

Legal Analysis, Writing & Research I
Fall, 2024
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.

Our scheduled class time is Wednesdays from **10:10 am – 12:00** pm and Fridays from **8:10 am- 10:00** am Room TBA. Please read this letter carefully, it contains a lot of important information. Prior to our first Legal Analysis class, do the following:

Sign up for the TWEN page for this class immediately. TWEN is part of Westlaw. Westlaw registration information is in the packet that you received from admissions. We will use TWEN in the following ways:

- 1. This schedule and the other basic course documents are available on our class page;**
- 2. There is a folder for each class labelled HW and Handouts for Class 1, etc. Consult that folder BEFORE each class. It contains the homework assignment/s that you must complete PRIOR to that class, as well as the handouts that we will be using during class (you should bring your computer to class with you every day. Even if you don't use it for notetaking, it will give you access to the handouts); and**
- 3. You will hand in your graded assignments on TWEN. I will also return them via TWEN.**

Wednesday, August 28, 2024 (Class 1)

Prior to our first Legal Analysis class, please do the following:

- 1. Purchase the following books, which are available in the Hofstra Bookstore:** Neumann, *Legal Reasoning and Legal Writing* (9th ed.); Sloan, *Basic Legal Research Tools and Strategies* (REVISED 8th Edition); *The Bluebook, A Uniform System of Citation* (21st ed.) and *Interactive Citation Workbook for the Bluebook* (2024 Edition). **Be certain that you have the correct edition for each book.**

You need to register for both Westlaw and Lexis, the two computer assisted legal research providers that we will be using. Again, the Westlaw registration information is in the packet that you received from admissions. You should have received an email from the library director, Hunter Whaley, with your Lexis code. If you did not, check with Isaac Samuels in the Law Library.

- 2. Again, you must register for the TWEN page for this class. I post homework and handouts on the page, and use it to communicate with the class. You will also be required to hand in most of your assignments using TWEN.**

For our first class please read Chapters 1-3 in *Legal Reasoning and Legal Writing*. Please review the Case Briefing Form that I have posted, the case briefing work that you did in Introduction to Law was based on this format. Feel free to download it and use it for your briefs in all of your classes if you wish. Please note that you will be expected to participate in class discussions, even those held on the first day.

3. 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.
4. Fill out the “Getting to Know You” form. The form is posted under the “Assignments & Quizzes” tab on TWEN. Once you have completed the form, please submit it through the “Assignments & Quizzes” tab on TWEN. This is how you will be submitting your assignments throughout the year so handing in the form this way is good practice.
5. We begin our study of legal research at the same time as our study of legal analysis and writing. To begin this process, there are three training sessions that you must complete (Lexis, Westlaw, and Legal Research Strategies 101):

All Westlaw and Lexis trainings will be done "live" on Zoom. **These will be the only trainings offered and you MUST attend one.** Attendance will be taken and a deduction will be taken from your professionalism grade for the course if you do not attend.

Lexis Week of Aug 21 Students can register using the links below or by going to www.lexisnexis.com/lawschool

- [Monday, August 21st 1pm - 1:45pm](#)
- [Tuesday, August 22nd 1pm - 1:45pm](#)
- [Wednesday, August 23rd 1pm - 1:45pm](#)
- [Thursday, August 24th 1pm - 1:45pm](#)

Westlaw Week of Aug 28 Classes have been posted on the event training calendar on lawschool.tr.com.

- It's the same link for each session. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7776514981>
- [August 28, 2024 12:20 PM - 1:00 PM](#)
- [August 30, 2024 1:20 PM - 2:00 PM](#)
- [September 1, 2024 12:20 PM - 1:00 PM](#)

Legal Research Strategies 101 presented by Professor Lisa Spar, Assistant Director for Reference and Instructional Services and Special Professor of Law. **YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS ONLINE PRESENTATION BY 6 PM on Tuesday, September 3rd** The link is:

<https://edpuzzle.com/assignments/64873974e04b894320905c35/watch>

There is a handout that you will need when you watch this video, it is posted on TWEN under a tab entitled “Legal Research Strategies 101 Handouts.” This video is interactive and requires you to respond to questions. I am able to monitor who participated in each of the three trainings, if you do not complete all three, a deduction will be made from your professionalism grade.

- 6. Finally, you will need to bring your computer to every class session because all homework and handouts for class will be posted on the TWEN page.**

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

