TRIAL ADVOCACY

LAW 329 – SPRING 2012

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

PROFESSORS: JAMES W. KORMAN, HON. BRUCE WHITE

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. FIRST TWO CLASS SESSIONS:
   1. INTRODUCTORY LECTURE
      A. OUTLINE GOALS AND TECHNIQUES OF COURSE
      B. ORDER OF TRIAL
         i. EXPLANATION OF EACH STAGE OF TRIAL
   2. TRIAL TECHNIQUES
      A. DETAILED TECHNIQUES FOR:
         i. VOIR DIRE AND JURY SELECTION
         ii. PRE-TRIAL MOTIONS
         iii. OPENING STATEMENT
         iv. DIRECT EXAMINATION
         v. CROSS EXAMINATION
         vi. OBJECTIONS
         vii. TRIAL MOTIONS
         viii. JURY INSTRUCTIONS
         ix. CLOSING ARGUMENT

II. SECOND TWO CLASS SESSIONS:
   1. STUDENT TEAMS CONDUCT FIRST TRIAL

III. THIRD TWO CLASS SESSIONS:
   1. STUDENT TEAMS CONDUCT SECOND TRIAL

IV. SEVENTH CLASS SESSION:
   1. LECTURE
      A. REFINE TECHNIQUES
      B. PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE
      C. EXPERT EVIDENCE

V. EIGHTH & NINTH CLASS SESSIONS:
   1. STUDENT TEAMS CONDUCT THIRD TRIAL
VI. LECTURE & DEMONSTRATION
   1. PRE-TRIAL DISCOVERY
   2. DEPOSITION, EXPERT WITNESS DEMONSTRATION

FINAL CLASS SESSION CLOSING LECTURE

N.B.:

A. The precise schedule of trials and lectures may be varied depending upon the number of students in
   the class, and the amount of class time needed to try and critique each case.

B. At the conclusion of each trial, the performance of the “trial attorneys” is critiqued in detail by the
   students and by the professors.