



Logic and Opinion Writing (JS 621)

This course will assist anyone who writes judicial opinions become a more skillful and effective opinion writer. The first half of the course invites you to examine the underlying principles of syllogistic reasoning and how these principles may apply. The second half of the course addresses writing judicial opinions as a reasoned statement that justifies the outcome that the decision maker reaches. Anyone who writes judicial opinions — judges and others — will benefit from this unique class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

During this course, you will learn to:

1. Define basic terms and concepts in the formal study of logic.
2. Describe the premises of inductive and deductive reasoning, especially categorical syllogisms.
3. Explain your conclusions and decision more cogently and precisely.
4. Explain the anatomy of an opinion with the use of orientation paragraphs, issue statements, findings of fact and conclusions of law or disposition.
5. Describe what is involved in the writing process.
6. State the emphasis to be given to style such as sentence structure, wordiness, and revision.
7. Use writing practices that improve written opinions.

March 11 - 14, 2024

Las Vegas, NV

Tuition \$1,799

Conference Fee \$499

To register go to judges.org/LOW

This course may be eligible for (CLE/CJE) credits under most state boards/bars/commissions. CLE/CJE credit hour estimates are 23 hours total credits. There are no ethics credits available.

Estimated credits are subject to change based upon final agenda provided on start date of course.

This course qualifies for 2 credits toward the Master of Judicial Studies Degree Program and Judicial Studies Doctoral Program at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Scholarships may be available, apply during registration.

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