

Syllabus E-Health Writing Course: Spring 2018
1:00-2:30 M-W

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Course Description. See course description on UHLC website.

Writing Requirements. Students will complete three assignments. The first assignment will be a client letter reviewing and analyzing a proposed or recently enacted statute or a proposed or enacted regulation. Your first writing assignment will likely involve advising a trade association representing software engineers and others interested in developing medical “apps” for both consumers and healthcare professionals.

The second assignment is also a client letter, but will require the student to utilize multiple sources rather than summarizing a single source.

The final assignment is mini-thesis, similar to a bar journal type article. This assignment is also more in the nature of “academic” legal writing, requiring the student to argue a “thesis” or “point of view” as is typical of academic legal writing. The final assignment will be due during finals, after the course is finished, but a draft will be due earlier, during the course, as shown on the syllabus.

For each of the papers, students must submit a draft. I will provide detailed comments on the drafts which I will expect you to incorporate into the final versions of the papers. Each of these assignments should be a minimum of 2000 words each not including footnotes (About 8 pages double spaced).

Class Preparation and Participation. The assigned materials for each class can be read in less than an hour. In a small class, solid preparation and active participation are expected, and make the class more enjoyable for everyone. 15 percent of the course grade will be based on class participation. The class is subject the law center’s mandatory 80% attendance policy, but with a small class such you should make every effort to attend each class. Please be on-time. I sometimes begin the class with a short film or introductory administrative remarks that you will not want to miss.

Assessment. The grade in this class is based on Class Participation 15%, First Client Letter 25%, Second Client Letter 25%, and Final Mini-Thesis 35%.

Learning Outcomes. Through and as a result of this course, students will: (1) demonstrate an understanding of the legal writing process; (2) engage in legal analysis and reasoning, (3) demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in writing with clients and also (4)

demonstrate the ability to perform scholarly legal writing. In addition, students will learn a great deal about substantive health law, including several issues not covered in other health law courses. Such substantive knowledge will be of course be useful to those seeking employment in the health law area, but many of the issues are interesting to anyone concerned with rising health costs or the role of the modern patient in the delivery of health care.

Course Materials/ Reading Assignments. Course materials and reading assignments will be posted on the UH Blackboard system, or materials may occasionally be sent by email or (rarely) passed out in class.

References. This is a great class for references since the mandatory average GPA is high and the class is small so I will know each of you and your abilities well by the end of the semester.

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 713-743-5454 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.

Date	Topic	Readings on Blackboard
1/17	What is e-health?	
1/22	mHealth-FDA regulation of iPhone apps	
1/24	Writing class one: The client letter.	
1/29	mhealth, continued.	
1/31	Why is medical privacy important?	The Importance and Value of Protecting the Privacy of Health Information: Joy L. Pritts, JD (P. 1-18)
2/5	HIPAA Privacy Rule	Chapters 1-3 <i>Privacy and Security of Electronic Health Information</i>
2/7	Social Media & Health Care	
2/12	E-health and the physician-patient relationship	
2/14	DTC Advertising Prescription Drugs	
2/19	DTC Advertising, cont. (Online rules, HIPAA marketing rules, “matchback” circumvention)	First Writing Assignment Due
2/21	Patient Direct Access to Lab Results	
2/26	Quest for Direct Access to Medical Devices Data	
2/28	Medical Identity Theft	
3/5	HIPAA Security Rule & Breach Notification Chapters 6 and 7 <i>Privacy and Security of Electronic Health Information</i>	Chapters 6 and 7 <i>Privacy and Security of Electronic Health Information</i>
3/7	Physician Payments Sunshine Act (2010)	
3/19	Regulation of Hearing Aids	Second Writing Assignment Due
3/21	Writing class two: Academic legal writing	
3/26	Online Consultation & Prescribing	
3/28	Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (2014)	
4/2	The Digital Divide	
4/4	Internet Pharmacies	
4/9	E-prescribing	
4/11	DTC Genetic Testing	
4/16	Medical Tourism & Outsourcing	
4/18	Personal Health Records (PHRs)	Final Writing Assignment Due
4/23	Electronic Health Records (EHRs)	
4/25	EHRs, cont.	