ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: Selection as a Teaching Assistant in the Legal Writing Program

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. This course aims to further develop students in the following principal competencies:
   a. Legal reasoning skills (inductive, deductive, and analogical);
   b. Case analysis and case synthesis skills;
   c. Statutory interpretation skills;
   d. Legal research skills in print and online sources;
   e. Legal writing skills in drafting a predictive analysis; and
   f. Legal writing skills in drafting a persuasive analysis.

2. This course aims to develop students in the following competencies:
   a. Legal drafting skills in creating pleadings and other documents as part of a brief problem;
   b. Collaborating in a writing project;
   c. Awareness of one’s own personal reactions to individuals of a different gender, race, sexual orientation, ability, culture, religion, etc.;
   d. Establishing professional rapport;
   e. Demonstrate effective active listening skills in a variety of contexts (e.g., classroom, individual conferences);
   f. Identify the interests underlying communications;
   g. Identify the emotional content of an individual’s communication;
   h. Reflect on their own learning process;
   i. Communicate respectfully across differences;
   j. Identify the relationship between effective work habits and meeting professional
responsibilities;

k. Timely meet obligations;
l. Manage time and paper efficiently;
m. Work cooperatively as part of a team;
n. Recognize personal limits and ask for help;
o. Invite and use critical feedback; and
p. Manage stress and conflict.

SKILL ASSESSMENT: Students skills will be assessed through:

a. Participation in summer training;
b. Teaching a mock class;
c. Preparation and participation for class;
d. Preparation and teaching for workshop;
e. Preparation of assigned research exercises;
f. Drafting a predictive model memorandum;
g. Drafting a brief record in collaboration with a partner or team;
h. Drafting a summary bench brief in collaboration with a partner or team;
i. Performing bailiff responsibilities in a professional manner;
j. Communication with faculty;
k. Communication with students; and
l. Workshop students’ evaluations.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES: Improved writing skills, including drafting skills, improved professionalism, improved communication skills.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR MO/MULTI-STATE BAR EXAMINATION: Multistate Performance Test and essay examinations are based on written work product.