

Kenneth R. Swift
Clinical Professor
University of Houston Law Center
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Academic Experience

University of Houston Law Center

Houston TX

Clinical Professor

2020-

Associate Clinical Professor

2016-2020

Teach the first-year Lawyering Skills and Strategies course. Develop and teach online courses, including General Drafting and Employment Law. Serve on numerous law school committees, including currently chairing the Online Learning Committee. Co-chair, AALS Legal Writing Section Awards Committee and member of the joint LWI Online/Distance Learning Committee. Previously served on the AALS Legal Writing Section Program and Status committees and was an organizer of the 2018 Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference. Recipient of a University teaching grant to develop an asynchronous online course.

Hamline University School of Law

St. Paul MN

Professor of Legal Writing

1997-2016

Legal Writing Instructor

Taught in both the J.D. and MSL programs. Taught Legal Research and Writing; also taught Employment Law and transactional drafting in both classroom and online formats. Served on numerous law school committees, including the committee which developed part-time weekend and online MSL programs, and chaired the admissions committee. Also served on university-wide committees, including technology and faculty intellectual property rights.

College of St. Catherine

St. Paul MN

Adjunct Professor, Master of Organizational Leadership Program. 2008

Developed and taught an online introduction legal principles course.

Education

Hamline University School of Law, J.D., 1995, With Honors, Top 10%, Dean's List

University of Minnesota, B.A., 1990

Law Review Articles

Five Truths Learned After a Dozen Years of Asynchronous Online Teaching, _ St. Louis U.L.J. _ (Forthcoming Winter 2021).

Take a (Cognitive) Load Off: Using Principles of Adult Education Theory to More Effectively Integrate a Drafting Unit into a First-Year Legal Writing Course and Ensure Student Success, 63.1 Howard L.J. 29 (2019).

The Seven Principles of Good Practice in (Asynchronous Online) Legal Education, 44 Mitchell Hamline L. Rev. 105 (2018)

The Public Policy Exception to Employment At-Will: Time to Retire a Noble Warrior?, 61 Mercer Law Review 551 (Winter 2010)

Void Agreements, Knocked-out Terms, and Blue Pencils: Judicial and Legislative Handling of Unreasonable Terms in Noncompete Agreements, 24 Hofstra Labor & Employment Law Journal 223 (Winter 2007)

I Couldn't Watch the Ball Because I Was Watching the Ferris Wheel in Centerfield, 22 Ent. and Sports Lawyer 1 (Winter 2005)

How Special is Special? An Insurance Agent's Duty to Advise, 21 Hamline L.Rev 323 (1998)

Comment, *Handbooks, Disclaimers and Fairness in Minnesota Employment Law*, 17 Hamline L.Rev. 379 (1994).

Essays and Bar Journal and Legal Writing Articles

Asynchronous Online Courses and Active Learning, <http://teachlawbetter.com> (Last visited 3/23/20)

Give It a Try, It's Not So Bad: Utilizing Distance Learning in First-Year Legal Research and Writing Courses, No. 32 The Second Draft (Bull. of the Leg. Writing Inst.) 30 (Fall 2019)

A Challenge for LWI: Retaining and Valuing Our Roots, 23 Legal Writing: Journal of the Legal Writing Institute 36 (2019)

Lessons Learned in Giving Writing Exams, 24, No. 3 The Second Draft (Bull. of the Leg. Writing Inst.) 18 (Fall 2010)

Using a Class Exercise to Teach the Importance of Statutory Language in Case-Law Driven Problems, 23, No. 1 The Second Draft (Bull. of the Leg. Writing Inst.) 9 (Fall 2008)

The Writer's Corner: Making Policy Arguments III, 63 Bench and B. of Minn. 24 (Feb. 2006)

My Dinner with IRAC, 20, No. 2 The Second Draft 13 (2005)

The Writer's Corner: Making Policy Arguments II, 62 Bench and B. of Minn. 34 (March 2005)

The Writer's Corner: Making Policy Arguments, 61 Bench and B. of Minn. 30 (Oct. 2004)

[Not Just] For New Teachers, The Second Draft (Bull. of the Leg. Writing Inst.) (Spring 2004)

Use and Argue the Case Law Effectively, 61, No. 3 Bench and B. of Minn. 28 (March 2004)

Workin' Weekends 18, No. 1 The Second Draft (Bull. of the Leg. Writing Inst.) 9 (2003)

Presenting Case Law Effectively, 60, No. 9 Bench and B. of Minn. 30 (October 2003)

Teaching Students to Use the Facts Section, 16, No. 1 The Second Draft (Bull. of the Leg. Writing Inst.) 11 (2001)

Presentations and Conferences

Blended Learning, Here to Stay, Legal Writing Institute One Day Workshop (online), Appalachian School of Law (December 2020)

Active Learning and the Asynchronous Classroom, Online & Hybrid Learning Pedagogy: Toward Defining Best Practices in Legal Education, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law (September 2019)

Linking and Leading, Legal Writing Institute One Day Workshop, Ave Maria Law School (December 2018)

Panelist, *Catch the Wave: Teaching Legal Writing and Skills Online*, Legal Writing Institute Biennial National Conference, Marquette College of Law, Milwaukee (July 2018)

Conference Organizer, University of Denver Sturm College of Law Conference, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference (March 2018)

The Magic Sentence, Sandra Day O'Connor Law School, Arizona State University, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference (March 2017)

Distance Learning Course Development: Inside and Outside of Legal Writing, Legal Writing Institute Biennial National Conference, Philadelphia (June 2014)

Helping First-Semester Students Understand Different Types of Arguments, Boyd Law School, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference (March 2014)

Developing a Distance Learning Course, Sandra Day O'Connor Law School, Arizona State University, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference (March 2012)

The Benefits of Creating Automatically Graded Research Assignments, Boyd Law School, University of Nevada Las Vegas, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference (March 2007)

Service

National

Executive Committee, AALS Section on Legal Writing Reasoning & Research

Teaching Resources Committee (Co-Chair), Legal Writing Institute

Awards Committee (Co-Chair), AALS Section on Legal Writing Reasoning & Research

ALWD Online/Distance Learning Committee

Program Committee, AALS Section on Legal Writing Reasoning & Research

Survey Committee, joint committee of the Legal Writing Institute and the Association of Legal Writing Directors

Organizer, 2018 Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference

Status Committee, AALS Section on Legal Writing Reasoning & Research

Institution (selected committees)

Online Learning Committee (Chair 2018-)

Admissions Committee

Part-Time Program Committee

Previous Institution

Admissions (chair)

Weekend Program Development Committee

Master of Law Program Development Committee

Information Technology Advisory Committee (university-wide)

Intellectual Property Policy Committee (university-wide)