UMKC School of Law Fall 2010

COURSE NUMBER & COURSE NAME: Law 8707B: Advanced Legal Writing: Business Contract Drafting

PROFESSOR: Susan Gardner

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE(S): Contracts I and II; Business Organizations

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITE(S):

METHOD OF GRADING AND APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE: Graded writing assignments; class participation

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

Business Contract Drafting is taught through narration and drafting exercises, both graded and ungraded. The exercises emphasize the nexus between the business deal and the contract. To draft a contract well, a drafter must know the rules of good writing—and more. Among other things, a drafter must:

- Understand the business deal;
- Know how to use the contract concepts to reflect the parties’ deal accurately; and
- Be able to draft and recognize nuances in language that change the deal.

In addition, a good drafter knows how to add value to a deal by recognizing business issues and offering solutions.


RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES: Just about every lawyer will need to draft a contract sometime in his/her career. It is a skill that is necessary for success.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR MISSOURI BAR EXAM PREPARATION: The course reinforces good writing skills.