## Law School Preparation Institute: Professor Soto’s Courts in Action Legal Writing Course Map

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<th>MODULE</th>
<th>GOALS &amp; OBJECTIVES</th>
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| Module One: Introduction to the Course & to Each Other (preclass & day one) | - Follow instructions well  
- Introduce yourself to others  
- Meet your professor, TAs, & peers in the virtual setting  
- Learn what the course will entail  
- Know the major assignments & grading distribution  
- Learn & think critically about the tips for undergrads thinking about law school  
- Start thinking deeply & critically through the Subway Vigilante case questions  
- Familiarize yourself with Blackboard, course tools, office hours, class schedule, & expectations | Read, watch videos, watch Netflix one-hour show, make intro video, think, comment, answer questions; surf Blackboard:  
- Self-recorded video introductions: upload to Blackboard Module One by 6/7 at 10pm, then watch all others’ intro videos by 6/8 at noon  
- Watch Prelaw Tips YouTube Video; comment on Discussion Board (DB) #1 with your own original thread about your thoughts on the video by 6/7 at 10pm, then comment in response to at least two other threads by 6/8 at 10am  
- Watch Subway Vigilante (in Netflix Trial by Media series) & submit reflection question answers to prof & TAs via email by 6/7 at 10pm  
- Class meetings—see syllabus  
- Open office hours Sun-Thurs 8-9pm | Record: Make your introductory video & upload it to Blackboard by 6/7 at 10pm  
Watch:  
1. Law School Tips YouTube Video  
2. All Intro Videos by 6/8 at noon  
   - Prof & TAs  
   - Other students in class  
3. Subway Vigilante on Netflix: Trial by Media Series  
Other Assignments: Submit via email to Prof. & TAs: Answers to Reflection Questions on Subway Vigilante by 6/7 at 10pm  
**DB#1 on YouTube Video:** Post Your Thread by 6/7 at 10pm  
Respond to two or more other threads by 6/8 at 10am  
Read: Class syllabus, course map  
Explore: Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, YuJa (optional), Zoom |
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| Module Two: Strategic Grammar & Writing (week one, week two, & week three) | - Revisit grammar principles in the context of effective writing & strategic legal writing  
   - Improve upon strategic use of grammar  
   - Address & improve upon important writing topics for effective legal writing  
   - Strengthen grammar & writing skills through peer collaboration | - Watch all grammar & writing asynchronous presentations & related questions for each segment as assigned for homework, then submit via email by 10pm each day; **No DB #2**  
   - Review extra resources in module (take note of ESL info, if applicable)  
   - Small group sessions  
   - Peer editing projects as assigned  
   - Class meetings | Multimedia:  
   Watch all grammar & writing asynchronous video presentations & answer imbedded questions as assigned in class (26 total); see additional links & videos provided in Module Two for additional help & practice as needed  
Assignments to submit via email to Prof. & TAs:  
Submit answers to questions imbedded in homework videos assigned: due at 10pm daily |
| Module Three: Legal Analysis & Legal Writing (week one, week two, & week three) | - Actively read & extract key information from judicial opinions & statutory law  
   - Improve upon critical thinking & critical analysis  
   - Understand & engage in legal analysis  
   - Learn how to present the analysis in an objective predictive legal memorandum | - Legal analysis & writing synchronous lectures; review of slides; **No DB #3**  
   - Review extra resources in module  
   - Related individual & small group projects  
   - Legal memorandum with optional early submission dates for feedback (questions presented by 6/15 at 10pm; 1st legal proof by 6/17 at 10pm)  
   - Class meetings | Read:  
* A Lawyer Writes * Excerpts as needed & other articles in Module; see additional links & videos provided in Module Three for additional help & practice as needed; see PowerPoint Slides in Module Three reinforcing all concepts learned in class  
Assignments to submit via email to Prof. & TAs:  
1. Individual & small group assignments as provided in class  
2. Legal Memorandum due at 10pm 6/25 |
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| Module Four: Law School Application Help | - Improve upon vocabulary that will help with the LSAT  
- Develop & practice protocols for tackling LSAT Writing Samples  
- Learn about the personal statement & résumé for the law school application & produce a first draft of each | - LSAT Vocabulary Flashcards (75)  
(25 flashcards due 1st 3 Sat at 11am)  
- LSAT vocab class 1st 3 Sat at 11 am  
No DB #4  
- LSAT Writing Samples as assigned  
- First Draft of Personal Statement due 7/6 by 10pm via email to prof. only  
- Law school application résumé due 7/6 by 10pm via email to prof. only | Read/Multimedia:  
See LSAT vocabulary word info, links, & information provided in Module Four  
Assignments to submit via email to Prof. & TAs:  
See activities column |
| Module Five: Harvard Case Study Project | - Critically think through a controversial policy problem; consider all perspectives, interests, & needs, then write a memorandum on the group’s best approach  
- After learning the applicable law in step two, propose a policy approach that also comports with the law by drafting proposed regulations  
- Present & defend proposed regs; enhance oral advocacy skill & group cooperation  
- View, think about, & comment on other groups’ presentations & approaches | - Reading  
- Small Group Memorandum  
- More Reading  
- Small Group Proposed Regulations  
- Preparation for Group Presentations  
- Self-Recorded Group Presentations  
- Watch all other presentations & provide feedback on each via Discussion Board #5 | Read:  
All Harvard Case Study project cases & other information provided  
Assignments to submit via email to Prof. & TAs:  
1. Group memo by 6/30 at 10pm  
2. Group proposed regs by 7/1 at 10pm  
3. Watch & comment on presentations by 7/3 at 10pm in DB #5  
Record:  
Small group presentation & upload it to Blackboard by 7/2 at 10pm |
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| Optional Bonus Module | - Develop or reinforce your growth mindset; understand the concept of neuroplasticity  
- Exercise your brain muscle & further develop your critical thinking & analytical skills  
- Know importance of self care  
- Learn helpful tips as you move along the path toward law school  
- Learn about opportunities in experiential legal learning through the UTEP Patti & Paul Yetter Center for Law  
- Share ideas, comments, & resources with your LSPI group | - Videos  
- Encouragement  
- Valuable information  
- Extra projects  
- **Optional Discussion Board #6** to discuss or comment on any of the materials in this module | **Optional**: engagement in videos, reading, resources, & DB #6 |
| Module Six: Mindset Toolkit & More! | | | |

This course addresses six UTEP EDGE learning outcomes: CO-EDGE-CO-02 through CO-04 & CO-EDGE-2018-06-CO-06 through CO-08.