COURSE NAME: Jury Selection

COURSE NUMBER: L88955

PROFESSOR: Hal Lowenstein
Wanda Lowenstein

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: A perceptive eye, a keen ear, and an open mind.

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: The ability to evaluate a case, determine the kind of juror you want and those who may not appreciate your case.

COURSE BOOKS:

REQUIRED: None

RECOMMENDED: A bibliography will be provided.

METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE: Your interest and active participation in class activity (including mock voir dire, plus your paper and test result.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: To give a potential trial lawyer the experience of questioning people, assessing their beliefs and making educated decisions on selection of the jury.

COURSE CONTENT: A background of the caselaw, statutes and rules on jury selection and the appellate review of the judge’s decisions. An extended discussion of such hot topics as: “the Insurance Question”, the effect of juror nondisclosure, grounds for cause, and limitations of peremptory strikes based on race and gender.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES: The experience of conducting a voir dire cannot be replicated in any way other than actually conducting and making jury selection.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR MO/MULTI-STATE BAR EXAMINATION: Many of the areas tested on the bar exam relate to jury selection: juror bias, nondisclosure, limitation of questioning, and improper contact with potential jurors.