INSTRUCTOR

GONZALO FREIXES, Adjunct Professor
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Gonzalo Freixes, a graduate of Loyola Law School, has been an Attorney at Law for 41 years and also holds a Master in Business Taxation (USC). He is an Adjunct Professor at UCLA Anderson School of Management where he teaches courses in Business Law, International Business and Taxation. He currently serves as Associate Dean of the Fully Employed and Executive MBA Programs and also teaches study abroad courses in International Business. Prof. Freixes is Faculty Advisor and Head Coach of the UCLA Mock Trial Program (national collegiate champions in 2004, 2005, 2011 and 2014).

TEXT

(Optional) Trial Advocacy Basics, 2006 or 2012 editions (Gitchel and/or O’Brien) – Students can purchase at UCLA bookstores or online. Textbook is recommended but not required.

Course Reader – The program will provide a Course Reader that contains the 2022 case materials (at no additional cost).

COURSE CONTENT

This course will familiarize high school students with law and jurisprudence, the American justice system and effective trial advocacy techniques. The course is ideal for students competing in high school mock trial programs. However, no prior mock trial or public speaking experience is necessary. All students will learn about persuasive oral presentation, thinking on their feet and legal analysis.

The course will cover basic concepts of law, courtroom demeanor, direct and cross examination, opening statements, closing arguments, courtroom exhibits, evidentiary trial objections and witness portrayal. The program will feature a visit to criminal felony trials in the Los Angeles Superior Court and a final mock trial competition. Students will work with Prof. Gonzalo Freixes, Associate Dean at the UCLA Anderson School and Faculty Advisor/Head Coach for the UCLA Mock Trial Program. They will also work extensively in small teams with college counselors who are competitors in the UCLA Mock Trial Program or who compete at other universities. The Mock Trial will be based on the murder case of People vs. Jackie Owens (the alleged murder of a business partner).

READINGS

Chapters in the class textbook will be recommended, along with special articles and publications from the selected course materials.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

MGMT 88 is a 2-unit UCLA class and the grade that you receive will go on your college transcript. So please take the academic portion of this course very seriously. Course grades are based on the following:

Examination: 60%  Class Participation: 40%
Class Participation is based on trial preparation and contributions to the team. The examination will test knowledge in trial advocacy, evidence and law (all covered in class lectures). The exam will be held on Friday, July 1, 2022 and is open book, open notes.

**PRE-CLASS SESSIONS** (Due by June 26)

Students should view five (5) short online videos and complete the online quiz by June 26, 2022.

**SESSION ONE** (Sunday, June 26)  - Review *People v. Owens* case

Dormitory check-in, program orientation and team meetings with counselors.

**SESSION TWO** (Monday, June 27)  - Chapter 1, 3, 6 and 7 – optional reading

Session on Direct Examination and Cross-Examination techniques. First two team workshop to discuss mock trial case roles and strategy.

**SESSION THREE** (Tuesday, June 28)  – Chapters 5, 8 and 9 – optional reading

Subjects include witness impeachment, expert witnesses, opening statements and closing arguments. Students continue to work with counselors on case roles and strategy. Evening will feature an excursion with your team and counselors to Westwood Village.

**SESSION FOUR** (Wednesday, June 29) – Chapters 10, 11 & 12 – optional reading

Sessions on evidentiary objections, the rules of evidence and introducing exhibits. Special evening session on witness preparation and testimony techniques. Students continue working with teams on mock trial preparation.

**SESSION FIVE**  – (Thursday, June 30) – No assigned chapters

Field trip to observe jury trials or preliminary hearings at the Criminal and Civil Courts of the Los Angeles Superior Court in downtown Los Angeles.

**SESSION SIX**  – (Friday, July 1)

Course Examination and continued trial preparation for final mock trial competition.

**SESSION SEVEN**  – (Saturday, July 2) – *Parents, family and friends may attend.*

9:30 a.m.  Round I of final mock trial competition
1:30 p.m.  Round 2 of final mock trial competition
4:30 p.m.  Closing and Awards Ceremony