COURSE NAME: Divorce Practices & Procedures

COURSE NUMBER: L8751D

PROFESSOR: Barbara Glesner Fines
            Larry Wright

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: Family Law

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: Professional Responsibility

Course materials posted to the TWEN page

MAJOR LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE:

Student Learning Outcomes: After having completed the course assignments and activities, students will be able to:

1. plan, draft, negotiate, and present to a court for judgment an uncontested divorce with children in Missouri (Assessed through a mock divorce process)

2. identify the critical factual information necessary for a divorce involving basic assets such as a family home, common investments, and pensions and be able to conduct basic investigations necessary to gather that material. (Assessed through a quiz and a simulated client interview and discovery process)

3. explain why screening for domestic violence and substance abuse issues should be a routine part of any initial interview and be able to conduct that screening (assessed through a quiz and a simulated client interview)

4. describe a practice management system for a new attorney in a solo or small firm domestic relations practice (assessed through a short paper)
METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE:

Grading: Grading will be on a pass-fail basis. In order to successfully pass the course you must:

- Read all materials
- Attend all classes, including all assigned sessions at the family law conference. There are no absences permitted for this course. Students who fail to attend class will be administratively withdrawn from the course.
- Complete all assignments on time

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

The course is designed for students who hope to make matrimonial law a part of their professional practice after graduation. Students will learn the basics of divorce law, procedure, and practice in Missouri through coursework and an extended simulation.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES:

This is a practice-preparation course for students with a serious interest in matrimonial law. Because it includes attendance at the Missouri Bar Family Law Conference, it also functions as an opportunity to establish professional networks in the field to assist in the transition to practice.