



## INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

LEG 120  
TORTS

FALL 2018

# INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

## PART I: COURSE INFORMATION

EFFECTIVE TERM: Fall 2018 (2018 - 10)

COURSE PREFIX: LEG 120

CONTACT HOURS: 3.0

COURSE TITLE: Torts

CREDIT HOURS: 3.0

**RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE:** This course provides paralegal students with an introduction to the substantive principles of tort law to include the elements of negligence, strict liability and intentional torts as well as the applicable defenses to such torts.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a study of the various classifications and functions of tort law, including intentional and negligent torts, causation, proximate cause, and defenses.

**PREREQUISITE:** ( COMPASS Writing 78 and COMPASS Reading 85) or ( ACCUPLACER Reading Comp 075 and ACCUPLACER Sentence Skills 081) or ( New ACCUPLACER Reading Comp 250 and New ACCUPLACER Sentence Skills 250) or ( COMPANION Reading 075 and COMPANION Sentence Skills 081) or ( Multiple Measures English 1) or ( ACT Reading 19 and ACT English 19) or SAT Critical Reading 480 or (Credit level [ENG 101](#) Minimum Grade of C or Credit level [ENG 101](#) Minimum Grade of TC or Credit level [ENG 100](#) Minimum Grade of C\*)

\***Online/Hybrid** courses require students to complete the DLI Online Student Orientation prior to completing an online course. The DLI Online Student Orientation can be found in WaveNet, under the My Student tab.

### REQUIRED MATERIAL:

**Text:** Edwards, Linda L. and J. Stanley (2016) **Tort Law for Legal Assistants**, 6th Edition, by Delmar/Cengage. ISBN 1-285-44804-9 or 978-1-285-44804-6

Please visit the Bookstore online site for the most current textbook information. Use the direct link below to find textbooks:

[BOOKSTORE](#).

Enter the semester, course prefix, number and section when prompted and you will be linked to the correct textbook.

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), HGTC's student portal **for** course materials and Wavenet. Wavenet and D2L email access.

D2L (Desire to Learn) will be heavily utilized for communications in this course. You are expected to check for e-mails & announcements frequently. Also, this Instructional Package for this course is available on this class's homepage on D2L. D2L is accessed through "My Courses" on Wavenet.

## **STUDENT IDENTIFICATION VERIFICATION**

Students enrolled in **online courses** will be required to participate in a minimum of one (1) proctored assignment and/or one (1) virtual event to support student identification verification. Please refer to your Instructor Information Sheet for information regarding this requirement.

## **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**

**Traditional Course:** As a matter of courtesy to other students and your professor, please turn off cell phones and other communication/entertainment devices before class begins. If you are monitoring for an emergency, please notify your professor prior to class and switch cell phone ringers to vibrate.

**ONLINE/HYBRID COURSE: NETIQUETTE:** is the term commonly used to refer to conventions adopted by Internet users on the web, mailing lists, public forums, and in live chat focused on online communications etiquette. For more information regarding Netiquette expectations for distance learning courses, please visit: [Online Netiquette](#).

**UPDATES TO INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE:** Any updates and/or revisions to the material covered or assignments required for the course will be announced at the beginning of the semester and a revised syllabus will be uploaded to the instructor's course.

## **PART II: STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENTS\***

**Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:**

1. Understand the history and development of tort laws in the United States;
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic substantive law of torts;
3. Analyze client fact situations and propose application of the appropriate tort law;
4. Discuss the procedural stages of a typical tort action;
5. Propose appropriate remedies for a given wrong to persons or their property;
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the defendant's use of affirmative defenses;
7. Discuss and compare comparative and contributory negligence, as well as joint and several liability; and
8. Discuss the role of a paralegal along with the ethical concerns involved in a typical personal injury lawsuit.

## ASSESSMENT

### **Unit I: Introduction to Paralegal Program, Tort Law & Classifications**

- A. Professor/College Expectations  
RA: Instructional Package
- B. What is a Tort, its History and Classifications  
RA: Chapter 1
- C. A typical Tort Case, Procedural Process  
RA: Chapter 2
- D. What is an Intentional Tort?  
Reading and Analyzing Cases  
RA: Chapter 3 & SC Case(s)

#### **Course Learning Outcomes 1,2,3,4,5 & 8**

### **Unit II: Elements of a Negligence Lawsuit**

- A. Duty  
RA: Chapter 4 & SC Case(s)
- B. Breach  
RA: Chapter 5 & SC Case(s)
- C. Causation  
RA: Chapter 6 & SC Case(s)
- E. Damages  
RA: Chapter 7 & SC Case(s)

#### **Course Learning Outcomes 2,3,4&5**

### **Unit III: Malpractice, Negligence Defenses & Other Misc Torts**

- A. Contributory, Comparative, Assumption, Statutes of Limitation and Repose, Immunities  
RA: Chapter 8 & SC Case(s)
- B. Malpractice  
RA: Chapter 9 & SC Case(s)
- C. Misrepresentation, Nuisance & Other Torts  
RA: Chapter 10

#### **Course Learning Outcomes 2,3,5,6,7&8**

### **Unit IV Strict Liability, Product Liability & Defamation**

- A. Strict Liability: Animals, Abnormally Dangerous Activities & Limitations  
RA: Chapter 11
- B. Product Liability: Defects, Theories of Recovery & Defenses  
RA: chapter 12
- C. Defamation: Libel v Slander, Statements, Damages & Privileges  
RA: Chapter 13

#### **Course Learning Outcomes 2,3,5&6**

**Unit V Vicarious & Joint Liability**

- A. Vicarious Liability: Employer-Employee Relationship, Automobiles & Parents  
RA: Chapter 14
- B. Joint Liability: Joint and Several, Satisfaction, Contribution & Indemnification  
RA: chapter 15

**Course Learning Outcomes 2, 3 & 7**

***\*Students – please refer to the Instructor’s Course Information sheet for specific information on assessments and due dates.***

### **PART III: GRADING AND ASSESSMENT**

#### **EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS:**

Students' performance will be assessed and the weight associated with the various measures/artifacts are listed below. The student will exhibit the knowledge gained from each unit through written exams, class exercises and projects based on the material in each course section. Tests will include material from the text, lecture notes and supplemental materials. Examinations will consist of short answer or discussion questions along with objective questions such as true/false, fill in the blank and/or multiple choice questions depending on the subject matter covered.

Students will also be required to complete assigned projects deemed appropriate for the particular subject matter. Students are required to complete all homework assignments. Any assignments will be announced in advance. Discussion board postings, quizzes and dropbox assignments, along with attendance may be utilized as methods of evaluation.

#### **EVALUATION\***

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| TESTS -----                      | 50% |
| QUIZZES-----                     | 30% |
| DROPBOX OR DISCUSSION BOARD----- | 20% |

**TOTAL**

**100%**

**\*Students, for the specific number and type of evaluations, please refer to the Instructor's Course Information Sheet.**

#### **COLLEGE GRADING SYSTEM:**

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| 90% - 100%----- | <b>A</b> |
| 80 – 89%-----   | <b>B</b> |
| 70 - 79% -----  | <b>C</b> |
| 60 – 69%-----   | <b>D</b> |
| Below 60%-----  | <b>F</b> |

Course requirements incomplete. Must be completed by deadline given by Instructor or "I" converts to an F.

Grades earned in courses impact academic progression and financial aid status. Before withdrawing from a course, be sure to talk with your instructor and financial aid counselor about the implications of that course of action. Ds, Fs, Ws, WFs and Is also negatively impact academic progression and financial aid status.

The Add/Drop Period is the first 5 days of the semester for **full term** classes. Add/Drop periods are shorter for accelerated format courses. Please refer to the academic calendar for deadlines for add/drop ([ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)). . You must attend at least one meeting of all of your classes during that period. If you do not, you will be dropped from the course(s) and your Financial Aid will be reduced accordingly.

## PART IV: ATTENDANCE

A student at Horry-Georgetown Technical College is responsible for all course work and assignments from each class. Therefore, he/she is expected to attend each class meeting of the course in which he/she is enrolled on a regular and prompt basis. Students should limit absences to those that are unavoidable and, with the consent of the instructor, should make up all work that is missed.

Horry-Georgetown Technical College maintains a general attendance policy (see College Catalog) requiring students to be present for a minimum of eighty percent (80%) of his/ her classes in order to be eligible to receive credit for any course. However, due to the varied nature of courses taught at the college, a more rigid attendance policy may be required by individual instructors. At a minimum, a student may be withdrawn from a course after he or she has been absent in excess of ten percent (10%) of the total contact hours for a course. **Instructors define absentee limits for their class at the beginning of each term; please refer to the Instructor Course Information Sheet.**

**For online and hybrid courses**, check your Instructor's Course Information Sheet for any required on-site meeting times. Please note, instructors may require tests to be taken at approved testing sites, if you use a testing center other than those provided by HGTC, the center may charge a fee for its services.

## PART V: STUDENT RESOURCES



The Student Success and Tutoring Center (SSTC)

The SSTC offers to all students the following **free** resources:

1. **Academic coaches** for most subject areas, **Writing Center Support**, and **college success skills**.
2. **On-line student success and academic support resources**.

Visit the SSTC website: [Student Success & Tutoring Center](#) and visit the student services tab in your WaveNet account to schedule appointments using TutorTrac. For more information, call: SSTC Conway, 349-7872; SSTC Grand Strand, 477-2113; and SSTC Georgetown, 520-1455. Room locations and Live Chat is available on the SSTC website.



## Student Information Center: WaveNet Central (WNC)

WNC offers to all students the following **free** resources:

1. **Getting around HGTC:** General information and guidance for enrollment!
2. Use the [Online Resource Center \(ORC\)](#) for COMPASS support, technology education, and online tools.
3. **Drop-in technology support or scheduled training** in the Center or in class.
4. **In-person workshops, online tutorials and more services** are available.

Visit the WNC website: [Wavenet Central](#). Live Chat and Center locations are posted on the website. Or please call one of the following locations: WNC Conway, 349-5182; WNC Grand Strand, 477-2076; and WNC Georgetown, 520-1473.

## Student Testing:

Testing in an **online/hybrid** course may be accomplished in a variety of ways:

- Test administered within D2L
- Test administered in writing on paper
- Test administered through Publisher Platforms

Further more tests may have time limits and/or require a proctor.

Proctoring can be accomplished either face-to-face at an approved site or online through RPNOW, our online proctoring service. To find out more about proctoring services, please visit the [Online Testing](#) section of the HGTC's Testing Center webpage.

The **Instructor Information Sheet** will have more details on test requirements for your course.

## Disability Services

HGTC is committed to providing an accessible environment for students with disabilities. Inquiries may be directed to Jocelyn Williams, Director of Student Development on the Conway Campus Jaime Davis, Counselor/Advisor on the Georgetown Campus or Kristin Griffin, Counselor on the Grand Strand Campus. These individuals will review documentation of the student's disability and, in a confidential setting with the student, develop an educational accommodation plan.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to self-identify as needing accommodations and to provide acceptable documentation. After a student has self-identified and submitted documentation of a disability, accommodations may be determined, accepted, and provided.

## Statement of Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination Statement

Horry Georgetown Technical College prohibits discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and abuse, on the basis of race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or pregnancy in educational programs and/or activities.



**Title IX Requirements**

Horry Georgetown Technical College prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Any student who believe he or she has experienced or witnessed discrimination including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking is encouraged to report such incidents to one of the College’s Title IX Coordinators.

\*Faculty and Staff are required to report incidents to the Title IX Coordinators when involving students. The only HGTC employees exempt from mandatory reporting are licensed mental health professionals (only as part of their job description such as counseling services).

| <b>Inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:</b>  |   |
|--|---|
| Student and prospective student inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their application to the College or any student decision may be directed to the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs.                               | Employee and applicant inquiries concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their application to the College may be directed to the Associate Vice President for Human Resources.   |
| <b>Dr. Melissa Batten, AVP Student Affairs</b><br><i>Title IX Coordinator</i><br>Building 1100, Room 107A, Conway Campus<br>PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066<br>843-349-5228<br><a href="mailto:Melissa.Batten@hgtc.edu">Melissa.Batten@hgtc.edu</a> | <b>Jacquelyne Snyder, AVP Human Resources</b><br><i>Section 504, Title II, and Title IX Coordinator</i><br>Building 200, Room 212A, Conway Campus<br>PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066<br>843-349-5212<br><a href="mailto:Jacquelyne.Snyder@hgtc.edu">Jacquelyne.Snyder@hgtc.edu</a> |