

LAWYERING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES ~ FALL 2017 SYLLABUS

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CLASS PERIOD	CLASS TOPIC	CLASS READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
Class 1A August 21	Sources and System of Law & Conversation with former students	Read Chapter 2 in <i>A Lawyer Writes (ALW)</i> & <i>Differences Between Undergraduate Writing and Legal Writing</i>	
Class 1B August 24	Reading Cases	Read Chapter 3 (pg. 43-56) in <i>ALW</i> and <i>Ammon v. Welty</i> on TWEN	Answer <i>Ammon v. Welty</i> Questions on TWEN
Class 2A August 28	Reading Statutes	Read Chapter 3 (pg. 33-43) in <i>ALW</i>	
Class 2B August 31	The Legal Memo, Intro to CREAC & The C of CREAC	Read Chapter 1, 6, 9 in <i>ALW</i> & Wendy Jammer File on TWEN	
Class 3A September 4	LABOR DAY~ No Classes		
Class 3B September 7	Constructing the Rule & Explaining the Rule (The R and E of CREAC)	Read Chapter 7 in <i>ALW</i> ; Read <i>Transitions; Subject + Verb Combinations</i> (on TWEN)	Jammer File: Answer questions pertaining to Finding the Rule (pg. 1-5 only) (on TWEN)
Class 4A September 11	Applying the Law: Arguments and Counterarguments (The A of CREAC)	Read Chapter 8 in <i>ALW</i>	Jammer File: Draft a case illustration for <i>Douglas</i> (pg. 6). Bring it with you to class.
Class 4B September 14	Catch-up day		Jammer File: Answer questions about applying the (pg. 7-8) (on TWEN) (<i>Whitney Wedge CREAC released</i>)
Friday, September 15	The Texas Supreme Court will be hearing oral arguments on two cases at the Law Center at Krost Hall. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. with arguments from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Attendance is voluntary but encouraged.		
Class 5A September 18	No Class		Whitney Wedge CREAC Due Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 11:59 p.m. (Ungraded)
Class 5B September 21	Facts, Question Presented & Brief Answers	Read Chapter 13 and 14 in <i>ALW</i>	(<i>Closed Memo Released</i>)
Class 6A September 25	Large Scale Editing and Polishing (Paragraphs, sentences, and word choice)	Read Chapter 16 in <i>ALW</i> . Read <i>Clumsy Words; Dovetailing & Signposts; Topic Sentences</i> (all on TWEN)	
Class 6B September 28	Smaller Scale Editing and Polishing (Grammar and Punctuation)	Read Chapter 9 in <i>Plain English for Lawyers</i> (on TWEN). Complete and self-correct a few of the exercises.	Closed Memo Due Sunday, October 1 at 11:59 p.m.

Class 7A October 2	Introduction to Legal Research and Secondary Sources	Read Ch. 1; Ch. 2 (pp. 15-24; 30-37); skim Ch. 3	Bring computer to class
Class 7B October 5	Cases and Statutes-Westlaw (WL)	Read Ch. 5, 8, 9, 11 Note: Chapters 5 & 8 focus on Texas law. This will be important second semester when your assignments are based in Texas. Skim these chapters for now.	Bring computer to class
Class 8A October 9	Cases and Statutes- LexisNexis (LN)		Bring computer to class
Class 8B October 12	Practicing LN and WL	Read Chapter 5 in <i>ALW</i>	Bring computer to class <i>(Open Memo Assignment Released)</i>
Class 9A October 16	Citation: Cases (full and short cites)	Skim Bluebook Rules Bluepages (B1-B12) 4, 6, 10.1-10.5 & 10.9	ICW Exercises TBD
Class 9B October 19	Citation: Statutes (full and short cites)	Skim Bluebook Rules 12	ICW Exercises TBD
Class 10A October 23	Citation: Parentheticals, Quoting, Altering Material	Skim Bluebook Rules 10.6-10.7 & 5; Read <i>To Quote or Not to Quote</i> (on TWEN)	ICW Exercises TBD
Class 10B October 26	Citation: Catch-up		
Class 11A October 30	In-Class Citation Exam		
Class 11B November 2	Email Communications	Read Chapter 18	
Class 12A November 6	Email Exercise (In class or take home TBD)		
Class 12B November 9	Discuss Open Memo & Citation/Writing Review	Read <i>The Only Revision Checklist You'll Even Need</i> (on TWEN)	Complete Prewriting Assignment before class
Class 13A November 13	No Class ~ Individual Conferences		
Class 13B November 16	No Class ~ Individual Conferences		
Class 14A November 20	No Class ~ Open Research Memo Due 9:00 a.m.		
Class 15A November 27	No Class		
GOOD LUCK WITH EXAMS & HAVE A WONDERFUL BREAK			

*** The syllabus may be modified as needed to achieve course objectives. ***