

## SYLLABUS

### Lawyering Skills I Fall 2009

<u>Class Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Class Assignment</u>	<u>Writing Assignment</u>
8/20	Court systems	See Blackboard	
8/21	Common law	See Blackboard	
	Legal reasoning	See Blackboard	
8/24	Class prep/case briefing	See Blackboard	
8/25	Rule synthesis & structure	See Blackboard	
8/27	Legal writing intro; process & organizat'n	Edw, <sup>1</sup> chpt. 6; Edw, chpt. 7 & Ex. 7-1	
8/28	Legal writing	Edw, chpt. 8, Ex. 8-2	
9/3	<i>Research classes begin – consult research syllabus (4 weeks)</i>		
9/3	Legal writing	Edw, chpt. 9, Ex. 9-2	
9/4	Legal writing	Edw, chpt. 10	Closed memo OUT
9/10	Legal writing	LB, <sup>2</sup> chpt. 1-8	
9/11	Bluebook	Bluebook pp. 3-24	Closed memo IN
9/15 or 9/16	<i>Attend a Westlaw training session</i>		
9/17	Legal writing	Edw, pp. 120-23, chpt. 12	
9/18	Legal writing	LB, chpt. 9-15	
9/21 or 9/22	<i>Attend a Lexis training session.</i>		
9/24	Comparative legal systems	Reading on Blackboard	
9/25	Legal writing	tba	Closed memo BACK Closed memo rewrite OUT
9/28-9/30	Meetings with professors		
10/1	Bluebook	tba	
10/2	Weight of authority	Edw, Ex. 2-4 & 2-5 (pp. 24-26)	Closed memo rewrite IN Collaborative OUT
10/6	No class, but collaborative assignment due on Bb		Collaborative IN
10/8	Optional outlining seminar at 12:30 in Rm. 104		
10/8	tba	tba	
10/9	tba	<u>KLR</u> <sup>3</sup> , chpt. 12	Open memo (part 1) OUT

<sup>1</sup> Edwards, Legal Writing and Analysis (2d ed.)

<sup>2</sup> Dworsky, The Little Book on Legal Writing (2d ed.)

<sup>3</sup> Custer and Steadham, Kansas Legal Research

10/15-16	Fall break		
10/22	Statutory interpret.	Edw, chap. 4	
10/23	Statutory interpret.	tba	Open (part 1) Research log due Closed rewrite BACK
10/29	EXAM		
10/30	tba		
	<i>Also, 12:30 – Bluebook Relays!!!!</i>		
11/5	tba	tba	Open (part 1) abstract due
11/6	tba	tba	Open memo (part 2) OUT
11/9-12	MEETINGS W/ PROFESSORS		
11/12	tba	tba	
11/13	tba	tba	
11/19	No class		
11/20	tba	tba	Open memo (parts 1 & 2) IN
11/24	Optional exam-writing seminar at 12:30 in Room 104		
11/25-27	Thanksgiving Break		
12/3	tba	tba	
12/4	No class - prepare for your finals!		

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Values</u>	<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Values</u>
#1 - Closed memo	5 points*	Collaborative	5 points*
#2 - Closed memo rewrite	10 points	Library	20 points
#3 - Research log	5 points	Bluebook	5 points*
#4 - Abstract	5 points*	Exam	15 points
#5 - Open memo	50 points	Total - 120 points	

**To receive credit for the course, all assignments must be completed satisfactorily.**

\* For the Closed memo, Abstract, Collaborative, and Bluebook assignment, all students who turn in satisfactory assignments on time will receive 5 points.

### **Writing Assignment Policy**

Unless specifically instructed otherwise by your Lawyering professor, all writing assignments must be completed by you and you alone. Until you have turned in your assignment to your Lawyering professor, you may not seek assistance from, or otherwise discuss your assignment with, any person other than a Lawyering professor, Lawyering TA, or KU writing specialist (this includes, but is not limited to, other law students and lawyers). A violation of this policy is an honor code violation.

### **Attendance Policy**

Professionalism is stressed in this course, so your regular attendance to all class sessions is required. You may be absent four times for personal reasons throughout the semester. If you exceed four absences, however, your final grade will be reduced unless the absence is: (1) for your own serious illness or the serious illness or death of an immediate family member; and (2) substantiated. If you have questions about this policy, speak to your Lawyering professor.

### **Payne & Jones Lawyering Awards**

For more than twenty years, the law firm of Payne & Jones, Chartered (Overland Park and Kansas City, MO) has sponsored awards for first year students. Again this year, the firm will sponsor awards in Lawyering I and II. This semester the firm will give an award to the student in each small group who writes the best open memo.

### **Use of the KU Writing Center**

KU has a writing center, a place for students to talk about their writing with trained peer consultants. The KU writing center sends a consultant (writing specialist) to the Law School for what is called a Writer's Roost. A writing specialist will be available at the Law School for a few hours each week. Please check Blackboard for a schedule. Go to the Law Library Reference Desk to reserve a time to meet with a specialist at the Law School. For additional opportunities to meet with a specialist, please check the writing center's website at [www.writing.ku.edu](http://www.writing.ku.edu). The writing center welcomes both drop-ins and appointments, and does not charge for its services.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The KU School of Law Office of Student Affairs works with the KU Office of Disability Resources to coordinate accommodations and services for students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you may request classroom or exam accommodations, please contact the Associate Dean for Students Affairs, Wendy Rohleder-Sook, 205 Green Hall, 785-864-9210, [wrohled@ku.edu](mailto:wrohled@ku.edu), within the first 2 weeks of the semester.