

## INTENSIVE PRACTICAL LAWYERING SKILLS COURSE

University of Cincinnati

August 13-17, 2007

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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.

### Course Materials

To purchase:

- Thomas A. Mauet, *Pretrial* (6th ed., Aspen Publishing 2005)  
ISBN 0-7355-5102-2.

Also:

- Hand-outs
- Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure:  
<http://www.sconet.state.oh.us/rules/>
- Hamilton County Rules of Civil Procedure:  
[http://www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/common\\_pleas/Rules.htm](http://www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/common_pleas/Rules.htm)

### Format and Grading

This class is a 2 credit-hour course and will be limited to twenty students. The class will meet for five hours each day for a one-week period. Students will participate in simulations and draft pleadings, correspondence, and agreements. In addition to exercises on various fact patterns, 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, including legal drafting assignments and quiz responses. Thorough preparation, active participation, and consistent class attendance are essential.

### Final Grade

Class Participation – 50%

Legal Drafting – 40%

Quiz Responses – 10%

## **TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE**

### Day 1 – Working with the Plaintiff Client

Reading assignment Mauet: Part A

- Chapter I. “Introduction to Litigation Planning”
- Chapter II. “Informal Fact Investigation”
- Chapter III. “Legal Investigation”
- Chapter IV. “Case Evaluation and Strategy”

Assignment for Day 2

- Draft Demand Letter or Letter of Representation
- Draft Complaint

### Day 2 – Working with Defendant & Preliminary Discovery

Reading assignment Mauet:

- Chapter V. “Pleadings”
- Chapter VI. “Discovery,” sections 6.1-6.8

Assignment for Day 3

- Draft Interrogatories
- Draft Answer to Complaint

### Day 3 -- Depositions

Reading assignment Mauet,

- Chapter VI. “Discovery,” sections 6.9-6.12

Assignment for Day 4

- Draft Answers to Interrogatories

### Day 4 – Problem Solving, Decision Making, and Counseling

Reading assignment TBA

Assignment for Day 5

- Draft Mediation Statement

### Day 5 -- Settlement

Reading assignment Mauet:

- Chapter VIII. “Pretrial Conferences and Settlements”
- Handouts

Last Assignment:

- Draft the Settlement Agreement (due Wednesday, August 22, 2007)