



LegalWriting
institute

LWI One-Day Workshop at Florida International University College of Law

December 6, 2024

In-Person, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., E.S.T

Time	Speaker	Presentation
8:00 a.m.- 8:45 a.m.		Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:45 a.m.- 9:00 a.m.	Antony Page, Dean, FIU College of Law Rima Mullins, FIU College of Law	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:00 a.m.- 9:25 a.m.	Julie St. John, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law	A Strategy for Identifying Implicit Reasoning: Teaching Students to “Connect the Dots” from Rule to Facts to Conclusion Many novice legal writers struggle with providing complete, concrete legal analysis, particularly when grappling with implicit reasoning. They think they are following the formula but instead substitute facts for analysis. After stating the legal rule, they provide a laundry list of facts followed by their conclusion. What they are missing are the links and inferences (often implicit reasoning) that connect the facts to the rule and provide proper support for their conclusions. To combat this problem, I use simple exercises to illustrate the difference between facts and inferences, and to teach students how to connect the dots in their analysis.



Time	Speaker	Presentation
9:25 a.m.- 9:50 a.m.	Christina Frohock, University of Miami School of Law	Switching the Flip: How a Flipped Classroom Enhances Writing Skills in the Digital Age The idea of a flipped classroom in law school often arises in the context of doctrinal teaching. Professors can record lectures for students to watch at home and then lead projects for students to participate in class. I propose that the flipped classroom benefits legal writing courses, as well. Professors can host a writing workshop, guiding students to edit and revise their papers in real time. Offering my upper-level writing course as an example, I will identify the rewards of focusing on the process of writing—especially as a balance to the digital demands of modern education.
9:50 a.m.- 10:40 a.m.	Margaret Brenan Correoso, FIU College of Law	The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Law Classes; the Pros and Cons; and When Should it Be Introduced? Artificial intelligence in the legal world is new, exciting and transformative. It helps lawyers cut costs, improve time management, and as a supplementary tool to draft pleadings. However, concerns exist that introducing AI too soon in law school will prevent students from learning the required analytical skills. In addition, ethical concerns arise with using AI. Law students are probably not aware of confidentiality, conflicts, or billing practices. However, law firms are expecting the younger generation of lawyers to know how to use AI in practice. This presentation will discuss the pros and cons of using AI, and when to introduce AI in law school.
10:40 a.m.- 10:50 a.m.		Break



Time	Speaker	Presentation
10:50 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.	Marci Rosenthal, FIU College of Law	<p>Hybrid, Asynchronous, Online, Oh My! Teaching Legal Writing in the Mixed Modalities of Online Learning</p> <p>During the COVID-19 pandemic, legal education, like so many other fields, abruptly pivoted online. Classes, mock trials and moot court arguments, and even employment experiences like clerkships and internships became virtual. In the years since the pandemic shutdowns ended, in-person experiences have resumed, but online and other virtual education have remained in tandem with the in-person experience. How can we make online and mixed modality teaching as effective in legal writing courses as traditional, in-person classes are? This presentation will explore strategies for teaching legal writing in hybrid, synchronous, and asynchronous online teaching modalities.</p>
11:15 a.m.- 11:55 a.m.	Heidi Gilchrist, Brooklyn Law School	<p>Protester as Combatant: Rhetoric as a Weapon of War</p> <p>When protests broke out in Iran after the morality police brutally killed Mahsa Amini, Iranian officials quickly began calling the protests a hybrid war. They framed the protesters as combatants. Under international humanitarian law, civilians are protected, but not combatants. With this framing, they used the language of international humanitarian law that was created to protect civilians to target and kill civilians. I examine this framing through the lens of language and emotion. I will also discuss teaching our students how powerful words are using real world examples that matter in a rapidly changing world.</p>
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.		Lunch



Time	Speaker	Presentation
1:00 p.m.- 1:35 p.m.	Amy Stein, Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University	Preparing Our Students for the Longer Essay Questions on the NextGen Bar Exam The MPT comprises 25% of the UBE. The NextGen Bar Exam will contain longer writing tasks which will make up roughly the same portion of the exam and which the NCBE compares to the MPT. Because the MPT does not require subject matter knowledge, but rather the application of the analytical and reasoning skills that have been taught throughout law school, it is the key to passing the Bar. At Hofstra, we incorporate an MPT-type exam into the Legal Writing class. I would like to discuss how we can integrate this type of exam into other places in the curriculum.
1:35 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.	Yordanka Delionado, FIU College of Law	Enhancing Client Interviewing Skills: Preparing for the NextGen Bar and Beyond As law schools adapt to the NextGen Bar requirements, it's crucial to continue to enhance student skill development. My presentation will focus on client counseling, specifically effective client interviewing techniques. I will share a comprehensive client interview plan and a self-assessment assignment from my course. Through a dynamic in-class role-play exercise, students will test their interview plans while honing essential communication and listening skills. Working in pairs allows them to experience both roles, fostering deeper insights into client interests and goals. This approach not only prepares students for real-world practice but also encourages collaborative learning and reflection.
2:00 p.m.- 2:40 p.m.	BarBri/Themis Representatives	Changes in Bar Preparation for the Upcoming NextGen Bar Representatives from BarBri and Themis will discuss changes in plans for Bar preparation from the perspective of Bar preparation companies working hand-in-hand with law faculty.
2:40 p.m.- 2:50 p.m.		Break



Time	Speaker	Presentation
2:50 p.m.- 3:15 p.m.	Tenikka Jones and Amanda Bertrand, Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law	Think and Act Like a Lawyer from the Start: Integrating the Foundational Skills of the NextGen Bar into the LRW Classroom. This session discusses how to tailor the Legal Research and Writing Fall semester curriculum to teach your students the foundational skills that will be tested on the NextGen Bar exam. While we already teach many of these skills to our students, this session explores how to make an even greater impact by re-structuring the order in which these skills are taught to better align with how our students will further develop and utilize them in practice as new attorneys. This approach teaches students what it means to "think and act like a lawyer" and, more importantly, how to do it effectively!
3:15 p.m.- 4:05 p.m.	Erin K. Loeb, FIU College of Law Recent Bar-taker panel	Preparing recent graduates for the Bar Exam; Recent Bar-taker Panel This session reviews current strategies for Bar preparation and considers changes to these strategies in light of the NextGen Bar. The session includes a panel of recent Bar exam takers, who will reflect on their experiences and NextGen Bar-necessitated changes in preparation from the exam-taker's perspective.
4:05 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.	(Group)	Lessons from the Day: Brainstorm and Wrap Up

For more information, please contact:
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