

Spring Quarter Course Description & Policies

Welcome back to LARW! During the Spring Quarter, the class will focus on advocacy. Thus far, your legal research, analysis, and writing have sought to *predict* a likely legal outcome. This quarter, your legal research, analysis, and writing will seek to advocate for a particular outcome—the outcome favored by your client! To achieve that goal, you will practice a variety of skills: preparing for and conducting a client interview, researching a practical legal question, preparing for a hearing, negotiating with opposing counsel, and drafting a motion that could be filed in court.

Our [learning goals and objectives \(https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/experiential-learning/writing/#g9\)](https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/experiential-learning/writing/#g9) will continue from Winter and Autumn. But this quarter, we will add persuasive [written advocacy objectives \(https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/experiential-learning/writing/goals/\)](https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/experiential-learning/writing/goals/):

- Learn rhetorical techniques for framing legal issues, presenting a compelling account of relevant facts, and articulating legal arguments to persuade judges or other legal actors.
- Learn the basic structure of and formatting requirements for persuasive legal pleadings (motions, briefs, and other forms) in trial or appellate courts.
- Develop written and oral communication skills that maximize the impact of the lawyer's own credibility.
- Understand a lawyer's professional responsibilities and ethical duties in the context of oral and written advocacy.

Please review [the Course Description and Policies \(https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1118482/pages/course-syllabus-description-and-policies\)](https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1118482/pages/course-syllabus-description-and-policies), including the [UW Law Honor Code \(https://www.law.washington.edu/students/academics/honorcode.aspx\)](https://www.law.washington.edu/students/academics/honorcode.aspx) and collaboration rules, as these remain unchanged. For reference, your [Fall Quarter \(https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1118773/assignments/syllabus\)](https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1118773/assignments/syllabus) and [Winter Quarter \(https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1128246/assignments/syllabus\)](https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1128246/assignments/syllabus) syllabi are still available.

Course Readings and Preparation

We will continue to use the same texts and materials from prior quarters, with the exception of new handouts and readings identified on the syllabus page. Please check the syllabus each week, as I may make changes as the course goes on, include additional readings and handouts, and otherwise update assignments. I will make every effort to provide advance notice to you when there will be an adjustment.

If you would like to supplement your reading, please check out Bryan A. Garner, *The Winning Brief* (3d ed. 2014)—a favorite of many practicing attorneys. Copies are available in the library.

Please bring a laptop to all class sessions so that you can easily engage in research activities, but please use your computers to enhance your education, not distract you or others in the class.

Course Grading

You will receive one final grade for the Spring Quarter; it is completely separate from your grade for Autumn-Winter Quarters. This course is subject to [UW Law's mandatory grading curve \(https://www.law.washington.edu/students/academics/grading.aspx#Grade\)](https://www.law.washington.edu/students/academics/grading.aspx#Grade). You must complete *all required* assignments and activities, *whether graded or not*, to pass this course.

Participation and Checkpoints: 30%

Final Graded Brief: 70%

Late assignments—including checkpoints for which you receive points—will be penalized unless excused by illness, emergency, or *prior* arrangement. (Note: Lack of planning or preparation is not an emergency.) Please email me well before the due date if you need an extension on an ungraded assignment or a checkpoint; you may arrange extensions through the Office of Academic Services for final papers that are graded anonymously. *You must complete all required assignments and activities, whether graded or not, to pass this course.*

Attendance

UW Law's attendance policy requires you to attend at least 80 percent of our class sessions or I may drop your enrollment from this course after the fifth week of the quarter. This course will meet 9 times this quarter, so you may miss no more than one class. I encourage you to attend them all; this is a hands-on course in which your learning depends on your active participation. The attendance policy allows faculty members to impose stricter attendance standards or other sanctions for nonattendance, including lowering of a grade, and so I will take your level of attendance into account when assigning the participation portion of your final grade.

If you must miss class, please contact me so that we can arrange for you to make up the work you missed. Given our many group workshop activities, your attendance is essential to your success in this class.

Awards for Writing and Advocacy

During Spring Quarter, the Moot Court Honor Board ("MCHB") will be running the annual Hillis Clark Martin Peterson 1L Appellate Advocacy Competition. The competition is separate from the 1L LARW course, but both will involve advocacy. Some of the skills you'll learn (and have already learned) in LARW will no doubt help you in the competition. I encourage you to participate in this competition to supplement your education!

Hillis Clark Martin Peterson 1L Appellate Advocacy Competition

The MCHB 1L Appellate Advocacy Competition is a *partner* competition, which means you'll be researching, writing, and arguing your position with a partner as a team. Representatives of MCHB will provide you with more information about the competition.

At the conclusion of the competition, the MCHB presents the following awards:

- Champion Team in each bracket
- Finalist Team in each bracket
- Semi-Finalist Teams in each bracket
- First, Second, and Third Best Orators in each bracket
- First, Second, and Third Best Briefs in the entire competition

The Malcolm L. Edwards Prize for LARW Assignments

This year, the Sixth Annual Malcolm L. Edwards Prize will be given to the best final graded assignment submitted in LARW at the end of the Spring Quarter. The prize includes a cash award of \$2000. More information about the prize, and about Malcolm Edwards, is available [here](#).

[\(https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/experiential-learning/writing/\)](https://www.law.uw.edu/academics/experiential-learning/writing/)

To be considered for the Edwards Prize, ***students must participate in the MCHB 1L Appellate Advocacy Competition*** and complete the LARW course requirements. The winning motion will be chosen anonymously from among the motions submitted in LARW at the end of Spring Quarter. LARW faculty and the partners of Smith Goodfriend (the sponsoring law firm for the prize) will participate in the selection process. These readers will not know the identity of the brief authors until after the winner is selected.

Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)



Legal Analysis, Research and Writing A506 D Spring 2018 Syllabus

Please review the [Spring Quarter Course Description and Policies](#) in addition to this syllabus.

Week 1: Introduction to Advocacy and the Problem	
3/29	<p>Reading: <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 11A (Intro), Ch. 11B (Ethics), & Ch. 11F (Proper Tone); <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 12A (Intro), Ch. 12B (Civil Litigation), & Ch. 12C (Motion Practice); Please review Complaint and Course Description and Policies</p> <p>In Class: Introduction to Spring Problem Lecture and Research Workshop </p>
Week 2: The Client Interview and Beyond	
4/5	<p><u>CHECKPOINT DUE (5pts):</u> Turn in your sample interview questions before class.</p> <p>Reading: Handout on Interviewing Basics ; <i>Optional but helpful reading:</i> Keeva-Beyond_The_Words.pdf </p> <p>Before class: Make sure you've completed the research workshop from Class #1; Be prepared for a third-party interview</p> <p>Active listening activity </p>
Week 3: Framing the Issues and Creating a Theme	
4/12	<p><u>CHECKPOINT DUE (5pts):</u> Turn in your research summary, including relevant cases found before the interview and cases found after the interview.</p> <p>Reading: Please review the Markinson Interview Notes and Attachments; Review <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 11A (Intro) & Ch. 12C (Motion Practice); Read <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 11C (Theory of the Case), Ch. 12D (Function</p>

	<p>of Motion Memo) & Ch. 12E (Format of Motion Memo);</p> <p>Sample Introductions</p> <p>In Class: Workshop on introductions and PPT; Discussion regarding sample introductions; Spring is like a perhaps hand</p>
Week 4: Structuring Arguments and Drafting Persuasive Facts	
4/19	<p><u>CHECKPOINT DUE (5pts)</u>: Turn in draft “Introduction” to your brief.</p> <p>Reading: <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 11D (Strengths and Weaknesses), Ch. 11E (Slanting Prose), & Ch. 11G (Change in the Law); review <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 11B (Ethics) & Ch. 11F (Proper Tone); Review Sample Briefs for Persuasive Facts: 04 Example Facts - Morse v. Frederick - Petitioner's Brief.pdf; 04 Example Facts - Morse v. Frederick - Respondent's Brief.pdf</p> <p><i>Optional but recommended:</i> Review sample briefs for an overall sense of structure, facts, and argument sections.</p> <p>Workshop and PPT</p>
Week 5: Preparation for Oral Argument; Creation of Analytical Outline	
4/26	<p>Reading: <i>Synthesis</i> Ch. 14 (Oral Argument)</p> <p>In Class: Presentation on Oral Arguments. Watch samples.</p>
Week 6: Oral Arguments	
5/3	<p><u>CHECKPOINT DUE (5pts)</u>: Turn in an annotated outline of argument section with complete headings and structure.</p> <p><i>No reading for today's class.</i></p>
Week 7: Negotiation as Advocacy; Contract Drafting	
5/10	<p>Reading: <i>Synthesis</i> App'x IV (Contract Drafting); review sample contracts; review sample declarations.</p> <p><u>CHECKPOINT DUE:</u> After class, submit your final contract on Canvas.</p>
Week 8: Revision and Sentence-Level Writing	
5/17	<p><u>CHECKPOINT DUE (5pts)</u>: Turn in a good-faith draft of your brief.</p>

	Reading: Before class, review the <i>Redbook</i> and sentence-level sections of <i>Synthesis</i>
Week 9: Peer Review	
5/24	Reading: Review <i>Redbook</i> Ch. 13 (Editing and Proofreading) Come to class with two paper copies of your motion.
Week 10: Conclusion of the Course	
5/29	<u>FINAL ASSIGNMENT DUE (70pts)</u> : Motion to Dismiss with Declaration due at 10:00am on Canvas. Remember to turn in copy to Academic Services by 4:00pm as well.

Course Summary:

Date

Details
