

2020 UCLA MOCK TRIAL INSTITUTE – MGMT 88
COURSE SYLLABUS (Summer 2020)

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

Gonzalo Freixes, a graduate of Loyola Law School, has been an Attorney at Law for 40 years and also holds a Master in Business Taxation (USC). He is an Adjunct Professor at UCLA Anderson School of Management where he has taught courses in Business Law, International Business and Taxation for 30 years. He currently serves as Associate Dean of the Fully Employed and Executive MBA Programs and also teaches study abroad courses in International Business in Europe, Asia and Latin America. Prof. Freixes is Faculty Advisor and Head Coach of the UCLA Mock Trial Program.

TEXT & MATERIALS

Trial Advocacy Basics, 2012 Edition (Gitchel & O'Brien) – Students can purchase at the UCLA bookstores or online. Textbook is strongly recommended but not required.

Case Materials – This year's case will be the criminal murder case of *People v. Danny Dawson*. The case materials will be posted on the CCLE course learning site.

We will recommend chapters in the class textbook, along with case materials, special articles and publications that may be posted on the CCLE course learning site.

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 online presentations by UCLA faculty and legal professionals, and a final virtual 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.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

This course is a 2-unit class at UCLA 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 comprised of 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 during class). The exam will be held online on Friday, July 17, 2020 and is open book, open notes.

PRE-CLASS WORK: (due by July 12, 2020)

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 a short online quiz (to count towards class participation) by 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 12, 2020. Videos and the quiz will be available on the CCLE course learning site.

SESSION ONE (Sunday, July 12) - Review *People v. Dawson* case

Program welcome and orientation session. Introduction to legal analysis, the judicial system, and mock trial basics. Students meet their team counselors.

SESSION TWO (Monday, July 13) - 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 to CCLE by 10 pm.

SESSION THREE (Tuesday, July 14) – 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 to CCLE by 10 pm.

SESSION FOUR (Wednesday, July 15) – 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 to CCLE by 10 pm.

SESSION FIVE – (Thursday, July 16) - 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 to CCLE by 10 pm.

SESSION SIX – (Friday, July 17) – No assigned chapters

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

SESSION SEVEN – (Saturday, July 18) – *Parents, family and friends may attend virtually.*

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Round 1 of final mock trial competition
1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Round 2 of final mock trial competition
4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Closing and Awards Ceremony