

**LEGAL WRITING II SYLLABUS**  
**Professor Mary Dunnewold**  
**SPRING 2009**

**INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to Legal Writing II. This semester, the class will focus on persuasive writing and oral advocacy. Please consult the Legal Research and Writing Student Manual for detailed information about grading, attendance policy, and assignments. The Manual is posted on the TWEN site. Paper copies were distributed during fall semester.

While I encourage you to bring laptops to class for note-taking, I require that only word processing programs be open during class. Anyone using web browsers, electronic games, or communicating via email or instant messaging during class will be asked to leave and will not be permitted to bring their laptops to class for the duration of the course.

Writing Assignments

The Appellate Brief assignment will be distributed in the first class of the semester. Please turn in the Appellate Brief at the Registrar's Office by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 9, 2009. The return date for the Appellate Brief will be announced later in the semester. Other assignments will be distributed to you and turned in to me during class or tutorials.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Required textbooks:

*The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (18<sup>th</sup> ed. 2005)

Mary Beth Beazley, *A Practical Guide to Appellate Advocacy* (2d ed. 2006).

Wayne Schiess, *Writing for the Legal Audience* 33-44 (2003). Chapter 4: Writing to the Email Recipient

Linda H. Edwards, *Legal Writing and Analysis* 143-55, 329-33 (2d ed. 2007). Chapter 13: Writing Professional Letters, Appendix D: Sample Letters.

Alan L. Dworsky, *The Little Book on Oral Argument* (1991).

**WEEK 1      Week of January 19, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Letter writing  
Professional Email  
The Appellate Process  
Appellate Brief problem

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Writing Professional Letters (Chapter 13 of *Legal Writing and Analysis*, posted on the TWEN site and available on reserve in the library)

Writing to the Email Recipient (Chapter 4 of *Writing for the Legal Audience*, distributed in student mailboxes in December)

**Writing Assignment:**

Begin work on Client Letter assignment, due Week 3. The assignment will be distributed in class.

**Notes:**

The Appellate Brief assignment will be distributed in the first class of this week. Monday class will be rescheduled this week to ensure that all legal writing classes meet the same number of times before the brief is due.

**WEEK 2      Week of January 26, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Persuasive writing  
    Purpose and tone  
    Types of persuasive writing  
Appellate Brief problem (continued)

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 1, Introduction

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 2, Appellate Jurisdiction and Standards of Review

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 3, Before You Write

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 11, Exploiting Opportunities for Persuasion

**Writing Assignment:**

Work on Client Letter assignment, due Week 3.

**WEEK 3      Week of February 2, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Persuasive writing (continued)  
Appellate Brief problem (continued)  
Appellate Brief  
    Introduction                      Statement of Issues  
    Format                              Statement of the Case and Facts

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 4, Facing the Blank Page

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 5, Drafting the Argument

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 8, Professionalism

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 9, Special Teams

**Writing Assignment:**

The Client Letter assignment is due during the second class hour this week.

Begin work on the Advocacy Exercise assignment. Instructions for this assignment will be given in class.

**Notes:**

The Client Letter assignment will be returned in your student boxes.

**WEEK 4      Week of February 9, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Appellate Brief problem (continued)

Appellate Brief

Point Headings

Argument

Summary of Argument

Conclusion

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 6, Practice Pointers

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 7, Seeing What You Have Written

**Writing Assignment:**

Work on the Advocacy Exercise assignment, due during the Alpha tutorial. Instructions for this assignment will be given in class.

**Tutorials:**

Alpha tutorials begin this week. Prepare and bring the following to your Alpha tutorial:

Advocacy Exercise

Detailed outline of Appellate Brief

Research resources checklist

List of authorities

Draft of statement of issues

Questions about Appellate Brief and research strategies

**WEEK 5      Week of February 16, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

No class this week

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 10, Making Your Document Reader-Friendly

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 12, Polishing

**Tutorials:**

Alpha tutorials continue this week. Prepare and bring the following to your Alpha tutorial:

- Advocacy Exercise
- Detailed outline of Appellate Brief
- Research resources checklist
- List of authorities
- Draft of statement of issues
- Questions about Appellate Brief and research strategies

**WEEK 6      Week of February 23, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Citation  
Appellate Brief problem (continued)

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Appellate Advocacy, Appendix A, Citation Form and Punctuation Information

**Tutorials:**

Beta tutorials begin this week. Prepare and bring the following to your Beta tutorial:

Draft of Point Headings  
Draft of Statement of the Case and Facts  
Full draft of Argument section of Appellate Brief  
Draft of Table of Authorities  
Questions about Appellate Brief

**Notes:**

Classes will meet for the Monday class hour only this week.

**WEEK 7      Week of March 2, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

No class this week

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

No new reading assignment this week.

**Tutorials:**

Beta tutorials continue this week. Prepare and bring the following to your Beta tutorial:

- Draft of Point Headings
- Draft of Statement of the Case and Facts
- Full draft of Argument section of Appellate Brief
- Draft of Table of Authorities
- Questions about Appellate Brief

**Notes:**

Sign up this week for practice and final oral arguments. Sign up sheets will be posted on Professor Dunnewold's door.

The Appellate Brief is due next week.

**WEEK 8      Week of March 9, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Oral Argument

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

Appellate Advocacy, Chapter 13, Oral Argument

**Writing Assignment:**

Appellate Brief (four copies) due at the Registrar's Office by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 9, 2009.

**Notes:**

Exchange briefs with your final oral argument opponent on Monday, March 9, after 11:00 a.m. Please be sure that your opponent has submitted the brief to the Registrar's Office before exchanging briefs.

Note that you will need six copies of your Appellate Brief: one for yourself, four for the Registrar, and one for your oral argument opponent.

**WEEK 9      Week of March 16, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Oral Argument (continued)

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Reading:**

Little Book on Oral Argument

**Notes:**

Mandatory practice oral arguments begin the week after spring break.

Have a good spring break!

**WEEK 10      Week of March 30, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

No class this week.

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

No new reading assignment this week.

**Notes:**

Mandatory practice oral arguments begin this week.

**WEEK 11    Week of April 6, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

No class this week.

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

No new reading assignment this week.

**Notes:**

Mandatory practice oral arguments continue this week.

Final oral arguments begin this week.

**WEEK 12    Week of April 13, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

No class this week.

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

No new reading assignment this week.

**Notes:**

Final oral arguments continue this week.

**WEEK 13    Week of April 20, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

No class this week.

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

No new reading assignment this week.

**Notes:**

Honor Round oral arguments will be held on Friday this week. Students selected to compete in Honor Round oral arguments will be notified after the completion of all first-year oral arguments.

**WEEK 14    Week of April 27, 2009**

**Class Discussion Topics**

Debriefing on oral arguments  
Discussion of exams  
Administration of end of semester evaluations

**Assignments, Tutorials, and Notes**

**Required Reading:**

No new reading assignment this week.

**Notes:**

Classes will meet for one class hour this week.

The exact time for the return of the Appellate Brief will be announced after oral arguments are completed.

Congratulations on completing your first year of law school!