

Lawyering Skills: the Way to Effective Performance as a Counselor and Advocate

Romanian American University

Prof. Philip M. Genty

Schedule of Classes and Assignments

I. Monday, 23 May, 16:30-18:00: Introduction

- Goals of Course
- Overview of Course

- Exercise 1 - group brainstorming and discussion: Using Facts to Build a Persuasive Legal Argument: A Case Example

Assignment for 24 May

Read:

Lawrence D. Rosenberg, "Writing to Win: The Art and Science of Compelling Written Advocacy" (excerpt)

Relevant portions of Romanian Asylum Law

Immigration Problem, Part 1 (handout)

Come to class prepared to discuss facts in the scenario that favor the legal claim of each party in the Immigration Problem (the Applicant and the Government)

II. Tuesday, 24 May, 16:30-18:00: Effective Written Factual and Legal Advocacy

- Discussion of previous day's assignment (facts in the scenario that favor the legal claim of each party)
- Discussion of techniques for making an effective written presentation

Assignment for 25 May

Divide into sides on Immigration Problem (1/2 as Applicant, 1/2 as Government)

Working *individually*, or *with one other person*, write a 1-2 page statement you would submit to a judge summarizing your client's factual and legal arguments.

E-mail to pgenty@law.columbia.edu by **NOON** on Wednesday, 26 May

III. Wednesday, 25 May, 16:30-18:00: Ethical Issues in Client Representation

- Discuss and critique written statements submitted for previous day's assignment
- Class discussion of ethical situations that might confront a new lawyer

Handout Immigration Scenario, Part 2
Organize Groups

Assignment for 26 May

Read:

Romanian Lawyers' Professional Code (excerpt)

Charter of Core Principles of the European Legal Profession; A Commentary
on the Charter of Core Principles of the European Legal Profession

Immigration Problem, Part 2 (handout)

Review new facts in Immigration Problem and relevant provisions from lawyer's professional codes. Come to class prepared to discuss the ethical issues, if any, that are presented in the problem, and the provisions of the codes that are relevant to the case.

IV. Thursday, 26 May, 9:00-10:20: Preparation for Group Presentations

Discussion of previous day's assignment (the ethical issues, if any, that are presented in the problem, and the provisions of the codes that are relevant to the case)

Assignment for 27 May

Groups prepare an opinion about how the ethical issues in the case should be resolved

V. Friday, 27 May, 9:00-10:20: Presentations and Conclusions

Group presentations of ethics opinions