 COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Course Description
This course is devoted primarily to exercises by students in direct and cross-examination of witnesses and to opening and closing statements in both civil and criminal cases. The exercises are critiqued with respect to both substance and courtroom demeanor. At the conclusion of the course, students, acting in teams, take part in full trials.

Required Materials
Mauet, Thomas A., *Trial Techniques*; you may purchase an earlier edition
Bailey, William S., *Scruggs v. Snyder Case File*
Taylor, Joseph, *State v. Baker Case File*

Grading
The primary method of grading will be as follows:

- Attendance and Participation (10%)
- Opening Statement (15%)
- Direct Examination (15%)
- Cross Examination (15%)
- Closing Statement (20%)
- Final Trial (25%)

Superlative class performance can raise a student’s final grade by 1/3, e.g., from a C+ to a B-. Conversely, a student’s habitual underpreparedness or absence can lower the final grade by 1/3.

Ground Rules
- Attendance – since this is a skills course, you must plan on attending all classes.
- Participation – you are required to come to class prepared to participate. Participation means consistently reading the materials and discussing them in class. Discussion includes treating the Professor and classmates with courtesy, respect and honesty. Computers are useful to enhance class participation and shall be used only for that
purpose. Cell phones should be turned off so as not to be distractions. If a class is missed, another student must be designated to pick up any materials and provide notes.

- Confidentiality – You may not discuss any of the role-play information or aspects of the final project with anyone else in class or anyone who formerly took the course unless the problem calls for it.

**SYLLABUS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A comprehensive assignment schedule, including your specific performance dates, will be handed out on the first day of class.

**August 17, 2015**  
**Class Introduction & Opening Statements Lecture**  
First class assignment (to be completed prior to first class): read *Mauet* Ch. 4, Opening Statements

**August 24, 2015**  
**Performance – Opening Statements**

**August 31, 2015**  
**Performance – Opening Statements**  
Next class assignment: read *Mauet* Ch. 10 Objections

**September 7, 2015**  
**No Class – Labor Day**

**September 14, 2015**  
**Lecture – Direct & Cross Examination, Objections, Impeachment, and Exhibits**  
Next class assignment: read *Mauet*, Ch. 6 Exhibits, Ch. 7 selections on Impeachment

**September 21, 2015**  
**Practice Impeachment and Exhibits**  
Next class assignment: the following two chapters are assigned in *Mauet*, but can be read in conjunction with the type and date of your performance:
- Ch. 5 – Direct Examination
- Ch. 7 – Cross Examination

**September 28, 2015**  
**Performance – Direct & Cross Examinations**

**October 5, 2015**  
**Performance – Direct & Cross Examinations**

**October 12, 2015**  
**Performance – Direct & Cross Examinations**  
Next class assignment: read *Mauet*, Ch. 9 Closing
October 19, 2015  Flex Day
   Lecture – Closing Statements

October 26, 2015  Performance – Closing Arguments

November 2, 2015  Performance – Closing Arguments

November 9, 2015  Final Prep – Lecture on Experts and General Trial Structure

November 16, 2015  Final Prep

November 23, 2015  Final
   The date of the final will be determined during the first week of class. If the final is not held on a weekend, this date will be used for preparation.

November 26-27, 2015  Thanksgiving Holiday Break

Nov. 27-Nov. 30, 2015  Finals Study Period

December 1-11, 2015  Final Exams Period