

Logic & Opinion Writing

May 4 - 7, 2026
New Orleans, LA

Tuition: \$1,979
Conf. fee: \$549



THE NATIONAL
JUDICIAL COLLEGE

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.

What is included in the fees?

Tuition includes all in-person materials and access to digital materials. The conference fee provides for all breakfasts and lunches.

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One of the best courses I've ever taken on logic and writing! " — 2024 participant

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What a joy it is to gather with professional peers in an academic setting which is well hosted and thoughtfully prepared." — 2024 participant

More info:

judges.org/courses/logic-opinion-writing-js-621/

Learning Objectives:

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

Established in 1963, the NJC is a nonprofit organization and the only educational institution in the U.S. that teaches judges of all types from across the 50 states, Indian Country and abroad.

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