

Mary Nicol Bowman

Seattle University School of Law
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Legal Writing Professor, Seattle University School of Law

Aug. 2001 – Present

Teaching

- Legal Writing I: Objective and Advisory Writing, Fall 2001 – Spring 2006, Spring 2007-Present. Through this course, I introduce students to legal research, legal reading, legal analysis and synthesis, legal citation, the principles of good legal writing, and the formats for legal memoranda. I also emphasize that writing is not only a tool for communicating, but also a tool for developing analytical skills. I do extensive critiquing of students writing and conduct individual student conferences as needed. I also conduct workshops for students from all Legal Writing I sections on issues of effective writing.
- Legal Writing II: Persuasive Writing and Oral Advocacy, Fall 2001, Spring 2002, Fall 2003 – Spring 2006, Spring 2007 – Present. Through this course, I introduce the students to persuasive writing aimed at both trial and appellate courts. I also teach oral advocacy skills and litigation strategy generally. I do extensive critiquing of students writing and conduct individual student conferences as needed.
- Writing Advisor, Fall 2002. In this role, I met with students from all the other legal writing sections of both Legal Writing I and II, to help them with individual issues in their writing. I also helped students with writing samples and law review article drafts.

Articles and Publications

- *Leila Robinson*, Entry in Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law (forthcoming).
- Lisa A. Vincler & Mary F. Nicol (Bowman), *When Ignorance Isn't Bliss: What Healthcare Practitioners and Facilities Should Know About Complementary and Alternative Medicine*, 30 J. Health & Hosp. L. 160 (1997).
- *Truth or Consequences: Self-Incriminating Statements and Informant Veracity* (work in progress)

Academic Presentations

- “Making a Difference by Making it Real: Collaborating with Legal Services Organizations in Developing Legal Writing Problems” at the Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, March 14, 2009.
- “Communicating with the Millennials: Teaching & Preparing the Next Generation of Lawyers” at the national Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, July 17, 2008 (with Janet Dickson).
- “After Hiring: Faculty and Staff Formation for Mission” at the Religiously Affiliated Law Schools Conference, April 2008.

- “Teaching ‘Generation Me:’ Understanding Our Students so We Can Teach Them Effectively.” at the Northwest Regional Legal Writing Conference on August 10, 2007 (with Janet Dickson).
- “Creative Problems, Engaged Students: A Process-Oriented Approach to Designing Legal Writing Problems” at the national Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, June 9, 2006 (with Janet Dickson).
- “Best Practices: Conducting Effective Student Conferences” at the Pacific Northwest Legal Writing Regional Conference, August 15, 2003 (with Janet Dickson).

CLEs

- Introduction to *State v. Watson*, videotaped CLE Presentation (with Mimi Samuel), April 2008 to practitioner judges for Legal Writing II final oral arguments, covering admissibility of character evidence and the standards for when self-defense jury instructions must be given
- Introduction to *State v. Simmons*, videotaped CLE Presentation, November 2006 to practitioner judges for Legal Writing II final oral arguments, covering recent developments in Confrontation Clause analysis as they related to the admissibility of 911 phone call recordings, as well as the law regarding jury instructions for accomplice liability.
- *Writing Clearly and Concisely*, CLE Presentation in July 2005 to Claims Officers’ Workshop, Washington State Attorney General’s Office and Division of Social and Health Services.
- *Introduction to State v. Singh*, videotaped CLE Presentation in November 2004 to practitioner judges for Legal Writing II final oral arguments, covering the law on Fifth Amendment Privilege Against Self-Incrimination.

Service Activities

- Law School Representative to Seattle University’s New Faculty Institute planning team, May 2007 – Present.
- Member, Final Selection Committee for the Scribes Law Review Award for best student note or comment, Fall 2006- present.
- Co-Facilitator for Seattle University’s Arrupe Seminar on the Foundations and Visions of Jesuit Education, Fall 2005 – Spring 2008, Fall 2009. This year-long, biweekly seminar is open to faculty and staff throughout the university community. It covers issues related to Jesuit history, spirituality, social justice work, and education, to help participants gain a deeper insight into translating the university’s mission into our own lives and work.
- Co-Faculty Advisor for Seattle University Law Review, Fall 2005 – Spring 2009.
- Screening Committee Member for the Scribes National Best Brief Contest, 2005-2007, 2009.
- Volunteer Judge, National Association of Women Lawyers Selma Moidel Smith Law Student Writing Competition, Spring 2007.

- Faculty Advisor on Judicial Clerkships, officially 2004-2005, although I have continued to serve in this role informally as a resource for interested students.
- Prepare various teaching materials for the Legal Writing Faculty. This category includes preparation of the Legal Writing II problem, by myself during Fall 2006 and with another faculty member Fall 2004 and Spring 2007. This category also leading several teaching workshops for new legal writing faculty, Summer 2005, and preparing various materials for specific classes, throughout each year of teaching.
- Judge and brief-scorer for various moot court competitions.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Oct. 1999 – July 2001

- Advised telecommunications clients on state and federal environmental compliance issues, and performed a variety of pre-litigation work on environmental cleanup cases.
- Performed legal research, drafted briefs and related documents, interviewed witnesses, and counseled employers regarding various employment law claims.
- Represented individual clients in immigration proceedings and child dependency (CASA) cases.

Law Clerk (Hon. Thomas S. Zilly), United States District Court

Sept. 1998 – Sept. 1999

- Performed legal research and drafted memoranda and opinions on a variety of civil matters.
- Drafted all bench memoranda and opinions from Judge Zilly's chambers when he sat by designation on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Worked on complex environmental and immigration matters, including working with law clerks from other chambers when the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington sat *en banc* to consider the constitutionality of indefinite detention of aliens who had been ordered removed from the United States but who could not be repatriated to their home countries.
- Assisted law clerk hiring as well as hiring and supervision of legal externs.

OTHER RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

- Law Clerk, Stanford University Office of the General Counsel Sept. 1996 – May 1997
- Law Clerk, Washington State Attorney General's Office June 1996 – Aug. 1996
- Extern, King County District Court (Northeast Division), March 1995 – June 1995

- Writing Center Consultant, Seattle University
1995

Sept. 1993 – June

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, Stanford Law School, 1998, 3.84 GPA

- Order of the Coif
- Recipient, Hilmer Oehlmann Jr. Award for Best Brief, Stanford Moot Court, 1996
- Articles Editor, *Stanford Law and Policy Review*
- Member, Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation
- Member, East Palo Alto Community Law Project Housing Committee

Bachelor of Arts, Seattle University, 1995, *summa cum laude* (3.98 overall GPA)

- Graduate of the Honors Program, a two-year intensive program in history, philosophy, and English
- Recipient, Reichmann Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship and Achievement, Seattle University Philosophy Department, 1995
- Awarded Member, National Jesuit Honor Society, *Alpha Sigma Nu*, 1994-1995
- President's List, highest academic achievement, 11 quarters; Dean's List, 1 quarter

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Chair, St. Jude Parish Worship Commission, Fall 2007 – Summer 2009. The Worship Commission liturgical issues facing the parish (such as the posture during the Eucharistic Prayer, the quality of the music ministry, and ways to make liturgy personal) and makes recommendations to the pastor.
- Liturgical Minister, St. Jude Parish, Redmond, Washington, 2001 – present . Includes service as lector coordinator for one mass for approximately four years and service as a lector and Eucharistic Minister. I also served on St. Jude Parish's Liturgy Committee, Fall 2004 – Spring 2007.
- Member, Ben Rush Elementary PTA, Fall 2008 – present.
- Helped Coordinate Valley Medical Center Silent Auction, benefiting pediatric services charity care, September 2004.