

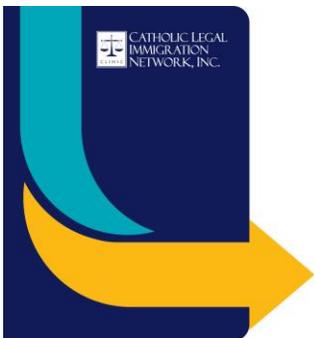


Fall 2021 Legal Writing E-Learning Course for DOJ Accredited Representatives

Informational Webinar

August 9, 2021

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CLINIC's Mission Statement

Embracing the Gospel value of welcoming the stranger, CLINIC promotes the dignity and protects the rights of immigrants in partnership with a dedicated network of Catholic and community legal immigration programs.

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Presenters



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Today's Agenda

*Today is an informational webinar
about a legal writing course
that begins in September 2021*

- Purpose of the legal writing course
- Who is eligible to apply for the course?
- Course details and expectations
- Application timeline and selection process
- Q&A

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Purpose of This Course

- To help DOJ accredited representatives improve legal writing skills
 - Goal is to increase competent and zealous low- or no-cost immigration court representation
- Focus is on legal writing in immigration court proceedings
- Skills-based course, with individualized feedback
- Participants will complete writing assignments using a non-LPR cancellation of removal case file

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In the Words of Past Participants...

- "This course was brilliant, and I feel incredibly honored to have been a participant. I will absolutely **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** it to new practitioners. I can say, I do not dread and feel anxiety when I need to write a brief now. My thinking feels more structured and calm. THANK YOU!"
- "It is a big commitment but worth it. In my experience, Accredited Representatives can learn case analysis on the job because you see the same fact patterns. But one area of training we lack is legal writing and researching (because non-prof it supervisors are usually overworked). Also, you don't know what you don't know as an Accredited Representative and so you don't know what questions to ask. I wish I had taken this course earlier in my career and recommend it to all Accredited Representatives."
- "I think this course is **ABSOLUTELY** essential to anyone considering applying for full accreditation or wanting to strengthen their skills as a legal writer. The instructors are able to explain the material in a very accessible way, and the content was all perfectly developed."

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Who Is Eligible to Apply?

- DOJ partially accredited representatives
- DOJ fully accredited representatives

This course is not open to attorneys, but we plan to offer a legal writing course for attorneys in the future. If you are an attorney who would like a legal writing course, please email us and explain what skills you seek to gain from a writing course.

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Course Components

- 6 webinars
 - Reading assignments to be completed before each webinar
- Case assessment assignment + 5 writing assignments
 - Participants will receive written feedback on the 5 writing assignments
- One-on-one live feedback session with instructor (optional)

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Course Webinars

All from 2:00-3:30pm Eastern

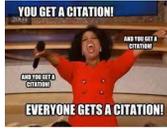
- **September 3, 2021:** Case Assessment
- **September 10, 2021:** Overview of Legal Writing in Immigration Court; Writing a Persuasive Facts Section
- **September 22, 2021:** Introduction to Legal Research; Outlining a Legal Brief
- **October 6, 2021:** Basics of Constructing a Legal Argument
- **October 27, 2021:** Deconstructing the CRAC Method for Brief Writing
- **November 17, 2021:** Refining & Editing a Brief; Effective Use of Citations

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Course Written Assignments

- Case Assessment – due September 9
 - Writing Assignment #2 – due September 16
 - Writing Assignment #3 – due September 28
 - Writing Assignment #4 – due October 19
 - Writing Assignment #5 – due November 9
 - Writing Assignment #6 – due December 1
- *Strict policy on meeting deadlines*



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Course Expectations

- Attend all webinars live
- Complete reading assignments by assigned deadline
- Complete each writing assignment by assigned deadline
- Attend one-on-one feedback session with faculty (recommended)



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What Is the Time Commitment?

- Based on survey results from previous course offering...
 - A few assignments took most people under 3 hours
 - Some assignments took an average of 4-6 hours
 - More than half of survey respondents spent more than 10 hours on the last two assignments

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Application Process

- Must submit online application on CLINIC’s website
- Online application will be available tomorrow
 - Application includes questions about accreditation status, plans for immigration court representation, and why you are interested in this course at this time.
- **Applications due by August 16, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. ET.**

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Selection Process & Timeline

- CLINIC will select 20 participants
- CLINIC to make decisions by Aug. 19, 2021
- Selected participants must then register by Aug. 23, 2021, pay registration fee (\$450), and sign agreement confirming understanding of, and commitment to meeting, course expectations
- Selected participants will get access to e-learning course website by Aug. 27, 2021
- First webinar on Friday, Sept. 3, 2021

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Selection Criteria. You...

- Are a partially accredited representative planning to seek full accreditation in the near future, or a fully accredited representative
- Have concrete plans to use what you learn in the course in representing clients in immigration court in the near future
- Can commit to timely completing all of the course requirements and putting in the required time and effort (substantial!)
- Provide a compelling essay response to the application question about why you are interested in taking this course

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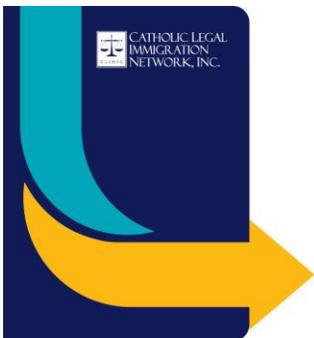
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Questions?



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