

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 (class 13 of 30!!)

Today: Mackenzie's "Practice Pointer"; Midterm exam review; Briefing cases continued!

Next class (Th. March 18): **MIDTERM EXAM!!**

- 10am-5pm on Blackboard (any 2 hours). STUDY!! Notes, quizzes, charts, maps, etc.

For Tue. March 23:

- Read Lisa L. v. Anthony H. on OL and reply with element of the brief assigned to YOU!
- Review registration & advisement info (to be) posted on OL!

Tues. April 6: Have your **Bluebook!!**

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Case brief:

- Summary of a court's decision that organizes the major components ("them boring details" 😊) into uniform format.
- Concisely summarizes each component in your own words.
- Enables the user to readily identify or recall the components, and the significance of the case, without (re)reading it.

Generally includes:

Case citation = name of the case (parties) & where it can be found

- reporter, volume, page, etc.

Procedural history = "*what happened in the courts*"

- how the case has traveled through the court system, to the decision you are briefing

Statement of facts = "*what happened in the world*"

- events that brought the parties before the court
- sometimes includes some procedural events
- only those facts most important (relevant) to the holding!

Issue/question presented = legal question the court must decide

- usually starts with "*Whether . . .*"
- often the hardest part to write!

Holding = court's answer to the issue/question presented

- can start with "yes/no" (for me); must state the answer thoroughly

Reasoning = court's thought process in reaching its holding

- usually includes the "applicable law"—rules, cases, statutes, etc. the court applied

Disposition = outcome of the case

- procedural result of court's decision (dismissed; reversed; affirmed, etc.)