

Advocacy Survey



Spring 2015

Advocacy Survey Spring 2015 Course Information and Syllabus

Instructor: Jim Lawrence

Email: jelawrence@uh.edu

Office Hours: I am in the office Monday-Friday – all day most weeks. Students are encouraged to drop by anytime with questions. Students may also email me to set up a specific meeting time.

The goal of this course is to expose you to the spectrum of legal advocacy, beginning from the moment a prospective client enters your office and ending with an appeal of your case. In each segment, we will 1) survey both the relevant statutory and case law, 2) examine the process and procedure required for attorneys/parties to move through each segment, and 3) learn the skill sets necessary to effectively advocate in each segment, including application and presentation of one skill per segment.

Three foundational elements will be used throughout the semester as basis for class discussion and the Journal Entries. The elements are: 1) the story of the case, 2) where the dispute falls on the 9-stage model of conflict escalation, and 3) how issues in the dispute impact each student.

Even though there is no bound text for this course, there will be reading assignments – which will either be sent to you as a .pdf or which can be accessed through Lexis/Nexis or Westlaw. There will be 5 data points in the grading rubric, and they are:

- 1) **Professionalism and Participation (9% of total grade)**
- 2) **Journal Entry #1 (15% of total grade) – Mediation Advocacy**
Due before class starts on March 3rd
- 3) **Journal Entry #2 (27% of total grade) – Negotiation Advocacy**
Due before class starts on April 7th
- 4) **Journal Entry #3 (39% of total grade) – Trial Advocacy**
Due date: April 30th by 5 PM
- 5) **Skill Assessment (10% of total grade)**

Additional Course Requirements:

- 1) Attend the Final Trial for the Law Center's Trial Advocacy class (Saturday, April 25th).

Syllabus

Jan 20	Class 1:	Introduction The Psychology of a Dispute
Jan 22	Class 2:	Assessments

Jan 27	Class 3:	Three Points of Focus: Storytelling, 9 Stages of Conflict Escalation, and Deep Structure
Jan 29	Class 4:	Pre-trial Advocacy
Feb 3	Class 5:	Pre-trial Advocacy
Feb 5	Class 6:	Pre-trial Advocacy
Feb 10	Class 7:	(No Class)
Feb 12	Class 8:	(No Class)
Feb 17	Class 9:	Mediation Advocacy
Feb 19	Class 10:	Mediation Advocacy
Feb 24	Class 11:	Mediation Advocacy
Feb 26	Class 12:	Mediation Advocacy
Mar 3	Class 13:	Arbitration Advocacy
Mar 5	Class 14:	Arbitration Advocacy
Mar 10	Class 15:	Arbitration Advocacy
Mar 12	Class 16:	Arbitration Advocacy
Mar 24	Class 17:	Negotiation Advocacy
Mar 26	Class 18:	Negotiation Advocacy
Mar 31	Class 19:	Negotiation Advocacy
Apr 2	Class 20:	Negotiation Advocacy
Apr 7	Class 21:	Appellate Advocacy
Apr 9	Class 22:	Appellate Advocacy
Apr 14	Class 23:	Appellate Advocacy
Apr 16	Class 24:	Trial Advocacy
Apr 21	Class 25:	Trial Advocacy
Apr 23	Class 26:	Trial Advocacy
Apr 30	Class 27:	Trial Advocacy