COURSE NAME: Seminar in Analytical Strategies

COURSE NUMBER: Law 8897

PROFESSOR: Weddle

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: None

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE BOOKS:

REQUIRED: 1000 Days to the Bar, 2nd edition, by Dennis Tonsing; Getting to Maybe, by Fischl and Paul; and Expert Learning for Law Students, by Michael H. Schwartz

RECOMMENDED:

METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE: The course is graded credit/no credit unless a student wishes to take it for a grade. To take the course for a grade, a student must write a 1500 word research paper in addition to the course’s normal requirements.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: The Seminar in Analytical Strategies is a one-hour course devoted to studying and synthesizing cognitive, psychological, and other relevant learning theory with the study of law. The course takes the participants into deeper understandings of how legal thinkers process, understand, and master complex areas of law and how legal thinkers can best evaluate and demonstrate their own mastery.

COURSE CONTENT:

COURSE OBJECTIVES: 1. Students will be able to describe and apply various learning theories
to the study and mastery of legal content and legal skills. 2. Students will be able to implement effectively a variety of learning and communication strategies in the context of law school courses and assessments. 3. Students will be able to assess accurately their own strengths and deficiencies in learning the law and to identify and implement strategies to enhance their strengths and improve in areas of deficiencies.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES: Every analytical strategy that the course explores has a direct parallel in the practice of law. The students will explicitly explore those connections and identify ways in which they can maximize the transfer of the strategies to the world of practice.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR MO/MULTI-STATE BAR EXAMINATION: Because much of the course is directly related to test preparation and test-taking in the law school setting, it necessarily prepares students in very direct ways for success on the bar exam.