

Preparing to Practice (P2P)
DePaul University College of Law
Law Career Service
Fall 2017- Spring 2018
Section A, Wednesday 3:00-3:50 PM
Section B, Thursday 3:00-3:50 PM
Section C, Monday 3:00-3:50 PM
25 E. Jackson, Lewis 241



I. COURSE INFORMATION (FALL 2017)

A. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Thyanda Mack
Office: Law Career Services (LCS), Suite 300
Email: t.mack@depaul.edu
Office Hours: By appointment (Call 312-362-8385 or stop by LCS reception in Suite 300)
Office Phone: 312-362-6439

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Preparing to Practice is designed to enhance your professional development while you transition from student to lawyer. Practicing attorneys tell us that new lawyers are most successful when they join the profession with a broader blend of legal skills, professional competencies, and characteristics that comprise the whole lawyer beyond legal skills and intelligence.¹ Integrity, self-awareness, the ability to relate to clients and colleagues, and a professional development mindset drive outstanding performance in the workplace.

At the completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Examine professional opportunities, practice areas, and practice settings in which lawyers work
- Explore your values and preferences to assess the fit between various types of practice and your own interests, strengths, and aspirations
- Understand the career planning resources available through LCS
- Take initiative in your own professional growth and career strategy and make advantageous decisions about your legal education and career
- Understand legal practice in a broader context, including the business of law, how attorneys get business, establish good reputations, and meet employer and client expectations
- Develop strategies for success, including working with others toward a common goal, recognizing your own identity and unconscious biases, and conflict resolution techniques
- Examine and understand your roles and identity as a law student, job seeker, and future legal professional

II. COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Throughout this course, you will be treated as professionals. Accordingly, the expectations for your conduct and work in this course mirror the expectations that supervising attorneys have for junior attorneys. Professionalism standards for attorneys include expectations that they arrive on time, prepared, and ready to engage.

A. ATTENDANCE

Your success in this class depends on regular attendance and active participation. Class attendance is mandatory. You will swipe your ID card or sign in at the beginning and end of each class. Failure to sign in before and after class will result in an absence for that day. Absences will rarely be excused and only for compelling reasons.

¹ Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, *Foundations for Practice*, 2, (2016) http://iaals.du.edu/sites/default/files/reports/foundations_for_practice_whole_lawyer_character_quotient.pdf (last visited July 18, 2017).