

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

| MODULE  | GOALS & OBJECTIVES  | ACTIVITIES   | READINGS, MULTIMEDIA & ASSIGNMENTS   |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Module One: Introduction to the Course &amp; to Each Other (preclass &amp; day one)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Follow instructions well</li> <li>- Introduce yourself to others</li> <li>-Meet your professor, TAs, &amp; peers in the virtual setting</li> <li>-Learn what the course will entail</li> <li>-Know the major assignments &amp; grading distribution</li> <li>-Learn &amp; think critically about the tips for undergrads thinking about law school</li> <li>-Start thinking deeply &amp; critically through the Subway Vigilante case questions</li> <li>-Familiarize yourself with Blackboard, course tools, office hours, class schedule, &amp; expectations</li> </ul> | <p>Read, watch videos, watch Netflix one-hour show, make intro video, think, comment, answer questions; surf Blackboard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-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</li> <li>-Watch Prelaw Tips YouTube Video; comment on <b>Discussion Board (DB) #1</b> 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</li> <li>-Watch Subway Vigilante (in Netflix Trial by Media series) &amp; submit reflection question answers to prof &amp; TAs via email by 6/7 at 10pm</li> <li>-Class meetings—see syllabus</li> <li>-Open office hours Sun-Thurs 8-9pm</li> </ul> | <p><b>Record:</b><br/>Make your introductory video &amp; upload it to Blackboard by 6/7 at 10pm</p> <p><b>Watch:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Law School Tips <b>YouTube Video</b></li> <li>2. All Intro Videos by 6/8 at noon             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prof &amp; TAs</li> <li>-Other students in class</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Subway Vigilante on Netflix: Trial by Media Series</li> </ol> <p><b>Other Assignments:</b><br/><b>Submit via email to Prof. &amp; TAs:</b> Answers to Reflection Questions on Subway Vigilante by 6/7 at 10pm<br/><b>DB#1 on YouTube Video:</b> Post Your Thread by 6/7 at 10pm<br/>Respond to two or more other threads by 6/8 at 10am</p> <p><b>Read:</b><br/>Class syllabus, course map</p> <p><b>Explore:</b><br/>Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, YuJa (optional), Zoom</p> |

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| <p><b>Module Two: Strategic Grammar &amp; Writing</b></p> <p>(week one, week two, &amp; week three)</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Revisit grammar principles in the context of effective writing &amp; strategic legal writing</li> <li>-Improve upon strategic use of grammar</li> <li>-Address &amp; improve upon important writing topics for effective legal writing</li> <li>-Strengthen grammar &amp; writing skills through peer collaboration</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Watch all grammar &amp; writing asynchronous presentations &amp; related questions for each segment as assigned for homework, then submit via email by 10pm each day; <b>No DB #2</b></li> <li>-Review extra resources in module (take note of ESL info, if applicable)</li> <li>-Small group sessions</li> <li>-Peer editing projects as assigned</li> <li>-Class meetings</li> </ul>     | <p><b>Multimedia:</b><br/>Watch all grammar &amp; writing asynchronous video presentations &amp; answer imbedded questions as assigned in class (26 total); see additional links &amp; videos provided in Module Two for additional help &amp; practice as needed</p> <p><b>Assignments to submit via email to Prof. &amp; TAs:</b><br/>Submit answers to questions imbedded in homework videos assigned: due at 10pm daily</p>   |
| <p><b>Module Three: Legal Analysis &amp; Legal Writing</b></p> <p>(week one, week two, &amp; week three)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Actively read &amp; extract key information from judicial opinions &amp; statutory law</li> <li>-Improve upon critical thinking &amp; critical analysis</li> <li>-Understand &amp; engage in legal analysis</li> <li>-Learn how to present the analysis in an objective predictive legal memorandum</li> </ul>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Legal analysis &amp; writing synchronous lectures; review of slides; <b>No DB #3</b></li> <li>-Review extra resources in module</li> <li>-Related individual &amp; small group projects</li> <li>-Legal memorandum with optional early submission dates for feedback (questions presented by 6/15 at 10pm; 1<sup>st</sup> legal proof by 6/17 at 10pm)</li> <li>-Class meetings</li> </ul> | <p><b>Read:</b><br/><i>A Lawyer Writes</i> Excerpts as needed &amp; other articles in Module; see additional links &amp; videos provided in Module Three for additional help &amp; practice as needed; see PowerPoint Slides in Module Three reinforcing all concepts learned in class</p> <p><b>Assignments to submit via email to Prof. &amp; TAs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Individual &amp; small group assignments as provided in class</li> <li>2. Legal Memorandum due at 10pm 6/25</li> </ol> |

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| <p><b>Module Four:</b><br/><b>Law School Application Help</b></p> <p><b>(week one, week two, &amp; week three)</b></p> | <p>-Improve upon vocabulary that will help with the LSAT</p> <p>-Develop &amp; practice protocols for tackling LSAT Writing Samples</p> <p>-Learn about the personal statement &amp; résumé for the law school application &amp; produce a first draft of each</p>   | <p>-LSAT Vocabulary Flashcards (75) (25 flashcards due 1<sup>st</sup> 3 Sats at 11am)</p> <p>-LSAT vocab class 1<sup>st</sup> 3 Sats at 11am</p> <p><b>No DB #4</b></p> <p>-LSAT Writing Samples as assigned</p> <p>-First Draft of Personal Statement due 7/6 by 10pm via email to prof. only</p> <p>-Law school application résumé due 7/6 by 10pm via email to prof. only</p> | <p><b>Read/Multimedia:</b><br/>See LSAT vocabulary word info, links, &amp; information provided in Module Four</p> <p><b>Assignments to submit via email to Prof. &amp; TAs:</b><br/>See activities column</p>   |
| <p><b>Module Five:</b><br/><b>Harvard Case Study Project</b></p> <p><b>(week four)</b></p>                             | <p>-Critically think though a controversial policy problem; consider all perspectives, interests, &amp; needs, then write a memorandum on the group's best approach</p> <p>-After learning the applicable law in step two, propose a policy approach that also comports with the law by drafting proposed regulations</p> <p>-Present &amp; defend proposed regs; enhance oral advocacy skill &amp; group cooperation</p> <p>-View, think about, &amp; comment on other groups' presentations &amp; approaches</p> | <p>-Reading</p> <p>-Small Group Memorandum</p> <p>-More Reading</p> <p>-Small Group Proposed Regulations</p> <p>-Preparation for Group Presentations</p> <p>-Self-Recorded Group Presentations</p> <p>-Watch all other presentations &amp; provide feedback on each via <b>Discussion Board #5</b></p>   | <p><b>Read:</b><br/>All Harvard Case Study project cases &amp; other information provided</p> <p><b>Assignments to submit via email to Prof. &amp; TAs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Group memo by 6/30 at 10pm</li> <li>2. Group proposed regs by 7/1 at 10pm</li> <li>3. Watch &amp; comment on presentations by 7/3 at 10pm in <b>DB #5</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Record:</b><br/>Small group presentation &amp; upload it to Blackboard by 7/2 at 10pm</p> |

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| <p><b>Optional Bonus Module</b></p><br><p><b>Module Six: Mindset Toolkit &amp; More!</b></p> | <p>-Develop or reinforce your growth mindset; understand the concept of neuroplasticity</p><br><p>-Exercise your brain muscle &amp; further develop your critical thinking &amp; analytical skills</p><br><p>-Know importance of self care</p><br><p>-Learn helpful tips as you move along the path toward law school</p><br><p>-Learn about opportunities in experiential legal learning through the UTEP Patti &amp; Paul Yetter Center for Law</p><br><p>-Share ideas, comments, &amp; resources with your LSPI group</p> | <p>-Videos</p><br><p>-Encouragement</p><br><p>-Valuable information</p><br><p>-Extra projects</p><br><p><b>-Optional Discussion Board #6</b> to discuss or comment on any of the materials in this module</p> | <p><b>Optional:</b> engagement in videos, reading, resources, &amp; <b>DB #6</b></p> |

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