

**E. DAVID WOYCIK, JR.**  
**INTENSIVE TRIAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM**  
**“TRIAL TECHNIQUES”**  
**(2 CREDITS)**

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Program Dates: Mandatory Meeting: Monday, November 25, 2024  
12:10pm – Room 230

Sunday, January 5, 2025 – Friday, January 10, 2025

Program Times: Each day, from 9:00am-5:00pm

PLEASE NOTE: This course is an in-person course only. There is no hybrid attendance option for this course. In the event that health protocols prohibit in person attendance, the course will be put on-line.

First Class : Mandatory First Lecture/Demonstration on Direct Examination and Evidentiary Foundations:  
Mandatory Meeting: Monday, November 25, 2024  
12:10pm – Room 230

Registration Begins: 10:30pm on Monday, October 21, 2024

Pre-requisite: Evidence

CRN: 10112

Tuition: \$750.00  
There will be an additional fee for course materials.

Tuition Due: Payment is due at the time of registration.

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## **ACADEMIC OVERVIEW**

### **IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE FIRST CLASS :**

Mandatory First Lecture/Demonstration on Direct Examination and Evidentiary Foundations:  
Mandatory Meeting: Monday, November 25, 2024  
12:10pm – Room 230

We are pleased to inform you that Hofstra Law School will again offer a two-credit course in Trial Techniques this coming January 2025.

**TRIAL TECHNIQUES:** The E. David Woycik Intensive Trial Advocacy Program is an intensive immersion experience. It is an innovative program that, in a single intensive educational experience, provides training in all of the basic lawyering skills involved in civil and criminal litigation. The students will learn the essential aspects of trial lawyering focusing on:

Opening statements,

Summation,

Direct and Cross examination,

Documentary and Expert Testimony, and,

**FULL Trials.**

The students' performances will be individually reviewed by experienced attorney/teachers and by professional actors.

The program is based upon the proven intensive methodology initially developed by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) for practicing lawyers. This course is given on six consecutive days in January. Attendance is required and is taken daily. The program is open to second and third-year students who have completed the basic course in Evidence.

The original intensive trial program was developed by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy for the training of practicing lawyers. It has been offered throughout the country, including here at Hofstra.

## THE CURRICULUM

We will be using NITA materials and the NITA method of teaching advocacy, the learning by doing method. That consists of intensive interactive instruction in every aspect of trial advocacy.

The trial problems are structured so that students are first exposed to basic problems of identifying and effectively communicating a case theory to a jury. This is accomplished to starting the program with Witness Examination.

Students will conduct direct and cross examinations. From the outset, however, students will have to develop a theory of the particular examination, decide on an appropriate approach to bring out the facts consistent with the theory, prepare the witness and demonstrate the examination. Students will be given the job of anticipating evidentiary objections and defending his or her position when objections are made by others in the class or by the instructor.

Once proficiency is established in basic techniques of trial advocacy, the problems become quite complex requiring intensive preparation. Substantial questions of evidence are built into each problem to develop the student's proficiency in making and defending against objections.

From simple direct, cross and redirect, the student will then be asked to prepare and demonstrate problems which require laying a foundation and introducing into evidence various types of exhibit materials including documents, photographs, maps, charts, reports and physical objects. The final skills will be Opening and Closing Statements. The students put it all together by conducting a full, final trial on the last day of the course.

## SCHEDULE

A typical day begins at 9:00 a.m. with the class divided into small sections. The students will perform the assigned problems and be critiqued by the Teaching Team. Each student is required to prepare and perform several problems per day. The student faculty ratio is usually 1:5.

Skills sessions continue until lunchtime. After the lunch hour, the small groups reconvene for more individual presentations and critique.

In the late afternoon, the entire class will meet to watch a demonstration/lecture of the trial skill that is the focus of the next day's work.

Each student will have the opportunity to be recorded during the course of the program. Following a "live" critique, the student will be able to watch his or her performance on the student's own personal device and will be critiqued on a one on one basis.

The first few working days are taken up with basic skills exercises. Thereafter, students will conduct a bench trial. Following these trials, students return for more advanced exercises. When all problems are completed, the students are again divided into teams with two students on each team. Each team is assigned to try a Full Trial that will be conducted to verdict.

### Program Contact Information

For further information about this program, please contact Professor Barbara Barron in person, or by e-mail at [barbara.s.barron@hofstra.edu](mailto:barbara.s.barron@hofstra.edu).

## ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### Registration for Hofstra Students

Registration is available online for all eligible students beginning at 10:30pm on Monday, October 21, 2024.

### Tuition Payment

Payment is due at the time of registration.

PLEASE NOTE: The Law School is offering 2 scholarships for the E. David Woycik, Jr. Intensive Trial Advocacy Program.

**Justice Raymond L. Wilkes Endowed Scholarship** is awarded to deserving and talented students with demonstrated financial need in support of their enrollment in the E. David Woycik, Jr. Intensive Trial Techniques Program.

**The Lawrence Kessler Advocates** has been established to provide economic and mentoring support to second- or third-year Hofstra Law students with financial need who exhibit: a commitment to pursuing a career in civil and/or criminal litigation and/or demonstrated excellence in trial and moot court competitions.

Please contact the Office of Financial Aid, for information regarding available financial assistance for this course. You can reach the Office of Financial aid by calling (516) 463-5916 or by sending an e-mail to: [lawfinaid@hofstra.edu](mailto:lawfinaid@hofstra.edu).

### Dropping the Course

Students may drop the course online by 11:59 pm on Sunday, November 24, 2024. Tuition payment will be fully refunded. The course will be deleted from the transcript.

### Withdrawal from the Course

Due to the commitment of funds to hire and transport the trial attorneys who will teach this program, tuition of students withdrawing will not be refunded on or after Monday, November 25, 2024. Withdrawal must be made through the Office of Academic Records and Registrar, located in Memorial Hall. A Course Withdrawal Form will need to be filled out, signed and submitted to the Office of Academic Records and Registrar. The course will remain on the transcript with a "W" in the grade field. On the reverse side of the official transcript, the grade legend describes the "W" as "Withdrawn without penalty or prejudice."