

Testimonials POLI104J: FA 18

Student #1

This class was different compared to other UCSD courses because it allowed for more interaction with the professor and TA, as well as other students. Having a smaller class size allowed for more discussions on various legal topics, which enhanced my understanding of the legal experience, rather than a large class listening to a lecture. Being able to collaborate and interact with fellow students interested in the legal field was extremely enjoyable and beneficial. I believe this seminar-style class is a great introduction as to what one might expect when entering law school. Being able to discuss the various homework assignments, hear from guest speakers, and work with a group on a legal topic of our choice were some of the many highlights from this course.

Student #2

This class required a lot of application of course materials. I believe that we actually took what we learned from the course materials and applied them in forming legal writing. These are skills I think will actually help me in law school or other courses. I enjoyed the collaborative and interaction style of the course. Additionally, speaking with lawyers and judges opened my eyes to what a career and law entails. I also enjoyed that the class had different varieties of assignments and projects rather than just exams.

Student #3

I would absolutely testify that this class was unlike any other in my undergraduate experience. The skill to IRAC has helped me not only in this class, but in my other law related / 104-series classes when it comes to examining cases. Given the testimonials of our guest speakers and the skills I have acquired, I feel this class has given me a leg-up as a future law school student. The collaborative structure of the class allowed me to ask questions and freely engage with my classmates to solve mutual questions.

Student #4

This class was more of a hands on look into what a lawyer might do on a day to day basis and how they are required to think about issues. A lot of other classes deal with purely theoretical aspects of the law, but this gives a very insightful look into what being a lawyer would actually be like. This course really puts you in a in the shoes of a lawyer and asks you to complete tasks that will give challenge you in a productive way. I really feel like the applications we learn in this course will be vital to our development of legal thinking and the skills developed will help us with our jobs later in life

Student #5

This class definitely opened up more of what to expect when I attend law school in the near future with the fast paced lectures being once a week, learning how to reason in the legal field, how to write in legal context, and the integration of applying them in a presentation with current judges and lawyers evaluating your performance. This class was much different than any other class I have taken in college period because of the focus they put into applying professional aspects and experiences in the class. For example, every other lecture typically had a guest speaker that was currently in the law profession and gave incredibly helpful tips to succeed in the class and in the first year of law school. Learning the fundamentals of learning how to IRAC court cases was something I never thought I would be able to do as an undergraduate student as part of the course which really exhilarated me to engage more in this

class than any other... I can not stress enough to encourage prospective law students to take Introduction to Legal Reasoning because of the amount of preparation and connections you can receive from taking this course and its higher level course, Legal Argument Formulation. The inclusion of including professional guests really made this class worthwhile since they opened up the opportunity to seek advice with them and even receive an internship from one of them. I feel that this class truly went above and beyond to prepare students interested in the law profession to really engage with the material that will be similar in the first year of law school. The class is not easy, but if hard-work, dedication, and passion are put into these assignments and exams, you will definitely make a name for yourself in the public law department, the law and politics initiative, and especially with outside lawyers that come and visit. Taking this class has definitely secured my ambition and drive to attend a top law school in the near future.