

First Class Assignment - *Going to Law School*

The assignment consists of both a writing assignment and a reading assignment.

COMPLETE THE WRITING ASSIGNMENT BEFORE YOU DO THE READING - Writing Assignment Due First Day of Class (by class time)

Things To Know About Law School (1-2 pages)¹

Find a quiet place where you will not be interrupted. Put your phone on airplane mode. You may find it easier to think if you close your eyes or if you direct your eyes downward. Think about the day you decided you wanted to go to law school or the first day of law school. What did you imagine the experience of law school would be like? How did you imagine yourself as an attorney? What work did you imagine that you would do? or How did you imagine it would feel to be an attorney? Try to remember how you *felt* as well as what you thought.

Now stop and write down a description of what you remembered. Do not edit until you complete the entire assignment. What you want at this step is to capture, as best you can, your recollections. These notes are for you. You will have an opportunity to share your thoughts in class, but you will not turn these notes in.

Now, think about how has your experience of law school been similar or dissimilar to what you imagined. Knowing what you know now, what advice would you give someone contemplating attending law school? What do you wish you had known? This paper is what you turn in. **You should bring your paper (1-2 pages) to class.** Do NOT exceed 2 pages.

Reading

- CM William Quigley, *Letter to a Law Student Interested in Social Justice*, 1(1) DEPAUL JOURNAL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE 7 (2007)
- CM Society of American Law Teachers (SALT), *Understanding Current Models for Social Justice Lawyering and Considering Alternatives*. (This is Chapter 3 in A CONSUMER GUIDE FOR THE SOCIAL JUSTICE-MINDED LAW STUDENT. The entire publication is available at <http://consumerguide.saltlaw.org/> .)
- CM Angela Harris, *Teaching the Tensions*, 54 ST. LOUIS U. L. J. 739 (2010), excerpt.

¹ Students who join the class after the first day will be given an alternative assignment.