Practical Legal Writing For Legal Assistants

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advanced legal writing theories and strategies in persuasive writing is exceptionally well suited for use in upper level legal writing courses that focus on strategy the author s distinctive approach emphasizes persuasive writing strategies and explores specific techniques for legal writers combines theory with practicality by taking an interdisciplinary approach avoids a documents based approach going beyond the trial or appellate brief to identify effective strategies for a broad range of documents and settings follows a consistent format offering for each writing strategy an explanation of its nature and characteristics an account of the theoretical principles that explain their effectiveness detailed how to guidelines for students to use in their own writing numerous examples of proper use of the strategy and exercises consideration of ethical implications a thorough teacher s manualthe book is divided into five main parts that cover literary references and their value in persuasive writing the three basic processes of persuasion logic and rational argument emotional argument and establishing credibility rhetorical style persuasive writing strategies based on psychology theory the ethics and morality of persuasionbe sure to review advanced legal writing theories and strategies in persuasive writing before you make an adoption decision for your course

like nothing else writing is an essential skill for every lawyer this handy easy to approach guide will strengthen any lawyers writing skills through a series of specialized exercises you II learn to write more concise powerful sentences eliminate un needed words and structure and combine sentences and paragraphs to create clear and persuasive documents letters and more it s perfect for lawyers and associates even non lawyers anyone looking for an effective way to improve their writing skills

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applying the perspective of the reader to the craft of writing legal writing for legal readers teaches the differences between strong and weak legal writing by letting students read examples of both students discover how productive it can be to read a well articulated argument as compared to one that is illogical and ill conceived we aren t always able to identify our own faults as writers but as readers we can see clearly the merits of both the argument and its presentation the authors sidebars and annotations highlight why one writer fails while another succeeds students realize the significance of their own behavior as readers and how that behavior should dictate their writing decisions as readers students learn to recognize the specific elements of analysis and structure that make legal writing effective as writers they will make better and more informed choices when they think about it from a reader s perspective using the student s own experience as a reader to shed light on what makes legal writing succeed or fail legal writing for leal readers features a range of both strong and weak legal documents selected to illustrate legal writing concepts broad coverage that includes memos and briefs as well as complaints correspondence and criminal motions sidebar comments from the authors that provide context and insight annotations that incorporate cognitive and behavioral theories to explain why some approaches work better than others authors with a wealth of experience in both teaching and practice

prescriptive law writings rarely mirror the ways a society practices law a fact that raises special problems for the social and legal historian through close analysis of the laws of bailment i e temporary safekeeping in exodus 22 yael landman probes the relationship of law in the biblical law collections and law in practice in ancient israel and exposes a vision of divine justice at the heart of pentateuchal law landman further demonstrates that ancient near eastern bailment laws continue to influence postbiblical jewish law this book advances an approach to the study of

biblical law that connects pentateuchal and ancient near eastern law collections biblical narrative and prophecy and mesopotamian legal documents and joins philological and comparative analysis with humanistic legal approaches in order to access how people thought about and practiced law in ancient israel

applying the perspective of the reader to the craft of writing legal writing for legal readers predictive writing for first year students teaches the differences between strong and weak legal writing by letting students read examples of both students discover how productive it can be to read a well articulated argument as compared to one that is illogical we aren t always able to identify our own faults as writers but as readers we can see clearly the merits of both the argument and its presentation the authors sidebars and annotations highlight why one writer fails while another succeeds students realize the significance of their own behavior as readers and how that behavior should dictate their writing decisions as readers students learn to recognize the specific elements of analysis and structure that make legal writing effective as writers they will make better and more informed choices when they think about it from a reader s perspective new to the second edition revised to focus exclusively on predictive analytical writing that most law schools teach during the first semester of the first year expanded inclusion of annotations and marginal notes that answer anticipated student questions professors and students will benefit from extensive variety of samples and examples both good and bad selected to illustrate legal writing concepts for students broad coverage that includes memos and briefs as well as complaints correspondence and criminal motions sidebar comments and marginal notes that answer anticipated student questions and define important legal and writing related terms that may distract students as they learn new concepts annotations that incorporate cognitive and behavioral theories to explain why some approaches work better than others exercises that test students understanding of important concepts while they learn teaching materials include additional exercises for use with most chapters additional samples of longer documents document to further illustrate important concepts for both teachers and students

this practical student focused text introduces writing skills essential for successful study in law and explains how to apply them in a legal context it is designed as a course book for first year law students with ongoing relevance as a resource in subsequent years at law school and beyond basic literacy legal literacy and writing skills are explored in a way that is fully integrated into legal content reflecting current pedagogical best practice the text assists students to develop sound legal writing skills providing a solid foundation to enhance performance in professional legal writing tasks it includes many examples case studies and exercises and is supported by extensive online resources for lecturers the second edition of this text offers expanded examples and explanations of the types of legal writing required of both students and professionals features basic literacy legal literacy and writing skills are explored in a way that is fully integrated into legal content contains many examples case studies opportunities for revision questions and exercises revised and extended to include many new examples contributes the achievement of the attributes identified by the australian teaching and learning council alto threshold learning outcomes to for law in particular to 5 communication and collaboration extensive suite of lecturer and student online ancillary resources related titles bott talbot stokes nemes and coss effective legal research 5th ed 2012cook creyke geddes hamer taylor laying down the law 9th ed 2015meehan tulloch lexisnexis guides grammar for lawyers 3rd ed 2013stuhmcke lexisnexis guides legal referencing 4th ed 2013

this best selling book outlines the causes and consequences of bad legal writing and prescribes straightforward

easy to apply remedies that will make your writing readable usage notes address lawyers most common errors and editing exercises allow readers to test their skills making this an invaluable tool for practicing lawyers as well as a sensible grounding for law students new sections in this edition getting to the point communicating digitally writing persuasively twenty five common mistakes provided by publisher

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how to write law essays and exams provides law students with a practical and proven method of analysing and answering essay and exam questions the book focuses on those questions that give students the most trouble namely problem questions but its techniques are equally applicable to other types of essays in addition to providing a framework for analysing and writing law essays the book teaches students how to identify relevant legal authorities distinguish and harmonise conflicting legal precedents and evaluate the applicability of the law to the facts of the question at hand the book also contains specific law related revision techniques and general writing tips designed for law students of all levels including those on a level university conversion and vocational courses the text helps students understand their substantive courses while at the same time teaching vital writing and analytical skills online resources the book is accompanied by online resources including a case breakdown to help students with reading cases frequently asked questions and some tips on citation styles and conventions

in its fourth edition clear and effective legal writing continues to give students a classic introduction to legal analysis and legal writing concise and accessible the text focuses on memo and brief writing while reinforcing key writing skills this proven teaching tool provides the student with excellent examples and numerous skill honing

exercises

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this is an invaluable tool for students to use in conjunction with the main text the book is geared toward the kind of writing done by first year law students in a standard legal writing course memorandums and briefs the book offers the legal writer a concise easy to understand insider s introduction to the world of legal writing

an updated classic presents the essential skills of legal reasoning and analysis to a new generation of law students its straightforward flexible presentation man allows each teacher and student to engage with the material in his or her own way legal reasoning and writing is carefully explored as series of accessible and simple guidelines and focused exercises allow students immediate practice by covering the basic principles of legal method students learn to apply these principles in legal writing extensive appendices offer useful examples the fifth edition offers a brand new chapter on oral argument as well as additional material on electronic communication a fresh and tightened presentation is enhanced by a two color design features updated classic for a new generation of law students flexible straightforward presentation covers the essential skills of legal reasoning and analysis allows each

teacher and student to engage in his or her own way legal reasoning and writing presented as a series of accessible and simple guidelines focused exercises allow students immediate practice students learn the basic principles of legal method and apply them to legal writing extensive appendices with useful examples thoroughly updated the revised fifth edition presents a new chapter on oral argument additional material on electronic communication fresh and tightened presentation throughout 2 color design

among the features that make this carefully crafted text a success flexibility the essential skills of legal reasoning and analysis are presented in a straightforward manner that allows each teacher and student to use the material in his or her own way integration students are taught legal analysis in tandem with legal writing concentrating on the basic principles of legal method and how to apply those principles in legal writing accessibility legal reasoning and writing is presented in a simple and understandable manner through the use of a series of accessible and simple guidelines rigor focused exercises allow students to practice the guidelines presented in the text practicality extensive appendices with examples of office memos trial briefs and appellate briefs allow students to see how the lessons in the text are used to create the documents that they will write as lawyers updated and redesigned the third edition offers new material on legal rules synthesis and organization of a legal discussion or argument new and updated examples throughout new user friendly design and layout for enhanced accessibility an improved teacher s manual significantly expanded to include additional exercises teaching suggestions and advice for new teachers

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