

Backwards Design Planning Chart for Asynchronous Online Legal Research: this course is a first-year legal research skills course for law students

Law School Learning Outcomes	Research Course Student Learning Outcomes	Possible Assessments	Possible Learning Activities	Resources
<p>1. Research Planning and Preparation</p>				
<p>Learning Outcome 5: Application of Legal Knowledge. Students will be able to apply knowledge and critical reading and thinking skills to be proficient in legal analysis, reasoning, and problem solving. Performance Criterion 5.1: Students will accurately identify relevant legal issues raised by a set of facts. Learning Outcome 6: Legal Skills. Students will be able to effectively conduct legal research, investigate, advocate, collaborate, and communicate with a variety of audiences. Performance Criterion 6.2: Students will develop an effective research strategy. Performance Criterion 6.3: Students will locate and analyze primary and secondary sources relevant to a legal issue, including binding and persuasive authority. Performance Criterion 6.7: Students will actively listen and collaborate effectively with others.</p>	<p>1.a. Students will be able to read and analyze a set of facts. 1.b. Students will be able to identify the relevant jurisdiction(s). 1.c. Students will be able to list search terms relevant to the legal problem. 1.d. Students will be able to identify and articulate the legal issue and associated areas of substantive law. 1.e. Students will be able to formulate a research plan that identifies primary and secondary legal authorities to investigate.</p>	<p>Weekly research journal or log entry documenting issues, facts and research plan, submitted for feedback from instructor. Research conference to communicate analysis of the problem and research plan (this could be video or written instrument to others in the class, or asynchronous or synchronous conference with instructor as simulated supervisor).</p>	<p>Students do a role play interview of a client to gain essential facts, ask follow-up questions, use the interview to formulate a legal issue to research and identify some preliminary resources to investigate, or online video of simulated client interview with supervisor to identify facts and issues. Small discussion groups for asynchronous online brainstorming.</p>	<p>Conferences with instructor prior to due date of final assessment in order to discuss and get feedback. Readings and videos on research process; video of client interview.</p>