

# Lawyering Skills and Strategies I

*Professor Lauren Simpson*

Sections E-1 & E-2 • Mon. & Thurs., 7:30-9:00 p.m. • Room 144, TU2

## Fall 2012 Syllabus

Lecture	Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Class 1 Monday, Aug. 27	<b><i>New Lawyer Boot Camp I: Sources of Legal Authority</i></b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introduction to LSS I</b></li> <li>• <b>Introduction to the U.S. Legal System</b></li> <li>• <b>Introduction to Legal Authority</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards pp. 13-18, 23-28 (no exercises).</li> <li>• Read the “Basic Concepts of American Jurisprudence” article that Student Services emailed to you in August.</li> </ul>	
Class 2 Thursday, August 30	<b><i>New Lawyer Boot Camp II: Analyzing and Understanding Judicial Opinions and Rules of Law</i></b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Understanding Judicial Opinions</b></li> <li>• <b>Understanding and Deriving Statutory and Common Law Rules</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards pp. 18-22, 36-41, 79-84 (no exercises).</li> <li>• <u>Skim briefly</u> the three annotated opinion excerpts at Packet, Tab 1.</li> <li>• Review “armed robbery synthesis exercise” at Packet, Tab 3, for in-class exercise.</li> </ul>	
Classes 3 and 4 Thursday, <u>Sept. 6</u> <u>7:30-9:30</u> <u>p.m.</u> <sup>1</sup>	<b><i>Thinking Like a Lawyer: Legal Analysis</i></b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introduction to Legal Analysis</b></li> <li>• <b>Legal Analysis: Statutory</b></li> <li>• <b>Legal Analysis: Case Law</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards, pp. 45-53, 55-61 (no exercises).</li> <li>• Bring to class your completed answers to any homework assigned last week (Classes 1 or 2), for group review.</li> <li>• Review Leona Rosal exercise at Packet, Tab 4, for in-class exercise.</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> Due to Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 3), Class 3 will be held on Thursday, Sept. 6, and will have an extra 40 minutes added to it (the first half of Class 4); likewise, Class 5, on Monday, Sept. 10, will have an extra 40 minutes added to it (the last half of Class 4). Class on both Sept. 6 and 10 will thus run from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Class 5 Monday, Sept. 10 7:30-9:30 <u>p.m.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Thinking Like a Lawyer: Legal Analysis (wrap up)</b></li> <li>• <b>A Brief Overview of the Litigation Process</b></li> <li>• <b>Gathering the Facts and Gauging the Case: the Initial Client Interview</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skim Edwards, pp. 5-8.</li> <li>• Read materials at Packet, Tab 5. (Note about the client-interview exercise materials: please read all of these, but do not begin working on the exercise before class.)</li> </ul>	
Class 6 Thursday, Sept. 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Gathering the Facts and Gauging the Case: the Initial Client Interview, Cont'd</b></li> <li>• <b>Drafting an Informal Client Advice Letter</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards, pp. 147-59.</li> <li>• Bring your notes and materials from the client-interview small-group exercise (Class 5) to class, for mock client interviews.</li> </ul>	
Class 7 Monday, Sept. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How to Cite Authority in Your Legal Writing:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to the <i>Bluebook</i> (in-class presentation)</li> <li>2. Citing to Cases (self-study &amp; practice)</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>Conveying Your Legal Analysis in Detail: CR[e]AC</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards, pp. 91-101, 119-21 (no exercises).</li> <li>• <u>Skim briefly</u> <i>Bluebook</i>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Topics within “bluepages” (pp. 1-27)</li> <li>2. Rule 10</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <u>Skim briefly</u> ICW Chs. 1-4 (introductory text only, not exercises).</li> </ul>	
Class 8 Thursday, Sept. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conveying Your Legal Analysis in Detail: CR[e]AC, Cont'd</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards, pp. 84-88, 103-19, 122-25 (no exercises).</li> <li>• Read Shapo, Walter, and Fajans article excerpt at Packet, Tab 6.</li> </ul>	
Class 9 Monday, Sept. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finding the Law for Your Legal Analysis: Legal Research I</b></li> <li>• <b>More on How to Cite Authority in Your Legal Writing (self-study &amp; practice)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read material at Packet, Tab 7.</li> <li>• <u>Briefly skim</u> <i>Bluebook</i> Rules 11-12.</li> <li>• <u>Briefly skim</u> ICW Chs. 5-8 (introductory text only, not exercises).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ungraded client-advice letter due at 6:00 p.m. (submit via TWEN)</li> <li>• ICW Ex. 1</li> </ul>

Class 10 Thursday, Sept. 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finding the Law for Your Legal Analysis: Legal Research II</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read material at Packet, Tab 8.</li> </ul>	
Class 11 Monday, Oct. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finding the Law for Your Legal Analysis: Legal Research III</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring your laptop and WL and Lexis passwords to class.</li> <li>• Bring ungraded law-firm memo. [discussion section] problem (Packet, Tab 9) + your notes on it to class, for in-class work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICW Ex. 2</li> </ul>
Class 12 Thursday, Oct. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finding the Law for Your Legal Analysis: Legal Research IV</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring your laptop and WL and Lexis passwords to class.</li> <li>• Bring the ungraded law-firm memo. [discussion section] problem (Packet, Tab 9) + your notes on it to class, for in-class work.</li> </ul>	
Class 13 Monday, Oct. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Putting it all together: Analyzing the Law and Issues in our In-Class Case Study</b></li> <li>• <b>Conveying Your Legal Analysis to Your Supervising Attorney: the Predictive Memorandum I</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards, pp. 67-74, 131-45 (no exercises).</li> <li>• Bring all homework assigned for ungraded law-firm memo. [discussion section] problem (Packet, Tab 9) to class, for in-class discussion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICW Exs. 3 &amp; 4</li> </ul>
Class 14 Thursday, Oct. 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conveying Your Legal Analysis to Your Supervising Attorney: the Predictive Memorandum II</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Norman article at Packet, Tab 10.</li> </ul>	
Class 15 Monday, Oct. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Professionalism, Ethics, and Editing</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Edwards, pp. 9-11, 265-71, 273-89 (no exercises).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ungraded law-firm memo. [discussion section] due at 6:00 p.m. (submit via TWEN).</li> </ul>
Class 16 Thursday, Oct. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Drafting Your Client's Contract I</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Stark, Chs. 1-4.</li> </ul>	
Class 17 Monday, Oct. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Drafting Your Client's Contract II</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Stark, Chs. 18-21, 23 (no exercises).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICW Ex. 5-6</li> </ul>
Class 18 Thursday, Oct. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Drafting Your Client's Contract III</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring ungraded "Use of Logo" contract problem (distributed Class 17) to class, for in-class exercise.</li> </ul>	

Class 19 Monday, Oct. 29	<b>Individual Conferences with Senior Partner Simpson to Discuss Graded Memorandum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No LRW class today</li> <li>• one conference per student</li> <li>• schedule on TWEN “Sign-Up Sheets” page</li> </ul>		• ICW Ex. 7-8
Class 20 Thursday, Nov. 1	<b>Individual Conferences with Senior Partner Simpson to Discuss Graded Memorandum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No LRW class today</li> <li>• one conference per student</li> <li>• schedule on TWEN “Sign-Up Sheets” page</li> </ul>		
Class 21 Monday, Nov. 5	• <b>Drafting Your Client’s Contract IV</b>	• Read Stark, Chs. 27-28, 5-7, 17 (no exercises).	• Graded final law-firm memo. due at 6:00 p.m. (50% of grade; submit via TWEN)
Class 22 Thursday, Nov. 8	• <b>Drafting Your Client’s Contract V</b>	• Read Stark, Chs. 8-13, 15-16, 26 (no exercises).	
Class 23 Monday, Nov., 12	• <b>Contract Negotiation</b>	• Read any materials at Packet, Tab 11.	
Class 24 Thursday, Nov. 15	• <b>Contract Negotiation Wrap-Up</b>  • <b>Citation Practice</b>		
Class 25 Monday, Nov. 19	<b>LSS Final Exam</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20% of grade</li> <li>• 7:30-8:30 p.m.</li> <li>• Usual room</li> </ul>		
Thursday, Nov. 22	<b>Thanksgiving (no class)</b>		
Class 26 Monday, Nov. 26	• <b>Writing Memoranda to the Case File + TBA</b>		• Graded contract due at 6:00 p.m. (30% of grade; submit via TWEN)

1. The syllabus may be modified as needed to achieve course objectives.
2. When you register for TWEN, please sign up for automated email notification of all TWEN postings.
3. Please bring your laptop and Westlaw and LexisNexis passwords to each class.
4. Beginning with **Class 11 (October 1)**, please bring your Bluebook and ICW Workbook to each class: as time allows, we may review citation matters even on days for which citation is not noted on the syllabus.