students with the Rules of Professional Conduct and their application to the paralegal.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Understand the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct
- Identify ethical conduct in a given situation

Major Topics to be Included

- Integrity and competence
- Available legal services
- Unauthorized practice
- Preserving confidences and secrets
- Representing adverse interests
- Competence and professional negligence
- Zealous representation within the bounds of the law
- Work to improve the legal system
- Avoid the appearance of impropriety