

Kathleen Bolus

350 Cedar Street • San Diego, CA 92101 • (858) 342-3032 • KBolus@cwsu.edu

Academia and Teaching Experience

California Western School of Law, San Diego, California

Director of Academic Achievement

January 2025-Present

Associate Professor of Law

January 2025-Present

- Appointed to lead the law school's Academic Achievement and Bar Support programs with a focus on student success, inclusive excellence, and data-informed pedagogy.
- Responsible for strategic planning, administration, and assessment of academic and bar support initiatives across the JD program.
- Teach courses in academic skills development and bar preparation; provide individual academic counseling and performance-based support to a diverse student population.
- Engage in curricular development, formative and summative assessment design, and implementation of educational technologies to improve learning outcomes.
- Supervise professional staff within the Academic Achievement Department and collaborate closely with faculty, student services, and institutional leadership.

Courses Taught: Foundations of Law, Foundations of Law II, Advanced Legal Analysis

Western State College of Law, Irvine, California

Assistant Professor of Lawyering Skills

July 2021-December 2024

Associate Director of Academic Success

July 2023-December 2024

- Co-designed and deliver curriculum for Introduction to Legal Methods and Basic Bar Studied
- Provide writing, analytical, time-management, and study skill assistance to at-risk students in the Academic Success Program through workshops and individual meetings.
- Train and oversee Dean's Fellows, accomplished upper-division students who provide individual guidance and assistance

Courses Taught: Introduction to Legal Methods , Basic Bar Studies

Service: Member, Assessment Committee, August 2021-December 2024, Member, Curriculum Committee, August 2023-June 2024, Member, Library & Technology Committee, August 2021-June 2022

California Western School of Law, San Diego, California

Assistant Director of Academic Achievement

May 2020-June 2021

Adjunct Professor of Law

May 2020-August 2021

- Designed and deliver curriculum for Legal Methods, a course designed to improve the study and analytical skills of at-risk 1Ls.
- Designed and deliver curriculum for the L Academic Engagement Workshop Series.
- Hire, oversee, and train teaching fellows for 1L and required upper-division doctrinal courses.
- With doctrinal faculty, develop, implement, and analyze pilot programming for 1L students.

Courses Taught: Legal Methods, 1L Academic Engagement Workshop Series

University of San Diego School of Law, San Diego, California
Assistant Director of Academic Success and Bar Programs
Adjunct Professor of Law

June 2018-May 2020
June 2018-Present

- Developed and taught workshop series for 1L students focused on study skills, exam preparation and study, writing, analytical, and multiple-choice skills.
- Developed and delivered Supplemental Essay Workshop Series for first-time and repeat bar candidates and provided individual feedback and counseling to first-time and repeat candidates.
- Developed and delivered curriculum to assist 2Ls develop critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and writing skills.
- Developed and delivered curriculum 3L students to develop bar exam and analysis skills.
- Designed and facilitated Transfer Student Study Group, designed to help acclimate transfer students to School of Law and teach strategies to foster success in law school and on the bar.
- Gather and analyze data concerning student indicators and performance and efficacy of curriculum.

Courses Taught: Legal Analysis, Fundamentals of Bar Exam Writing

Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, California
Director of Academic Success
Associate Director of Academic Success
Adjunct Professor of Law

February 2018-June 2018
February 2014-February 2018
February 2014-November 2018

- Developed and delivered curriculum to help first, second, and third year students develop reading comprehension, critical thinking, analytical reasoning, writing, and multiple-choice skills.
- Developed and delivered workshop series for students focused on exam preparation and study, writing, analytical, and multiple-choice skills.
- Gathered and analyzed data concerning student indicators and performance and the efficacy of curriculum.
- Revised and delivered academic orientation program for incoming first-semester students.
- In conjunction with the Bar Preparation Department, developed and delivered workshops for first time and repeat bar exam candidates and provide individual feedback and counseling to first-time and repeat candidates.

Courses Taught: Lawyering Skills I, Lawyering Skills II, Legal Principles (Advanced Legal Analysis), Legal Foundations (MBE Mastery), Mastering the Performance Test

Service: Member, Assessment & Outcomes Committee, 2016-June 2018

Honors and Recognitions: Adjunct Professor of the Year (2018)

Education

UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, California
Juris Doctor, May 2010
Select Honors: *UCLA Women's Law Journal* (Managing Editor); Moot Court (Member)

UC San Diego, La Jolla, California
Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, Political Science, March 2006
Select Honors: *Phi Beta Kappa* (Member); Thurgood Marshall Scholar

Presentations

Clarifying "Conclusory": Using Scaffolding to Teach Students to Identify and Remedy Problems in Analysis, Association for Academic Support Educators Annual Conference, University of Idaho College of Law, Boise, Idaho, May 2024

Rallying (and Recapturing) the Bar Exam Repeater, Association for Academic Support Educators Annual Conference, University of Santa Clara School of Law, Santa Clara, California, May 2023 (with Tania Shah)

Purgatory, The Lost Middle Child, and Law School...Oh My, Association for Academic Support Educators Annual Conference, St. Mary's University School of Law, San Antonio, Texas, May 2022 (with Tania Shah)

Show Them the Evidence: Using Data to Encourage Student Engagement, Association for Academic Support Educators Annual Conference, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington, May 2019 (with Kevin Sherrill)

Using Workshops to Make It Stick: How 1L Skills Workshops Can Reinforce Retrieval Practice, Spaced Learning, and Interleaving, West Coast Consortium of Academic Support Professionals Annual Conference, University of San Diego School of Law, San Diego, California, November 2018

Using Commentary to Jump Start Legal Research, UC San Diego Krinsk-Houston Law and Politics Initiative, UC San Diego, La Jolla, California, January 2017

Partnering with Student Organizations to Improve Retention and Academic Performance of Diverse Student Populations: Our Experience in Helping Establish Lunge with La Raza, Association for Academic Support Educators Annual Conference, Texas A&M University School of Law, Ft. Worth, Texas, May 2017 (with Karen Harkins, Augustin Razo, and Olavo Michel)

Using the 1L Project and Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Approach to Improve 1L Skills Using Bar Tested Content, Association for Academic Support Educators Annual Conference, CUNY School of Law, New York, New York, May 2016 (with Karen Harkins and Michael Flynn)

Professional Activities

Association of Academic Support Educators, Assessment Committee Member, 2019-2020, Programming Committee Member, 2017-2018, 2022-Present, Bar Committee Member, 2015-2016

West Coast Consortium of Academic Support Professionals, Member, 2014-Present

The Learning Curve, Assistant Editor, January 2023-Present

Reviewer, First-Year Last Student Exam Multiple-Choice Review Project, State Bar of California, March 2023