

2016

Shepard Broad College of Law Legal Research and Writing 2016

Nova Southeastern University

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NSUWorks Citation

Nova Southeastern University, "Shepard Broad College of Law Legal Research and Writing 2016" (2016). *Shepard Broad College of Law Course Catalogs*. 12.

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Shepard Broad College of Law Legal Research and Writing 2016

Legal Research and Writing

The Legal Research and Writing Program at the NSU Shepard Broad College of Law is an innovative approach to legal education that integrates legal theory and analysis with practical skills and professionalism from the first day of law school. The courses in the demanding Legal Research and Writing Program blend traditional legal research and writing curriculum with practice-oriented skills training and technology. The Program combines instruction in legal research, writing, and analysis with other lawyering skills, including interviewing, counseling, negotiating, legal drafting and oral advocacy.

The Legal Research and Writing Program

The first-year, first semester course focuses on objective, predictive legal drafting in addition to legal research and professionalism. Predictive legal analysis is generally done in a simulated inter-office setting. During the life-cycle of a typical file, students:

- develop problem-solving strategies
- conduct legal research
- draft objective inter-office legal memoranda
- negotiate a settlement of their case

The second semester course focuses on pre-trial litigation integrating legal research, persuasive legal drafting, and analysis with ethical issues and practice skills in each client file. As students work through a litigation file they will:

- interview clients
- draft demand letters and client communication
- research and write pre-trial memoranda
- orally argue a motion

Students will also be exposed to alternative dispute resolution or mediation. Working with these client files, students are exposed to a variety of media: they use electronic course platforms, perform legal research in both print, and trained in both free and fee-based online research sites. Throughout both semesters of the Legal Research and Writing Program, the primary emphasis is on legal analysis, case synthesis and mastery of legal research and writing. Ethics and professionalism are also integrated throughout both semesters so students understand the special obligations and privileges afforded to lawyers.

The Legal Research and Writing Program Faculty

Our exceptional Legal Research and Writing faculty members have diverse practice experience and are nationally recognized for their teaching, scholarship, and service. These faculty members serve as active volunteers for national legal writing organizations including the Legal Writing Institute and the Association of Legal Writing Directors. The full-time faculty pride themselves on their commitment to student and community involvement. LSV faculty members are engaged leaders in the school and

community through support of Moot Court, Law Review, other student organizations, the Florida Bar, and public service initiatives.

Faculty members who teach in the Legal Research and Writing Program include:

- [Olympia Duhart, Director](#)
- [Heather Baxter](#)
- [Jane Cross](#)
- [Amanda Foster](#)
- [Joseph Hnylka](#)
- [Shahabudeen Khan](#)
- [Camille Lamar](#)
- [James B. Levy](#)
- [Kenneth Lewis](#)
- [Jani Maurer](#)
- [Roma Perez](#)
- [Marilyn Uzdavines](#)
- [Kathryn Webber](#)