PRETRIAL CIVIL LITIGATION

Syllabus
Spring Semester 2015
Daley Center Courtroom
Wednesdays 5:50 – 8:30
Adjunct Professor: Brian M. Nach

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BrianNach@sbcglobal.net (email)

I. REQUIRED MATERIALS

Texts¹: Mauet, Pretrial (8th Ed)

II. COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This course will focus on pretrial civil litigation procedure, practice and strategy. The class will be taught with an emphasis on participation, development of advocacy skills in the pretrial process and on obtaining a working knowledge of the pretrial procedural rules governing the pretrial process.

Students will be expected to complete the required readings and assignments with the goal of achieving a working knowledge of the Illinois and federal pretrial rules. In addition to weekly reading assignments and in class lectures, students will participate in regular assignments in which they will be required to prepare various pleadings, motions and discovery.

Attendance is required and inadequate attendance will be reflected in the final grade.

In sum, this course will achieve the following objectives:

1. Developing advocacy skills with particular emphasis on the pretrial phase of litigation including pleading and motion practice;

2. Develop skills and knowledge in the civil discovery process including both written and oral discovery;

3. Provide a working knowledge of the state and federal pre-trial rules of Court.

¹ Supplemental readings may be recommended from time to time.
III. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION
This class will focus on the practical aspects of pretrial litigation with an emphasis on hands-on experience and real-world problem solving.

IV. GRADING
The students overall grade will be made up of his/her performance on the following components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client Interview</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney Client Agreement</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleadings (Complaint and Answer)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Discovery Requests</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depositions of fact witnesses</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispositive Motion (drafted motion and oral argument)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation/Attendance/Professionalism/ Ethical Conduct</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlement Statement</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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For all written material, the grading criteria include choice of content, accuracy of information, grammar, punctuation and spelling.

For all oral portions of the class the grading criteria include knowledge of the material, professionalism, persuasiveness, form and proper use and responses to objections.