

- Faculté de droit
- www.unine.ch/droit

Lawyering Skills and Legal Writing (4DR2182)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master bilingue en droit	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	4
Master en droit	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	4

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

ANDRES Paul, Chargé d'enseignement.

Contenu

In this course, students learn and practice fundamental lawyering skills in a constructive and experiential environment. Class sessions combine brief lectures and numerous practical exercises. Emphasis is placed on written and oral communication, legal reasoning, advocacy, and negotiation. Students will practice interviewing and counselling clients, negotiating and documenting transactions, and drafting predictive and persuasive legal memoranda.

Forme de l'évaluation

Students will take a written examination at the end of the semester that will require answering questions about lawyering skills and drafting a formal legal memorandum with proper legal reasoning and expression. The exam is closed book. No documentation, books, computers, telephones or other devices are allowed during the examination. Class attendance and participation are essential. Grades may be positively adjusted to reflect class attendance and participation.

Documentation

Course materials consist of PowerPoint slides and selected texts which are freely available on Internet. Students should also purchase the following book which is often cited in class : Legal Writing in Plain English (Second Edition – 2013), by Bryan A. Garner.

Forme de l'enseignement

The course will consist of lectures, occasional guest presentations by experienced lawyers, in-class exercises, and assigned homework. Students will be expected to participate in class exercises and discussions, to submit written homework assignments on time, and to provide constructive comments to classmates.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Write predictive and persuasive legal memoranda
- Analyse legal issues and counsel clients on their legal options
- Present legal concepts and arguments in an organised and persuasive manner
- Formulate transactional clauses to document agreements

Compétences transférables

- Write legal texts in a professional manner
- Present and defend legal arguments
- Apply the law to specific factual situations to reach sound legal conclusions