I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to expose students to the major ethical problems they may face as part of a legal team. The focus of the course is the ABA Model Code and Model Rules of Professional Conduct. The course also addresses the role of non-lawyers in the delivery of legal services and the various professional codes of ethics which provide guidance to non-lawyers. Emphasis will be placed on related codes of civility, the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine, proper handling of legal fees and client property, as well as the disciplinary process.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

GOAL A: Prepare documents necessary for the representation of clients in a legal matter

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to:
A-1 Identify the parts of an office memo
A-2 Apply the office memo format to present findings
A-3 Apply proper English grammar and writing conventions in an office memo
A-4 Draft a content appropriate, grammatically correct, and professionally formatted office memo which analyzes a fictional work, identifies ethical violations, and applies the appropriate Model Rule

GOAL B: Perform factual and legal research

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to:
B-1 Locate the ABA Model Code and Model Rules of Professional Conduct
B-2 Locate the Delaware Lawyers’ Rules of Professional Conduct
B-3 Locate opinions of the Delaware Office of Disciplinary Counsel
B-4 Locate other forms of regulation which may be applicable to those working in the legal field
GOAL C: Perform all delegated functions in conformity with the legal and ethical principles regulating the legal services industry

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to:
C-1 Define legal ethics
C-2 Review the Model Rules and understand the broad categories of standards for professional conduct
C-3 Interpret specific rules of professional conduct related to: confidentiality, attorney-client privilege, conflicts of interest, bill and fee sharing/splitting, zealous representation, advertising and solicitation, and the unauthorized practice of law
C-4 Analyze a hypothetical situation and identify ethical challenges
C-5 Identify the relevant Model Rule for a specific ethical issue
C-6 Evaluate a hypothetical scenario and recommend an ethical course of action

GOAL D: Organize and maintain printed and electronic information related to multiple ongoing interests through effective prioritization and time management

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to:
D-1 Describe the application of specific rules of professional conduct related to diligence and communication in the context of prioritization and time management

GOAL E: Interact professionally and cooperatively with a service orientation toward co-workers, clients, and vendors.

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to:
E-1 Differentiate between personal and professional ethics
E-2 Describe the boundaries of permissible conduct and the consequences of engaging in the unauthorized practice of law