

LAW401 Ethical Legal Practice and Client Care

Level: 4

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

Synopsis:

LAW401 Ethical Legal Practice and Client Care introduces the student to the ethical principles that govern Advocates and Solicitors in their day-to-day work. This covers the lawyer's responsibility to the Court, to their client and to the profession. The course will also look at the professional etiquette and the lawyer/client relationship.

Topics:

- Introduction to Ethics for Lawyers
- Overview of Position of Advocate & Solicitor in the Administration of Justice
- Responsibility to the Court
- Due Process
- Criminal Proceedings
- Specific Responsibilities to the Court beyond the Ordinary Scope of Practice
- Overview of Lawyer-Client Relationship
- Accepting Instructions or Brief
- Honesty, competence/diligence and Confidentiality, Conflict of Interests
- The Lawyer and the Public and Principles Governing Relationship between Lawyers
- Basic Principles Governing Management and Operation of the Law Practice
- Publicity, Work Procurement and Occupations

Textbooks:

Coomaraswamy SC, V., Lai SC, S., Tan, A., Teh, H., & Nalachandran, A. (2011): A Civil Practice - Good Counsel for Learned Friends (ISBN: 978-9810877538) Academy Publishing
ISBN-13: 9810877538

Jeffrey Pinsler SC: Pinsler, J., SC. (2022). Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules 2015. 2nd Edition Academy Publishing
ISBN-13: 9789811837487

Learning Outcome:

- Distinguish the various sources of the relevant law, how it is made and developed; of the institutions within which that law is administered and the personnel who practice law
- Examine legal concepts, values, principles and procedures of Singapore law and explain the relationship between them in a number of subject areas, as well as to apply them
- Analyse fact patterns to identify relevant issues of law, fact and procedure.
- Categorize the issues identified into the relevant rules of substantive law, procedure or evidence.
- Assess and apply the relevant laws and principles to come to a conclusion on the issues
- Formulate an opinion, provide a solution and advise based on the conclusions
- Plan and discuss critically, competing arguments in literature or in a group situation and make a reasoned choice between alternatives
- Prepare and examine ideas, concepts and arguments in the English language and legal terminology with care and accuracy
- Demonstrate the use of information technology in an office environment for the search for information, the preparation of documents and presentations

Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	PRE-CLASS QUIZ 1	10
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	20
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 2	20
Overall Examinable Components	Written Exam	50
Total		100