

ASP SYLLABUS SPRING 2010

Prof. Shelley Weinberg, Director
Prof. Sarah McBride, Assistant Director

Welcome! General Information and Availability. The academic support office is in room 728. The office will be staffed by the co-directors and four teaching assistants. The office is staffed by the directors Monday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. One of the directors is always available without an appointment during the lunch break from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and on Thursdays when there is no scheduled class. At other times when the office is staffed, you may drop in to see if we are available, or you may make an appointment. Appointments can be arranged in person or by email. Office hours will be posted on the door to the academic support office.

The academic support teaching assistants staff the office on Mondays from 3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Fridays from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The schedule of teaching assistant office hours will be posted on the door to the academic support office.

To get a good start on the spring semester, we encourage you to pick up and review your exams (and any model answers) from your professors. We are also available to go over your exams with you during our office hours.

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Goals and Objectives. In the spring semester, the Academic Support Program (ASP) focuses on helping you develop the skills necessary to improve your performance in your second semester courses, particularly your exam writing skills. The role of ASP is to help you identify and practice essential test-taking strategies and skills, rather than to teach you, or review, the substantive material for any particular course. We will usually refer to the substantive doctrines in your courses in order to teach a particular skill; however, your individual professors are the experts in their respective subject areas. Please see them if you have questions about the substantive law.

Class Policies. Class will meet Thursdays from 12:00 to 12:50 in Room 805. Attendance at the Thursday sessions is strongly encouraged.

CLASS TOPICS

- 1/28
Welcome! Goals for the Semester
Evaluation of Exam Performance
Developing a Plan for 2nd Semester
- 2/4
Exam Skills/ Revisiting Issue-Spotting on Exams
- 2/11
Exam Skills/ Rules Development
- 2/18
Progress check. No class. Please come by the ASP office during class time to report on the results of reviewing your exams with your professors and to let us know what we need to focus on in the upcoming workshops.
- 2/25
Exam Skills/Legal Analysis
- 3/4 to 4/8
Small Group Workshops: Dates and times to be announced. We welcome your suggestions for workshop topics.
- 3/18
Study aid day. Stop by the ASP office during class time and select your study aids for spring break. Students who have attended all ASP classes in January and February may take two books. All other students are limited to one book.
- 3/25
SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS ☺
- 4/15
Panel of Experts – Final Tips for Exam Success!
Practice Exam Distribution