University of Kentucky College of Law
Academic Self-Assessment*

The goal of this academic self-assessment is two-fold: (i) to assist you in an **honest self-reflection** exercise about your academic performance from last semester, and (ii) to strategize a plan that will position you to perform better this semester and beyond.

Objectives of academic self-assessment exercise:

- √   Identifying obstacles from the previous semester that impacted your ability to attain your full potential
- √   Evaluating current courses
- √   Creating a plan for success for <u>each class</u>

A. Past and Projected Grades: Fill in the grid below. How do you plan to attain each desired grade?

Previous semester courses	Grade	Current semester courses	Grade Desired

B. Self-Assessment: In reviewing your academic performance, what factors contributed to the grades you earned? Check all that apply and **<u>circle the top three</u>**.

Academic: Exam-specific
- Didn't put in enough time studying for exams
- Put in enough time but it didn't seem to help
- Knew the law but didn't apply it to the fact situation on the exam
- Knew what I wanted to say on the exam but had trouble organizing it
- Ran out of time and didn't finish all questions
- Finished all the questions but felt I didn't fully answer any of them
- Covered some issues well but missed some other major issues
- Didn't expect the exam to be structured like it was
- Thought I did well on the exam but the grade was low
- Even though I knew the material, I panic on exams and do poorly

Academic: General
- Ineffective study/learning skills
- Poor basic writing skills
- What worked in college doesn't work anymore
- Hard to concentrate/daydreaming
- Difficulty keeping up with reading assignments
- Unable to understand course content or find relevance in course material
- Unprepared for classes
- Failed to outline my course work
- Used peer-shared outlines exclusively

Academic: General (contd.)
- Did not attend/skipped (some) classes
- Uncomfortable classroom climate
- I read slowly and rarely got my reading assignments done
- I don't know how to take good lecture or reading notes
- I'm uncomfortable admitting to anyone that I need help to improve my study habits.

Social Adjustment
- Personal relationship issues
- Family situation
- Difficulty adjusting to the Law School
- Hard to make friends/loneliness

Utilizing Available Resources
- Did not go to faculty office hours
- Was not part of a study group
- Found it difficult to find a study partner
- Did not take advantage of Academic Success Workshops
  - ➢ Effective reading/note-taking
  - ➢ Time management
  - ➢ Outlining and Organizing Course Materials
  - ➢ Course Synthesis
  - ➢ Preparing and Studying for Law Exams
  - ➢ Taking and Writing Law School Exams

C. **Reflective Analysis:** Now, explain in detail the **three most significant factors** that affected your academic performance last semester.

Significant Factors	Explain each obstacle's impact on your success	How can you eliminate that obstacle?
1.		
2.		
3.		

D. **Action Plan for a More Successful Semester:** Think about a plan of action for getting the semester off to a strong start. Include meetings with faculty, and using other academic success resources at the Law School. Commit to following through with your action plan.

GOAL	ACTION PLAN (dates, follow-up meetings, etc.)	AVAILABLE RESOURCES (improve learning or study skills, professors office hours)
1.		
2.		
3.		

*   You are encouraged to consult with Professor Jane Grise to discuss your self-assessment and strategize for improved academic performance.