

**THOMAS D. COBB**

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**University of Washington School of Law**

Senior Lecturer, September 2008 to present

Lecturer, September 2004 to 2008

1L Legal Writing – taught either one or two sections to first-year students for three quarters each year except for when I was teaching at UW Tacoma or on leave.

Advanced Legal Writing – taught various courses involving academic writing or project-based, public interest work to second- and third-year law students, including legislative drafting (addressing Seattle’s regulation of Uber); judicial writing/clerkship training (Washington Supreme Court simulation); persuasive writing; intensive legal writing workshop; and multistate performance test preparation.

Immigration Law – taught problem-based, writing-intensive version of the law school’s core immigration class, incorporating several service-learning research activities.

Evidence – taught problem-based, writing-intensive version of law school’s core course on evidence law.

**University of Washington – Tacoma**

Adjunct Faculty, September 2015 to March 2017

Minorities and the Law – taught race and the law class focusing on residential/educational segregation, voting rights, and criminal justice reform.

Constitutional Law – taught constitutional law/structures of government class.

Introduction to American Legal Systems – taught introductory course on U.S. legal system

Interdisciplinary Seminar on Access to Justice – taught undergraduate seminar on access to justice.

Law and Society – taught undergraduate course examining legal topics from critical or social science perspectives, *e.g.* law and popular culture, Marxism, feminism, criminal justice reform, and race and the law.

**Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Institut de Droit Comparée, Lyon, France**

Visiting Professor, Spring 2010

U.S. Evidence Law and the Jury – taught class to French law students about U.S. trials and evidence rules

**The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington**

Adjunct Member of the Faculty, Winter 2006

Law and Legislative Process – taught experiential class on lawmaking process at Washington Legislature during the legislative session.

## **EDUCATION**

### **University of Minnesota Law School**

J.D., *magna cum laude*, Order of the Coif, 2001

**Research Assistant**, Professor David Weissbrodt, June 1999 to June 2000

Served as principal organizer of the University of Minnesota Human Rights Library  
(<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts>)

**ESADE, Facultad de Derecho**, Barcelona, Spain

Exchange Student, January to June 2001

**Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College**, Portland, Oregon

Visiting Student, September to December 2000

**University of Chicago**, Chicago, Illinois

M.A., Comparative Literature, 1997

University Fellowship (full tuition and stipend)

**Reed College**, Portland, Oregon

M.A., Liberal Studies, 1993

Commendation for Academic Excellence

Fulbright Fellow, Colmar, France, 1993-1994

**University of Alabama**, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

B.A., English, *magna cum laude* (minor: French), 1991

Mary Strickland Scholarship

Phi Beta Kappa

## **LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Attorney - Of Counsel**

Law Office of Lisa Tabbut, July 2016 to January 2017

Drafted and filed several criminal and juvenile law appellate briefs for indigent clients through Washington State Office of Public Defense program.

### **Assistant Attorney General (Honors Program)**

Appellate Division, Oregon Department of Justice, August 2003 to June 2004

Drafted and filed appellate briefs in civil and criminal cases; emphasis on juvenile, criminal, and administrative law; researched constitutional law issues for case challenging state-tribal casino agreements; argued several times before Oregon Court of Appeals.

### **Judicial Law Clerk**

Justice Susan M. Leeson, Oregon Supreme Court, August 2001 to January 2003

Assisted judge in review of petition memoranda and in wide variety of opinion-related legal research; trained and supervised law student interns.

### **Law Clerk**

Federal Public Defender, Portland, Oregon, June to December 2000

Performed legal research and drafted memoranda and motions in criminal cases involving indigent federal defendants; subjects included: Indian jurisdiction, federal habeas, conspiracy statutes, status of *Miranda* in Indian Country; consequences of *Apprendi v. New Jersey*.

**Student Attorney / Student Clinic Director**

Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners (LAMP), University of Minnesota Law School, September 1999 to June 2000

Represented indigent prisoners in civil cases including divorce, child support and visitation, bankruptcy, and immigration under Minnesota Student Practice Rule; managed caseload of approximately 25 cases; supervised and trained clinic students.

**Law Clerk / Legal Assistant / Network Administrator**

Sprenger & Lang, PLLC, Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 1997 to July 1998; June to December 1999  
Conducted more than 100 witness interviews and drafted more than 50 affidavits in class action employment discrimination lawsuits; drafted and edited summary exhibits for class certification motions; designed witness, class-member, and evidence databases for class action lawsuits; coordinated all aspects of Windows NT network installation and workstation upgrade; trained employees and administered new system. Assisted attorneys in prosecution of class action civil rights and employee handbook cases.

**Volunteer Law Clerk**

Legal Aid Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota, July to September 1997; September to October 1998  
Assisted lead attorney in administration of class action lawsuits against the rent-to-own industry; researched rent-to-own policy issues and helped draft advocacy materials for reporters, public interest attorneys, and the Federal Trade Commission.

**PUBLICATIONS**

Book

Tom Cobb, Julie Heintz-Cho, Mary Hotchkiss, WASHINGTON LEGAL RESEARCH (2d. ed., Carolina Academic Press 2009)

Articles

Tom Cobb & Sarah Kaltsounis, *Collaborative Opinion Writing and the Appellate Process*, 5 JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL WRITING DIRECTORS (JALWD) 156-76 (Fall 2008)

Tom Cobb, *Public Interest Research, Collaboration, and the Promise of Wikis*, 16 PERSPECTIVES: TEACHING LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING, 1-11, Fall 2007

Tom Cobb, Eric Dunn, et al., *Advocacy Strategies to Fight Eviction in Cases Involving Compulsive Hoarding and Cluttering*, 41 CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW 427-41 (2007) (co-authored with several students from writing class)

**SELECTED CONFERENCE AND CLE PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter/commentator, various papers annually, West Coast Rhetoric Workshop, UNLV – Boyd College of Law, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2014-2016, 2018

“2016-2017 Legal Writing Workshop,” Washington Attorney General’s Office (designed and led daylong workshop for trial and appellate attorneys at AG’s office; presented at six locations around the state, November 2016 to June 2017)

Co-presenter with Kevin J. Francis, “Towards a More Reasonable Doubt?: Legal Models for Climate Science,” Columbia History of Science Group, Friday Harbor, Washington (March 4, 2017) (paper examined rhetoric of probability in International Panel on Climate Change reports)

“Strategies for Successful Summary Judgment Motions,” University of Washington School of Law Continuing Legal Education, Anchorage, Alaska (October 13, 2017)

Thomas D. Cobb – Curriculum Vitae

Moderator, "Roundtable on Immigration Reform," with Ivan Fong, General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security (2010)

Moderator, Status of LGBT Rights under U.S. Immigration Law (Feb. 2, 2010) (panel discussion)

Presenter, "Introduction to Rhetoric," Legal Writing CLE, Washington Attorney General's Office, Olympia, WA (Dec. 8, 2009)

"Judges' Brief-Writing Advice and the Caseload Crisis of the 1970s," Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities (ASLCH) Annual Conference, Suffolk University Law School, Boston, MA (April 3, 2009)

"Judges and the Rhetoric of Reading," Visiting Scholar Series, Mercer University School of Law, (March 31, 2009)

Discussant, "First Year Reforms Supplementing the Cognitive, Skills and Professional Formation Apprenticeships: Legal Research & Writing," Legal Education at the Crossroads Ideas to Accomplishments: Sharing New Ideas for an Integrated Curriculum, University of Washington School of Law (September 5-6, 2008)

"Re-imagining Collaborative Learning: New Technologies and Possibilities" at the Legal Writing Institute's biennial national conference (July 14-17, 2008)

"Chaim Perelman's Presence in Legal Education" at the University of Oregon's conference, "The Promise of Reason: *The New Rhetoric* after 50 Years" (May 17-20, 2008)

"Compulsive Hoarding and Cluttering," Washington State Housing Task Force Meeting, Yakima, WA (October 22, 2007)

Panel organizer and presenter, "Incorporating Real Legal Work into the Legal Writing Classroom," presented with Profs. Helen Anderson and Theodore Myhre, Northwest Regional Conference for Teachers of Legal Method, Writing, and Research (August 2007)

Vice-chair of Program Committee and Moderator, "Graphic and Visual Representations of Evidence and Inference in Legal Settings," Cardozo Law School, Yeshiva University, New York, NY (January 2007)

Presenter, "Mechanical Sincerity: The Rhetoric of Plain English in Law," Legal Writing Institute Writer's Workshop, Calloway Gardens, GA (June 2006)

Panel organizer and presenter, "Reverse Course: Should We Teach Persuasive Writing First?" presented with Prof. Beth Cook, Legal Writing Institute Biennial National Conference, Atlanta, Ga. (June 2006)

Panel organizer and presenter, "Collaboration among Law School Programs: Legal Writing and Clinical Law," presented with Profs. Debbie Maranville and Jackie McMurtrie, AALS National Conference, Clinical Legal Education, New York, NY (May 2006)

"Collaborating with Clinics and Public Interest Organizations in an Advanced Legal Writing Course," Northwest Regional Conference for Teachers of Legal Method, Writing, and Research (September 9, 2005)

### **SELECTED TEACHING PRESENTATIONS**

"How to Persuade Judges to Give you an Interview" (April 23, 2010) (lectured and led workshop on cover letters for judicial clerkships)

Thomas D. Cobb – Curriculum Vitae

Moderator, faculty roundtable, “Effective Letters of Recommendation for Judicial Clerkships” (May 6, 2010)

“Responding to Writing in the Clinical Context,” guest presentation, UW School of Law, Clinical Faculty Lunch, January 2010

Panelist, “Spotlight on UW Clinics, Centers, and Programs,” Admitted Students Days (April 17, 2010)

“The History of Chinese Exclusion: The Legal and Social Context of *Chae Chan Ping*,” guest presentation, Race and the Law, UW School of Law, January 2010

Presenter, “Effective Feedback,” UW School of Law clinical faculty lunch (Dec. 10, 2009)

“Introduction to Case Analysis / Statutory Interpretation,” Summer Institute in Transnational Law, University of Washington School of Law (September 10-11, 2007)

“Introduction to the U.S. Legal System: *Jaramillo v. Ford*, a Case Study in Product Liability Litigation,” Summer Institute on English, Business, and Law, UW Educational Outreach, University of Washington (August 2007)

“Neuroimaging Evidence and the Juvenile Death Penalty,” History and Philosophy of Biology Program, The Evergreen State College (May 22, 2007)

“The Legal and Historical Context of *TVA v. Hill*,” Visualizing Ecology Program, The Evergreen State College (March 13, 2007)

“The Common Law Legal Argument: Facts and Reasoning / Statutory Interpretation,” Summer Institute in Transnational Law, University of Washington School of Law (September 11-12, 2006)

“The Rhetoric of Plain English in Legal Discourse,” Law and Language Program, The Evergreen State College (February 21, 2006)

“How Common Law Lawyers Argue: Categories and Cases / Rules and Words,” Summer Institute in Transnational Law, University of Washington School of Law (September 12-14, 2005)

“Strategies for Independent Learning in Law School,” Summer Institute for English, Business and Law, UW Educational Outreach, University of Washington (August 2005)

### **SELECTED UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON INTERNAL SERVICE**

#### Law School

Admissions Committee, 2007-2018

Tacoma Programs Committee, 2015-2018

ABA Self-Study Committee, 2009-2010

Academic Standards Committee, 2004-2007

Public Interest Law Association Grant Selection Committee 2007, 2010

Olympia Quarter Fellows Program Planning Committee, 2004-2006

#### University

UW-Tacoma Law School Feasibility Committee, 2015-2017

Associated Faculty, Center for Human Rights

#### Other Service

Outlaws (LGBT student organization) Faculty Supervisor, 2005-2009

UW Undergraduate Mock Trial, Faculty Supervisor, 2008-2009

**SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND PRO-BONO WORK**

SIFI Volunteer Attorney, Southern Poverty Law Center, Lumpkin, GA, Summer 2017

Assistant Editor, *Journal of Legal Education*, 2015-2017

Assistant Editor, *Legal Communication & Rhetoric: Journal of the Association of Legal Writing Directors*, 2009-2014

Member, Advisory Board, *Law & Rhetoric* (SSRN e-Journal), 2008-present

Member, Committee on Cooperation Between Legal Writing, Clinical, and Pro-Bono Programs, Legal Writing Institute, 2006-2008

Member, Q-Law Committee on LGBT at Risk Youth, 2007-2008

**MEMBERSHIPS**

Washington State Bar, Member # 38639 (since March 26, 2007)

Oregon State Bar, Member # 01231 (inactive)

State of Georgia Bar, Application for Motion without Examination in process

**LANGUAGES / INTERESTS**

Proficiency in Spanish, French, Old French, and Latin; basic German

Hiking, cycling, photography