

SOLVING LEGAL PROBLEMS

Section 227C

Fall 2014

Professor April Szabo

april@lacunalegal.com

SYLLABUS

This class meets once per week during the semester. All assignments must be completed according to the “Assignments Due” column below. I need to be able to download your submitted homework before class Saturday morning, so **you must upload your homework to the TWEN site for this course by 10 p.m. Friday (the night before class).** We will review your homework in class, so you must also have access to your submitted assignment during class. If you choose to handwrite, please turn in one copy of your answer at the beginning of each class period (and keep a copy for yourself); otherwise, just be sure your homework is accessible from your laptop.

By contrast, you will need to bring your hard copies of the assigned Performance Tests to class each week for outlining exercises; having them loaded on your laptop will not be sufficient.

There will be five exams this semester, each consisting of a three-hour performance test. You must bring your exam number to each examination; make arrangements to get your exam number before Week 4. If you will be typing on the California Bar Exam, I strongly suggest that you type the in-class examinations. Make appropriate arrangements in advance for utilizing the ExamSoft program. There is no “final” examination.

Exam dates, assignment deadlines, and general syllabus information are subject to change throughout the semester. I will modify the class discussion topics and assignment schedule based on our progress and your feedback.

CLASS	IN-CLASS TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE <i>Upload your answer to TWEN before class.</i>
Week 1 Aug. 23rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Review Course Information and Syllabus• Discuss the California Bar Exam• Discuss the Performance Test (PT)• Review recommended approach to completing the PT	No assignment due today.
Week 2 Aug. 30th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discuss outlining strategies for the PT• Discuss objective tasks• Discuss formatting for objective memos• Review homework	Due today: <u>Phoenix Towers v. Porter</u>
Week 3 Sept. 6th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outlining exercises• Discuss formatting for other objective documents• Review homework	Due today: <u>Pearson v. Savings Galore</u> <u>Reminder: You need your exam number next week!</u>
Week 4 Sept. 13th	Examination #1: Three hour in-class examination requiring the preparation of documents with an analytical (objective) or and/or fact gathering component.	No assignment due today.

Week 5 Sept. 20th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss persuasive tasks • Objective v. persuasive writing exercises • Discuss formatting for persuasive documents • Review Exam 1 	Due today: <u>In re Black</u>
Week 6 Sept. 27th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to points & authorities memoranda (P&As) • Formatting P&As • Review homework 	Due today: <u>Ochoa v. CMH</u>
Week 7 Oct. 4th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review P&As • Outlining exercise • Review homework 	Due today: <u>Pannine v. Dreslin.</u>
Week 8 Oct. 11th	Examination #2: Three hour in-class examination requiring preparation of documents with a persuasive component.	No assignment due today.
Week 9 Oct. 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Exam 2 • Introduction to opening/closing arguments 	Due today: <u>In re Yamata Logging, Inc</u>
Week 10 Oct. 25th	Examination #3: Three-hour in-class examination, which may require the preparation of any document.	No assignment due today.
Week 11 Nov. 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing arguments 	Due today: <u>State v. Dolan</u>
Week 12 Nov. 8th	Examination #4: Three-hour in-class examination, which may require the preparation of any document.	No assignment due today.
Week 13 Nov. 15th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to other/strategic documents • Exam review 	Due today: <u>Farley v. Dunn</u>
Week 14 Nov. 22nd	Examination #5: Three-hour in-class examination, which may require the preparation of any kind of document.	No assignment due today