ACADEMIC SKILLS CLASSES

Weekly, By Video, followed by Zoom Q & A

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This is an open-attendance program dedicated to helping first-year law students adjust to law school. It is designed to provide ongoing support and education through weekly/biweekly Academic Skills classes as well as individual conferences throughout the fall and spring semesters. To keep everyone safe and healthy, sessions for this semester will be video-taped and released on a weekly basis. Everyone is encouraged to “attend.” Most of you will find some lecture topics more helpful than others, depending upon your own experiences. Attend as we discuss what is relevant to you. Although I am available on campus during regular office hours, students may also schedule appointments via Zoom.

REQUIREMENTS

- Review class announcements to see if the topic discussed will be helpful.
- Meet with me (virtually or in person) at least once during the semester.
- Ask any and all questions.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**NOTE: Topics may change as the need arises to address specific concerns of the first-year class.**

**Week 1 - Aug. 31**
**Learning In the Classroom:**
Introduction and Life on Planet Law School - Secrets of note taking, the Socratic Method (how do I know WHAT to write down?)

**Week 2 -- Sept. 7**
The dreaded cold call -- Briefing Cases and preparing for class…is everyone else as slow as I am in getting this done?

**Week 3 – Sept. 14**
**Learning Outside the Classroom:** Study aids & digital resources. Presentation by ASP and Professor Skalbeck, Associate Dean for Library and Information Services.

**Week 4 – Sept. 21**
ASP Q & A panel with upper level students: ask them what their law school survival secrets are and see for yourselves that this will all get better-- *ONE ZOOM SESSION THIS WEEK day/time TBA

**Week 5 – Sept. 28**
ASP Why do we have The (##@****!!) Bluebook and what is its relevance to me? Understanding proper “Bluebooking”

**Week 6 – Oct. 5**
**Preparation: Outlining for Exams** (a.k.a., how to remember what your professor said, and having the ah-hah moment).
Week 7 – Oct. 12       ASP Workshop for Torts Mid-term*

Week 8 – Oct. 19       ASP Workshop for Torts Mid-term*

Week 9 – Oct. 26       ASP Individual Conferences

Week 10 – Nov. 2       ASP Editing your written work to get the most out of it

Week 11 – Nov. 9       ASP Time management: outlines, editing, and studying. Getting it all done! Also, stress management: staying sane and realizing you are not alone!

Week 12 – Nov. 16      Survival Guide to Exams
                       Zoom panel with members of McNeill Law Society

Week 13 – Nov. 23      Thanksgiving Break

Week 14 - Nov. 30      Demonstrating What You Know:
                       Exam preparation, techniques – crafting the perfect answer

* In this time frame you can expect to see changes in the schedule to reflect mid-term preparation workshops as professors schedule their exams.