Course Name: Trial Advocacy II – Accelerated
Trial Advocacy II – Non Accelerated
Course Number: 8700
Professor: James C. Wirken

Essential Prerequisites: Trial Advocacy I
Desirable Prerequisites: None

Course Books:
Required:
  Evidentiary Foundations – 7th Edition
  Author: Edward J. Imwinkelried

Required:
  Author: Anthony J. Bocchino & David A. Sonenshein

Method of Grading & Appraisal for Student for Grade: Grades are based on a combination of attendance, class participation, and participating in a mock trial at the end of the semester.

Summary Description of Course: The course builds on the basic foundations established through participation in Trial Ad I. Advanced level trial techniques are taught in an intensive interactive format. Students have the opportunity to use the Federal Rules of Civil procedure and Federal Rules of Evidence in practical applications while honing their advocacy skills. This course also prepares students to compete on one of the school’s two National Competition Teams. Students will hone the skills they were introduced to in Trial Advocacy I by practicing them weekly. The limited size of the sections allows for students to participate much more frequently than they might have in Trial Advocacy I. “Accelerated” students are invited based on their performance in Trial Advocacy I, while a non-accelerated section is open to all. At the end of the semester, students will participate in trials to determine the school’s National Competition Teams.

Course Content: During class sessions, students perform exercises involving the various stages of a law suit, and are critiqued on their performances. Following performance of the exercises, students are divided into teams and try a mock case in a trial competition, from which the Law School's National Trial Competition Teams are selected. The trials are evaluated by trial lawyers and federal or state judges.

Relevance of Course for Career Purposes: This course is essential for anyone who expects to be in the courtroom practicing civil or criminal litigation. Proper courtroom decorum and advocacy skills are a must, and there is no better way to learn than by doing. Learning to speak with confidence and authority is a critical skill even outside the courtroom.

Relevancy of Course for MO/Multi-State Bar Exam: Trial Advocacy often bolsters students’ understanding of the Federal Rules of Evidence, tested on the MBE