

**Penn Carey Law Faculty Agreement
to Supervise Senior Writing**

Senior Writing Requirement:

Requirement and Goals

Each J.D. student is required to participate in a scholarly research and writing project in either the second or third year. The requirement is intended to assure that every student demonstrates proficiency in scholarly research and writing under close Penn Carey Law faculty supervision. A senior writing project should provide faculty-student intellectual interchange and an opportunity for constructive faculty criticism regarding avenues of research, analysis, organization, and style. The writing may take the form of a single long paper, typically 25 pages or longer, or several shorter papers, as the supervising faculty member shall determine. The criterion that the project be "scholarly" is intended to exclude routine advocacy but not necessarily (in the discretion of the supervising faculty member) advocacy that results from a thorough and objective investigation of governing authority.

Faculty Input

It is expected that the Penn Carey Law faculty member, whether full-time or adjunct, will provide close personal supervision and comment and that the student will undertake revision and further writing in light of the critiques. The senior research and writing experience will involve the following steps, each with faculty consultation:

- a) selection of the topic,
- b) submission of a first draft, and
- c) submission of a final draft that meets, to the faculty member's satisfaction, the standard of proficiency in scholarly research and writing (after revisions in light of faculty critique of the first and any subsequent drafts that the faculty member requires).

Deadlines

It is expected that the student's research and writing will be sustained over one or more semesters. Early and realistic deadlines should be set for initial drafts, so as to permit adequate time for faculty comment and for student preparation of a final draft.

Ways to Satisfy the Requirement

The Senior Writing Requirement cannot be fulfilled through a course that is also being counted towards a different graduation requirement, such as the experiential credit requirement or Professional Responsibility. Provided that the rules and standards set forth above are met, the senior writing requirement may be satisfied in a number of ways, including (without limitation):

- a) seminars;
- b) work in independent studies;
- c) papers in lieu of examinations in regular law school courses (Students should ALWAYS confirm such an arrangement with the Registrar at the start of a given semester);
- d) Notes or Comments written for student journals;
- e) work as a faculty research assistant, provided, however, that such work may not also be compensated.

A research and writing project need not be graded or receive academic credit in order to satisfy the senior writing requirement. Each student is responsible for identifying a faculty member to supervise that student's senior writing project and for securing the faculty member's agreement to do so. Once the student has secured a faculty member's agreement to supervise the project, the student must notify the Registrar on the form provided, evidencing the faculty member's agreement.

Student Name: _____ Class of: _____

Senior Writing Requirement will be satisfied through:

Seminar/Course: (name of course) _____

Independent Study*: (area of study) _____ *a separate independent study form must be submitted to receive credit

Note/Comment for Journal: (name of Journal) _____

Work for faculty, e.g. research assistant: (please describe work) _____

Other: (please describe)

To be completed by supervising faculty:

I agree to supervise the senior writing project as described above:

Faculty Supervisor Name

Faculty Supervisor Signature

Date