

ADVANCED LEGAL RESEARCH

Watson, Fall 2018

Instructor Information	Amanda Watson, JD, MIS Assistant Professor of Law, Director of the John M. O'Quinn Law Library Office: O'Quinn Law Library, Administrative Suite Phone: (713)743-7364 Email: awatson@central.uh.edu
Office Hours/ Communications	Office Hours: TBD first week of class or by Appointment You must register for the course TWEN page.
Required Textbook	There is no required text.
Attendance	Class attendance is mandatory and will be recorded for each class meeting. It is your responsibility to sign the attendance sheet for each class. Signing another student's name to the attendance sheet is not allowed. Excused absences should be arranged prior to class – if at all possible. Failure to arrange for an excused absence may result in an unexcused absence and a deduction in class attendance and participation.
Outcomes	At the end of this semester, you should: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the full range of potential sources of information available, regardless of type or format;• Develop methods for identifying, analyzing, and articulating the precise legal issues that need to be researched;• Develop effective, efficient, and cost-effective research strategies to explore the issues identified; and• Gain confidence in your research completed and presented no matter the scope of project or timeframe given.
Grades	Course grades are determined by performance on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Simulations and worksheets total 30%• Assignment A (all parts) 20%• Resource Presentation 10%• Final research project (all parts) 30%• Attendance and class participation* 10%

	<p>*This course is intended to help make you practice-ready. As such, participation and practice go hand-in-hand. Examples of class participation include: asking/answering questions, participating in class discussion, participating in in-class quizzes, presentations, or exercises, and meeting with the instructor outside of class. Examples for which points will be deducted include: unexcused absences, use of cell phone, talking with classmates during lecture, and non-class use of your computer.</p>
Late Work	<p>You are expected to turn in graded assignments by the date and time designated as listed on the course schedule. This course simulates a work environment, so deadlines are strictly enforced. It is your responsibility to communicate any emergencies that may affect your ability to timely submit assignments.</p>
Group Work/Collaboration	<p>Unless specifically designated as collaborative work, all graded assignments must be only your work. No collaboration is allowed. Copying answers or providing answers to copy will be reported to the Honor Board and will result in a zero on the assignment in question for all involved. All quoted material must be in quotations and properly cited.</p>
Computer Policy	<p>Weekly, in-class exercises will require each student to have their own computer that can connect to the law school's wireless network. Please activate and memorize/save all passwords for Westlaw, Lexis, and Bloomberg. If you do not have a computer, please let me know so I can help make arrangements for you.</p>
Counseling and Psychological Services	<p>Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to the demands of a professional program, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-7435454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. No appointment is necessary for the "Let's Talk" program, a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html.</p>