



MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW at ANDOVER
SYLLABUS FOR TRIAL TECHNIQUES – SPRING 2025
Professor Anthony A. Copani

Instructor: Professor Anthony A. Copani

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Text: COURSE MATERIALS (REQUIRED):

1. TRIAL TECHNIQUES AND TRIAL
Thomas A. Mauet, Little, Brown and Company – 11th edition (10th or 9th edition will suffice)

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

1. American Jurisprudence, Proof of Facts
2. Evidentiary Foundations - Imwinkelried
3. Massachusetts Guide to Evidence

Class Times: Tuesday/Thursday Day: 2:30 pm - 3:50 pm
Eve: 7:30 pm - 8:50 pm

**Purpose
And Course
Description:** The purpose of this course is to have students develop basic trial skills and to apply the rules of evidence in a courtroom setting promoting a better understanding of evidence, courtroom advocacy and trial skills.

SCHEDULE

Class One	Introduction/Overview Client Interview - Lecture
Class Two	Techniques of Client Interview/ Ethical Issues
Class Three	Opening Statements - Lecture
Class Four	Opening Statements - Student Participation
Class Five	Direct Examination and Objections – Lecture
Class Six	Direct Examination and Objections - Student Participation
Class Seven	Direct Examination and Objections - Continued
Class Eight	Cross-Examination and Objections - Lecture
Class Nine	Cross-Examination and Objections - Student Participation
Class Ten	Cross-Examination and Objection - Continued
Class Eleven	Exhibits and Demonstrative Evidence - Lecture
Class Twelve	Exhibits and Demonstrative Evidence - Student Participation
Class Thirteen	Exhibits and Demonstrative Evidence - Continued
Class Fourteen	Expert Witnesses - Lecture
Class Fifteen	Expert Witnesses - Direct Examination - Student Participation
Class Sixteen	Expert Witnesses - Cross Examination - Student Participation
Class Seventeen	Expert Witness - Continued
Class Eighteen	Closing Argument - Lecture
Class Nineteen	Closing Argument - Student Participation
Class Twenty	Closing Argument - Continued

Class Twenty-One

Review of Trial Techniques

Class Twenty-Two

Student Trials through Class Thirty

ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be given assignments and problems on a weekly basis depending on the progress made in class as determined by the number of students participating.

Students shall be graded on their performance in class of the scheduled assignments. Therefore, attendance is mandatory. A student who has more than three unexcused absences shall not be allowed to participate in the final trial and shall receive a failing grade.

The final grade shall be determined by the student's performance at a mock trial before a jury conducted at the end of the semester and class participation during the semester.

Each student shall be required to provide two to three individuals to serve as jurors and one witness for the jury trial at the end of the semester. Also, students will be required to sit as a clerk at one of the trials.

By enrolling in class, students agree to the above terms and conditions of the course.