

Legal Analysis, Writing & Research I
Fall, 2014
Professor Stein

Welcome to Hofstra Law School. While you may be feeling somewhat intimidated by the prospect of three years of law school, don't. Orientation is designed to lessen your apprehension and give you some tools to smooth the transition into law school. I will also do whatever I can to help.

As your Orientation schedule indicates, we will have our first class on **Wednesday, August 20th from 1:30 - 3:30**. Please check your Orientation schedule, or in the Registrar's office, to determine the room in which we will be meeting.

Prior to our first Legal Analysis class, please:

1. Purchase the following books, which are available in the Hofstra Bookstore:

Neumann, *Legal Reasoning and Legal Writing* (7th ed.);
Sloan, *Basic Legal Research* (5th Edition);
McKinney, *Legal Research: A Practical Guide and Self-Instructional Workbook* (5th ed.);
The Bluebook, A Uniform System of Citation (19th ed.); and
Interactive Citation Workbook for the Bluebook (2014 Edition).

2. We will also be using *Core Grammar for Lawyers*. This program is an online self-instructional learning program that will give you practice in fundamental grammar conventions as well as advanced grammar issues that are specific to legal writing. Instructions for purchasing and completing the program will be discussed at our first class.
3. **Please be aware that you must register for the TWEN page for this class immediately. I post many class assignments and other documents there, and also use it to communicate with the class.**
4. **Please read pages 3 through 37 in *Legal Reasoning and Legal Writing*. Please prepare case briefs for the Roberson case, beginning on page 25 of the text, and the Costanza case on pp. 35-36. Use the color-coded "Case Briefing Form" that I have posted on TWEN.** A couple of comments about this assignment:
 - Please make sure that both of your briefs are typewritten because I will be collecting them. There is no need to print them in color, black ink is fine.
 - Feel free to download the Case Briefing Form and use it for your briefs in all of your classes.
 - Be sure to allow enough time for this assignment as it is likely to take longer than you think and you will need to spend time looking up unfamiliar terms. You will be expected to participate in class discussions, even those held on the first day.
5. Please print out and read through the Course Outline and Guidelines that are posted on the TWEN page for this class. We will be discussing them during our first session.

6. Fill out the “Student Information Form” posted on TWEN and bring it to class because I will be collecting it. The form may be either typed or handwritten.

I look forward to meeting you. In the meantime, enjoy the rest of your summer.