

LAW 1101 SECTION D700

COURT OBSERVATION REPORT RUBRIC

You may go to any court you choose, whether a court of original or appellate jurisdiction, but you **MAY NOT** use the visit to the Court of Appeals in Albany as your court observation.

Your report should include the following:

- Date(s) you went to this court. Time you were inside the courtroom. Example: November 3, 2:30 to 4 pm. **YOUR OBSERVATION SHOULD BE AT LEAST A FULL MORNING OR AFTERNOON.**
- Name and address and specific part number of the court you observed. Example: Family Court, Kings County, 320 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY. Part 13.
- Name of judge presiding: Example: Hon. Paula Hepner
- Was the case jury or non-jury?
- Jurisdiction of court. Example: Family Court: State Court, Civil jurisdiction, Original jurisdiction
- Type of case you observed: Example: Felony criminal case, defendant charged with Robbery 2nd and 3d degrees OR Personal Injury based on car accident
- Names of parties to the case. If in Family Court, write name as Samuel L. **Do not reveal identifying information from Family Court cases.**
- Names and titles of attorneys on the case. Example: DA Robert Lehman, Defense atty Joseph Allen, Attorney for the Child Susan Delano.
- What portion of the case did you see? Example: Cross examination of Plaintiff's expert witness.
- What were the most interesting legal issues you observed? Example: Defense challenged the qualifications of Plaintiff's expert witness.
- What was your opinion of the quality of the legal work you observed? Example: I felt that the Plaintiff's attorney should have anticipated this objection and been prepared to answer it.
- How did the case turn out (if you know)?

New York City College of Technology

Class: _____

Student: _____

Grade: _____

Rubric: LAW1101 Court Observation Presentation

Presentation Rubric

iRubric

	Poor (N/A)	Fair (N/A)	Good (N/A)	Excellent (N/A)
Organization	Poor Audience cannot understand presentation because there is no sequence of information.	Fair Audience has difficulty following presentation because student jumps around.	Good Student presents information in logical sequence which audience can follow.	Excellent Student presents information in logical, interesting sequence which audience can follow.
Subject Knowledge	Poor Student does not have grasp of information; does not use legal concepts and terms correctly student cannot answer questions about subject.	Fair Student is uncomfortable with information and use of legal concepts and terms; is able to answer only rudimentary questions.	Good Student is at ease with using legal concepts and terms and expected answers to all questions, but fails to elaborate.	Excellent Student demonstrates full knowledge of legal concepts and terms by answering all questions with explanations and elaboration.
Eye Contact	Poor Student reads all of report with no eye contact.	Fair Student occasionally uses eye contact, but still reads most of report.	Good Student maintains eye contact most of the time but frequently returns to notes.	Excellent Student maintains eye contact with audience, seldom returning to notes.
Elocution	Poor Student mumbles, incorrectly pronounces terms, and speaks too quietly for students in the back of class to hear.	Fair Student's voice is low. Student incorrectly pronounces terms. Audience members have difficulty hearing presentation.	Good Student's voice is clear. Student pronounces most words correctly. Most audience members can hear presentation.	Excellent Student uses a clear voice and correct, precise pronunciation of terms so that all audience members can hear presentation.

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Rubric Code: **RX44W5W**