R&W Information, Standards & Criteria Standard: Each law student shall have a rigorous writing experience evidencing legal analysis resulting in a paper of professional quality.

All students must designate how they plan to fulfill their R&W requirement no later than the beginning of their 5th semester of Law School (or equivalent). This requires obtaining a supervising faculty member and submitting the signed gold R&W Intent form to Tina Melville prior to the beginning of the fifth semester. Failure to do so may delay eligibility for future enrollment.

Criteria: The student's written work should meet the following criteria:

1. Analysis: Does the piece reflect an informed understanding of the doctrines and theories used? Has the author critically appraised the case(s), doctrines, statutes or ideas developed? Does the piece include a thorough presentation of the relevant available resources? Does the piece show creativity and original work? Is the analysis thorough, well written and organized?

2. Authority: Are the assertions supported? Is the support more than a single source? Does the authority come from a variety of sources? Is interdisciplinary support offered when appropriate? Does the student over-rely on a single source?

3. Format: The research and writing requirement is intended to focus on legal analysis. That analysis can come in a variety of forms from an interoffice memorandum, an advocacy brief, or a scholarly article. While that analysis underlies legal drafting, drafting legal documents would not meet the criteria. A piece satisfying the research and writing requirement should be approximately thirty (30) pages, evidencing sufficient use of authority and encompassing multiple drafts.

How Satisfied:

The requirement may be satisfied by writing one of the following:

Seminar Paper: Whether a seminar paper meets the R&W requirement is a decision for the law professor teaching the course/seminar. If the R&W requirement is met by the seminar paper as required by the professor, the student does not also register in Law 8746 Legal Research (2 hrs). If the seminar paper meets the R&W requirement only if the paper is longer than that required for the seminar itself, than the student must also enroll in Law 8746 Legal Research (2 hrs.).
Elective Course Paper: Whether a paper in an elective course meets the R&W requirement is a decision for the law professor teaching the course/seminar. If the R&W requirement is met by the course paper as required by the professor, the student does not also register in Law 8746 Legal Research (2 hrs.). If the course paper meets the R&W requirement only if the paper is longer than that required for the course itself, than the student must also enroll in Law 8746 Legal Research (2 hrs.).

Independent Study Paper: If the R&W is to be satisfied in this way, the student must register in Law 8746 Legal Research (2 hrs.). The paper can not be on a topic encompassed within the course description of an available seminar or elective course and a designated professor must agree in writing to supervise the paper and to certify to its fulfilling the R&W requirement.

Law Review Comment/Urban Lawyer Annotation/Matrimonial Law Journal Project: Can be used to satisfy the R&W requirement, provided a faculty member supervises the writing and certifies to the Records Office that the work meets the R&W requirement. Neither a Law Review Comment nor an Urban Lawyer Article nor a Matrimonial Law Journal Project may be so used to obtain additional academic credit hours beyond the 2 hours of additional credit given to staff members who are selected to do and complete such a writing.

Appellate Advocacy III or National Team Brief: Satisfactory completion of Appellate Advocacy III and rewriting the brief so that it is of professional quality; or satisfactory completion of Appellate Advocacy IV and writing an Appellate Advocacy IV brief of professional quality. The Appellate Advocacy professor must certify to the Records Office that the student has fulfilled the R&W requirement in this manner. If the requirement is to be satisfied in this way, the student will not register in Law 8746 Legal Research (and will not receive additional credit), but need only be enrolled in the Appellate Advocacy course.

A brief used in other competitions, including the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, the Giles Sutherland Rich Moot Court Competition and the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, may be used to satisfy the criteria if a faculty member certifies to the Records Office that the student has fulfilled the requirement in this manner. Students desiring to obtain two R&W credit hours for writing such a brief should enroll in Law 8746 Legal Research (2 hrs.).

Form to Designate the Manner of Satisfying the requirement

All students must designate how they plan to fulfill their R&W requirement no later than the beginning of their 5th semester of Law School (or
equivalent). This requires obtaining a supervising faculty member and submitting the signed gold R&W Intent form to Tina Melville prior to the beginning of the fifth semester. Failure to do so may delay eligibility for future enrollment. Please pick up the gold form in the Records Office for this purpose. It provides the various options available to fulfill the requirements and asks for dates when aspects of the paper must be completed. The form must be completed and filed as soon as possible after the professor agrees to oversee the R&W project.

Note: It is impermissible and considered an Honor Code violation to use the same paper for academic credit in more than one course, seminar, or after using it to fulfill a journal requirement without disclosure and permission to do so—normally permission will only be given if the paper is lengthened and/or substantially changed. Accordingly, the R&W Record's Office form requires that you either sign the following statement or, disclose that you have used or plan to use the paper or portion of the paper in another context, providing the course, seminar or journal to which it was or will be submitted:

"I understand that, unless disclosed, no portion of this paper may be used to fulfill academic requirements in any other context. I also understand that my failure to disclose that any portion of this paper has or will be used to fulfill academic requirements in another contest violates the School of Law Honor Code."

Upon completion of the R&W requirement, the supervising faculty member shall submit to the Records Office a copy of the paper/brief (in written or electronic format) and a certification that the R&W requirement has been met by the student. The Records Office will retain the signed approval forms and the R&W papers/briefs.

**Adjunct Professors**

While adjunct professors may supervise an R&W paper, they may not do so alone. A regular faculty member must also be willing to co-supervise and to oversee the proper performance and completion of the paper, and to certify that the paper fulfills the requirement. The name of the co-supervising faculty member must be provided to the Records Office at the time of registration.

**Enrollment in Law 8746**

All students who enroll in Law 8746 (R&W Requirement) must provide the reference number of the faculty member supervising the research on the
course request sheet. The Law 8746 reference numbers for the faculty are listed on the Law School’s web page.