



LegalWriting
institute

LWI One-Day Workshop at Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Saturday, December 7, 2024

Online, 10:00 a.m. to 4:05 p.m. E.S.T.

Register through lwionline.org to receive the Zoom link

Forming Professional Identities: Models and Methods

Time (EST)	Speaker	Presentation
10:00 -10:50	Irene Ten Cate & Meg Holzer Brooklyn Law School	<i>Legal Writing's Identities</i> The legal writing community has always been a big tent with room for academics who have vastly different strengths, goals, and professional lives. My presentation will explore how efforts to improve the status of legal writing professors intersect with our individual and collective identities. For example, the fight for unitary tenure track implies a choice for giving scholarship a more central place than it has had in the past. I hope to start an open-ended discussion about the connections between status, discipline-building, and identity.



Time (EST)	Speaker	Presentation
11:00 -11:50	B. Afton Cavanaugh University of Baltimore Law School	<p><i>Nursing the 1L Mind: Teaching Nursing Clinical Judgment to Help Cure Analytical Ills</i></p> <p>This presentation will demonstrate how nursing education’s clinical judgment models can be adapted to the 1L legal writing curriculum to enhance students’ analytical reasoning. Attendees will be introduced to innovative exercises that integrate these models as an overarching theme in the LRW classroom, making instruction more engaging and effective. By incorporating these strategies, educators can help students build critical thinking skills essential for legal analysis and writing.</p>
12:00 -12:50	<p><i>Brownbag Discussion Group: Tips for Teaching with Technology</i> Led by Lane McFadden & Cindy Cho Indiana University Maurer School of Law</p> <p><i>Bring your own lunch and your own tips!</i></p>	
12:50 -1:15	<p>—<i>Break</i>—</p>	
1:15 -2:05	Meredith Geller Northwestern Pritzker School of Law	<p><i>Bringing the Mountain to Mohammed: Incorporating Law Practice into Legal Writing Classes</i></p> <p>Students often struggle with creating their professional identity in law school because they are unable to put the work they are doing in the context of law practice. This session will discuss ways to provide that context using practical examples and short exercises that can easily be incorporated into Legal Writing classes. The session will further discuss how alums and other members of the legal community can assist with this. Finally, examples of short exercises and assignments will be provided. These include an attorney bio sufficient for a law firm's website, timesheets, and informal documents that can be used for marketing.</p>



Time (EST)	Speaker	Presentation
2:15 -3:05	Jonathan Bremen Loyola Law School, Los Angeles	<p><i>Open Sesame!: Leveraging Case Reasoning and "Magic Words" in Legal Writing</i></p> <p>This presentation explores how teaching students to extract and incorporate key reasoning from judicial opinions helps them develop the foundational skills, values, and professional identity needed for successful legal practice. By mastering the language of the courts, students build a professional legal voice that is authoritative, clear, and persuasive. The session will focus on practical strategies to guide students in integrating this skill into their writing, helping them transition from law students to competent, ethical professionals.</p>
3:15 -4:05	Eric Swank I.U. Robert H. McKinney School of Law	<p><i>Using Immersive Role-Playing Simulations to Develop Professional Identity</i></p> <p>If leaders are forged in crisis, can a simulated national security crisis forge students' professional identities? During the two-day immersive Ohio State National Security Simulation at the Moritz College of Law and Mershon Center for International Security Studies, practitioners play US government decision makers. Students help these principals address real-time threats unfolding around the world. By playing their roles, students develop key professional competencies like solving problems, communicating clearly, and upholding responsibility to the client. How are these developed in the simulation? Can role-playing on a smaller scale in legal writing classes help develop a student's professional identity?</p>

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