Moot Court I Syllabus -- Spring 2018
Mondays 3:00-3:50, Room 332A

Professor:
Jayne Woods, 305 Hulston Hall
Cell: (573) 823-8454 (I accept phone calls or text messages)
Email: woodsjt@missouri.edu
Office hours: Mondays 10:00-3:00, and by appointment as needed

Students with Special Needs: If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible. If disability-related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Disability Center (http://disabilitycenter.missouri.edu), S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then notify Registrar Denise Boessen and Dean David Mitchell of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on “Disability Resources” on the MU homepage.

Required Text:

Attendance: Class attendance is mandatory. Repeated absences will be considered to demonstrate a lack of commitment to the team, and the professor reserves the right to consider repeated class absences when making decisions regarding team selection and competition participation.

Class Grade: Moot Court is a pass/fail class. Students must complete all work at a satisfactory level to receive a passing grade.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of the School of Law. All members of the law school community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The law school community regards breaches of the School of Law’s Honor Code as extremely serious matters. In the event that you violate our Academic Integrity rules on any portion of the work required for this class, you may expect a failing grade in this course as well as possible disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of potential cheating, consult your professor.

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:
- Understand and apply the rules of the National Moot Court Competition.
- Analyze and draft an effective appellate brief.
- Work collaboratively with a group of people to create a unified written product.
- Engage in effective oral advocacy.

Recording Not Permitted: University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in Section 200.015 of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under Section 240.040 of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of Section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Those students who are permitted to record are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of Section 200.020 of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.
SYLLABUS

WEEK 1 (we will be meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16th)
Jan. 16 – Introduction to Moot Court

WEEK 2
Jan. 22 – Cooperative Writing Skills
Hand out: Fall 2017 Record on Appeal
Assign: Fall 2017 Brief

WEEK 3
Jan. 29 – The Brief: Overview and Mechanics
Read: Supreme Court Rules 24, 25, 33, and 34, available at:
http://www.supremecourt.gov/ctrules/2013RulesoftheCourt.pdf

WEEK 4
Feb. 5 – The Brief: Statement of the Case, Summary of the Argument
Read: City of Los Angeles v. Lyons, 461 U.S. 95 (1983) facts in both majority and dissenting opinions
References: Blue Book Rules 10, 12, 14
The Redbook § 8, Model Appellate Brief TOC and TOA

WEEK 5
Feb. 12 – The Brief: Argument
Read: The Redbook §§ 19.1-19.14
Hand in: Questions Presented, TOC, TOA, Opinions/Orders Below, Law Involved

WEEK 6
Feb. 19 – The Brief: Creating and Using Effective Analogies and Metaphors
Read: Bruce Ching, Argument, Analogy, and Audience: Using Persuasive Comparisons While Avoiding Unintended Effects, 7 J. Ass’n Legal Writing Directors 311 (2010)
Hand in: Statement of the Case, Summary of the Argument

WEEK 7
Feb. 26 – The Brief: Case/Rule Synthesis
Hand in: Issue #1

WEEK 8
March 5 – The Brief: Revising, Editing, and Proofreading
Read: The Redbook §§ 11, 12
Hand in: Issue #2

WEEK 9
March 12 – Citations
Read: Blue Book Rules 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16

WEEK 10
March 19 – Writing Mechanics: Grammar Basics, Punctuation, Capitalization
Read: The Redbook §§ 1, 2, 10
Blue Book Rules 5, 6, 8
Hand in: Completed Appellate Brief (can be emailed by 5:00 pm)
WEEK 11
Spring Break – NO CLASS

WEEK 12
April 2 – Oral Argument
Supreme Court Rule 28, available at:
   http://www.supremecourt.gov/ctrules/2013RulesoftheCourt.pdf
Return: Appellate Briefs

WEEK 13
April 9 – Oral Argument

WEEK 14
April 16 – Oral Argument: View scrimmage between last semester’s teams

WEEK 15
April 23 – Oral Argument: Scrimmage amongst yourselves