

## MARY ANN ROBINSON

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law**

299 North Spring Mill Road

Villanova, PA 19805

Professor of Law

2016 to present

Associate Professor of Legal Writing

2013 to 2016

- Teaching transactional legal writing that includes instruction on advising and counseling clients, drafting documents, and negotiating
- Coordinating Business and Financial Literacy for Lawyers – a one-credit week-long module required for all 1L students

#### **Widener University School of Law (now Delaware Law School)**

4601 Concord Pike

Wilmington, DE 19803-0474

Assistant Legal Writing Professor

2006 to 2013

- Taught the following:
  - A two-semester course for 1Ls on legal analysis, research, and writing (Course requirements included a closed and open memorandum of law, as well as an appellate brief and oral argument.)
  - Bar Preparation & Strategies, an early bar preparation course for graduating students
  - Wills & Trusts (Course requirements included drafting estate planning documents.)
  - A mandatory upper level legal writing class (Course requirements included a client letter and a brief in support of a summary judgment motion.)
- Served as the Acting Director of the Legal Methods Department during the Director's Spring 2010 sabbatical

Adjunct Faculty, Legal Methods

2004 to 2006

#### **Pepper Hamilton LLP**

400 Berwyn Park/899 Cassatt Rd. Berwyn,

PA 19312

Senior Staff Attorney, Commercial Department, Estates Practice Group

2005 to 2006

- Estate planning – including lifetime and postmortem tax and business planning, as well as drafting wills, trusts, and related documents
- Estate administration, including preparation and review of releases, settlement agreements, and tax returns
- Representation of fiduciaries and beneficiaries in Orphans' Court

#### **ALI CLE (formerly ALI-ABA)**

4025 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Editor, *The Audio Estate Planner*<sup>©</sup>

1998 to 2005

- Selected and edited articles for quarterly audio magazine as part of continuing education programs for lawyers

**The Philadelphia Institute**

2133 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1393

Instructor (part-time) 1989 - 1996

- Taught in paralegal training program for post-college level students (Courses included legal writing, research, and analysis, as well as tax and estate administration.)

**Pepper Hamilton LLP (formerly Pepper Hamilton & Scheetz)**

3000 Two Logan Tower 400 Berwyn Park/899 Cassatt Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19103 Berwyn, PA 19312

Associate, Estates and Trusts Department 1979 - 1988

- Duties similar to those listed under recent employment at Pepper Hamilton LLP

**EDUCATION**

**Villanova University School of Law**  
Villanova, PA

J.D., 1979 cum laude  
Honors: Order of the Coif  
Law Review Editorial Board - Case & Comment Editor;  
Casenote published in Vol. 23, *Villanova Law Review*

**University of Pennsylvania**  
Philadelphia, PA

B.A., 1975 cum laude  
Major: American Civilization

**PUBLICATIONS**

*Doing More with More: Innovations in Legal Writing to Achieve Practice Readiness, The Second Draft* (online publication of the Legal Writing Institute) (forthcoming Spring 2018), with Jessica K. Webb.

*When Spell Check Is Not Your Fiend*, At Issue (publication of the Young Lawyer’s Division of the Pennsylvania Bar Association) p. 10, Spring 2017.

*What We Can Learn about Tone from Taylor Swift*, At Issue (publication of the Young Lawyer’s Division of the Pennsylvania Bar Association) p. 4, Fall 2015.

*Opportunities to Practice Professionalism in the 1L Legal Writing Course*, The Second Draft (online publication of the Legal Writing Institute), p. 22, Spring 2015.

*Two IS Company: Producing Joint Scholarship*, The Learning Curve, (a publication of the AALS Section on Academic Support) p. 20, Winter 2014, with Alison D. Kehner

*Mission: Impossible, Mission: Accomplished or Mission: Underway? A Survey and Analysis of Current Trends in Professionalism Education in American Law Schools*, 38 U. Dayton L. Rev. 57 (2012), with Alison D. Kehner

## TEACHING VIDEOS

- *Professionalism in Law School and Law Practice: Three Case Studies*: three videos and related teaching materials [scripts and teaching materials written with Alison D. Kehner]. Production of these videos made possible through grants from the Association of Legal Writing Directors and Widener University School of Law. Available as follows:  
“George” (about the need to work independently): <http://www.viddler.com/v/9c100e3b>  
“Natalie” (about the lawyer’s duty of candor): <http://www.viddler.com/v/e4dcb222>  
“Larry” (about timeliness & professional demeanor): <http://www.viddler.com/v/77e0425e>
- *Professionalism Videos*: six videos and related teaching materials [scripts and teaching materials written with Alison D. Kehner]. The topics are indicated by their titles: “Self-Direction,” “Misuse of Technology,” “Preparedness,” “Anticipating Consequences,” “Handling Mistakes,” and “Social Networking.” These videos (which were produced by Wolters Kluwer Law & Business) are available on YouTube by searching for “professionalism project” and the particular topic listed above.

## PRESENTATIONS

- *Conducting Client Interviews in the Legal Writing Classroom*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (December 2017)
- *Helping our Students Develop the Heart & Soul of a Lawyer: Professionalism Instruction in the 1L Legal Writing Course*, 2015 Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, University of Memphis Law School, Memphis, Tennessee (June 2015) [with Alison D. Kehner]
  - Also participated in the ALWD Innovative Teaching Workshop, held in conjunction with Biennial Conference, presenting *What’s in Your Toolbox? Using Existing Skills in New Contexts*.
- *It’s Not Always an Argument: Helping Law Students Learn to Make Oral Presentations to Clients*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (December 2014)
- *Mission: Impossible, Mission: Accomplished or Mission: Underway? A Survey and Analysis of Current Trends in Professionalism Education in American Law Schools*, 16th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (July 2014)
- *Lawyering as a Team Member*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Drexel University Earle Macke School of Law, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (December 2013)
- *Professionalism, Preparing Students to be Practice-Ready Attorneys*, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Villanova Law School, Villanova, Pennsylvania (December 2012) [with Alison D. Kehner]
- *Teaching Professional Values Across the Curriculum: Engaging Student Learners in the Process of Becoming Lawyers*, AALS 2012 Annual Meeting, Teaching Methods session, Washington, D.C. (January 2012) [with Alison D. Kehner and Jean K. Sbarge]
- *Professionalism Illustrated on Film: A Platform for Discussion by Law Students and Lawyers*, 2011 ALWD Conference: Leadership for the Second Wave, Pacific McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California (June 2011)

- *Teaching Professionalism in the Legal Writing Classroom and Beyond*, Capital Area Legal Writing Conference, George Washington School of Law, Washington, D.C. (February 2011) [with Jean K. Sbarge]
- *Idea Bank Live: Professionalism – Professionalism Illustrated on Film: A Guide for Law Students and Lawyers*, 14th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Marco Island, Florida, June 2010 [with Alison D. Kehner]
- *Overly Needy Students: Dealing with Students Who Resist Working Independently*, Semiannual Meeting of the Delaware Valley Legal Writing Consortium, Villanova University School of Law, Villanova, Pennsylvania (April 2010) [with Alison D. Kehner]
- *Authority War*, Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida (September 2009)