LADO/METODISTA ESP-LAW COURSE
DAILY OUTLINE

DAY ONE – Welcome! Students introduce selves, describe their goals in practicing law. Students discuss role of lawyers in Brazil. Overview of U.S. Court system (Federal and State Jurisdiction) provided. Class discusses differences between Brazilian and U.S. Court systems. Codified law vs. common law. Court Vocabulary Sheet distributed to students. Class discusses how two different systems affect lawyers' responsibilities in the two countries, particularly at trial.

DAY TWO – Criminal Law. Seriousness of social harm. Criminal law vocabulary sheet distributed: Prosecution, complaining witness, presumption of innocence, reasonable doubt, etc. Murder – elements of crime, premeditation, malice. Class Exercise No. 1 (Murder): Fact pattern – What questions should you ask to determine if crime committed? What are the relevant facts? Motive? Defenses to murder – self defense, accident, etc.

DAY THREE – Murder, cont. Class Exercise No. 2 (Murder): Class analyzes Fact pattern – You are the prosecutor. Address class and make argument for murder. You are defense counsel. Address class and make argument for acquittal.
Robbery – elements of crime. Need for force or intimidation. Discuss defenses. Class Exercise No. 3 (Robbery): Fact Pattern reviewed. Class divided into teams, prosecution and defense, analyze arguments for and against prosecution. Students later argue to jury (class) for or against prosecution/acquittal. Assault and battery elements discussed.
Two short films shown explaining Fourth of July – why and how celebrated throughout U.S.

DAY FOUR – FOURTH OF JULY ACTIVITIES

DAY FIVE – Criminal law vs. Torts (Personal injury) What are differences? Parties, procedures, outcomes; standard of proof; consequences for defendant (punishment vs. damages); Types of torts: intentional, negligence. Law of intentional torts, defenses. Class Exercise No. 4 (Assault, battery, false imprisonment): Members discuss arguments for and against different parties. Students prepare and make formal arguments to class.

DAY SIX – Class visits several courtrooms in session at Montgomery County Circuit Courthouse, Rockville, Md. Class observes voir dire phase in jury selection; opening statements; direct and cross examinations of two witnesses. Students met with Circuit Court Judge Paul A. McGuckian, in Chambers, who discussed and further explained what students had observed in courtroom and answered their questions.

DAY SEVEN – Torts, cont'd. Negligence. Elements reviewed and discussed. Students see two short film presentations on elements and defenses to negligence

(contributory and comparative.) Class Exercise No. 5. (Negligence) Students analyze fact pattern and argue on behalf of plaintiff or defendant to class. Jury/students give feedback on effectiveness of arguments.
TRIAL PRACTICE: Class reviews steps in a jury trial: jury selection, opening statement, direct and cross of plaintiff's/prosecution's witnesses (objections); motion for judgment; direct and cross of defense witnesses; closing argument; verdict ; punishment/damages.

DAY EIGHT – How to give an effective opening statement. Most important part of a jury trial! What is jury looking for? How can you be your most effective and persuasive on behalf of your client. Two short films on how to give strong opening statements. Students contrast styles, and discuss why some arguments are more persuasive than others. Students select two fact patterns, choose opposing sides, prepare, and practice making persuasive opening statements to jury.

DAY NINE – The art of cross examination. Students choose fact pattern for next day's jury trial. Students take turns acting as witnesses and attorneys in preparation of direct and cross exam of witnesses for next day's trial.

DAY TEN – Students try a complete jury trial before jury/staff. Trial includes: opening statements to judge and jury; direct and cross of plaintiff's witnesses; motion for judgment at end of plaintiff's case, arguing that plaintiff has not proven all elements of tort; direct and cross of defense witnesses; renewed motion for judgment; closing arguments, rebuttal; verdict and damages. A victorious conclusion for these motivated, dedicated and industrious students!