

Legal Writing & Research II
Spring 2012
Professor Matthews

ASSIGNMENT FOR FIRST DAY OF CLASS

Welcome back! I hope you had a relaxing and fun holiday.

Tuesday, January 10, 2012:

(1) Read the Course Syllabus posted under the “Syllabus” tab on the Blackboard. (This document will be posted on Blackboard no later than January 7.) Print this document and bring it to class.

(2) Read the following in our text, A Practical Guide to Appellate Advocacy (3d edition):

§§ 2.1 –2.4 (pp. 11-21), 2.4.2-2.4.3 (pp. 24-26) & 2.5-2.5.1 (pp. 28-29);
§§ 3.2.2 – 3.2.6 (pp. 41-48), and 3.4 (pp. 58-59).

NOTE: A research quiz is scheduled for the second week of classes (tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 17). The quiz is in a multiple-choice format and will be “closed-book.” To help you review for the quiz, I have collected the research worksheets, assigned reading and pertinent PowerPoints and placed them in the “Course Library” on the Blackboard. You should also review your class notes as they pertain to research.

I realize you do not have your graded research worksheets. You are more than welcome to go by Room 327 and ask the staff if you can look at your research worksheets. However, what you should focus on in preparing for the quiz is the **research process** that the worksheet was trying to walk you through, using a hypothetical problem. Therefore, read through the worksheets and make sure you understand why the worksheet led you to certain print sources in seeking an answer to a specific problem. For example, if you are given a problem involving a specific court rule on criminal procedure, which print source(s) would be the best to turn to in conducting your research and why? Know the kinds of things you would expect to find in a reporter vs. a digest vs. a code. In short, review the assigned materials you studied last semester and your notes.