BASIC BAR STUDIES

Spring 2023

Western State College of Law at Westcliff University

COURSE SYLLABUS AND ASSIGNMENTS

EVENING SECTIONS				
<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Room</u>	Professor	
Mondays	6:30-9:40	L811	Shah	
Wednesdays	6:30-9:40	L811	Bolus	
DAY SECTIONS				
<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	Room	Professor	
Tuesdays	11:30-2:40	W160	Dean	
Thursdays	11:30-2:40	FA207	Shah	
	Mondays Wednesdays <u>Day</u> Tuesdays	DayTimeMondays6:30-9:40Wednesdays6:30-9:40DayDay SectionsTuesdays11:30-2:40	Day Time Room Mondays 6:30-9:40 L811 Wednesdays 6:30-9:40 L811 Day Sections Day Time Room Tuesdays 11:30-2:40 W160	

Professors:

Professor Tania Shah <u>tshah@wsulaw.edu</u>

Professor Kathleen Bolus <u>kathleenbolus@wsulaw.edu</u>

Professor Jennifer Dean <u>idean@wsulaw.edu</u>

Semester: Spring 2023

<u>Course Website</u>: Please sign up for the **TWEN 2023 BBS TWEN** Course. Most of your materials will be posted there.

Office Hours:

Professor Shah Thursdays 4:00-6:00pm and by appointment; Sign-Up Sheet on TWEN

for In-Person Office Hours

Professor Bolus Wednesdays 12-2 and Mondays 4-5 via email and by appointment

Professor Dean Tuesdays 3-4 and Wednesdays 12-2 and by appointment via

Calendly.com/jdeanws

Course Objectives: The goals of Basic Bar Studies ("BBS") are to introduce students to the skills necessary to succeed on the essay, Multi-State Bar Exam ("MBE") and Performance Test sections of the California Bar Examination. These skills, however, are applicable across jurisdictions. By the end of the course, successful students will have: (1) created essay templates for a variety of topics and sub-topics for the bar exam; (2) developed the ability to use issues checklists to write well-organized and thorough essay answers within the one hour allotted by the California Bar Examiners for each essay; (3) developed the ability to identify legal issues on essay and MBE questions; (4) developed the ability to identify and analyze legally significant facts; (5) developed a strategy for

organizing an answer to a performance exam; (6) practiced writing answers to essay and performance exams; (7) practiced doing and reviewing MBE questions; and (8) developed the ability to self-assess their performance on essay, multi-state and performance exam practice questions.

<u>Course Methodology</u>: This course has been designed as a significant departure from traditional law school instruction and course work because it teaches a set of study skills that are unique to the Bar Exam—and because it begins your preparation for that exam. Using materials from Western State, U-World, Themis Bar Review and Mary Basick/Tina Schindler's Essay Book, you will follow a rigorous weekly program and become proficient in employing the following skills:

- (1) viewing substantive lectures and following along in the lecture notes;
- (2) creating essay templates;
- (3) creating issues checklists;
- (4) using a method to identify key facts/issues and outline an essay answer;
- (5) writing and assessing essays exams through graded assignments, in-class practice, and outof-class practice;
- (6) taking and assessing MBE questions;
- (7) developing a strategy for organizing the file and library of a 90-minute performance exam; and
- (8) writing and assessing performance exams through graded assignments, in-class work and out-of-class work.

During the fourteen-week semester, this course will cover the three components of the California Bar Exam: The Essay Portion; the Performance Test, and the MBE. If you are taking the Uniform Bar Exam, these three components are also present, though are tested slightly differently than the California Bar Exam (please talk to Professor Shah so she can get you additional material).

Course Subjects: You will cover the following in the respective courses:

The **Essay Course**:

- Torts
- Contracts
- Constitutional Law
- Professional Responsibility
- The Performance Test (Persuasive, Objective and Wild Card)

The **MBE Course**:

- Torts
- Contracts
- Constitutional Law
- Property
- Evidence

Following the conclusion of the course, and leading up to the bar exam, you will then follow the same approach for each of the remaining subjects, as well as engage in additional practice and review of each testable subject, the Performance Test, and the MBE, as you study with the Custom Course Schedule from Themis (or your selected bar company) as well as the Western State Live Program.

Course Materials:

1. **Themis**: The required BBS course materials will be provided from Themis, a commercial bar preparation company, as well as a BBS Workbook from your professor. The fee for the Themis program is \$1,595.00¹, which includes all materials for BBS and for the post-

¹ A credit will be issued to you for the amount you have already paid for your U-World Subscription.

graduation bar preparation. These Are: Modules, Outlines, Workbooks, Assessment Qs

- 2. **U-World**: Your MBE questions for the BBS MBE Course will be assigned on your U-World Platform. *It is highly recommended that you practice additional questions in addition to what is assigned to you.*
- 3. **Essay Exam Writing for the California Bar Exam** by Mary Basick and Tina Schindler. This is the coursebook you will be using in your Essay Course.
- 4. **Western State University (WSU) BBS Workbook**: This contains outlines, literature and charts you will be assigned as well as other assignments you will be required to do during the semester.
 - a. **Western State University (WSU) BBS Fillable Workbook**: This is the fillable version of the above for MBE Questions, MiniEssays, and Worksheets.
- 5. **In-Class/TWEN Handouts**: We will be providing Handouts for you to bring to class (or which will be provided in class) such as PowerPoint printouts, Essay printouts, and Question Set Handouts.

<u>Class Participation</u>: Legal education is a cooperative venture. Class participation therefore is a mandatory part of this course. Any student who is deemed unprepared for class will be treated as absent for that day and a student who is unprepared on two (2) occasions will automatically be withdrawn from the course.

Requirements for In-Person Class:

- Arrive to class early
- Come to class prepared
- Do not multitask on your computer stay focused on the class discussion.
- If you have to miss a class, arrive late, or leave early, notify the professor in advance.
- Be ready to participate in class

<u>Course Grading</u>: The Essay/PT Class and MBE Class are graded separately, therefore you will receive two separate grades for BBS.

Your grade for the **Essay/PT Class** (3 units) is based on the following four components:

- (1) Your score on the written portion of the midterm (25%);
- (2) Your score on the written portion of the final examination (40%);
- (3) Essay Templates and Participation during the semester (15%); and
- (4) Four (4) mandatory writing assignments (essays/PT) submitted during the semester (20%).

Note: For (3) and (4) above, your final grade does not hinge on the accuracy of your templates or how high you scored on the writing assignments, but rather on your timely submission of the work, your improvement, and your good-faith effort throughout the course.

Your grade for the **MBE Class** (3 units) is based on the following four components:

- (1) Your score on the MBE portion of the midterm (25%);
- (2) Your score on the MBE portion of the final examination (40%);
- (3) Completion of viewing your Themis lectures online, completing the Themis lecture fill-in-the blank workbooks/PDF, Western State BBS Workbook Review Sheets and Participation (15%); and

(4) Completion of weekly MBE Homework, Tracking Sheets, and Mini Essays (20%).

Note: For (3) and (4) above, your final grade does not hinge on accuracy of your answers to the weekly MBE quizzes and Mini Essays, but rather on your timely submission of the work, your improvement, and your good-faith effort throughout the course.

After-Class Assignments: After every class session you will be completing homework assignments. Those assignments will include: drafting Mini Essays, essay templates, and issues checklists; taking MBE quizzes; and other assignments directed at helping you learn the material and practice the skills on which you will be tested on your midterm, final examination, and the California Bar Examination. You will be graded on the extent to which your submissions demonstrate a good faith effort to successfully complete the assignments.

A note on grading: For each assignment, including each MBE quiz, essay answer, essay template, Mini Essay, or performance exam assignment that you fail to submit, or that does not reflect a good faith effort, your final grade will be affected as percentage points will be deducted from the total amount you may earn for these assignments. Points may also be assigned or deducted from your final grade based on class participation (or lack thereof).

Homework Expectations and Time Commitment: Because this class begins your preparation for the bar exam, it requires a substantial amount of work outside of class time. The ABA standards state that students should spend, on average, *at least* two hours of preparation for every one hour of class time. BBS requires approximately 14-18 hours/week of outside work. Overall, with in-class time, please expect to spend 20-24 hours/week on BBS.

<u>Class Attendance</u>: If you arrive late to class, leave during class time, or depart early (without prior permission), you will be marked absent for that session. If you miss more than two class sessions, you will be withdrawn from the class.

<u>Disability Services</u>: Western State College of Law provides accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. The Disabilities Services Office assists qualified students with disabilities in acquiring reasonable and appropriate accommodations and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities at Western State College of Law.

To seek reasonable accommodations, a student must contact Senior Assistant Dean Donna Espinoza, Student Services Director and Disabilities Services Coordinator, whose office is in the Students Services Suite. Dean Espinoza's phone number and email address are: (714) 459-1117; despinoza@wsulaw.edu. When seeking accommodations, a student should notify Dean Espinoza of her or his specific limitations and, if known, her or his specific requested accommodations. Students who seek accommodations will be asked to supply medical documentation of the need for accommodation.

Classroom accommodations are not retroactive but are effective only upon the student sharing approved accommodations with the instructor or professor. Therefore, students are encouraged to request accommodations as early as feasible with Dean Espinoza to allow for time to gather necessary documentation. If you have a concern or complaint in this regard, please notify Dean Espinoza; or please notify Dean Allen Easley at aeasley@wsulaw.edu or (714) 459-1168. Complaints will be handled in accordance with the College of Law's "Policy against Discrimination and Harassment."

Office Hours, Appointments and Email: Students may use office hours to address their concerns regarding any of the course material or for other guidance. This information is listed on page 1 of this Syllabus.

<u>Assignments and Class Times</u>: Below is a list of the subject matter and skills covered during class, and the assignments for each class session. This list is not exhaustive and may be amended as needed. Additional assignments will be assigned and distributed during class.

Requirements for Zoom Sessions (if any):

- Find a dedicated quiet space to attend Zoom sessions, to minimize the chances that you will be disrupted during the session.
- Arrive to class early and dressed as you would to attend an in-person class.
- Your camera must be turned on for the duration of the class. If desired, you can use the background settings in Zoom to create an artificial background that blocks the view of your space while still allowing you to be seen on camera.
- Do not multitask stay focused on the class discussion do not wander in and out of the Zoom session.
- Do not post screenshots or recordings of any Zoom classes on social media. Such actions
 would constitute a violation of the Student Honor Code. If you need access to a recording
 of the Zoom session, please contact your professor.
- Unless your professor instructs you otherwise, mute your microphone when you are not speaking. Unmute to speak or to ask or answer questions.

BBS Essay CLASS

MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS

PRIOR TO EVERY CLASS:

- 1. Do your WSU Workbook assignments
- 2. Do Your Schindler-Basick Assignments
- 3. Do Your Essay Templates
- 4. Print Out Any Essays You Need
- 5. Print out any PTs you need
- 6. Print out any WSU Workbook Pages You Need

Have Your In-Class Items:

- PT Packet
- Essay Packets

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
	Prior to First Class	Note: Tuesday's Class starts on 1/17 and Monday's Class starts on 1/23 Note: On Tuesday 2/21, Monday Classes will meet	 Review Introduction Letter from Professor Shah TWEN Review BBS Video from Professor Shah on TWEN Review Intro PowerPoint on TWEN: Essay Class One Review Calibration Memo on TWEN: Essay Class One TWEN: Review in Spring 2023 Graduates Information Time Management Document 7-Habits Schedule Grid Spring 2023 Graduates Letter Scholarship Information Read WSU Introduction BBS Workbook Introduction Pages 6-12 Read Through Performance Test Section in WSU BBS Western State Workbook Pages 13-23
1	1/17 and 1/23	 Introduction to Bar Exam and Essay Writing Introduction to Performance Tests 	 Skim through the PT Packet on TWEN to get an idea of what PTs look like Basick and Schindler: Review Torts Issue Checklist, Attack Sheet and Torts Rules Outlines Review Basick and Schindler Torts Question 3 Assessment and Issue/Fact Chart
2	1/24 and 1/30	Persuasive Performance Tests	 Review Torts Outlines and Charts in WSU BBS Workbook pages 24-35 Complete and submit essay templates for: Battery, Assault and Trespass Traditional Negligence
3	1/31 and 2/6	Torts Essay:	 Review Basick and Schindler Torts Question 5 Assessment and Issue/Fact Chart Complete and submit essay Templates for Strict Liability- Animals and Ultrahazardous Activities Products Liability (Strict and Negligence) and Defamation
4	2/7 and 2/13	Torts Essay: Strict & Products Liability Defamation Privacy Torts Business Torts	 Persuasive Performance Test Writing Assignment Skim PT Packet Tasks Memos to Identify Objective Performance Tests and skim those PTs Refresh yourself on PT Notes from BBS Western State Workbook

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
5	2/14 and 2/21	Objective Performance Test	 Basick and Schindler: Review Contracts Issue Checklist, Attack Sheet and Contracts Rules Outlines Review Basick and Schindler Contracts Question 5 Assessment and Issue/Fact Chart Complete Essay Template for: Formation Statute of Frauds
6	2/27 and 2/28	Contracts Formation Defenses Statute of Frauds	 Torts Essay Writing Assignment Basick and Schindler Review Contracts Question 2 Assessment, Issue/Fact Chart and Sample Answer Complete & Submit Essay Templates For: Parol Evidence Rule Modification Remedies
7	3/6 and 3/7	Contracts PER Performance Remedies Third Parties	Study for Your Midterm!
8	3/20 and 3/21	BBS ESSAY MIDTERM (1 PT/ 1 Essay) 3 Hours (70 Minutes Essay and 105 Minutes Performance Test)	 Review PR Lectures 1-10 on Themis and Complete Workbook Basick and Schindler: Review PR Issue Checklist, Attack Sheet and PR Rules Outline Review Basick and Schindler Contracts/PR Crossover Question 3 (In the Contracts Section) Assessment and Issue/Fact Chart Create Essay Templates for: L-C Relationship Privileges and Confidentiality
9	3/27 and 3/28	Professional Responsibility	 Review Basick and Schindler PR Question 2 Assessment, Issue/Fact Chart and Sample Answer Create Essay Templates for: Independent Professional Judgement Competence, Legal Malpractice and Civil Liability Advertising and Solicitation
10	4/3 and 4/4	Professional Responsibility	 PR Writing Assignment Review Con Law outlines and charts in Western State BBS Workbook Basick and Schindler: Review Con Law Issue Checklist, Attack Sheet and Con Law Rules Outline Complete and submit Essay Templates for the following: Standing Ripeness Mootness State Action Procedural Due Process Substantive Due Process

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
11	4/10 and 4/11	Con Law: Judicial, Legislative, and Executive Powers The Federal System and Due Process	 Review Basick and Schinlder Con Law Question 3 Assessment and Issue/Fact Chart Review Basick and Schindler Con Law Question 1 Assessment, Issue/Fact Chart and Sample Answer Complete and submit essay templates for: First Amendment Freedom of Speech First Amendment Freedom of Religion Equal Protection
12	4/18 and 4/19	Con Law:	Con Law Essay Writing Assignment
13	4/24 and 4/26	Performance Test Review	PT Assignment Practice; Additional Essays for review assigned in Schindler and Basick as well as posted Sample Answers on TWEN
14	5/1 and 5/2	PR, Con Law, Torts, and Contracts essay review	

Final Exam (6.5 hours total + 60 minutes for lunch) 100 MBE Questions, 2 Essays, 1 PT

BBS MBE CLASS

WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

PRIOR TO EVERY CLASS:

- 1. Do your WSU Workbook assignments
- 2. Skim your Themis Outlines
- 3. Watch Your Themis Lectures
- 4. Do the Themis Assessment Questions
- 5. Fill in the Themis Workbook
- 6. Do Your Assigned U-World Questions
- 7. Do Your Review Worksheets (usually every other class) from WSU Workbook
- 8. Do Your Assigned MiniEssays (usually every other class) from WSU Workbook

In-Class Items You Should Print for Class:

- PowerPoint Handouts
- Question Set Handouts

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
	Prior to First class		 Review WSU Workbook Introductory Materials Pages 6-12 Review WSU Workbook Material on Torts: Outlines and Charts Pages 24-35 On Themisbar.com: Watch Themis General MBE Approach Part I & II Watch Themis MBE Approach – Torts Module I: View Torts Lecture Chapters 1-3 Module II: View Torts Lecture Chapters 4-14
1	1/18 and 1/19	 Introduction to MBE Exam & MBE Skills Torts Intentional Torts Negligence 	 Assigned Homework Practice Questions: Ip.uworld.com Complete 15 Intentional Torts Assigned Questions Complete 15 Negligence Torts Assigned Questions Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Module III: View Torts Lecture Chapters 15-17 Module IV: View Torts Lecture Chapters 18-20 Do 1-4 of "Prior to Every Class"
2	1/25 and 1/26	MBE: Torts Strict & Products Liability Defamation Privacy Torts Business Torts	 Assigned Homework Practice Questions: Ip.uworld.com Complete 15 Strict and Products Liability Questions Complete 15 Defamation, Privacy and Business Torts Questions Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Complete Torts Review Worksheet from Western State BBS Workbook for In-class rapid-review Complete and Submit on TWEN: Torts MiniEssays from Western State BBS Workbook Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Watch Themis MBE Approach – Contracts Module I: View Contracts & Sales Lecture Chapters 1-7 Module II: View Contracts & Sales Lecture Chapters 8-11 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class" Review Western State BBS Workbook Material on Contracts:

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
3	2/1 and 2/2	MBE: Torts Rapid Review (no notes) Review Torts MiniEssays; Contracts Formation Defenses Statute of Frauds	 Assigned Homework Practice Questions: lp.uworld.com Complete 15 Contracts Formation Questions Complete 15 Contracts Defenses & Statute of Frauds Questions Complete 15 Mixed Torts Questions Turn in Your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Module III: View Contracts & Sales Lecture Chapters 12-15 Module IV: View Contracts & Sales Lecture Chapters 16-21 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class"
4	2/8 and 2/9	MBE: • Contracts • PER • Performance • Remedies • Third Parties	 Homework Practice Questions: Ip.uworld.com Complete 15 Contracts PER and Performance Questions Complete 15 Contracts Remedies and Third-Party Questions Turn in Your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Complete Contracts Review Worksheet from Western State BBS Workbook for In-class rapid-review Complete and Submit on TWEN: Contracts MiniEssays from Western State BBS Workbook Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Watch Themis MBE Approach – Real Property Module I: View Real Property Lecture Chapters 1-10 Module II: View Real Property Lecture Chapters 11-14 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class" Review Western State BBS Workbook Material on Property: Outline and Charts pages 104-110
5	2/15 and 2/16	MBE: Contracts Rapid Review (no notes) Review Contracts MiniEssays Property Ownership Landlord Tenant	Homework Practice Questions: Ip.uworld.com Complete 15 Real Property Ownership Questions Complete 15 Real Property L/T Questions Complete 10 Mixed Torts Questions Complete 15 mixed Contracts Questions Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Module III: View Real Property Lecture Chapters 15-21 Module IV: View Real Property Lecture Chapters 22-26 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class"
6	2/22 and 2/23	MBE: • Property ○ Disputes about Ownership ○ Disputes about Use	 Homework Practice Questions: Ip.uworld.com Complete 15 Real Property Questions on Disputes about Ownership Compete 15 Real Property Questions on Disputes about Use Complete 15 Torts Questions Mixed Complete 15 Contracts Questions Mixed Turn in Your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Complete Property Review Worksheet from Western State BBS Workbook for in-class rapid review Complete and Submit on TWEN: Property MiniEssays from Western State BBS Workbook

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
7	3/2 and 3/3	MBE: Property Rapid Review (No Notes) Review Property MiniEssays In-Class Review of Torts, Contracts and Property and MBE Catch-Up	 50-Question Mix Set No tracking sheet needed Study For Your Midterm
8	3/8 and 3/9	BBS MBE MIDTERM (50 MBE Questions/2 hours)	 Module I: Review Evidence Lecture Chapters 1-5 Module II: Review Evidence Lecture Chapters 6-12 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class" Review Western State BBS Workbook Material on Evidence: Outline and Charts Pages 52-58
9	3/22 and 3/23	MBE: • Evidence • Presentation of Evidence • Relevance • Character/Habit Evidence • Witness and Tangible Evidence	 Homework Practice Questions: Ip.uworld.com Complete Evidence Questions HW Set-15 Questions-Relevance, Character Complete Evidence Questions HW Set- 15 questions on Witness, Tangible Evidence Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Module III: Review View Evidence Lecture Chapters 13-16 Module IV: Review Evidence Lecture Chapters 17-23 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class"
10	3/29 and 3/30	MBE: • Evidence • Privileges • Policy Exclusions • Hearsay • Hearsay or Not Worksheet	 Homework Practice Questions: lp.uworld.com Complete Evidence Homework 15 MBE Questions on Privileges and Policy Exclusions Complete Evidence Homework 15 MBE Questions on Privileges and Policy Exclusions Do 15 Mixed Questions Torts, Contracts and Property Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Complete Evidence Review Worksheet from Western State BBS Workbook for Rapid Review Complete and Submit on TWEN: Evidence MiniEssays from Western State BBS Workbook Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Watch Themis MBE Approach – Constitutional Law Module I: View/Review Constitutional Law Lecture Chapters 1-5 Module II: View/Review Constitutional Law Lecture Chapters 6-9 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class" Review Western State BBS Workbook Material on Con Law: Outline and Charts Pages 141-153

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT/TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT (Due Before Next Class)
11	4/5 and 4/6	MBE: Evidence Rapid Review Evidence MiniEssays Review Constitutional Law Judicial, Legislative, and Executive Powers The Federal System and Due Process	 Homework Practice Questions: lp.uworld.com Complete Constitutional Law 15 MBE Questions on Powers and Federal System Complete Constitutional Law Homework 15 MBE Questions on Due Process Complete 15 Mixed Evidence Questions Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Homework Lectures: ThemisBar.com Module III: View/Review Constitutional Law Lecture Chapters 10-12 Module IV: View/Review Constitutional Law Lecture Chapters 13-16 Do 1-5 of "Prior to Every Class"
12	4/12 and 4/13	Constitutional Law Equal Protection and The First Amendment In-Class Practice: ThemisBar.com Complete Constitutional Law Session #3 - 15 MBE Questions Complete Constitutional Law Session #4 - 15 MBE Questions	Homework Practice Questions: lp.uworld.com Complete Constitutional Law 15 MBE Questions on EP Constitutional Law 15 MBE Questions on 1st Amendment 15 Evidence Mixed Questions Mixed Con Law Questions from previous class Turn in your Tracking Sheets on TWEN Complete Con Law Review Worksheet from BBS Workbook Complete and Submit Con Law MiniEssays from BBS Workbook
13	4/19 and 4/20	MBE:	50 Question Mixed Set with 60% focus on Con law and Evidence and 40% focus on T, K and P
14	4/26 and 4/27	MBE: • Catch up MBE and Review	Professor will assign Mixed Optional Review for Final

Final Exam (6.5 hours total + lunch) 100 MBE Questions, 2 Essays, 1 PT

Western State College of Law's curriculum is designed so that every student achieves a level of competency prior to graduation in each of the eight Programmatic Learning Outcomes listed below:

(1) Doctrinal Knowledge

Students will demonstrate knowledge of substantive and procedural law in the core curriculum subjects, including Contracts, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Torts, Real Property, Business Association, Evidence, Civil Procedures, Constitutional Law, Estates, Community Property, Remedies, and Professional Responsibility.

(2) Practice Skills

Students will demonstrate the development of other law practice skills. Each student's chosen outcomes within this category will be varied based on the student's particular interests, coursework and work experiences. They may include, but are not limited to, the following topics: oral presentation and advocacy; interviewing; counseling; client service and business development; negotiations, mediation, arbitration, or other alternate dispute resolution methods; advanced legal research and writing (excluding purely academic papers and the first four units earned in introductory first-year legal research and writing class); applied legal writing such as drafting contracts, pleadings, other legal instruments; law practice management or the use of technology in law practice; cultural competency; collaboration or project management; financial analysis, such as accounting, budgeting project management, and valuation; cost benefit analysis in administrative agencies; use of technology, data analyses, or predictive coding; business strategy and behavior; pretrial preparation, fact investigation, such as discovery, e-discovery, motion practice, assessing evidence, or utilizing experts; trial practice; professional civility and applied ethics; a law clinic that includes a classroom component; or a legal externship that includes a classroom component.

(3) Legal Analysis

Students will demonstrate the ability to identify the factual and legal issues implicated by a fact pattern and to appropriately use cases (including identifying the salient features of an appropriate precedent case, identifying legally significant similarities or differences between the precedent case and a fact pattern and explaining why those are legally significant) and rules (including the ability to connect legally significant facts in a fact pattern to the rule) to predict how a court would decide the issue. Students will also demonstrate the ability to identify and evaluate the public policies of a precedent case or rule and be able to evaluate how public policy can impact the application of a rule to the legal issue.

(4) Legal Research

Students will demonstrate the ability to locate relevant legal authority using a variety of book and electronic resources, and to properly cite to such legal authority.

(5) Communication

Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate both orally and in writing in a manner appropriate to a particular task to effectively convey the author or speaker's ideas. This includes audience sensitivity in written and oral communication (the ability to adopt a tone, style and level of detail appropriate to the needs, knowledge and expertise of the audience); and written communication basic proficiency (the ability to use the conventions of grammar, spelling, punctuation, diction and usage appropriate to the task and sufficient to convey effectively the author's ideas).

(6) Advocacy of Legal Argument

Students will demonstrate the ability, in both oral and written formats, to evaluate the legal, economic and social strengths and weaknesses of a case and use case and statutory authority as well as public policy to persuade others. Making policy-based arguments includes the ability to identify and evaluate the public policies of a precedent case or rule and their implications and be able to assert such appropriate arguments to support a particular application or distinction of a precedent case to a legal controversy or a particular resolution of the application of a rule to the legal controversy.

(7) Client Sensitivity and Cultural Competency

Students will demonstrate an awareness of clients' needs and goals, including a sensitivity to clients' background and circumstances (including, but not limited to, socio-economic, gender, race, ethnicity, educational, disability and/or religious background(s)), the ability to make decisions that reflect an appropriate focus on those needs and goals, and awareness that cultural issues may affect the relevance of facts and application of the law.

(8)Legal Ethics

Students will demonstrate the ability to identify ethical issues in law practice contexts and make appropriate decisions to resolve such issues.