

Jessica A. Haught
West Virginia University College of Law
101 Law Center Drive
P.O. Box 6130
Morgantown, WV 26506-6130
jessica.haught@mail.wvu.edu
(304) 293-6696

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV

Visiting Teaching Associate Professor, August 2010 – present

Interim Director Externship Program, May 2012 – May 2013

- Teach two sections of first-year legal reasoning, research, and writing course combining fundamental legal research, writing, and analytical skills;
- Develop curriculum and implement assignments to maximize students' potential for success by creating practical exercises to model law firm requirements;
- Create templates and example work product for students to compare and analyze;
- Provide one-on-one critiques and extensive written feedback on written work product;
- Mentor students on strategies to improve all aspects of writing style, presentation, persuasiveness, grammar, and mechanics;
- Conduct lectures and workshops on a variety of topics related to effective research and writing skills and law firm expectations for summer associates;
- Develop and manage course content on website including articles on best practices, links to legal research and writing resources, PowerPoint presentations, and daily practitioner tips;
- Teach two externship courses for non-profit and judicial externs;
- Correspond with field supervisors for externships and solicit placement opportunities.

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Adjunct Professor of Legal Research and Writing, August 2009 – May 2010

- Taught one section of first-year legal research and writing course combining fundamental legal writing skills and analysis with practical skill-building exercises to model law firm requirements.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, “From the Classroom to the War Room – Creating Practice-Ready Assignments”

- New England Consortium of Legal Writing Teachers - University of New Hampshire, December 2011
- Capital Area Legal Writing Conference - Georgetown University, March 2011.

Presenter, “Strategies for Adding Value Through Effective Legal Research & Writing”

- Annual Conference of Legal Assistants/Paralegals of Southern West Virginia, June 2011

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

College of Law

- Lecturer, Summer Law Institute, 2012
- Orientation Presenter on Law School Success, 2012
- Guest Lecturer, Bar Preparation Class, 2011-2012
- Judge, Energy Law Moot Court Competition, 2012
- Judge, Baker Cup Competition, 2012
- Judge, Jessup International Moot Court Competition, 2012
- Judge, Mediation/Alternative Dispute Resolution Team, 2011-2012
- Guest Speaker on Time Management, Women's Leadership Counsel Lunch Series, 2011
- Guest Speaker on Achieving Success as a Summer Associate, Career Services Lunch Series, 2011
- Co-Advisor, Women's Leadership Counsel, 2011 – present
- First-Year Class Peer Group Advisor, 2011-2012

State Bar

- Volunteer, Lawyer Assistance Program, 2012-2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Reed Smith LLP, Pittsburgh, PA

Associate, September 2004 – August 2007; September 2008 – June 2010

- Secondment with in-house litigation department at national bank to evaluate cases, assess litigation management processes and provide oral and written analysis to general counsel;
- Represented corporations and financial institutions in all aspects of complex commercial litigation including defense of consumer lending and securities class actions, shareholder derivative suits, arbitrations, and government investigations;
- Drafted detailed written opinion letters, memoranda and articles based on comprehensive legal research and analysis of federal and state rules of procedure, statutes, regulations and industry practices;
- Maintained significant case management responsibility including researching and drafting all pleadings, discovery, dispositive motions, supporting memoranda of law and attending depositions and hearings in state and federal court;
- Provided oral and written recommendations to senior partners, general counsel and senior executives regarding analysis of complex financial services cases and assisted in developing litigation strategy;
- Supervised and managed paralegals and junior associates in prioritizing and completing time-sensitive projects and reviewed and commented on work product;
- Member of Summer Associate Recruiting Committee.

Stephoe & Johnson PLLC, Wheeling, WV

Summer Associate, Summer 2002

- Conducted legal research and drafted dispositive motions, memoranda and correspondence.

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

The Honorable Gary L. Lancaster, Pittsburgh, PA

United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania

Law Clerk, September 2007 – August 2008

- Conducted extensive legal research and drafted bench memoranda, opinions, and orders in various criminal and civil litigation matters;
- Attended hearings, trials and status conferences and summarized issues presented to provide oral and written recommendations to the Judge on complex substantive and procedural issues.

BAR ADMISSIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
- West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals
- United States District Courts
 - Western District of Pennsylvania
 - Northern District of West Virginia
 - Southern District of West Virginia

EDUCATION

West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV

Doctor of Jurisprudence, May 2004

Honors and Activities: Order of the Coif; Order of the Barristers; Patrick Duffy Koontz Award; William Cramer Scholarship; Robert S. Schrader Scholarship; Arthur Ritz Kingdon, Jr. Memorial Law Prize; CALI Award Winner in Legal Research & Writing, Contracts I and Appellate Advocacy; Moot Court, National Team Member; Legal Research & Writing Teaching Assistant; Westlaw Student Representative

Bethany College, Bethany, WV

Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Political Science, *summa cum laude*, May 1999

Honors and Activities: Senior Fellow; Rhodes Scholar Semi-Finalist in W.Va.; Distinction on Comprehensive Exams; Thomas Jefferson Prize; Wall Street Journal Award; Frasure-Singleton Intern for W.Va. State Legislature; Student Court Justice; Varsity Volleyball and Golf; Resident Assistant; Engalitcheff Institute for Government and Politics at Georgetown University