

SCU Law Competency Model

RESEARCH	Knows how to find appropriate legal and factual information		
	Legal Research	Factual Investigation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Knows what sources to research -Knows how to research those sources efficiently -Updates research to ensure citations are current 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identifies sources of relevant factual information -Evaluates the credibility/reliability of information sources -Develops coherent research design and appropriate investigative techniques -Documents and preserves factual information 	
WRITING	Writes in an accurate, well-reasoned, logical, organized, clear and concise manner		
	General Written Expression	Audience- Specific Documents	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Organizes issues in a logical order -Employs syllogistic reasoning when appropriate -Writes clearly and concisely -Edits written work effectively -Uses proper formatting, grammar, spelling and citation form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Drafts documents common for specific practice areas -Knows the rules and industry norms governing those documents -Writes appropriately for the intended audiences 	
LEGAL KNOWLEDGE	Knows the relevant rules and can assimilate new information into the structure of law		
	Rule Comprehension	Knowledge of Law and Legal Systems	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Knows the rules and can distill rules into their component elements -Knows when he or she needs to do additional research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Understands the roles of different legal institutions -Knows how to resolve potential conflicts between laws of different jurisdictions -Acquires a foundation of law knowledge needed for practice areas 	
LEGAL ANALYSIS	Uses analytical skills, logic and reasoning to evaluate legal issues		
	Issue identification	Analysis	Formulate Legal Arguments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Identifies legal and factual issues in fact patterns -Distinguishes between major, minor and irrelevant issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Synthesizes rules from various legal authorities -Applies rules to facts -Analogizes and distinguishes facts and precedents appropriately -Invokes policy considerations and understands broader legal and social context -Understands math concepts necessary for lawyers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Makes arguments based on precedent, analogy, fact distinctions, policy and legislative history -Identifies authority that is inconsistent and explains why it is not relevant.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY	Knows the legal rules and ethical obligations of being a lawyer		
	Rules Governing the Legal Profession	Transitioning into the Profession	
	-Knows and complies with Rules of Professional Responsibility -Recognizes and addresses potential ethical issues.	-Understands the business of the legal industry -Provides client services to advance client interests -Develops relationships within the legal profession -Understands need to maintain and enhance the reputation of the profession -Demonstrates professional courtesy	
CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING	Comes up with innovative solutions to problems		
	Problem Diagnosis	Evaluation of Options	Action Plan
	-Analyzes the situation and identifies the legal and non-legal problems -Identifies who can help resolve the problems -Identifies the possible causes of the problems -Identifies the roles, interests, and objectives of key stakeholders	-Develops a comprehensive list of options to address the problems -Evaluates the costs and benefits of each option -Explains the options and how to prioritize options in a way that clients can understand	-Recommends options to client -Implements the selected option -Evaluates the efficacy of the attempted solution
INTERPERSONAL SKILLS	Understands how to communicate and work effectively with others		
	Self-Awareness	Working with Others	Communication
	-Understands his or her own personal values and how those values might influence his or her work -Develops awareness of his or her personal weaknesses -Develops strategies to compensate for weaknesses, including asking for help	-Interacts professionally and respectfully -Develops ability to see and understand opposing points of view -Works well in teams -Builds consensus -Works well with professionals from other disciplines	-Listens actively -Chooses appropriate means to communicate with different audiences -Demonstrates effective presentation skills -Initiates difficult conversations

INITIATIVE	Takes responsibility and proactively manages work		
	Leadership	Ownership and Accountability	Professional Development
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Works with drive and determination -Is innovative and entrepreneurial -Establishes credibility and integrity -Builds relationships -Thinks strategically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Takes personal responsibility for getting things done -Knows how and when to delegate and engage others -Takes pride in his or her work -Manages time efficiently and meets deadlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Demonstrates intellectual curiosity and commitment to life-long learning
CONSCIENCE AND COMPASSION	Demonstrates concern for others		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Is empathetic -Acts with integrity and honesty -Understands the ways in which the rule of law improves the world -Is committed to making the world a better place -Develops an ethic of service 		