

Legal Writing & Research II
Spring 2012 Syllabus

(1x/week classes)

Class Session	Topic	Required Reading	Assignments
Advanced Westlaw Training will be held between January 17-21. This training is mandatory. Sign up at library reserve desk.			
Week of January 23	Introduction to Course; Shifting to Persuasion; Plan Research for Settlement Letter; Discuss Research Process; Writing a Settlement Letter.	Read Sample Settlement Letter posted on Lexis Course Web Page; Edwards: Chapter 16, 18 (pg 266-276), 22	Six Word Essay" due (assignment posted on Lexis Course Web Page) (Ungraded Assignment); Instructions for Settlement Letter are also posted on the Lexis Course Web Page.
Week of January 30	Discuss Research Results; Developing and Emphasizing a Theme for Settlement; Persuasive Facts and Rules.		Research Results Due: (1) case briefs of at least 2 relevant cases; (2) outline of any relevant statutes. (Ungraded Assignment)
In addition to class this week, "Advanced Lexis" training will be held during the week of January 30th. This training is mandatory. Sign up online.			
Week of February 6	Persuasion in Practice - guest speaker; Finalizing the Settlement Letter		
Week of February 13	Introduction to the Appellate Brief; Judge as Reader; Discuss Research Plan for Final Appellate Brief; Drafting a Persuasive Rule and Statement of Facts for a brief; Argument Paradigm	Read the following article: Clyde H. Hamilton, Effective Appellate Brief Writing, 50 S.C. L. Rev. 581 (1999); Edwards: Chapter 17 .	Settlement Letter Due (20% of final LWRll grade) Material for Final Appellate Brief will be posted on Lexis Web Page.
Week of February 20	Discuss Research Results; Drafting Questions Presented and Argument Headings; Introduction to Standards of Review; Introduction to Oral Argument	Edwards: Chapter 19, 21 (pg 330-335), 24	Summary of 6 most important authorities for use in Appellate Brief (ungraded assignment)
Week of February 27	Using Cases Effectively in Brief Writing (Re/A); Oral Argument (UNGRADED ASSIGNMENT)	Edwards: Chapter 20, 21	
Week of March 5	Large Scale Organization of the Brief; Addressing Adverse Authority and Opposing Arguments; Conclusion; Peer Review of Draft Statement of Facts and Question Presented; Citing Supporting Authority within the Appellate Brief.		Draft Statement of Facts and QP due and outline of Discussion (ungraded assignment)
Week of March 12	SPRING BREAK - NO CLASS		
Week of March 19	Continuing Research; Summary of Argument; Editing; Oral Argument (UNGRADED ASSIGNMENT)	Edwards: Chapter 23	FIRST DRAFT DUE: "Argument" section of Final Appellate Brief due (with Argument Headings) (20% of final LWRll grade) Additional Material for Final Appellate Brief will be posted on Lexis Web Page.
Week of March 26	All the other parts of the Brief (Summary of Argument, Table of Contents, Certificate of Service, etc.); Editing & Revising.	Edwards: Chapter 21 (pg 335-336)	
Week of April 2	Mandatory Conferences		

Week of April 9	Finalizing the Appellate Brief		
Week of April 16	Moot Court Members Panel; Moot Court Competition Prep; Oral Argument (Ungraded Assignment)		Final Appellate Brief Due (40% of final LWR II grade)
Week of April 23	In Lieu of Class this week, each student will be scheduled to present their Final Oral Argument (10% of final LWR II grade)		
Optional: Friday, April 27th	Friday, April 27th 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 1L Moot Court Competition -- Final Rounds -- Darras Moot Court Room.		Faculty, Honors Moot Court Team Members and 1L students are invited to attend the 1L Moot Court Competition Final Rounds in the Darras Moot Court Room Friday, April 27 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Week of April 30th	Career Services Presentation; Semester Wrap-Up.		

