



ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

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| COURSE TITLE: | MOOT COURT |
| COURSE NUMBER: | LAW R504 |
| PROFESSOR NAME: | Connie Burtnett |
| PROFESSOR CONTACT INFO: | (707) 495-9936 |
| SCHEDULE: | Fall 2016, Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00pm, Rm # 211 |
| UNIT: | 2 units |
| COURSE TYPE: | Required |
| PREREQUISITES: | Completion of first-year required coursework; recommended completion of LAW R500–Advanced Legal Research and LAW R501–Advanced Legal Writing. |
| COREQUISITES: | None |
| TEXTS AND MATERIALS: (Identification of any texts, materials and references used throughout the course.) | Legal Writing: Process, Analysis and Organization, Sixth Edition (Aspen Coursebook) Paperback – January 30, 2014 ISBN# 9781454841548 Record Casebook: (This must be purchased in the Empire College Bookstore) California Style Manual, A Handbook of Legal Style for California Courts and Lawyers: 4 th Edition; Jessen; ISBN # 0-314-23370-9. |
| COURSE DESCRIPTION: | Students research, write, and argue a brief before a mock appellate court. The course emphasizes effective research and writing techniques and introduces the student to making oral arguments in court. |
| COURSE OBJECTIVES / ANTICIPATED LEARNING OUTCOMES: (What students will be expected to know and be able to do at the end of the course. What skills or knowledge will be gained by the end of the course.) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will research and write an original appellate brief. 2. Students will participate in oral arguments and defend the legal contentions in their brief 3. Students should expect to spend a <u>minimum</u> of four hours prior to each class session on the assigned reading and writing projects. |
| FORMAT OVERVIEW / METHOD OF INSTRUCTION (Description of how the course will be taught, including breakdown of lecture, practicum, etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a great deal of material to cover in this class. Students must complete a brief that is 100% original research, and then defend that brief in oral argument. • Each student shall submit rough drafts of their legal writing for review prior to drafting the final brief. |
| EXAMS: | There is no exam in this course. The grade is based entirely upon the written brief and the oral arguments. |
| GRADING / ASSESSMENT CRITERIA: | <p>Empire College uses the following grading system for this class:</p> <p><u>Pass/Fail Classes:</u> 65 - 100 P Pass/Credit 64 and Below F Fail/No Credit</p> <p>This is a Pass/Fail class. The grade is based upon the brief and the oral argument. The brief must meet the standards of submission to an appellate court. The oral argument must also meet appellate standards.</p> |

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| | <p>The brief must adequately discuss the facts of the case and the applicable law. It must be free of typographical and grammatical errors. The student must make an oral argument.</p> <p>Students must attend 93% of the classes (28 hours; 14 of 15 classes) and participate in oral arguments.</p> |
| ATTENDANCE: | <p>Under the standards of the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California, “regular and punctual attendance” at classes is necessary to satisfy residency requirements. Students should plan to attend all classes. The instructor will take role at each class session. A student must attend the entire class session in order to be counted as present for that class session. Students who arrive excessively late, as determined by the instructor, or who leave class before it is dismissed by the instructor, will not be counted as present for that class session. Students must attend 93% of the classes (28 hours; 14 of 15 classes) and participate in oral arguments.</p> |
| ASSIGNMENTS: Fall 2016 Semester | Weekly assignments |
| Week 1: | Read the Record , Be extremely familiar with the facts when you come to the first class. |
| Week 2: | Begin research. Prepare research log. Re-read record. |
| Week 3: | Read Edwards Chapters 15, 17 Submit Statement of the Case |
| Week 4: | Read Edwards Chapter 22, 19 Submit Statement of Facts |
| Week 5: | Read Edwards Chapters 20, 21 Submit Argument, Issue I |
| Week 6: | Submit Argument, Issue II; Summary of Argument; Questions Presented |
| Week 7: | Submit Full Draft of Brief |
| Week 8: | Read Edwards Chapter 23 |
| Week 9: | Read Edwards Chapter 24 Oral argument practice. |
| Week 10: | Oral argument practice. |
| Week 11: | Oral Argument, FINAL BRIEFS DUE. |
| Week 12: | Oral Argument |
| Week 13: | Oral Argument |
| Week 14: | Final Oral Arguments, (Date and time to be determined.) |
| Week 15: No Exam in this course – exam period runs 12/5 to 12/15/16 | No Exam in this course, students must participate in oral arguments supporting their written brief |

Syllabus is subject to change.