#### **COURSE SYLLABUS**

CLASS #1 Tues., 1/13

Topics: Litigation Planning, Informal Fact Investigation, Client

Interviewing & Counseling, Ethics

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 3-9; 12-15

Written Assignment: None

Attorney Preparation: Please read the assigned materials and be prepared to

interview prospective clients and witnesses.

Role Playing Preparation: Student A1 will play the role of Defendant A

Student B5 will play the role of Defendant B Student B8 will play the role of Victim C

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: Perform mock client and witness interviews

#### CLASS #2 Tues., 1/20

Topics: Factual & Legal Analysis, Drafting Complaints, Duty of

Prosecutor

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp.91-132, 168, 217-228;

Berger v. United States, 295 U.S. 78, (1935); Model

RPC 1.2 (a), 1.4, 1.5(b), 3.1, 3.8

Review applicable Missouri statutes and/or Missouri

**Approved Instructions** 

Written Assignment: None

Attorney Preparation: Prosecution attorneys prepare to meet and interview

victims and arresting officers based on what you know from police report, perform preliminary research (e.g., review potentially relevant statutes, decisions, jury

instructions, etc.).

Role Playing Preparation: Student A3 will play Jimmy Collier

Student A4 will play R.J. Briscoe Student B7 will play Casey Kennedy Student B8 will play Shane Douglas

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: You will break into your assigned law firms and each

law firm will interview its "victim/client" in preparation for

drafting a criminal complaint.

Attorneys will then meet in firms after the "victim/client"

interview to discuss potential charges and

considerations.

Effective case evaluation requires that you perform thorough legal research in order to understand your potential charges. You must do this on your own in

order to draft your Complaint.

<u>CLASS #3</u> <u>Tues., 1/27</u>

Topics: Responding to Complaint; Criminal Process from

Charging to Probable Cause Hearing

Reading Assignment: None

Written Assignment: Law Firm A – Complaint in Collier case

Law Firm B – Complaint in Kennedy case

Draft a Complaint on behalf of the victim/client you interviewed in week 2 (Jimmy Collier or Casey

Kennedy). Assume that your Complaint will be filed in

Missouri state court.

Due by 9:00 a.m. on day before your scheduled Class 3. File Complaint with your professor and serve Complaint on your assigned opposing counsel (e.g., A1 serves B7 & B7 serves A1, etc.). In addition to the Complaint itself, you must turn in to your professor only a short memo explaining any strategy choices you made in drafting the Complaint.

In order to properly draft your Complaint you will need to do legal research to identify potential causes of action and to know the elements of each. Effective case evaluation requires that you perform thorough legal research in order to understand your client's potential claims. You must do this on your own. Jury instructions for the relevant causes of action can be particularly useful in identifying what must be alleged in your Complaint, both in terms of the causes of action and the potential sentence.

When drafting your Complaint, in addition to your legal research you may also refer to the course text, the forms at the end of the FRCP, the sample pretrial documents on MyLaw, and any information found on any link on your section's MyLaw page. You may NOT use sample documents you obtain from any outside source.

Do not merely copy samples found either on the MyLaw page or in form books. Even good examples may not

be well suited to your particular case. Blindly following examples you have found from other cases or form books can result in serious substantive or strategic errors, so do not copy the language you find in the samples unless you understand why it is there and conclude its inclusion in your Complaint is appropriate. A simple, straightforward, plain English Complaint you write yourself based on the facts in your case and the law governing those facts will be best.

Attorney Preparation:

Your defendant/client, the named defendant in the Complaint you were served, is coming to meet you. Review the police report related to the Complaint and be prepared to interview your defendant/client about the facts underlying the Complaint and to counsel him or her about what may happen next and what courses of action are possible. In order to counsel your client effectively, you will need to do some substantive research to familiarize yourself with the law governing the claims. The Complaint and the Defendant's file provided in class two are good starting points.

Role Playing Preparation: Student A2 will play George Fernandez

Student B6 will play Jack Jarvis

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations:

You will break into your law firms and interview your defendant/clientf.

#### **CLASS #4** Tues., 2/3

Topics: Feedback on Pleadings; Objectives and Strategies in

Witness Interviews; Informal Fact Investigation Preparing

Litigation Plans

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 19-87, 135-162; Model RPC

3.4(b), 4.1(a)

Written Assignment: None

Attorney Preparation: You will have an opportunity to conduct some informal

discovery through witness interviews. Based on

discussions with and documents provided by your client

(depending on whether you are conducting the

interviews as prosecution or defense), be prepared to

interview the witness you are assigned below:

Students A2 & A3 will interview Mickey Tyson

(as prosecution)

Students A1 & A6 will interview Alex Harrison

(as defense)

Students A4 & A5 will interview Jasmine Turner

(as prosecution)

Students B8 & B11 will interview Tyler Roy

(as prosecution)

Students B7 & B9 will interview Taylor Trendstar

(as defense)

Students B10 & B12 will interview Toni/Tony Strand

(as defense)

Role Playing Preparation: Student A1 will play Mickey Tyson

Student A4 will play Alex Harrison Student A3 will play Jasmine Turner

Student B5 will play Tyler Roy

Student B8 will play Taylor Trendstar Student B6 will play Toni/Tony Strand

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: You will break into your law firms and begin informal

discovery through witness interviews. You may not have time to meet with all witnesses during this

class. If that is the case, you can wrap up these witness interviews at the start of Class 5.

#### CLASS #5 Tues., 2/10

Topics: Finish Witness Interviews (if necessary); Scope of

Discovery (duties of prosecutor v. defense attorney);

Difference from civil discovery

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 237-238; 282-285; 288-296;

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 16; Brady v.

Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963); Wyrick v. Fields, 459 U.S.

42 (1982)

Written Assignment: Litigation Plan/ Discovery Plan - Due in class

Hand in one to your professor, give one copy to each

member of your law firm

Using the Model Complaints provided in Class 4, draft litigation plans for both sides cases from your side. The litigation plans may take any form that makes sense to you, but each should, at a minimum, address the following: What are the elements of proof for each cause of action and each defense asserted in the model pleadings? What facts are needed to establish each element? What evidence exists as to each element? What additional information must be discovered? What are likely sources of additional

evidence?

There is a blank chart on your section's MyLaw page under "Course Documents" that you may use in drafting your litigation plans. For each case, include every witness you would like to talk to and every document or category of documents you would like to see. Because this is a simulation you may not be able to talk to every witness you would like to or to see every imaginable document. Nevertheless, you should try to be as complete as possible in developing your litigation plans, as if they were real cases. Your litigation plans will guide your decisions in the weeks ahead and next week will provide the basis for drafting your written discovery requests in the case in which you represent the

defendant.

Attorney Preparation: Review model Complaints and client and witness notes

and consider the information you would like to obtain

from opposing counsel in both cases.

Role Playing Preparation: Witnesses not interviewed in class 4 should review

notes (if necessary).

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: Break into firms and complete witness interviews (if

necessary).

After the witness interviews are done and you have had a lecture on the various discovery devices available to you, you will exchange and critique your litigation plans with the other members of your firm and work together to develop a detailed discovery plan for the case in which you represent the defendant.

In doing so, consider what defenses, objections and privileges your client or the opposing party can or might assert, what evidentiary foundations you will need in order to use certain evidence at trial, and which discovery devices are best suited to obtain the information you seek.

Once your law firm has created a comprehensive discovery plan for the case in which you represent the defendant, you will divide up responsibility within your firm for drafting deposition notices, requests for production, requests for exams, and requests for admissions. Each firm member should be assigned at least one deposition notice and a few interrogatories and/or document requests to draft.

#### CLASS #6 Tues., 2/17

Topics: Responding to Discovery Requests; Negotiation of

**Discovery Disputes** 

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 299-354; Fed. R. Evid. 612,

801(d)(1), 801(d)(2), 803(5)

Written Assignment: Written Discovery Requests

Due by 9:00 a.m. on day before your scheduled Class 6. Provide one copy to your professor and a

copy to each of the opposing counsel.

Law Firm A will create one comprehensive set of all written discovery requests (e.g., requests for discovery, requests for exams, deposition notices) for the Hernandez case; Law Firm B will create one comprehensive set of all written discovery requests (e.g., requests for discovery, requests for exams, deposition notices) for the Jarvis case. Consider carefully which discovery device is best suited to obtaining each piece of information you need. Each firm should combine the individual work of each firm member into a single set of written discovery. For each discovery request, indicate who drafted it by putting the drafter's initials after the request.

As you may know, attorneys typically begin these discovery documents with some fairly standard boilerplate instructions and/or definitions. In order to allow you to focus on drafting the specific requests, rather than spending time looking for and typing in a set of boilerplate instructions, a set of "Instructions for Interrogatories" and "Instructions for Document Requests" are available for you to download under "Course Documents" on your section's MyLaw page and incorporate into your written discovery. Although some samples you see elsewhere may incorporate more detailed instructions or definitions, the MyLaw versions are sufficient for the purpose of this exercise. After making any necessary changes so that these standard Instructions fit your particular case, you do not need to add any new definitions or instructions.

Attorney Preparation: Before class you will receive discovery requests from

the opposing law firm. During class, you will break into firms and have the opportunity to meet with your victim to review the requested discovery and to decide how you will respond. You should prepare for class by carefully reviewing the discovery served by your opposing counsel and familiarizing yourself with the rules governing discovery responses, including any

applicable objections or privileges.

Role Playing Preparation: Student A2 will play Jimmy Collier

Student B7 will play Casey Kennedy

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: You will break into law firms and meet with the victims

to review discovery requests and determine proper

responses.

#### CLASS #7 Tues., 2/24

Topic: Responding to Discovery Objections; Deposition

Techniques & Strategies; Preparing Deposition Outlines

Reading Assignment: Review Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 299-354; Read 355-

363; Fed. R. Evid. 612, 801(d)(1), 801(d)(2), 803(5)

Written Assignment: Responses to Written Discovery

By 9:00 a.m. on the day before your scheduled Class 7, provide your law firm's single set of discovery responses to your professor and to each

member of the opposing law firm.

After meeting with the victim whose case you are prosecuting regarding discovery in the previous class, both firms will draft responses to the written discovery served on it. You may draft all responses as a firm effort, or divide responsibility and draft responses individually after you have discussed as a firm how to respond to each request. If you choose the latter course, indicate after each response who prepared it by

putting the drafter's initials after the response.

After all responses have been drafted, each firm should combine its responses into a single set of documents and attach copies of any responsive documents that you are willing to turn over to your opposing counsel (i.e., all documents that are not privileged or otherwise

not responsive/subject to disclosure).

Attorney Preparation: None

Role Playing Preparation: Student B8 will play Quinn McPherson (Victim C from

Class One)

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulation: Mock deposition with Quinn McPherson

#### **CLASS #8** Tues., 3/3

Topic: Depositions

Reading Assignment: None

Written Assignment: Assigned Witness Deposition Outline (A3, A4, A5, B8,

B9, B10, B12)

Due to professor only at the start of class

Think through your goals for the deposition of the witness assigned to you and the areas of questioning you want to focus on, and prepare an outline of your questions. You will be unable to conduct an effective deposition if you have not thought through your goals and questions in advance. Each person should use one document relevant to the case during his or her questioning (multiple attorneys may use the same document during the deposition). Prior to class and after you have completed your deposition outline, coordinate with the other attorney interviewing your witness and divide responsibility for the actual

questioning.

Attorney Preparation: Attorneys B10 & B12: prepare to take Mickey Tyson's

deposition; Attorneys A3, A4, & A6: prepare to defend

Attorneys A3, A4, & A5: prepare to take Tyler Roy's

deposition; B11 & B12 prepare to defend

Attorneys B8 & B9: prepare to take Jasmine Turner's deposition; Attorneys A1, A2, & A5: prepare to defend

Role Playing Preparation: Student A1 will play Mickey Tyson

Student A4 will play Jasmine Turner

Student B5 will play Tyler Roy

Simulations: Depositions – see deponent assignments above

#### CLASS #9 Tues., 3/17

Topic: Depositions; Taking Expert Depositions; Preparing Client

for Depositions

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 354-355

Written Assignment: Assigned Witness Deposition Outline (A1, A2, A6, B7,

**B11**)

Due to professor only at the start of class

Think through your goals for the deposition of the witness assigned to you and the areas of questioning you want to focus on, and prepare an outline of your questions. You will be unable to conduct an effective deposition if you have not thought through your goals and questions in advance. Each person should use one document during his or her questioning of their witness (multiple attorneys may use the same

document during the deposition). Prior to class and after you have completed your deposition outline, coordinate with the other attorney interviewing your witness and divide responsibility for the actual

questioning.

Attorney Preparation: Attorneys B7 & B11: prepare to take R.J. Briscoe's

deposition; Attorneys A3, A4, & A5; prepare to defend

Attorneys A1, A2, & A6: prepare to take Shane

Douglas' deposition; Attorneys B6, B7, & B10: prepare

to defend

Role Playing Preparation: Student A4 will play R. J. Briscoe

Student B5 will play Shane Douglas

Student A2 will play Jimmy Collier (depo prep) Student B6 will play Casey Kennedy (depo prep)

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: Depositions – see deponent assignments above

Break into firms and meet with client to prepare for

upcoming victim depositions.

#### CLASS #10 Tues., 3/24

Topic: Victim Depositions

Reading Assignment: None

Written Assignment: None

Attorney Preparation: <u>Victim Depositions:</u> Attorneys in Firm A should be

prepared to take the deposition of Casey Kennedy. Attorneys in Firm B should be prepared to take the deposition of Jimmy Collier. Prior to class, you should

meet in your firms or assigned teams of 3 (your professor will provide further instruction on this), to discuss what areas should be covered in the deposition and divide responsibility for the questioning into roughly equal parts. Then each individual attorney should

develop a detailed outline of his/her part of the

deposition questioning. You are not required to turn in these deposition outlines; however, you will be unable

to conduct an effective deposition without one.

Attorneys for the state should be prepared to defend

their victim's deposition.

The deposition will be recorded.

Role Playing Preparation: Student A3 will play Jimmy Collier

Student B7 will play Casey Kennedy

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulations: Law firm A will take deposition of Casey Kennedy; Law

Firm B will take deposition of Jimmy Collier; State's

attorneys will defend.

#### CLASS #11 Tues., 3/31

Topics: Deposition Recap; Expert Depositions; Motions

**Practice** 

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 391-437; 285-287

Written Assignment: <u>Deposition Self Evaluation</u>

Due in class

Review the portions of the depositions you took during the previous classes and write a brief (2-3 doublespaced pages) self-evaluation of your deposition techniques, which addresses the following:

(1) Identify how effective you were in achieving the goals you had for each deponent.

(2) Identify three questions you asked that could have been improved or required a follow-up question you failed to ask. For each question, write out the question and answer in full, then describe the problem with the question (e.g., seeks privileged information; compound; confusing) and explain how the question should have

been rephrased or followed up.

(3) Identify the best and worst moments of your depositions. Explain why the strong parts went well and what you would do differently for the weak parts.

Role Playing Preparation: None

Simulations: None

#### CLASS #12 Tues., 4/7

Topics: Motions Practice; Negotiation and Plea Bargains

Reading Assignment: Berger, Mitchell, Clark, pp. 445-453, 484-493; 543-544;

533-536; 553-557; Model RPC 1.2(a), 1.4, 3.2

Written Assignment: <u>Motion Outlines</u>

One copy to professor and serve other on opposing

counsel by 9:00 a.m. the day before class.

Prepare a motion on behalf of the client you are defending (Jarvis or Fernandez). Each motion should identify: the nature of the motion, its factual basis, supporting legal authority (citing specific supporting law), your arguments in support of a motion, and the relief you are requesting. You may bring any motion that you think is warranted by the facts, including motions to compel discovery, motions to suppress evidence, and motions to suppress statements. Identify in a brief cover memo to your professor the time at which you would have brought the motion if this were a real case (e.g., at the close of discovery, prior to your client's deposition, etc.) and any supporting documents that you would submit with the memorandum (e.g., affidavits saying..., discovery documents such as...). Bring copies of any supporting statutory or case law with you to your motions argument.

Review the motion you submitted and the motion served on you by your opposing counsel. Prepare to argue your client's position on these motions to the judge (your professor) during class.

You will break into law firms and discuss the possibility of agreeing to a plea bargain in both of your cases. You should begin to evaluate the plea options in both cases before class and prepare to counsel the victim in the case you are prosecuting and the defendant in the case you are defending about the possibility of reaching a plea bargain and in the case in which you are representing the defendant, obtain the defendant's authority to agree to a plea bargain.

Role Playing Preparation: -Student A3 will play Jimmy Collier and meet with

attorneys regarding plea bargain

-Student A1 will play George Fernandez and meet with

attorneys regarding plea bargain

-Student B6 will play Jack Jarvis and meet with

attorneys regarding plea bargain

-Student B7 will play Casey Kennedy and meet with

attorneys regarding plea bargain

Client and Witness scripts should be kept strictly confidential and should be given to your professor

at the end of class.

Simulation: Motions arguments with opposing counsel.

Consult with client regarding upcoming plea

discussions.

CLASS #13 No regularly scheduled class this week; instead, you and your opposing counsel will meet with your professor for an hour to engage in plea bargains in both the *Jarvis* and *Fernandez* cases

#### **FINAL NEGOTIATIONS**

Your professor will work with you to arrange a one-hour block of time during which you will attempt to negotiate a plea bargain both the *Jarvis* and *Fernandez* case with your opposing counsel and with your professor present. This final negotiation is the equivalent of your final for this class. The Plea Bargain Evaluation/Negotiation Strategy Memo is due <u>at the beginning</u> of your negotiation session.

After speaking to your client and victim, don't forget to look at the elements of the charges as they stand now and the elements of other possible offenses if you're going to consider an amendment. You'll also want to make sure that you know the range of punishment for the applicable felonies, misdemeanors, as well as the infraction of trespass second degree. The maximum period of probation on a felony is 5 years and on a misdemeanor is 2 years.

Remember to bring the plea and judgment/sentence forms with you to the final negotiations.

Written Assignment:

<u>Plea Bargain Evaluation/Negotiation Strategy</u> - - Due at the beginning of your negotiation session. Write a brief memo that (1) evaluates each case for purposes of plea bargaining and (2) outlines your strategy for negotiating a plea in each case. Consider the following:

<u>Plea Evaluation</u> - - Consider for each case: what are the possible outcomes if the case fails to be resolved through a plea bargain? What is the likelihood each outcome will occur?

Negotiation Strategy - - Consider for each case: what are your client's main interests? What do you believe are the opposing party's main interests? Are there solutions that would be mutually advantageous to both sides in light of the interests listed above? What are the strengths and weaknesses of your client's case and the opposing party's case as you go into the negotiation? Are there any strengths or weaknesses in your case that the opposing party does not know of? What will you reveal? What concessions is your client willing to make? What is your client's "bottom line?"

This is an individual assignment and should be turned in at the beginning of your negotiation.

Additional Written Assignment:

Plea Bargain Agreement

Due within 24 hours of the conclusion of your negotiation or as otherwise indicated by your instructor. Assuming you were successful in reaching a plea bargain on both cases, draft a plea bargain agreement with your opposing counsel reflecting the terms of each plea. If you were not successful in reaching a plea agreement for either or both of your cases, draft a plea bargain agreement on your own that you, and your client if you represent the defendant, would have been willing to sign.