

MONICA LUNA
Teaching Professor
Syracuse University College of Law
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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES (UCLA) SCHOOL OF LAW

- **Juris Doctor: May 2007**

Copyright Editor, Women's Law Journal

Academic Standards Committee

Bergstrom Child Welfare Fellowship

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

- **Elementary Education Teaching Certificate Program, (postgraduate)**
- **M.A. Psychology & Social Behavior**
- **B.A. PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIAL BEHAVIOR**
- **B.A. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND DESIGN**

SCHOLARSHIP

- Lori Roberts and Monica Todd, *Let's Be Honest About Law School Cheating: A Low-Tech Solution for a High-Tech Problem*, 52 Akron L. Rev. 1155 (2019).
- Monica M. Todd, *Matchmaking in Law School: Practical Skills and Doctrine in Family Law Course Design*, 36(1), W. St. U. L. Rev. 127 (2019).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- *From Elegy to Euphony: Helping students identify what they don't know they don't know to foster academic and professional success.* Empire State Legal Writing Conference, Brooklyn Law School, 2017.
- *Settlement: A 1L exercise to prepare for appellate advocacy*, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, 2017 (co-presentation with Eunice Park).
- *Bringing the Client Out of the Shadows: Legal Writing and Research as an entry into client communication and cultural competency*, Seventeenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Portland, Oregon, 2016 (co-presenting with Lori Roberts and Eunice Park).
- *Good Vibrations: The power of professorial positivity*, Fourth Legal Writing Institute Western Regional Legal Writing Conference, Stanford Law School, 2014 (co-presenting with Eunice Park).
- *Making Group-Work Work*, Capital Area Legal Writing Conference, American University, 2013 (in collaboration with Lori Roberts).

- *Making Group-Work Work*, Third Annual Western Regional Legal Writing Conference, Whittier Law School, 2013.

COURSES

LEGAL COMMUNICATION AND RESEARCH I, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW *Residential and JD Interactive Online*

This course introduces legal analysis and writing. Students write legal memoranda with elements of legal reasoning and legal citation. They learn to structure analysis around rules, elements, and factors. They also practice writing with clarity to communicate well as they address legal problems.¹

LEGAL COMMUNICATION AND RESEARCH I, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW *Residential and JD Interactive Online*

This course continues exploration of legal analysis and writing. It introduces legal research, including research plans and finding primary and secondary authority. Students learn to write persuasive legal analysis and present a persuasive oral argument. Students continue to practice legal citation, revision, and editing to advocate effectively.²

FAMILY LAW, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Topics include state regulation of family relations; family autonomy; marital and nonmarital contracts; adoption, issues in divorce, separation agreements, spousal and child support, property division, and child custody.³

LEGAL FOUNDATIONS, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

This is an introductory course for the JD online program and introduces topics foundational to the study of law including sources of law in the United States, principles of legal reasoning, study skills, professional identity development, hierarchy of legal authorities as well as other relevant topics.

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LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING I & II, CALIFORNIA WESTERN COLLEGE OF LAW

This course introduces legal analysis and writing. Students write legal memoranda with elements of legal reasoning and legal citation. They learn to structure analysis around rules, elements, and factors. They also practice writing with clarity to communicate well as they address legal problems.

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LEGAL WRITING AND RESEARCH I & II, WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW

Topics in this course included objective and persuasive legal analysis, oral advocacy, legal research, and legal foundations.

¹ Course description as set forth in the SUCOL website, <https://law.syracuse.edu/academics/course-descriptions/lower-division-first-year-courses/> (May 16, 2023)

² Id.

³ Id.

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY PROPERTY, WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW

This course covered topics related to the California Community Property system for characterizing assets and liabilities of marriage during marriage and at dissolution, including earnings, support, and property.

PRACTICAL SKILLS IN FAMILY LAW, WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW

This practice-oriented Family Law course addressed topics such as the state regulation of family relations; family autonomy; marital and nonmarital contracts; adoption, issues in divorce, separation agreements, spousal and child support, property division, and child custody. In the practicum component of this course students learned to prepare the relevant documents to litigate a family law case in California courts from the stages of filing for dissolution of marriage to child support calculations, preparing supporting declarations and motions, parenting plans, financial disclosures, and more.

TOPICS IN ACADEMIC SUPPORT, WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW

Courses included STIAL (Selected Topics in American Law), and ILM (Introduction to Legal Methods). Both courses reinforced introductory topics and principles related to academic success in law school and emphasized study skills and exam preparation. Both courses included regular individual conferences with students to review practice exams and problem-solve strategies for continued success.

RESEARCH, ANALYSIS & COMMUNICATION SKILLS (ONLINE), WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW

This online course in the Health Care Compliance and Regulation graduate program at Argosy University introduced students to the structure of the American legal system, and legal research with a special emphasis on online legal research. Students learned to perform basic legal research and to apply their findings to legal problems via written analysis.

SERVICE

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Syracuse University College of Law, Western State College of Law

MOOT COURT TEAM COACH

Syracuse University College of Law, Western State College of Law

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE, ASSESSMENT TASK FORCE

Syracuse University College of Law, Western State College of Law

FACULTY ADVISOR (LAW REVIEW NOTES AND INDEPENDENT STUDIES)

Syracuse University College of Law, Western State College of Law

DIRECTOR, LEGAL WRITING AND RESEARCH SPRING START PROGRAM

Western State College of Law (2016, 2017)

DIRECTOR, FAMILY LAW PRACTICE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Western State College of Law

FACULTY ADVISOR: FAMILY LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION
Western State College of Law

CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Western State College of Law

EMPLOYMENT

IRWIN & IRWIN, LLP
Associate/Contract Attorney
Fullerton, CA

LAW OFFICE OF JOHN A. BLEDSOE
Associate/Contract Attorney
Irvine, CA

STEGMEIER & GELBART, LLP
Associate Attorney
Costa Mesa, CA

Responsibilities include preparing all manner of documents relevant to family law practice, meet with clients, and occasional court appearances. Responsibilities included extensive legal research, writing, and analysis in the context of preparing motions and legal briefs.

LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT
Judicial Extern
Santa Monica, CA

Review and summarize case files for the Honorable Joe W. Hilberman, perform legal research, prepare legal memoranda, and attend mandatory settlement conferences.

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER OF LOS ANGELES
Law Clerk
Monterey Park, CA

Interview child clients and assist counsel through child dependency proceedings from initial detention to family reunification or adoption proceedings. Review and summarize case reports from the Department of Child and Family Services. Follow up on case related issues such as health, education, and delinquency, research social resources, and statutes and laws related to children's rights. Participate in interdisciplinary team-planning meetings.

SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Elementary School Teacher
Santa Ana, CA

Taught third and fourth grade students in language arts, arithmetic, science, social science, art, and physical education. Direct, plan and evaluate lessons, and perform various administrative duties such as communicate student achievement, classroom activities and curriculum to school administrators and parents. Develop and implement classroom management plans, maintain classroom records, identify, create, and tailor instructional materials.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE
SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL BEHAVIOR
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECOLOGY
Graduate Teaching Assistant / Research Assistant
Irvine, CA

Assist in the preparation of psychology courses at the college of level including courses in Introductory Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Developmental Psychopathology, and upper-division writing. Lead group discussions and exam reviews, develop, grade, and proctor exams, maintain course records, as well as meet with students individually as needed.

Assist in data collection for the National Institute of Child Health and Development longitudinal study on the effect of childcare on child development by conducting various relevant assessments.