

2024 UCLA MOCK TRIAL INSTITUTE A – MGMT 88
COURSE SYLLABUS (Summer 2024)

INSTRUCTOR

GONZALO FREIXES, Adjunct Professor
gonzalo.freixes@anderson.ucla.edu - Anderson G6.24

Gonzalo Freixes, a graduate of Loyola Law School, has been an Attorney at Law for 44 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 Fully Employed and Executive MBA Programs and teaches study abroad courses in International Business. Prof. Freixes is Faculty Advisor of the UCLA Mock Trial Program (national collegiate champions in 2004, 2005, 2011, 2014 and 2023).

TEXT

Textbook: *Trial Advocacy Basics* (Optional), Any edition is fine (Gitchel and/or O'Brien) – Students can purchase at UCLA bookstores or online. Textbook is recommended but not required.

Course Materials – The program will provide additional course materials and readings online on the UCLA BruinLearn course site (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 robbery case of *People vs. Whit Bowman*.

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 Saturday, June 29, 2024, and is open-book, open-notes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: After taking the course, students will:

1. Acquire knowledge of the legal system in the United States.
2. Make effective and persuasive oral presentations
3. Understand the legal analysis process
4. Effectively work in a team setting
Learn basic rules and techniques of trial advocacy (examination of witnesses, presentation of opening statements and closing arguments, effective witness portrayal, federal rules of evidence).

PRE-CLASS SESSIONS (Due by Sunday, June 23)

Students should view five (5) short online videos and complete the online quiz by June 23, 2024.

SESSION ONE (Sunday, June 23) – Review *People v. Bowman* case

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

SESSION TWO (Monday, June 24) – 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 25) – 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 26) – 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 27) – 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, June 28)

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

SESSION SEVEN – (Saturday, June 29) – *Parents, family and friends may attend.*

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

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INSTRUCTOR

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES: After taking the course, students will:

1. Acquire knowledge of the legal system in the United States.
2. Make effective and persuasive oral presentations
3. Understand the legal analysis process
4. Effectively work in a team setting
Learn basic rules and techniques of trial advocacy (examination of witnesses, presentation of opening statements and closing arguments, effective witness portrayal, federal rules of evidence).

PRE-CLASS SESSIONS (Due by Sunday, July 14)

Students should view five (5) short online videos and complete the online quiz by July 14, 2024.

SESSION ONE (Sunday, July 14) – Review *People v. Bowman* case

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

SESSION TWO (Monday, July 15) – 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, July 16) – 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, July 17) – 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, July 18) – 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 19)

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

SESSION SEVEN – (Saturday, July 20) – *Parents, family and friends may attend.*

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

2024 UCLA MOCK TRIAL INSTITUTE – MGMT 88
COURSE SYLLABUS (Summer 2024 – virtual program)

INSTRUCTORS

GONZALO FREIXES, Adjunct Professor
gonzalo.freixes@anderson.ucla.edu - Anderson G624

ELIZABETH SMILEY, *Attorney at Law and Head Coach* – UCLA Mock Trial Program
elizabeth.smiley@anderson.ucla.edu – Anderson G642

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 and serves as Associate Dean of the Fully Employed and Executive MBA Programs. Elizabeth Smiley has been an attorney at law in California for six years and works as a litigation associate for Baron & Budd, P.C. She is the head coach of the UCLA Mock Trial Program and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Mock Trial Association.

TEXT

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Course Materials – The program will provide Course Materials on the BruinLearn course site.

COURSE CONTENT

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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 26, 2024 and is open book, open notes.

PRE-CLASS WORK: (due by July 21, 2024)

Five (5) pre-class videos will cover the course syllabus, the legal system, mock trial, direct examination and cross-examination. You should watch these videos and complete short online quizzes (to count towards class participation) by 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 21, 2024. Videos and the quiz will be available on the BRUINLEARN course learning site.

SESSION ONE (Sunday, July 21) - Review *People v. Bowman* case

Introduction and orientation about the program and mock trial basics. Discussion of *Bowman* case. Mock trial demonstration . Teams meet with their coaches.

SESSION TWO (Monday, July 22) – Chapter 1 & 3 - optional reading

Introduction to trial decorum. Session on direct examination techniques. First two team workshops to discuss mock trial case roles and strategy. Direct examination drafts submitted online on BruinLearn.

SESSION THREE (Tuesday, July 23) – Chapters 6, 7, 8 & 10 – optional reading

Subjects include cross-examination, witness impeachment, opening statements, and closing arguments. Students continue to work with counselors on case roles and strategy. Cross examination drafts submitted online on BruinLearn.

SESSION FOUR – (Wednesday, July 24) – Chapters 5, 11 & 12 – optional reading

Evidentiary objections and the rules of evidence. Students continue working with teams on mock trial preparation. Statement drafts submitted online on BruinLearn.

SESSION FIVE – (Thursday, July 25) – Chapter 11 – optional reading

Special sessions on witness preparation and testimony techniques. Students continue working with teams in mock trial preparation. Guest speakers from the Los Angeles Superior Court to discuss effective trial techniques. Direct examination questions with witness answers submitted online on BruinLearn.

SESSION SIX – (Friday, July 27) – No assigned chapters

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

SESSION SEVEN – (Saturday, July 28) – *Parents, family and friends may attend.*

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