

**CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND SCHEDULE FOR
APPELLATE ADVOCACY, SECTIONS 3 & 4
Professor Brian Porto
Fall 2021**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ASSIGNMENT</u>
8/31	<p>Introduce course; discuss the importance of appellate advocacy; present selected writing tips</p> <p>Read: Course Packet, pp. 15-21; 30-36</p>
9/02	<p>Discuss the appellate process; Do First Writing Exercise</p> <p>Read: Course Packet, pp. x; 1-14</p>
9/07	<p>Discuss signs and sign regulations, District Court's decision in <i>City of Austin</i>; Do Second Writing Exercise</p> <p>Read: Course Packet, pp. xi; 58-61, 77-90, 91-95</p>
9/09	<p>Discuss Fifth Circuit's decision in <i>City of Austin</i>; parties' joint stipulation; Discuss Preliminary Outline Do Third Writing Exercise</p> <p>Read: Course Packet, pp. xii; 62-76, 96-100</p>
9/14	<p>Review lower court proceedings in <i>City of Austin</i> (Q & A session), Do Fourth Writing Exercise</p> <p>Read: Course Packet, pp. xiv, 59-100 (review)</p>
9/16	<p>Preliminary Outline Due Discuss research and writing strategies; Questions Presented</p> <p>Read: Course Packet, pp. i, v, viii</p>

- 9/21 Discuss practitioners' and judges' tips
for effective appellate advocacy

Read: Course Packet, pp. iv, 22-29, 44-57
- 9/23 Discuss *Reed v. Town of Gilbert*
Discuss Statement of the Case

Read: Course Packet, pp. ii, iii,
101-122
- 9/28 **Statement of the Case Due**

Discuss *Metromedia, Inc. v. City of San Diego*,
453 U.S. 490 (WESTLAW)

Read: Case Syllabus Only
- 9/30 Discuss *Act Now et al. v. District of Columbia*
Discuss *Thomas v. Bright*

Read: Course Packet, pp. 123-148, 149-166
- 10/5 Discuss Point Headings and Argument

Read: Course Packet, pp. 22-29 (review)
- 10/07 **Point Headings Due**
Finish discussing argument;
Discuss Summary of Argument
Do Fifth Writing Exercise

Read: Course Packet, p. xv
- 10/12 **NO CLASS—FALL BREAK**
- 10/14 Discuss opening and closing sections of brief;
Discuss use of rhetoric in brief writing

Read: Course Packet, pp. 37-43

10/19 Discuss Scholarly Commentary on Sign Regulations
Read: Course Packet, pp. 181-194

10/21 **First Draft of Brief Due at Noon**
Discuss Oral Argument
Read: Course Packet, pp. vi; vii; 167-180

10/25 Individual Conferences

10/26 **NO CLASS** – Individual Conferences

10/27 Individual Conferences

10/28 **NO CLASS** -- Individual Conferences

10/29 Individual Conferences

11/01 Individual Conferences

11/02 **NO CLASS**—Individual Conferences

11/03 Individual Conferences

11/04 **ORAL ARGUMENT BOOT CAMP**

11/08-11/11 Practice Oral Arguments

FINAL ORAL ARGUMENTS

November 15- December 02

12/07

Class evaluation/debriefing