

## **INTENSIVE PRACTICAL LAWYERING SKILLS**

**University of Cincinnati**

**College of Law**

August 18-22, 2008, Room 100B

Professor Rachel Jay Smith

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### **Course Description**

This class is an intensive skills-based course designed to provide students the opportunity to learn, review, and practice fundamental lawyering skills. Students will examine how practicing lawyers address ethical and professional problems, develop a case and investigate facts, resolve conflicts, act professionally, and provide quality service. Through simulations, presentations, skill development practice, etc., students will practice interviewing and counseling clients, strategic case planning and organizing facts, problem solving and decision making, deposing witnesses, drafting legal documents, and negotiating on behalf of a client.

### **Text**

Thomas A. Mauet, *Pretrial* (7th ed., Aspen Publishing 2008) ISBN 0735572038

(However, the previous edition is adequate – Thomas A. Mauet, *Pretrial* (6th ed., Aspen Publishing 2005) ISBN 0735551022.)

### **Format and Grading**

This class is a 2 credit-hour course. The class will meet for roughly five hours each day for a one-week period. Students will participate in simulations and draft pleadings, correspondence, agreements, and related documents. Students will work throughout the week on one assigned case with some students assigned to represent the plaintiff and others assigned to represent the defense. Although this class has no final examination, students must turn-in assignments daily. Thorough preparation, active participation, and consistent class attendance are essential.

### **Final Grade**

Class Participation - 50%

Legal Drafting and other assignments - 50%

### **Class Schedule**

Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.

Friday, 8:30-1:10 p.m., with no lunch break

(However, if the students vote to take a lunch break on Friday, then the class will go until 2:10.)