

DISCOVERY SYLLABUS

COURSE NUMBER:	C535.3
COURSE NAME:	DISCOVERY
INSTRUCTOR:	TADD C. AIONA (taddaiona@yahoo.com)
WHEN:	WEDNESDAYS 6-9 p.m., SUMMER 2011
UNITS:	3 UNITS
TEXT:	NONE REQUIRED. <i>Recommended:</i> Rutter, <u>Civil Procedure Before Trial</u> , Chapter 8, Discovery; Binder, David, <u>Deposition Questioning Strategies and Techniques</u> ; West Group, 2001; Malone, David, <u>The Effective Deposition</u> , 2 nd Ed., NITA, 1996.
GRADING:	PASS/FAIL
GRADE DETERMINATION	The course grade will be comprised of the results of: Preparation, participation and homework (if any) are considered mandatory and are essential to a successful class. Students will be divided into litigation teams in a mock lawsuit and will conduct discovery against opposing parties. However, the essential focus of this class is learning and sharpening deposition skills and tactics. Witnesses will be provided for examination.
ATTENDANCE	Regular and punctual attendance is essential for the successful completion of law school. Students should plan to attend every class. A minimum of 80 percent attendance is required. Roll will be taken at each class.
GOALS	Our goal in this class is to provide practical experience for students who will very shortly be practicing attorneys. Understanding the various discovery tools and the strategies in the implementation of a discovery plan is essential to becoming a successful civil litigation attorney and will be discussed in detail. However, the ability to take a meaningful deposition and to protect your client when he/she is a deponent will be the primary focus of this course and will involve hands-on examinations of witnesses, the marking and use of exhibits, and strategies regarding deposition questions and objections. Each student will be required to participate in all facets of this process.

DISCOVERY
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SUMMER SEMESTER 2011

- WEEK 1: Discovery Course Outline and Discussion of Litigation Timeline
- WEEK 2: Discovery Tools and Strategies
- WEEK 3: The Complaint/Answer and Formulating Legal and Factual Issues
- WEEK 4: The Lawsuit: Selection of Parties and Teams; Strategy Considerations
- WEEK 5: Discovery Plans and Written Discovery
- WEEK 6: Depositions: Admonitions/Background Questions
- WEEK 7: Deposition Practice Workshop
- WEEK 8: Deposition Practice Workshop
- WEEK 9: Deposition of Plaintiff
- WEEK 10: Deposition of Plaintiff
- WEEK 11: Deposition of Defendant
- WEEK 12: Deposition of Defendant
- WEEK 13: Deposition of Third Party Witnesses
- WEEK 14: Deposition of Expert Witness
- WEEK 15: Final Exam