

Vermont Law and Graduate School
Legal & Policy Writing
Fall 2022
Debevoise Hall MAP Room
Fridays, 9:55 AM to 11:35 AM

Meg York

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Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM (and by appointment)

First Assignment

1. Friday, September 2

Course Introduction

Read:

- *Plain English for Lawyers*, Richard C. Wydick
- “[Simplicity](#)” from *On Writing Well*, William Zinsser
- “Don’t Mumble”, Chapter 2, from *Writing that Works*, Roman & Raphaelson
- “[Be Clear](#)” from *The Elements of Style*, Strunk & White

Assignment:

- Please choose a short piece to read (in addition to readings above). Try to find an example you genuinely like. As you read or afterwards, jot down a list of what you like. What do you think makes it good? Why? Even though these writing examples may not be in the category of legal writing, try to connect your thoughts back to the principles underscored in our other readings for class (Wydick, Zinsser, etc.). Come prepared to share your thoughts in class.