

# LAWYERING SKILLS AND STRATEGIES II

## Spring 2023 Syllabus

### **Revised Feb. 17**

Professor Lauren Simpson

Section E-1 • Spring 2023

Please read this Syllabus and the separate Course Description as early as possible before our first class (Jan. 19, 2023). Section E-2 has a separate Syllabus and Course Description. If you don't remember your assigned LSS section, you may check on AccessUH or under "memberships" in your Outlook profile, or you may contact OSA.

## Class "Information Sheet"

The class Information Sheet is your "one stop shopping," giving pre-class work, class-session conduct, and post-class work. The Information Sheet is on the Blackboard web course "Materials—by class" page, at the top of the class folder to which it relates. I use a separate Information Sheet to stay flexible, in case our class needs to evolve based on your feedback or my assessment.

## Class Schedule and Assignment Due Dates

**Class 1 (Thurs., Jan. 19)—both LSS sections combined due to Monday, Jan. 16 holiday**

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Communicating with the Opposing Party and Counsel (focus on the demand letter)  Guest facilitator: <a href="#">Mr. Iain Simpson</a> , Simpson P.C.	Class 1 Information Sheet  Bridges & Scheiss: Chs. 2 and 8	Student Self-Assessment Questionnaire: due <b>at or before noon on Tues., Jan. 17</b> , by email. Students must also sign up by that date for a 15-minute conference during this week to discuss their self-assessment. Please see the Course Description and Class 1 Information Sheet for specifics.  <u>Note:</u> the Graded Demand Letter assignment (20% of grade) will be distributed after Class 1, by Blackboard.

## Class 2 (Mon., Jan. 23)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
The Art of Legal Persuasion: Advocating Effectively for Your Client	Class 2 Information Sheet  Coughlin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>2d ed</u>: Ch. 19, §§ I-III (pp. 305-35)</li> <li>• <u>3d ed</u>: Ch. 19, §§ I, II, &amp; VI (pp. 329-41, 352-69)</li> </ul>	None

## Class 3 (Mon., Jan. 30)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Texas: Greenbook Citation and the Nuances of Higher-court Review	Class 3 Information Sheet	The <b>first draft</b> of the Graded Demand Letter assignment is due <b>at or before noon</b> (via Blackboard; instructions in assignment packet). I'll return feedback no later than day's end on Saturday, February 4.

## Class 4 (Mon., Feb. 6)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Motion Practice I	Class 4 Information Sheet  Bridges & Schiess: Chs. 9 and 10  Coughlin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>2d ed</u>: Ch. 19, §§ IV-VI (pp. 335-50) [Note: there's no § V.]</li> <li>• <u>3d ed</u>: Ch. 19, §§ III-V, VII-VIII (pp. 342-52, 370-72)</li> </ul>	None

## Sat., Feb. 11

Assignment Due
The <b>final</b> Graded Demand Letter assignment is due <b>at or before 11:59:59 p.m.</b> (via Blackboard; instructions in assignment packet).

## Class 5 (Mon., Feb. 13)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Motion Practice II	Class 5 Information Sheet	None

### Class 6 (Mon., Feb. 20)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Writing Workshop I	Class 6 Information Sheet	Student law-firm research on Ungraded Motion for Partial Summary Judgment assignment

### Class 7 (Mon., Feb. 27)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Writing Workshop II	Class 7 Information Sheet	Texas citation exercise (due any time of day)

### Class 8 (Mon., Mar. 6)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Citation: Diagnostic and Practice, Round I (Texas citation)	Class 8 Information Sheet	Signals & Parentheticals citation exercise (due any time of day)

### Sat., Mar. 11

Assignment Due
The Ungraded Motion for Partial Summary Judgment assignment is due at 11:59:59 p.m. (via Blackboard; instructions in assignment packet).  <i>Note: the Graded Motion for Summary Judgment assignment (55% of grade) will be distributed via Blackboard this morning.</i>

### Spring Break (Week of Mar. 13)

No LSS class or office hours this week
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### Class 9 (Mon., Mar. 20)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Citation: Diagnostic and Practice, Round II (Texas citation + signals and parentheticals)	Class 9 Information Sheet	Statutory citation exercise (due any time of day)

## Mandatory conferences on Graded Motion for Summary Judgment assignment (Week of Mar. 27)

Conferences
<p><b>Individual Conferences with Senior Partner Simpson to Discuss Graded Motion for Summary Judgment assignment (mandatory)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No office hours or in-person class this week (conferences + CYOA asynchronous class module only)</li> <li>• Sign-up sheet linked in assignment packet</li> <li>• Held via Zoom only</li> <li>• One 30-minute conference per student</li> <li>• More information in assignment packet, including mandatory materials to send professor in advance</li> </ul>

### Class 10 (asynchronous class module: week of Mar. 27)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Choose Your Own Adventure!</b></li> </ul> <p>Please select one CYOA topic for the Class 10 asynchronous module (topic selections on Blackboard).<sup>1</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Citation Potpourri exercise</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please see the Information Sheet for your chosen Adventure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whatever assessment or confirmation your chosen Adventure module requires (due any time this week)</li> <li>• Citation Potpourri exercise (due any time this week)</li> </ul>

### Class 11 (Mon., Apr. 3)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Citation: Diagnostic and Practice, Round III (all citation topics to date)	Class 11 Information Sheet	None

### Class 12 (Mon., Apr. 10)—both LSS sections combined due to professor conference travel

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Writing Workshop III—Editing and Polishing your Persuasive Writing Effectively	Class 12 Information Sheet	Journal Assignment I (due at 6:00 p.m.)

<sup>1</sup> Each asynchronous CYOA module takes around 70-80 minutes to complete, so that its completion, plus your 30-minute mandatory conference, captures the usual class time span for this week. Some of the CYOA modules overlap from fall 2022, and some are new; please select a module you haven't done before.

## Final Citation Exam, Class 13 (Thurs., Apr. 20)—both LSS sections testing together

**Final Citation Exam** (15% of grade): **7:35-9:15 p.m.**; usual classroom; multiple-choice format; 15 questions; open book and materials

*Note: the exam starts 5 minutes later than our synchronous class session normally begins, so that students have a sufficient break (15 minutes) between their earlier class and our exam.*

## Class 14 (Mon., Apr. 24)—both LSS sections combined due to likely guest speaker(s)

Topic	Class Preparation	Assignment(s) Due
Professor's Choice	Class 14 Information Sheet	None

## Sat., Apr. 29

Assignment Due
The Graded Motion for Summary Judgment assignment is due at 11:59:59 p.m. (via Blackboard; instructions in assignment packet).

1. The syllabus may be modified as needed to achieve course objectives.
2. On Saturday, February 25, Prof. S. will hold an **optional** presentation entitled “How to Do an Effective Appellate Oral Argument: Moot Court and Real Life.” Although the presentation will be recorded for those who can’t attend in person (Zoom link sent later), attending it in person will allow a student to make up one LSS class they may have missed. I’ll also bring doughnuts!
  - Date: Saturday, February 25
  - Time: 9:30 a.m. to ≈ 12:30 p.m. (with one break)
  - Location: Room 220
  - Information: Please join Professor Simpson to learn how to be an effective oral advocate at the appellate level. The skills taught in this presentation will help equip you to participate both in practice and in appellate “moot court”—including the spring John Black Moot Court Competition for 1Ls. (This and all intramural competitions are hosted by The Advocates, the student organization dedicated to improving oral-advocacy skills through intramural competitions.) Many of the skills this presentation covers also apply to arguments to any court, not just to appellate courts. We hope that you can join us!



This beautiful creature is a male [Longhorn Bee](#) (Tribe Eucerini), shown here on a [Firewheel](#) (*Gaillardia pulchella*), a native prairie flower. Longhorn Bees get their common name because the males have long antennae—which is frankly an adorable way to describe these bees. :) Learn more about Longhorn Bees [here](#).