



I. Course Information

Course: LAW 0662 - Legal Research and Writing I

Semester and Year: Fall 2017

Course Start and End Dates: 08/21/2017 - 12/10/2017

Course CRN and Section: 21894 F

Building and Room: Shepard Broad Law Center - L316

II. Instructor Information

Name: Cross, Jane

Email: crossj@nova.edu

Phone: 9542626014

Fax:

Office Hours:

Day	Time	Location
MW	4:00pm - 6:00pm	231

Contact by e-mail or by text to schedule an appointment.

III. Class Schedule and Location

Day	Date	Time	Location	Building/Room	Type
MW	08/21/2017 - 12/10/2017	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Ft Lauderdale/Davie Campus	Shepard Broad Law Center-L316	CLAS

IV. Course Description

This course integrates legal theory with practice, professionalism, and technology in a transactional setting. It combines instruction in legal research, writing, and analysis with other practical lawyering skills while focusing on predictive legal analysis. Case files are used to develop problem-solving strategies, conduct legal research, draft legal memoranda, and negotiate a settlement of a transactional case. This is a required course.

V. Learning Outcomes

Students completing this instructional offering are expected to:

1. Identify legal issues and apply legal reasoning and analysis to solve problems in a logical and structured manner to issues covered in this course.
2. Communicate orally or in writing, or both, the legal reasoning and analysis regarding issues covered in this course.

3. Research legal issues thoroughly and efficiently.
4. Demonstrate factual investigation, interviewing, and questioning skills.
5. Demonstrate effective organization and management of legal work.

VI. Materials and Resources

Section Required Texts and Material: Online

- Title: TeachingLaw.com
Author: Diana R. Donahoe
Publisher: Georgetown Law Library
Edition: 2016
URL: <https://teachinglaw.com/> (purchase and join my class)
- Title: Core Grammar for Lawyers
Author: Ruth Ann McKinney & Katie Rose Guest Pryal
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: 2017
URL: <http://www.coregrammarforlawyers.com/> (purchase and enter class code 317-69-8674)
- Title: Mastering the Bluebook Interactive Exercises
Author: Linda J. Barris
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: 2017
URL: <http://masteringthebluebook.com/> (purchase and enter class code 417-69-3118)

Print Books

- Title: The Bluebook
Author: The Columbia Law Review Association, Inc., The Harvard Law Review Association, the University of Pennsylvania Law Review, and The Yale Law Journal Company, Inc.
Edition: 20th
ISBN-13: 978-0-692-40019-7
- Title: Understanding and Mastering The Bluebook: A Guide for Students and Practitioners
Author: Linda J. Barris
Publisher: Carolina Academic Press
Edition: Third
ISBN-13: 978-1-61163-774-8

Section Supplemental Material: ?Additional materials will be posted on the TWEN Web course.???

Book Url: [NSU Book Store](#)

VII. Course Requirements

Major Writing Assignments:

This course requires the following major assignments: 1) CREAC Assignment, Memorandum I and Memorandum II. These assignments will be in the format of a legal office memorandum and address legal issues under state law. Both assignments and their related materials will be posted on TWEN. Students will be required to attend a conference with the professor to discuss each major writing assignment. Moreover, Memorandum Part II will be graded anonymously.

Miscellaneous Assignments:

In connection with these major assignments, students will be expected to submit miscellaneous assignments, such as research reports, notetaking charts, and citations. In addition, students will be required to complete and submit short writing assignments, citation exercises and CALI Lessons. Finally, any in-class quizzes and exercises will be part of the miscellaneous assignments. While most of these assignments are listed on a course assignment list, the professor may provide additional assignments.

VIII. Course Schedule and Topic Outline

Course Schedule:

Class	Topic
<i>Class schedule subject to modification, but not without prior notification.</i>	
1 Orientation Class Wednesday 8/16 3:30-5:30 PM	<i>Introduction to LRW</i> Overview of LRW Program
2 Monday 8/21	<i>Overview of LRW Policies & Procedures"</i> <i>Intro to United States Court System</i>
3 Wednesday 8/23	<i>Intro to Legal Analysis</i> Legal Analysis: Reading Cases and Statutes
4 Monday 8/28	<i>Introduction to CREAC</i> <i>Organizational Structure</i>
5 Wednesday 8/30	<i>Drafting Strong Rule Explanation Paragraphs</i> <i>How Does the Rule Apply to the Client's Facts?</i> <i>Drafting the Issue Statement</i> <i>Writing the Rule Application Section and Reaching a Predicted Result</i>
Monday 9/4	<i>No Class – Labor Day</i>
6 Wednesday 9/6	<i>In Class Practice</i> • <i>Issue Statement</i> • <i>CREAC Components</i> <i>Citation for CREAC Assignment</i> <i>Question & Answer Session for CREAC</i>
Friday 9/8	<i>CREAC Assignment Due</i>

Class	Topic <i>Class schedule subject to modification, but not without prior notification.</i>
7 Monday 9/11	<i>Introduction to Legal Research</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I get started, and how do I keep track of where I've been? • Search Terms • Research Logs • Keeping Track of Citations—a Brief Introduction <i>Researching Primary Authority</i> Finding Statutes
8 Wednesday 9/13	<i>Research Primary Authority (cont'd):</i> Introduction to Basic Citation For Statutes Finding Cases Introduction to Basic Citation for Cases
9 9/18 to 9/22	<i>Research Exercises</i> <i>Sign-up for Sessions with Teaching Assistants</i>
10 Monday 9/25	<i>Approaching the Nuts and Bolts of a Memo</i> Question Presented Brief Answer The Facts <i>Organizing the Discussion Section</i> <i>Umbrella Section</i> <i>Conclusion</i> <i>Developing the Rule and Rule Explanation Sections</i> <i>Determining How the Rules can be Applied to the Facts</i>
11 Wednesday 9/27	<i>CREAC Feedback Session</i> <i>Approaching the Nuts and Bolts of a Memo (cont.)</i> <i>Updating Research</i> <i>Finishing, Updating and Validating Legal Research</i>
10/2 to 10/5	<i>MANDATORY CONFERENCES</i> <u>YOU MUST BRING A COPY OF YOUR FORMATTED OUTLINE OR DRAFT TO YOUR CONFERENCE</u> (Please note that we will meet for 1 hour on 10/4)
12 Wednesday 10/4	Memorandum 1 Discussion, Question and Answer Session 1:30-2:30 PM

Class	Topic <i>Class schedule subject to modification, but not without prior notification.</i>
10/9 to 10/12	MANDATORY CONFERENCES YOU MUST BRING A <u>COPY OF YOUR FORMATTED OUTLINE OR DRAFT TO YOUR CONFERENCE</u> (Please note that we will meet for 1 hour on 10/11)
13 Wednesday 10/11	Memorandum 1 Final Question and Answer Session 2:30-3:30 PM
<i>TBD</i>	Memorandum 1 Write-In Session
14 Monday 10/16	Fact Gathering Role of Facts in Resolving Legal Problems Interviewing theory, techniques, & ethics The Client Interview & Follow-up Determining the Relevant Facts Research Review of Research Process Memorandum 1 Due
15 Wednesday 10/18	Memo 2 The Client Interview & Follow-up Determining the Relevant Facts Post-Interview Brainstorming – What Issues are unresolved? Developing the Rule, Rule Explanation, and Umbrella Paragraphs Organization and Development of Analysis & Application Memo 2 Research Continue Review of Research Process
16 Monday 10/23	Memo 2 Citation Which cases to cite? Citations – string cites and parentheticals Organization Large Scale Small Scale
17 Wednesday 10/25	Pulling it all together Memorandum 2 Outline and Organization

Class	Topic <i>Class schedule subject to modification, but not without prior notification.</i>
18 Monday 10/30	<i>Discussion of Memorandum 1 & 2 Assignments</i>
19 TBD	<i>Career & Professional Development Presentation</i>
11/1 to 11/8	MANDATORY CONFERENCES (in lieu of regular classes) MEMO 1 COMMENTS YOU MUST BRING A <u>COPY OF YOUR FORMATTED OUTLINE OR DRAFT TO YOUR CONFERENCE</u> (Please note that we will meet for 1 hour on 11/9)
20 Wednesday 11/9	<i>Memorandum 2 Q&A (2:30-3:30 PM)</i>
21 Monday 11/13	<i>Memorandum 2 Write-In</i>
Wednesday 11/14	NO CLASS <i>Memorandum 2 Due</i>

IX. Grading Criteria

Final Grade:

Final Course Grade:

Your final grade is determined by your performance on a number of different tasks:

CREAC Assignment	5%
Memo 1	20%
Memo 2	60%
Miscellaneous Grade	15%
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale: The College of Law uses the following grading system:

A	4.00
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A-	3.75
B+	3.50
B	3.00
B-	2.75
C+	2.50
C	2.00
C-	1.75
D+	1.50
D	1.00
D-	0.75
F (or WF)	0.00

- AU Audit; no credit or effect on average
- I Incomplete
- P Pass; no effect on average
- W Withdrawal

X. Course Policies

General Policy:

LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING (1L) PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES will be posted in the TWEN Web course.

Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance is required in all courses. This course follows the attendance policies detailed in the [Code of Academic Regulations](#). The maximum number of absences allowed before a student receives an F for excessive absences in this course is four (4). Attendance will be taken by the professor or by a sign-in sheet. The student is responsible for making sure that his or her attendance has been noted.

XI. College Policies

Students should visit <http://www.nova.edu/academic-affairs/nsu-syllabus-policy.html> to access additional required college-wide policies and https://www.law.nova.edu/about/documents/Code_of_Academic_Regulations.pdf for policies specific to the College of Law. It is your responsibility to access and carefully read these policies to ensure you are fully informed. As a student in this class, you are obligated to follow these policies in addition to the policies established by your instructor.

The following policies are described on these websites:

- Academic misconduct
- Last day to withdraw
- Email policy
- Student course evaluations
- Student responsibility to register
- Student responsibility for course prerequisites
- Class Preparation
- Graduation Requirements, etc.

Additional Academic Resources: Nova Southeastern University offers a variety of resources that may

aid in student success. Among these resources is:

Accommodations for students with documented disabilities. For more information about ADA policy, services, and procedures, students may call the Office of Student Disability Services at 954-262-7189 or visit <http://www.nova.edu/disabilityservices>.