

Lurene M. Contento
Lurene.Contento@gmail.com
Fall 2019

EXPERIENCE

CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW

Visiting Professor of Legal Writing (2019 – 2020)

- **Legal English**
Intensive two-week course focusing on oral and written communication skills, acquisition of legal vocabulary, and introduction to the U.S. legal system.
- **Legal Writing IV for International Students**
Full-semester legal skills course that explores the U.S. legal system and gives international students an opportunity to investigate and develop skills that U.S. lawyers use in practice. Students engage in oral presentations and write an array of documents, including legal memoranda, client letters, and contracts.

THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL (2001 to 2019)

Assistant Professor (2009 to 2019)

- **Lawyering Skills I**
First-semester foundational course focusing on critical thinking, problem solving, legal analysis, research, objective writing, and presentation skills.
- **Counseling & Negotiations**
Experiential course focusing on client counseling, communication skills, and negotiation strategies through a client-centered and problem-solving approach.
- **Writing for the Practice of Law**
Third-year course focused on writing and presentation skills.
- **China Intellectual Property Training Center**
Beijing, The People's Republic of China, JMLS LLM Program
Visiting Professor, Lawyering Skills
Three-week, 45-hour intensive course on basics of the U.S. legal system, legal analysis, objective writing, research, reading, listening, and speaking skills.
- **Summer Institute for International IP Professionals**
The John Marshall Law School, Chicago
Basics of the U.S. legal system and introduction to legal skills.

Director, Writing Resource Center (2005 to 2019)

- Built a professionally-staffed writing center from the ground up.
- Staff of lawyer/writing specialists that held over 1500 student advising sessions each academic year.
- Hired, trained, supervised, and engaged staff in professional development.
- Counseled thousands of students, including international students, at all levels of proficiency on all aspects of legal writing, in one-on-one sessions.
- Developed and presented writing-related workshops, including on persuasion, memo organization, citation, and plagiarism.
- Engaged in LRW community through committee work and over 50 local, national, and international presentations.
- Coordinated with Lawyering Skills Director on programming and materials for students and faculty.

Writing Resource Center Advisor (2002 to 2005)

- Tutored students in one-on-one sessions.
- Developed and presented group workshops.

Adjunct Professor (2001 to 2009)

- Courses taught: Writing for the Practice of Law; Summer College to Assess Legal Education Skills (a pre-admission legal writing course).

ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Institute Tecnológico Autónomo de México** (2018)
Mexico City, Mexico
Visiting Lecturer, series of interactive lectures on persuasion and negotiation.
- **Masaryk University Faculty of Law** (yearly since 2012)
Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic
Visiting lecturer, Autumn School of Legal Writing. Interactive lectures, including on US legal systems, US legal writing, negotiations, case analysis, and plagiarism.
- **University of Cagliari, Department of Jurisprudence** (2017)
Cagliari, Italy
Guest Lecturer, negotiation strategies.
- **The Legal Writing Workshop: Legal English Training** (2016)
Escazu, Costa Rica
Lecturer, full-day interactive workshop for attorneys covering basics of the U.S. legal system and U.S. legal discourse.

- **University of Melbourne Faculty of Law** (2015)
Melbourne, Australia
Guest Lecturer, writing persuasively.
- **University of Limerick School of Law** (2014)
Limerick, Ireland
Visiting Lecturer, interactive lectures on legal writing, and negotiation strategies.
- **Law Firm of Arias & Muñoz** (2010)
San José, Costa Rica
Lecturer, full-day interactive workshop, *U.S. Legal Writing for Foreign Lawyers*.

LAW OFFICE OF HARVEY L. HARRIS, P.C. (2000 to 2001)

- General practice law firm. Practice areas included divorce, real estate, probate, personal injury, and bankruptcy.

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming

- *Writing Centers and Writing Specialists*, chapter for ABA Sourcebook on Legal Writing (3rd ed), ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
- *U.S. Legal Writing Style*, book chapter focusing on legal skills for European Union law faculty and practitioners

In Progress

- *Models of Legal Education Abroad and Their Impacts on International Students Studying in the US*

Articles

- *Plagiarism: What Every Legal Writer Should Know*, 7 Kaczncı Peer-Reviewed L.J. 209, Issue 83-84 (2011)
- *Plagiarism: What Every Legal Writer Should Know*, J. Rus. Acad. Leg. Sci. 119, Issue 2 (2011)

Essays

- *Why Online Resources Won't Replace Writing Specialists – At Least Anytime Soon!*, Legal Writing Institute, The Second Draft, Vol. 29, No. 1 (Spring 2016)
- *Way Beyond Grammar: What Today's Legal Writing Specialist Can Do for You*, The Scrivener, Scribes –The American Society of Legal Writers (Summer 2015)

- *Freeing Students to Write More Effectively – Taking the Fear Out of Plagiarism*, Legal Writing Institute, The Second Draft, Vol. 25, No. 2 (Fall 2011), winner of the 2012 Deborah Hecht Memorial Writing Award
- *Back to Basics: Retro Visual Exercises that Promote Active Learning*, Legal Writing Institute, The Second Draft Vol. 22, No. 2 (Spring 2008)
- *Demystifying IRAC and Its Kin*, Legal Writing Institute, The Second Draft, Vol 21, No. 2 (Dec. 2006)

PRESENTATIONS – Teaching International Students/Lawyers

- Moderator, *Equal Education for All: A Conversation about the Obligation to Provide Equalized Education to Foreign Law Students*, ALWD Biennial Conference, Suffolk Law School, Boston, Massachusetts (2019)
- Co-Presenter, *Negotiation as Persuasion: Techniques for Motivating Your Audience*, Global Legal Skills 13, Melbourne Law School, Melbourne, Australia (2018)
- Co-Presenter, *Best Practices in Teaching International LLM Students*. LWI Biennial Conference 2018, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (2018)
- Moderator, *Incorporating Ideas from Applied Linguistics and English Education into the Legal Writing Classroom*, LWI Biennial Conference 2018, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (2018)
- Co-Presenter, *Balancing Content, Language, and Student Needs: A Conversation Between a Lawyer and a Linguist*, TESOL 2018 Convention, Chicago, Illinois (2018)
- Guest Lecturer, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México. Presented work in progress, *Incorporating Interactive Teaching Methods in the Law Classroom*, Mexico City, Mexico (2018)
- Presenter, *Stronger Together: Increasing International Students’ Participation and Integration in U.S. Law Programs*, Association of Legal Writing Directors 2017 Biennial Conference, University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2017)
- Panelist, *Leadership and Diversity in Legal Education, “Using Conversation Circles to Help Integrate International Students,”* Association of Legal Writing Directors 2017 Biennial Conference, University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota (2017)
- Presenter, *Beyond IRAC: Introducing International Students to Problem Solving Skills*, Global Legal Skills Conference 12, Facultad Libre de Derecho de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico (2017)

- Presenter, *Basics of the U.S. Legal System and Introduction to Negotiations*, Judicial Training Workshops for Taiwanese Judges, The John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois (2016)
- Presenter, *How Legal Education Models Abroad Can Impact International Student Participation in U.S. Law Courses*, Global Legal Skills Conference 11, University of Verona Faculty of Law, Verona, Italy (2016)
- Plenary Speaker, *Games in Legal Education: Using Interactive Exercises to Increase Student Engagement and Learning*, 2015 Legal Writing Symposium, Melbourne Law School, Australia (2015) (The 2015 Legal Writing Symposium was the first legal writing conference ever held in the region.)
- Guest Lecturer, *Incorporating Experiential Education into the Law Curriculum*, presentation for faculty, Melbourne Law School, Australia (2015)
- Guest Lecturer, *Plagiarism: What Every law Student Should Know*, Interactive half-day workshop for international law students. Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law, Orientation for International LLM and Global JD Students (2015)
- Guest Lecturer, *Plagiarism: What Every law Student Should Know*, Interactive half-day workshop for international law students. Boston College Law School, Foundations of U.S. Law and Practice: Intensive Summer Institute for Non-US Law Students (2015)
- Presenter, *Teaching “New” Global Skills: Introducing Students to Problem-solving and Fact Analysis in a Single (and Fun!) Assessment Exercise*, Global Legal Skills Conference 10, The John Marshall Law School, Chicago (2015)
- Guest Lecturer, *Reading Cases Globally*, interactive half-day workshop for students, Masaryk University Faculty of Law, School of Legal Writing, Brno, Czech Republic (2014)
- Guest Lecturer, *Introduction to Negotiations*, interactive half day workshop for students, Masaryk University Faculty of Law, School of Legal Writing, Brno, Czech Republic (2014)
- Panelist, *Tips for Teaching International Students about Plagiarism*. Panel Presentation: “Writing Across Cultures and Languages,” 16th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2014)
- Presenter, *Get Your Students Talking: Emphasizing Speaking Skills in LWR Courses for Foreign Lawyers*. Global Legal Skills Conference 9, Verona, Italy (2014)
- Panelist, *Reading Cases Globally: Strategies for Case Reading and Interpretation*, Education in the Twenty-first Century: An International Conference of Legal

Educators, Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul, Turkey; Turkish Bar Association, Ankara, Turkey (2014)

- Co-presenter, *The Importance of Teaching International Students to Read Before We Teach Them to Write*. Global Legal Skills VIII Conference, San Jose, Costa Rica (2013)
- Guest Lecturer, *Plagiarism: What Every Law Student Needs to Know*, Interactive half-day workshop for international LL.M. students. Michigan State University College of Law, East Lansing, Michigan (2013)
- Presenter, *Why Writing for a U.S. Audience Matters*. Lecture for “A Day of American Law.” Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic (2012)
- Co-Presenter, *Teaching ESL/EFL Students More Effectively: What We Should Teach About Cultural Preferences*, Global Legal Skills VII, San Jose, Costa Rica (2012)
- Presenter, *Plagiarism and Paraphrasing: What Foreign Lawyers Need to Know*. Twenty-First Century Legal Skills Conference, Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul, Turkey (2011)
- Presenter, *Reassessing Plagiarism Policies: Education Before Execution*. American Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California (2011)
- Keynote speaker, 10th Anniversary celebration for Arias & Munoz *English Writing for Lawyers* program, San Jose, Costa Rica (2010)
- Co-Presenter, *Plagiarism and the Non-U.S. Law Student: Moving Away From Impeachment and Toward Education*, Global Legal Skills V Conference, Facultad Libre De Derecho De Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico (2010)
- Presenter, *How to Teach International Students About Plagiarism*. Global Legal Skills IV Conference, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C. (2009)
- Presenter, *IRAC Made Easy: Using Simple Visuals to Help International Students Grasp Small Scale Analysis*. Global Legal Skills III Conference, Facultad Libre De Derecho De Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico (2008)

SELECT OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- Co-Presenter, *Asking is the Answer: Self-Reliance Means Working Independently . . . but not Alone*, Biennial Empire State Legal Writing Conference, New York Law School, New York, New York (2019)

- Panelist, *Strategies for Legal Writing Support in Upper Level Courses*, Beyond the First Year Inaugural Conference, DePaul University, College of Law, Chicago, Illinois (2018)
- Presenter, *Legal Writing for Lawyers*, Half-day workshop for associates. Chuhak & Tecson, Chicago, Illinois (2018)
- Co-Presenter, *Effective Memo and Brief Writing*, Black Women Lawyer's Association Student Writing Workshop, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Chicago, Illinois (2017)
- Co-Presenter, *Creativity in the Classroom: Creating Better Lawyers Through Creative Writing and Targeted Tweets*, Central States Regional Legal Writing Conference, Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, Indianapolis, Indiana. (2017)
- Presenter, *Legal Writing For Patent Engineers*, workshop for in-house engineers at local patent firm, Chicago, Illinois (2017)
- Moderator, *From Soup to Nuts: Why Every Law School Needs a Writing Specialist or Writing Center*, LWI Biennial Conference, Portland, Oregon (2016)
- Presenter, *The Untold Story: How Better Client Communications Can Change Public Perceptions of Lawyers*, Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, Seattle University Law School (2015)
- Presenter, *Listening and Speaking Are Lawyering Skills, Too*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, University of Michigan Law School (2013)
- Panelist, *How to Write Review-proof Decisions*, National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary, 29th annual conference, panelist, Embassy Suites Hotel, Chicago, Illinois (2013)
- Presenter, *What Tolstoy Can Teach Us About the Art of Writing Demand Letters*, 4th Biennial Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, City University London, (2013)
- Presenter, *Stepped Oral Presentations: Incorporating Public Speaking in the First Semester*, Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Savannah Law School, Savannah, Georgia (2013)
- Presenter, *Demand Letters: A Tool for Teaching Advocacy, Professionalism, and Persuasion*, 2012 The Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, Palm Desert, California (2012)

- Presenter, *Demand Letters: A Perfect First Step Towards Persuasion and Advocacy*, Central States Legal Writing Conference, The John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois (2011)
- Presenter, *Creating Better Lawyers Through Creative Writing*. The 2011 Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado (2011)
- Guest Lecturer, *Plagiarism and Paraphrasing: Mastering the “Rules”*, Interactive half-day workshop for Masters students. Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois (2011)
- Presenter, *Moving from Indictment Towards Education*. Capital Area Conference, The George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C. (2011)
- Presenter, *How Writing Specialists Can Save You*. Legal Writing Institute, One-day Workshop for Adjunct and New Legal Writing Professors, The John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois (2009)
- Co-Presenter, *Writing Centers Can Increase Your Legal Writing Mileage: An Inside Look at a Model That Works*, with co-presenters. Legal Writing Institute Central Region Conference on the Teaching of Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (2009)
- Panelist, *Assessing Acts of Collaboration and Plagiarism*. Panel discussion. Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, LWRR Section, San Diego, California (2009)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Association of Legal Writing Specialists
Chair. 2014 to present
National Coordinator, 2012-2014
- Global Legal Skills Conference Series
Program and Planning Committee, 2010 to present
Program Chair, 2013-2016
- The Legal Writing Institute
Global Legal Writing Skills Committee
Co-Chair, 2012-2014 and 2018-2020
Awards Committee
Co-chair, 2014-2015

- Association of American Law Schools
 - Section on Grad Programs for Non-US Lawyers, 2016 to present
 - Section on Teaching Methodologies, 2015 to present
 - Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research, 2009 to present
 - Awards Committee Co-Chair, 2014, 2015
 - Poster Committee, 2012
 - Program Committee Chair, 2011
 - Program Committee, 2010
 - Executive Committee, 2009, 2010
- American Bar Association
 - Judge, National Negotiation Competition, 2014, 2017, 2018
- Chicago Bar Association
 - Committee on International Law, 2018
 - New Lawyers Basic Skills Camp, Litigation Writing, 2008 2009
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition Judge, 2006, 2011, 2014
- *The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute* assistant editor, 2007
- *The Scrivener*, editorial board, 2015-2018
- Scribes – The American Society of Legal Writers
 - Brief grader, Scribes brief competition, 2012, 2017, 2018

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

Illinois, 2000

EDUCATION

The John Marshall Law School, Chicago, Illinois

- Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*
- Fred F. Herzog Academic Excellence Scholarship
- West’s Corpus Juris Secundum Award for Scholastic Excellence: Torts I, Torts II, Contracts
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award: Constitutional Law, Evidence

Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois

- Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude*, English Literature
- Otto W. Lehmann Foundation Academic Scholarship
- Martin J. Svaglic Literary Excellence Award