



LawShelf Educational Media

Discovery in Civil Litigation

Course Description

This course focuses on the discovery process in civil litigation, by which parties conduct their investigations and find evidence to be used at trial. The course covers the goals behind the discovery rules and the timing of the process. The Discovery in Civil Litigation course also highlights the various available discovery processes, such as: depositions, interrogatories, and requests for production.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Describe the goals behind the discovery rules and the timing of the discovery process;
- Apply appropriate privileges and other limitations that can be used to shield information from discovery requests;
- Identify information subject to mandatory disclosure rules;
- Explain how Rule 26 of the federal rules of civil procedure works to mandate disclosures from the parties in litigation;
- Differentiate between types of depositions and their purposes;
- Apply the rules governing various discovery devices, including depositions, requests for production, physical and mental examinations and interrogatories.

Final Exam

Grades and credit recommendations are based solely on a final exam. When students are ready to take the final exam, they should register for a LawShelf account (or simply log in, for those with existing accounts). Go to the video-course page and click “Take the Final Exam” and pay the exam fee, where applicable. Students will be given instructions on how to take the exam. All exams are proctored by the Voice Proctor® proctoring system. An overview of the system is [provided here](#) and it requires no training or learning curve. Grades of 70% or above are considered passing grades and qualify for recommended transfer credit.

The final exam is based on the video course modules. Additional resources detailed in this

syllabus are helpful for background and for building greater understanding of the course materials.

Inquiries can be made through the LawShelf Contact form on our website by clicking the “email us” button that appears at the bottom of most LawShelf pages. Transcripts can be ordered via Parchment, as detailed on our website.

Case Studies

Many LawShelf video courses include case studies. These do not necessarily teach new material but are meant to demonstrate how the materials covered in the course are applied by various courts. Concepts covered in the case studies are covered on the final exam; so watching the case studies is necessary before taking the exam. However, it is unnecessary to memorize the facts and details of the cases covered in these case studies.

Self-Quizzes

Video-course modules and case studies feature self-quizzes that consist of practice questions on the materials covered in the videos. These questions are presented for the benefit of the student and are **important to review before taking the final exam** because they are similar in style and substance to the questions on the final exam. These quizzes are not graded or monitored and there is no record of how students answer these questions. Students may answer these questions as many times as they like and are encouraged to keep re-taking the quizzes until they have mastered all the questions.

Study Guide

Introductory Videos

These videos provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Deposition

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/deposition/>

Interrogatory

<https://lawshelf.com/shortvideoscontentview/interrogatory/>

Courseware Readings

These courseware readings provide background to help students better understand the main parts of the course, which are the video-course modules below.

Read the following section of “Foundations of Law” courseware:

<https://lawshelf.com/coursewareview> --> Civil Litigation

Discovery and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11:

<https://lawshelf.com/coursewarecontentview/discovery-and-federal-rule-of-civil-procedure-11>

Video Course Modules

These videos constitute the main part of the course and are they sources of the questions on the final exam.

Discovery in Civil Litigation Overview

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursescontentview/discovery->

Discovery Basics-Module 1 of 6

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/discovery-basics-module--of-6/>

Protective Orders and Privileges-Module 2 of 6

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/protective-orders-and-privileges-module-2-of-6/>

Depositions: Types and Purposes-Module 3 of 6

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/depositions-types-and-purposes-module-3-of-6/>

Depositions: Objections and Use at Trial-Module 4 of 6

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/depositions-objections-and-use-at-trial-module-4-of-6/>

Interrogatories and Requests for Admission-Module 5 of 6

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/interrogatories-and-requests-for-admission-module-5-of-6/>

Requests for Production and Examinations-Module 6 of 6

<https://lawshelf.com/videocoursesmoduleview/requests-for-production-and-examinations-module-6-of-6/>

Supplemental Suggested Readings

These materials enable students to achieve a deeper understanding of the course materials and in applying the course to real-life situations.

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rules 26-37:

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcp>

Six Fundamentals of Depositions:

https://nysba.org/NYSBA/Coursebooks/Fall%202013%20CLE%20Coursebooks/Bridging%20The%20Gap%20October%202013/6_Fundamentals_of_Depositions_Russ_Corker.pdf