

AALS Workshop for Adjunct Faculty
Best Practices (and Common Pitfalls) in Law School Pedagogy
Wednesday, July 23, 2025
3:30 – 5:30 pm Eastern

[Register Now button:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jZYagLP5TeSq7MsJJJ59Sw#/registration]

3:30 – 3:35 pm

Welcome

Austen Parrish, AALS President and Dean, University of California, Irvine School of Law

Introduction and Overview

William S. Brewbaker, III, University of Alabama School of Law

3:35 – 3:55 pm

Getting Started

Deborah S. Gordon, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law

What do adjunct faculty need to do from the time they accept a position until the semester begins? This conversation will discuss navigating the law school's learning management system, choosing course content, selecting a textbook, and developing a syllabus.

3:55 – 4:40 pm

Conducting Classes

Russell M. Gold, University of Alabama School of Law
Beth McCormack, Vermont Law and Graduate School

Moderator: William S. Brewbaker, III, University of Alabama School of Law

The "Conducting Class" panel will explore the best practices and strategies for conducting a successful law school class. The panel will feature experienced law professors who may touch on classroom issues, such as: effective teaching methods, universal and accessible classroom design, creating a positive learning environment, assessing student learning, incorporating technology, and professionalism and ethics. Attendees will leave with practical strategies and techniques for conducting a successful law school class.

4:40 – 5:25 pm

Assessments

Zachariah J. DeMeola, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives, Law School Admission Council
Paula J. Manning, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

Moderator: Sandra L. Simpson, Gonzaga University School of Law

Assessment of student work involves: (i) defining expected outcomes for students and setting benchmarks, (ii) employing formative and summative assessment to measure whether the students achieve those benchmarks, and (iii) analyzing the results to make changes to assist students and teachers. This panel will discuss some of the methods of assessment and how they might be used to reach learners who might succeed in differing formats.

5:25 – 5:30 pm

Closing Remarks

Sandra L. Simpson, Gonzaga University School of Law