

LAWYERING II: ADVOCACY
COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2011
Sections 4 and 6

Professor Michele Bradley
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Room 406

Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00
or by appointment

This Advocacy course will help you develop skills in persuasive writing and speaking. The course will also expand your legal research, analysis, and citation skills. You will use these skills to prepare written and oral arguments in a hypothetical federal court case.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Linda H. Edwards, *Legal Writing and Analysis* (2d ed., Aspen 2007)
2. Christina L. Kunz, *The Process of Legal Research*, (7th ed., Aspen 2008)
3. *ALWD Citation Manual*, Dickerson (4th ed., Aspen 2010).
4. Richard Wydick, *Plain English for Lawyers* (5th ed., Carolina Academic Press)
5. Alan Dworsky, *The Little Book on Oral Argument* (Fred Rothman 1991)

FIRST ASSIGNMENT

For the first class on Tuesday, January 18:

1. Register for my TWEN site.
2. Read Chapter 14 of *Legal Writing and Analysis*
3. Skim the sample brief in Appendix B of *Legal Writing and Analysis*
4. Read Chapter 1 of *Plain English for Lawyers*
5. Read the Class Policies on Plagiarism, Unauthorized Assistance, and Collaboration posted on TWEN.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

1. If you believe you have grammar or punctuation weaknesses, please review and consider purchasing, *Just Writing: Grammar, Punctuation, and Style for the Legal Writer* by Anne Enquist (3d. ed., Aspen 2009). There are a couple of copies in the College of Law library. This book also contains a chapter for students for whom English is a second language.
2. Another valuable writing text that you'll find on many lawyers' book shelves is *Elements of Style* by William Strunk, Jr. and E.B. White (4th ed., Longman 1999). There is a link to an online copy of this book on my TWEN site.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE SEMESTER

We will begin the semester with an overview of advocacy and how it compares to the objective analysis and writing you did in the fall. Early in the semester I will give you the assignment that you will spend the remainder of the semester working on. With that assignment in mind, we will review and expand research techniques using federal law. We will discuss how to write a persuasive brief to a court. Some of you will represent the plaintiff and others the defendant. There will be writing assignments periodically throughout January, February, and March.

We will focus primarily on written advocacy until mid-March, then we will turn our attention to oral advocacy. Our class will meet less often during the last few weeks of the semester. Instead of regular classes during those weeks, I will meet with you in small groups to practice your arguments and then to hear your final arguments.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

You are entering a professional school, and upon graduation and admittance to the bar, you will be viewed as a professional. I expect you to act professionally in my class, as well. Examples of professionalism include attending class regularly, arriving on time, and bringing all necessary materials; participating in class discussions and activities; treating me and your classmates courteously, including in email communications; giving your best effort to all assignments and class activities; and turning in assignments on time.

I generally do not accept late assignments. I may accept a late assignment, provided that you notify me as soon as possible of the emergency that prevents your timely submission, and provided that you have made a good faith effort to complete the assignment on time. If I choose to accept a late assignment, I will adjust your grade on the assignment as I see fit.

COMMUNICATION

I strive to be readily accessible outside of class. You are welcome to stop by my office any time outside of office hours, or you can schedule appointments between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. You can reach me most quickly through email. I try to return email messages within 24 hours, although I will not check my email or phone messages outside of regular business hours. My Administrative Assistant, Toni McGuire, can be reached at 556-0090 or at toni.mcguire@uc.edu.

You must check your e-mail regularly. I will frequently announce assignments and schedule changes through e-mail. You must register for my TWEN site in order to receive email from me. You are responsible for all information communicated by email just as if it had been communicated in class.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES

Important policies about collaboration and plagiarism are posted on the TWEN website. You are responsible for complying with these policies.