Profs. Robert Arns & Thomas Brandi

Course LAW 938 – Trial Practice

**Required Text/Reading**

**REQ’D Texts:**
1) The Trial Wheel: California, Robert Arns (The Rutter Group)
2) The Evidence Wheel: California, Robert Arns (The Rutter Group)

**Optional Texts:**
California Civil Trials and Evidence (3-Vol. Student Edition) Wegner, Fairbank, Epstein, Chernow (The Rutter Group) This text is optional, but highly recommended for anyone who plans to practice civil law in California as you will use it on a daily basis in practice, and is available to you at a student-edition price which is a fraction of the full price. A copy of this practice guide is also in the library, but having your own copy is very useful in preparing for this class.

**1st Assignment**

1: View the Rutter Group Video Seminar online (see e-mail from Rutter Group, which should be arriving soon) or watch the DVD on reserve in the library. The seminar will teach you how the “Wheels” work, and must be viewed while you have The Evidence and Trial Wheels in your hands. (A set of the Wheel Books is on reserve in the library, but you will need your own copy for the first class.) **NOTE: It is MANDATORY that you complete this assignment before the 1st class – you will be asked if you did**

2: Download the case materials from the internet. You can download the files from this link: [https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/aXOYbDQEki](https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/aXOYbDQEki) *(If you have trouble with that link, contract the class assistant, Robert Foss)*

3: Read Closely: The Evidence Wheel Pages 1-15.

4: Self Tests 1-5: The Evidence Wheel Pages 21-24

5: Read Closely: The Trial Wheel Pages 1-9.

6: Complete Online Student-Juror Questionnaire by **midnight Wed. Aug. 22**
   Located at: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LAW938F2018](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LAW938F2018)

7: Familiarize yourself with the class schedule and assignments.

8: Be familiar with all of the topics in the Law Firm Lecture Series, listed on the assignment sheet for the first class. You will form law firms (LF#’s 1-6) in the first hour and then be given 10 minutes to prepare a presentation to be given immediately on one of these topics.

   **THE TRIAL WHEEL (TW)**
   - LF #1: Table of Contents & The Rules of Engagement
   - LF #2: Preparing For Trial 15 Second Rule etc.
   - LF #3: Judge Challenge
     - Judge Challenge Exercise

   **THE EVIDENCE WHEEL (EW)**
   - LF #4: EW – Quick Guide P. 14-15
   - LF #5: Steps to Admit a Document
   - LF #6: (Self) Test 1

   Do not worry about preparing a presentation before class. Just familiarize yourself the sections.

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Welcome to Trial Practice! This class will not only teach you the rules, it will make sure you are able to use them. Please familiarize yourselves with the Trial and Evidence Wheels ASAP. You will need to be able to locate information in them very quickly. We are looking forward to meeting you! – Profs. Arns & Brandi

If you have questions, call the assistant professor, Robert Foss, at 415-307-5387