

22 May 2007

Dear Member of the Class of 2010:

Welcome to the J. Reuben Clark Law School and the Rex E. Lee Advocacy Program. The Advocacy faculty is excited to have you as part of the class of 2010. During the coming year, we will be teaching you in a year-long course (Introduction to Legal Research and Writing in the Fall Semester and Introduction to Advocacy in the Winter Semester) that will help you learn and hone essential lawyering skills, including legal analysis, writing, research, and oral advocacy. The purpose of this course, and others in the law school, is to help you "think like a lawyer." In addition, the purpose of the course is to help you to communicate "like a lawyer." Our goal is that, by the end of the year, you will have developed the skills necessary for a successful clerkship, internship, externship, or other lawyering experience during the summer.

We want to hit the ground running and want you to feel as prepared as possible when we start. To this end, please carefully read the Legal Research and Writing Course Materials and General Outline of Assignments, which will be available on the course webpage at <https://www.law2.byu.edu/Class2007-2008/Fall/545-04f/index.php> no later than 1 August 2007. (You may need to contact the [Law School Help Desk](#) for a username and password in order to view these files. These materials are the same for all sections, so it does not matter which legal writing section you are in, you may retrieve the materials from this link.) As the law school will be updating its course webpages throughout the summer, please make sure that you are accessing the Fall 2007 version of the materials rather than some earlier version. These materials will answer many questions you may have about the course.

In addition, in early August your section's professor will post reading assignments from the course texts that you will need to read before you come to the first day of class. Your professors will expect you to be familiar with this material. Your professor will post all reading assignments on your section's course webpage before the beginning of the semester. (Professors will have differing assignments, so it is critical that you retrieve the information for your section of the course. If you are unsure of your course section, please contact Nancy Hamberlin, the law school registrar.) You will also be assigned at least one writing assignment before school begins, which will be due on the first day of class. Beginning August 1 you should check your course page regularly to be sure that you are fully prepared when classes begin on August 27.

The Advocacy faculty is looking forward to the coming year, and we hope you are as well. If you have any questions or concerns about the Advocacy program, about the pre-school reading and assignments, about beginning law school, or about anything else concerning your emerging careers, please do not hesitate to contact me at (801) 422-9022 or by email at gerdyk@law.byu.edu. We look forward to meeting you and working with you in the year ahead. _____

Sincerely,

Kristin B. Gerdy
Director, Advocacy Program