

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** LGL 117

**Credits:** 3

**Course Title:** Family Law

**Course Description:** Studies elements of a valid marriage, grounds for divorce and annulment, separation, defenses, custody, support, adoptions, and applicable tax consequences. Includes property settlement agreements, pre- and ante-nuptial agreements, pleadings, and rules of procedure. May include specific federal and Virginia consumer laws. Lecture 3 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:** To acquaint the student with the laws concerning domestic relations with emphasis on drafting of documents. Serves as a requirement for the Paralegal Studies AAS degree.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:**

None

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Apply Virginia's family laws to given situations;
- b. Prepare documents for the different types of divorces and annulment;
- c. File and obtain various court decrees; and
- d. Provide information on specific consumer laws.

**Major Topics to Be Included:**

- a. Marriage in Virginia
- b. Annulment
- c. Divorce from bed and board
- d. Divorce from bond of matrimony
- e. Procedure and process of divorce or annulment
- f. Child custody and support
- g. Spousal support/equitable distribution
- h. Adoption
- i. Specific consumer statutes

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** June 2, 2016