

MARY ANN ROBINSON

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law

299 North Spring Mill Road

Villanova, PA 19805

Professor Emeritus (no teaching duties) 2023 - present

Professor of Law 2016 - 2023

Associate Professor of Legal Writing 2013 - 2016

- Taught transactional legal writing course that included instruction on advising and counseling clients, drafting documents, and negotiating
- Coordinated “Business and Financial Literacy for Lawyers,” a one-credit week-long module (Required for all 1L students through 2020 and for all 2L students in 2022)

Delaware Law School (formerly Widener University School of Law)

4601 Concord Pike

Wilmington, DE 19803-0474

Assistant Legal Writing Professor 2006 - 2013

- Taught the following:
 - Legal Methods I & II, a mandatory two-semester course for 1Ls on legal analysis, research, and writing (Course requirements included a closed and open memorandum of law, as well as an appellate brief and oral argument.)
 - Bar Preparation & Strategies, an early bar preparation course for graduating students
 - Wills & Trusts (Course included traditional case book instruction and drafting selected estate planning documents.)
 - Legal Methods III, a mandatory upper-level legal writing class (Course requirements included a client letter and a brief in support of a summary judgment motion.)
- Served as Acting Director of the Legal Methods Department Spring 2010

Adjunct Faculty, Legal Methods 2004 - 2006

Troutman Pepper (formerly Pepper Hamilton LLP)

400 Berwyn Park/899 Cassatt Rd. Berwyn,

PA 19312

Senior Staff Attorney, Commercial Department, Estates Practice Group 2005 - 2006

- Estate planning – including lifetime and postmortem tax and business planning, as well as drafting wills, trusts, and related documents
- Estate administration, including preparation & review of releases, settlement agreements, and tax returns
- Representation of fiduciaries and beneficiaries in Orphans’ Court

ALI CLE (formerly ALI-ABA)

4025 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Editor, *The Audio Estate Planner*[®] 1998 - 2005

- Selected & edited articles for quarterly audio magazine as part of continuing education programs for lawyers

The Philadelphia Institute (Closed in 1996)

2133 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Instructor (part-time)

1989 - 1996

- Taught in paralegal training program for post-college level students (Courses included legal writing, research, and analysis, as well as tax and estate administration.)

Troutman Pepper (formerly Pepper Hamilton LLP)

3000 Two Logan Tower 400 Berwyn Park/899 Cassatt Road
Philadelphia, PA 19103 Berwyn, PA 19312

Associate, Estates and Trusts Department

1979 - 1988

- Duties similar to those listed under more recent employment at Troutman Pepper)

EDUCATION

Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law

Villanova, PA

J.D., 1979 cum laude

Honors: Order of the Coif

Law Review Editorial Board - Case &
Comment Editor; Casenote published in
Vol. 23, *Villanova Law Review*

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, PA

B.A., 1975 cum laude

Major: American Civilization

PUBLICATIONS

Lessons from a Retiring Legal Writing Professor, The Second Draft (online publication of the Legal Writing Institute) (Fall 2023, Vol. 36, No. 2).

The Building Blocks of Legal Correspondence, Proceedings: Online Journal of Legal Writing Conference Presentations (Summer 2021, Vol. 1, Issue 3).

What Are Some Different Approaches to Teaching Transactional Lawyering Skills? Building Business and Financial Literacy in Law Students, 20 *Tenn. J. Bus. L.* 649 (2019).

Doing More with More: Innovations in Legal Writing to Achieve Practice Readiness, The Second Draft (online publication of the Legal Writing Institute) (Spring 2018, Vol. 31 No. 1, p. 35), with Jessica K. Webb.

When Spell Check Is Not Your Fiend, At Issue (online publication of the Young Lawyer's Division of the Pennsylvania Bar Association) (Spring 2017, p. 10).

What We Can Learn about Tone from Taylor Swift, At Issue (online publication of the Young Lawyer's Division of the Pennsylvania Bar Association) p. 4, Fall 2015.

Opportunities to Practice Professionalism in the 1L Legal Writing Course, The Second Draft (online publication of the Legal Writing Institute), (Spring 2015, p. 22).

Two IS Company: Producing Joint Scholarship, The Learning Curve, (a publication of the AALS Section on Academic Support) (Winter 2014 p. 20), with Alison D. Kehner

Mission: Impossible, Mission: Accomplished or Mission: Underway? A Survey and Analysis of Current Trends in Professionalism Education in American Law Schools, 38 U. Dayton L. Rev. 57 (2012), with Alison D. Kehner

TEACHING VIDEOS

- *Professionalism in Law School and Law Practice: Three Case Studies*: three videos and related teaching materials [scripts and teaching materials written with Alison D. Kehner]. Production of these videos made possible through grants from the Association of Legal Writing Directors and Widener University School of Law. Available as follows:
“George” (about the need to work independently): <http://www.viddler.com/v/9c100e3b>
“Natalie” (about the lawyer’s duty of candor): <http://www.viddler.com/v/e4dcb222>
“Larry” (about timeliness & professional demeanor): <http://www.viddler.com/v/77e0425e>
- *Professionalism Videos*: six videos and related teaching materials [scripts and teaching materials written with Alison D. Kehner]. The topics are indicated by their titles: “Self-Direction,” “Misuse of Technology,” “Preparedness,” “Anticipating Consequences,” “Handling Mistakes,” and “Social Networking.” These videos (which were produced by Wolters Kluwer Law & Business) are available on YouTube by searching for “professionalism project” and the specific topic listed above.

PRESENTATIONS

- *Bye-bye PowerPoint; Let’s Just Talk*, AALS Teaching Method Section Fall Webinar: Accentuate the Positive—Eliminate the Negative: Pandemic Pedagogy Wins, (online) (Oct. 2021)
- *Opportunities to Incorporate Ethics in Your Legal Writing Class*, Central States Area Legal Writing Conference, UIC John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois (Sept. 2019)
- *Business and Financial Literacy for Lawyers Teaching*, Transactional Law & Skills Sixth Biennial Conference, Emory Law Center for Transactional Law & Practice, Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia (June 2018)
- *Conducting Client Interviews in the Legal Writing Classroom*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (December 2017)
- *Helping our Students Develop the Heart & Soul of a Lawyer: Professionalism Instruction in the 1L Legal Writing Course*, 2015 Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, University of Memphis Law School, Memphis, Tennessee (June 2015) [with Alison D. Kehner]
 - Also participated in the ALWD Innovative Teaching Workshop, held in conjunction with Biennial Conference, presenting *What’s in Your Toolbox? Using Existing Skills in New Contexts*.

- *It's Not Always an Argument: Helping Law Students Learn to Make Oral Presentations to Clients*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (December 2014)
- *Mission: Impossible, Mission: Accomplished or Mission: Underway? A Survey and Analysis of Current Trends in Professionalism Education in American Law Schools*, 16th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (July 2014)
- *Lawyering as a Team Member*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Drexel University Earle Macke School of Law, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (December 2013)
- *Professionalism, Preparing Students to be Practice-Ready Attorneys*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Villanova Law School, Villanova, Pennsylvania (December 2012) [with Alison D. Kehner]
- *Teaching Professional Values Across the Curriculum: Engaging Student Learners in the Process of Becoming Lawyers*, AALS 2012 Annual Meeting, Teaching Methods session, Washington, D.C. (January 2012) [with Alison D. Kehner and Jean K. Sbarge]
- *Professionalism Illustrated on Film: A Platform for Discussion by Law Students and Lawyers*, 2011 ALWD Conference: Leadership for the Second Wave, Pacific McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California (June 2011)
- *Teaching Professionalism in the Legal Writing Classroom and Beyond*, Capital Area Legal Writing Conference, George Washington School of Law, Washington, D.C. (February 2011) [with Jean K. Sbarge]
- *Idea Bank Live: Professionalism – Professionalism Illustrated on Film: A Guide for Law Students and Lawyers*, 14th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Marco Island, Florida, June 2010 [with Alison D. Kehner]
- *Overly Needy Students: Dealing with Students Who Resist Working Independently*, Semiannual Meeting of the Delaware Valley Legal Writing Consortium, Villanova University School of Law, Villanova, Pennsylvania (April 2010) [with Alison D. Kehner]
- *Authority War*, Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida (September 2009)