

APPROVED _____ DATE _____



**TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW
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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77004**

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REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

**LAW 802 – INDEPENDENT RESEARCH I
LAW 803 – INDEPENDENT RESEARCH II
SPRING 2015**

NAME _____ DATE _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

PROFESSOR'S NAME (PRINTED) _____

1. Get an application for Independent Research from Mrs. Johnson in the Dean's Area, on Dean Mouton's TWEN website for Independent Research, or download this form, fill out and submit as directed.
2. Get a written approval of a tenured or tenure track supervising faculty member to write a research paper under his/her supervision for the semester. The paper must be equivalent in scope to a Law Review article of at least 20 double spaced typewritten pages, excluding the cover, table of contents, footnotes, and Table of Authorities, written on a topic of your choice.
3. Submit the written application for Independent Research with your signature and your supervising faculty member's signature. Attach an exhaustive outline for the paper. (Refer to the first reading assignment in Scholarly Writing for Law Students, Chapters 1-4. The book is required for this course and may be purchased in the university bookstore or wherever law books are sold. Good examples of acceptable outlines are on pp. 85-87).
4. Get Dean Mouton's written approval to register for this course.
5. Register for the course during the registration period. You will need to contact Mrs. Johnson to register, as this is a closed enrollment course.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. No student will be allowed to register for Law 802 or Law 803 who:
 - a. has an unfinished paper in a course in which an “I” is pending
 - b. Does not have a grade of “C” or better in any course that is a foundation course for the paper.
 - c. Does not have written approval of the supervising professor.
 - d. Does not have written approval of Dean Mouton.
 - e. **Has not completed Appellate Litigation.**
2. A student must first enroll in Law 802, Independent Research I in one semester before he/she can register in Law 803 Independent Research II.
3. A student may enroll in Law 803, Independent Research II, only after having successfully completed Law 802 with a minimum grade of “B”.
4. If a student enrolls in Law 803, the student must show that the proposed paper is substantially different from the work done by the student in Law 802, even if the topics are related.
5. The student must submit an exhaustive outline of the proposed paper to the supervising professor.
6. The supervising professor must be teaching in, or have competence in, the general area of the proposed student research.
7. The supervising professor and student must meet at least monthly on or before the scheduled meeting dates with professors as listed on the syllabus.
8. The student must submit the completed paper to his supervising professor and submit a duplicate copy to Dean Mouton’s office on the date the paper is due for submission. Dean Mouton’s office will verify that the paper has met minimum page requirements, minimum footnote requirements, as well as other format requirements. The supervising professor will grade the substantive requirements of the paper and submit a grade to Dean Mouton on or before grades are due to be submitted.

GUIDELINES FOR AN APPROVED OUTLINE

1. Refer to the first reading assignment in *Scholarly Writing for Law Students*, Chapters 1-4. Good examples of acceptable outlines are on pp. 85-87.*

2. The paper should be
 - a. of Law Review quality
 - b. at least 20 double spaced typewritten pages in length, excluding the cover, table of contents, footnotes, and Table of Authorities, and Honor Code
 - c. properly foot noted or end noted with at least 100 footnotes

*Source for guidance: Elizabeth Fajans and Mary R. Falk, *Scholarly Writing for Law Students*, Thomson West

**APPLICATION TO REGISTER FOR
LAW 802 - INDEPENDENT RESEARCH I
OR
LAW 803 - INDEPENDENT RESEARCH II
SPRING 2015**

1. Student Name: _____
2. Number of law school credit hours successfully completed. _____
3. Number of law school credit hours in which you are presently enrolled _____
4. Number of incomplete (I) grades still pending _____
5. List any courses you have taken where your FINAL grade was LESS than a "C"

6. Present law school cumulative grade point average _____
7. Semester/Year/Grade Received in Appellate Litigation _____
8. Semester for which you are applying: Spring _____ Summer _____ Fall _____
9. Course for which you are applying (Check One)
_____ Law 802 Independent Research I
_____ Law 803 Independent Research II
- **You cannot apply for Research II unless you have enrolled in Independent Research I and received a grade of "B" or better.**
10. Name of Professor sponsoring your paper (Please Print)

11. Proposed topic of your paper: _____

12. If applying for Independent Research II please complete the following:
Semester and Year enrolled in Independent Research I _____
Supervising Professor _____
Final Grade Received _____

13. Attach a copy of the DETAILED outline of your proposed research paper along with a brief summary explaining the purpose or significance of this research.

14. Meeting dates for review of progress on research.

January 14, 2015	1 st Meeting With Dean Mouton
Week of January 19-23, 2015	Follow-up Meeting with Your Professor
February 11, 2015	2 nd Meeting with Dean Mouton
Week of February 16-20, 2015	2 nd Meeting with Your Professor
March 11, 2015	3 rd Meeting with Dean Mouton
Week of March 23-27, 2015	3 rd Meeting with Your Professor
May 15, 2015	Final Paper Due to Professor
June 12, 2015	Final Grade Due to Dean Mouton

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Supervising Professor

Date

Signature of Dean Mouton

Date

An application will be processed only if it has an attached outline of the proposed research area and the signatures of supervising Professor and Dean Mouton. Completed applications should be returned to Dean Mouton at the Law School.

**LAW 802, Law 803
INDEPENDENT RESEARCH I, II
DEAN VIRGIE MOUTON, INSTRUCTOR
SPRING 2015**

This class is designed to give students an opportunity to research a legal topic and write a law review quality paper under the guidance of a tenured or tenure track professor. The student and professor will decide on a topic and develop an outline that the student will use to conduct research and write a paper. As coordinator of the guided researches, the instructor will conduct a series of classes to discuss the skills the students will use in writing their papers and consult with the students regarding the technical requirements of producing a quality paper. Substantive materials will not be discussed.

Required Text:

Scholarly Writing for Law Students, Fourth Edition

Authors: Elizabeth Fajans and Mary R. Falk, West Group

ISBN 0-314-14631-8

Office Hours: Room 222 B, Dean's Suite

Monday through Thursday: 2-5 p.m. Appointments, please.

PAPERS DUE: On or before 4 p.m. Friday, May 15, 2015

GRADES DUE: On or before 4 p.m. Friday, June 11, 2015

	STUDENTS	DATE	READING ASSIGNMENT	Bluebook
	Attend Information Session with Dean Mouton to discuss requirements for enrollment. Fill out application	Nov. 17-21,	Chapters 1 – 4, Fajans and Falk Scholarly Writing in Law School, Choosing a Subject and Developing a Thesis, The Mostly Research Stage, Working Toward an Outline, Creating an Outline	
	Submit application to Dean Mouton's office for approval	On or Before December 10		
	Notice of approval to each student on	On or Before Friday, December 12		
	1st class meeting with Dean Mouton	January 14	Chapters 5-6, Fajans and Falk The Writing Process: Revising and Polishing, Footnotes and the Ethical Use of Borrowed	Introduction to Basic Legal Citation, pp. 3-24

			Materials	
	1 st follow-up meeting with Your Professor	Week of January 21		
	2 nd class meeting with Dean Mouton	Week of February 11	Chapters 7-8, Fajans and Falk "Grammar and Usage," Punctuation," "Writing With Style"	Structure and Use of Citations, Rules 1 – 12, pp. 45—113.
	2 nd follow-up meeting with Your Professor	Week of February 18		
	3 rd class meeting with Dean Mouton	Week of February 11	Chapters 9 & 10 Fajans and Falk "Evaluating and Editing the Work of Others"	Citations for Additional Materials, Rules 13-21, pp. 114 – 191.
	3 rd meeting with your professor	Week of March 11		
	Final Paper Due to Professor	May 15, 2015		
	Final Grade Due	June 12, 2015		

Class Attendance

Roll is taken at the beginning of class. If you are not present when the roll is called, you will be marked absent. If you are present and leave class, whether you return or not, you will be marked absent. You are expected to attend class for the full 50 minutes allotted.