Suggested Feedback Form for Student’s ULWR Writing Project

I. Topic Selection
   a. Is the topic important enough to warrant a substantial piece of writing? _______
   b. Is the topic manageable in size and scope (i.e., neither too broad nor too narrow for a substantial piece of writing)?
   c. Is there sufficient primary and secondary authority on the topic (i.e., will there be enough for the student to work with)?
   d. Is the topic conducive to significant legal analysis (as opposed to description) of primary and secondary sources?

II. Substantive Legal Analysis
   a. Does the introduction clearly convey the topic/problem that the written work will discuss?
   b. Does the introduction clearly convey the thesis?
   c. Does the introduction provide the reader with a road map to how the analysis will proceed?
   d. Does the discussion sufficiently identify the applicable law?
   e. Does the discussion discuss the applicable law with sufficient depth and clarity, both in the text and the footnotes?
   f. Does the discussion include an appropriate level of analysis, i.e., applying the law to the particular topic/problem at hand?
   g. Does the conclusion appropriately summarize the preceding discussion?
   h. Does the conclusion logically follow from the preceding discussion?

III. Writing Style
   a. Does the piece use signposts (such as headings and subheadings) to assist the reader in following the analysis?
   b. Does the piece proceed in a logical order?
   c. Does the piece use topic sentences that accurately convey the subject of the following paragraph?
   d. Are the individual sentences clearly written?
   e. Does the piece primarily use active (as opposed to passive) voice?
   f. Is the piece written in an appropriate tone (i.e., no slang or contractions, but also no “legalese”)?

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g. Does the piece use appropriate diction (choice of words)?

h. Does the piece contain prose that is grammatically correct (i.e., subject/verb agreement, consistent verb tense, no run-on sentences, correct punctuation, correct capitalization, correct formation of the possessive, etc.)?

i. Does the piece contain spelling or typographical errors?

IV. Citation and Attribution
   a. Does the piece use proper Bluebook citation form?
   b. Does the piece include proper attribution to any material that is taken from an outside source, by including a specific page citation to that source and by using quotation marks (or block quotes) for direct quotations?
   c. Does the piece seem to be entirely the work of the student?