

LADO/METHODISTA ESP-LAW COURSE

Role of lawyers in Brazil.

Overview of U.S. Court system (Federal and State Jurisdiction) provided.

Differences between Brazilian and U.S. Court systems.

Codified law vs. common law.

Court Vocabulary

How two different systems affect lawyers' responsibilities in the two countries, particularly at trial.

Criminal Law. Seriousness of social harm.

Criminal law vocabulary: Prosecution, complaining witness, presumption of innocence, reasonable doubt, etc.

Murder – elements of crime, premeditation, malice. Fact pattern. Prosecutor.

Defense counsel

Robbery – elements of crime. Need for force or intimidation. Discuss defenses.

Assault and battery elements discussed.

Criminal law vs. Torts (Personal injury)

Types of torts: intentional, negligence.

Law of intentional torts, defenses

Visits to courtrooms in session at Montgomery County Circuit Courthouse, Rockville, MD

Observation of voir dire phase in jury selection;

Opening statements;

Direct and cross examinations of two witnesses.

Torts, Negligence.

TRIAL PRACTICE: 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.

How to give an effective opening statement.

Being effective and persuasive on behalf of your client.

The art of cross examination.

Role Play: witnesses and attorneys in preparation of direct and cross exam of witnesses

Trying 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