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**ANTONIN SCALIA LAW SCHOOL, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
LEGAL RESEARCH, WRITING, AND ANALYSIS**

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**Advanced Legal Writing Seminar  
FALL 2023 SYLLABUS  
LAW 500-all sections**

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**Writing Fellow Program Director**

Suzanne FitzGerald  
Director, First Year Legal Research, Writing, and Analysis Program  
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**Textbooks & Subscriptions**

Writing Fellows should have access to the LRWA I required texts:

- Christine Coughlin et al., A Lawyer Writes: A Practical Guide to Legal Analysis (3d ed. 2018) (“ALW”) (electronic version free through Lexis Study Aids; let me know if you need a hard copy)
- Kent C. Olson, *Legal Research in a Nutshell* (14th ed. 2021) (“Nutshell”) (electronic version free through West Academic Study Aids)
- The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (Columbia Law Review Ass’n et al. eds., 21st ed. 2020) (“Bluebook”) (electronic or hard copy)

**TWEN & Other Platforms**

Writing Fellows should have access described below:

- LRWA I Main Page – “student” access
- LRWA I [Instructor Name] Section # – “administrator” access
- LRWA I & II Instructors – “student” access
- ICW – “teaching assistant access”
- Core Grammar – “teaching assistant access”

**Course Information**

Advanced Legal Writing Seminar is the Writing Fellow course. It meets once a week on Mondays from 12:00 to 12:50 PM. Writing Fellows must also attend the weekly LRWA I class for their assigned section.

**Learning Outcomes**

- Achieve a deep understanding of LRWA I course content and the ability to explain that content effectively to others
- Recognize and respond to diverse approaches to learning
- Collaborate to support students, instructors, librarians, and other writing fellows

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- Improve skills in the following areas: written and oral communication, legal research, legal analysis, critical thinking, problem solving, organization, time management, professionalism, and leadership

**Writing Fellow Responsibilities**

Writing Fellow responsibilities:

- Prepare for, attend, and participate in LRWA I class meetings and weekly writing fellow meetings
- Take attendance and track students' class participation in LRWA I
- Assist professors with in-class assignments and assist with technology
- Review and comment on select assignments
- Communicate the contents of the weekly writing fellow meeting to your instructor to coordinate work and prepare for the week
- Prepare or revise presentation and other in-class materials
- Present in class on citation and writing topics
- Conduct office hours for student questions
- Meet individually with instructor and director on an informal basis to report on class progress and discuss particular problems or concerns expressed by students
- Conduct additional optional sessions or prepare recordings or postings on citation and other topics
- Conduct individual conferences with students
- Research, analyze, and troubleshoot the writing problems in advance of their launch
- Maintain confidentiality

**Assessments and Feedback**

Writing Fellows will be assessed and receive feedback on course performance in a variety of ways, including student evaluations and instructor feedback on written work, presentation skills, and professionalism.

The course calendar, grading schedule, and teaching materials are posted on LRWA I & II Instructors TWEN.