

ELISABETH HAUB SCHOOL OF LAW AT PACE UNIVERSITY

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")? _____
- 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? _____