

SYLLABUS

TRIAL SIMULATION – SPRING 2018

PROFESSOR LETITIA D. QUINONES

- COURSE:** Trial Simulation 514
- ROOM:** 105
- TIME:** Monday and Wednesday 1:00p.m. – 1:50p.m.
- OFFICE:** 2202 Ruth Street
Houston, Texas 77004
713-481-4720
E-mail – quinonesesq@gmail.com
- OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.
- REQUIRED TEXT:** Modern Trial Advocacy (National Institute for Trial Advocacy)
Fifth Edition, Stephen Lubet
Case File: State v. Baines

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS:

Trial Simulation is a four-credit hour course, (Spring) which is designed to teach second year students persuasive trial advocacy skills, motion practice, introduction of evidence and organizational skills.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

To introduce and instruct second-year law students on the trial process in the context of drafting motions in preparation for trial. Students will be introduced to trial preparation and trial presentation. Specifically, students will be introduced to the entire trial process, in an effort to prepare them to engage in vigorous advocacy for their clients. Students will be instructed on the substantive law, rules of evidence, rules of procedure, and legal ethics.

To effectively present the skills of trial practice to second year students in both general concepts and particular categories of evidence.

To provide the students with a carefully structured history and common principal of practical trial skills and evidence.

To enable the law student to master the construction of a trial while creating familiarity and confidence in the trial process.

FINAL LETTER GRADE IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

Grades are based on the following:

Motion Practice	20%
Trial Notebook	30%
Trial Presentation	<u>50%</u>
TOTAL	100%

COURSE SCHEDULE:

DAY	DATE	AGENDA
Monday	January 8, 2018	Discussion Chapter 1, 2, and 3 Modern Trial Advocacy
Wednesday	January 10, 2018	Discussion Ch. 1, 2, and 3 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Monday	January 15, 2018	MLK Holiday
Wednesday	January 17, 2018	Practicals – Voir Dire Ch. 14 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Monday	January 22, 2018	Practicals – Voir Dire Ch. 14 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Wednesday	January 24, 2018	Practicals – Exhibits/Admitting Evidence Ch. 10 and Ch.11 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Monday	January 29, 2018	Practicals – Exhibits/Admitting Evidence Ch. 10 and Ch. 11 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Wednesday	January 31, 2018	Practicals – Opening Statements Ch. 12 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Monday	February 5, 2018	Practicals – Opening Statements Ch. 12 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Wednesday	February 7, 2018	Practicals – Direct and Redirect Examination Ch. 4 and Ch. 7 Modern Trial Advocacy
Monday	February 12, 2018	Practicals – Direct and Redirect Examination Ch. 4 and Ch. 7 Modern Trial Advocacy

Wednesday	February 14, 2018	Practicals – Cross Examination Ch. 5 Modern Trial Advocacy
Monday	February 19, 2018	Practical – Cross Examination Ch. 5 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Wednesday	February 21, 2018	Practical – Oral Advocacy
Monday	February 26, 2018	Practical – Refreshing Recollection/Impeachments Ch. 6 of Modern Trial Advocacy
Wednesday	February 28, 2018	Practical – Refreshing Recollection/Impeachments Ch. 6 of Modern Trial Advocacy

March 5, 2018 - March 9, 2018

MIDTERM EXAMINATIONS

March 12, 2018 - March 16, 2018

SPRING BREAK

Monday	March 19, 2018	Practical Workshop – Closing Argument
Wednesday	March 21, 2018	Practical Workshop – Closing Argument
Monday	March 26, 2018	Practical – Jury Selection
Wednesday	March 28, 2018	Practical – Jury Selection
Monday	April 2, 2018	Preparation for Final Trial including completion of Trial Notebook
Wednesday	April 4, 2018	Preparation for Final Trial including completion of Trial Notebook
Monday	April 9, 2018	Preparation for Final Trial including completion of Trial Notebook
April 16, 2018 – April 26, 2018		Trial Presentations Trial Notebook and Motions Due

CLASS RULES:

Participation: Students are expected to prepare for every class. This means all cases and assignments should be read and prepared **BY YOU**. Stacks will be requested for submission periodically without notice.

Attire: Students are required to wear suits on trial dates. Students are free to

dress according to Thurgood Marshall School of Law's dress code otherwise.

Cellular devices are not allowed in the classroom unless special circumstances exist.

Note: Syllabus is subject to change with or without notice and is not a contract