Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
PLAW 235 Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A study of the basic devices in gratuitous transfers, including the will and trust; selected problems in class gifts, and will and trust substitutes; and social restrictions upon the power of testation, the formation of property interests, and the trust device.

RATIONALE
The purpose of this class is to introduce the student to the law governing wills, trusts, and estates administration. Paralegal professionals often play an important role in drafting wills, trusts, and related documents in the probate and estate administration process. Therefore, this course is designed to expose the student to the legal issues encountered in this field of law and the related documents used by legal professionals to meet the needs of clients.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Describe the benefits of and need for a will.
B. Explain the process related to and documents required for the will drafting and estate planning process including wills, advance directives, powers of attorney, trusts, and other related documents.
C. Explain the process related to and the documents required for the administration of an estate including probate court documents and filings, tax documents, and other related documents.
D. Draft a simple will and related documents.
E. Analyze all of the preceding in light of a distinctly evangelical Christian worldview.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook, article, blog, and scripture readings; lecture presentations
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (3)
   Three Discussion Board Forums will be posted in order to generate interaction among students in regard to relevant current course topics. The student is required to post 1 thread of at least 250 words. The student must also post 2 replies of at least 150 words. For each thread, the student must support his/her assertions with at least 3 citations, in current Bluebook format. Each reply should cite at least 1 source, also in current Bluebook format. Acceptable sources include your textbook, the Bible, and one more scholarly, academic source—for the purposes of this class, posts to the blogs www.rodneychrisman.com and www.onlyonemommy.com will be considered scholarly, academic sources in order to integrate a proper Christian worldview.
D. Initial Writing Assignment
   The student will write a paper of at least 500 words integrating biblical perspectives as they relate to social security. The student will support his/her writing with at least 2 scholarly, academic sources. The paper must be completed in current Bluebook format.
E. Famous Person Will Assignment
   The student will review the will of a famous person from Appendix B or from the internet, and respond to a series of questions provided in the assignment instructions.
F. Your Will and Related Documents Assignment
   The student will draft a simple will, advance directives, power of attorney, and other related documents as indicated in the assignment instructions.
G. Worldview Position Paper
   The student will write a paper of at least 1,500 words arguing for a position on a chosen topic. The topic choices are the Homosexual Agenda or The Right to Die. The student will support his/her writing with at least 7 scholarly, academic sources. The paper must be completed in current Bluebook format.
H. Tests (4)
   The student will complete 4 tests, each consisting of 25 multiple-choice and true/false questions. All tests are open-book, open-notes; however, be advised that
there is a time limit of 1 hour. The student may not receive help from another person while taking the exam.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist 10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 100 pts ea) 300
Initial Writing Assignment 50
Famous Person Will 50
Your Will and Related Documents 50
Worldview Position Paper 150
Tests (4 at 100 pts ea) 400

Total 1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010  B = 800–899  C = 700–799  D = 600–699  F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# Course Schedule

**PLAW 235**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Herskowitz: chs. 1–3, Appendix C 1 blog post 2 presentations</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist Initial Writing Assignment</td>
<td>10 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Herskowitz: chs. 4–5, Appendix B &amp; E 1 presentation</td>
<td>Famous Person Will Test 1</td>
<td>50 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Herskowitz: ch. 6 &amp; Appendix A Scripture Readings 1 blog post 1 presentation 1 article</td>
<td>DB Forum 1 Thread Your Will and Related Documents</td>
<td>50 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Herskowitz: ch. 7 1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 1 Replies Test 2</td>
<td>50 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Herskowitz: ch. 8 1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 2 Thread</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Herskowitz: ch. 9 1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 2 Replies Test 3</td>
<td>50 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Herskowitz: chs. 10–11 Scripture Readings 1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 3 Thread Worldview Position Paper</td>
<td>50 150</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
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<td>DB Forum 3 Replies Test 4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.