

# NATALIE RODRIGUEZ

Southwestern Law School

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## **EMPLOYMENT**

### **SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL, Los Angeles, California**

*Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Administration and Associate Professor of Law, January 2022-Present*

Working closely with the Vice Dean and in coordination with several departments, create the schedule of classes for all J.D. programs; create the academic calendar; communicate with faculty regarding teaching assignments; provide an orientation for new faculty; participate on various faculty committees; creates and manages the faculty development and the adjunct budgets; maintain faculty governance documents such as the Faculty Manual; process and report bar results information, including the annual ABA Bar Passage Questionnaire; manage a research project aimed at identifying non-traditional factors for predicting law school and bar success; provide training for faculty in distance education methods via live workshops, pre-recorded videos, and training manuals; manage grant projects

### **SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL, Los Angeles, California**

*Assistant Dean of Academic Success and Associate Professor of Law, July 2017-January 2022*

Developed, enhanced, and administered a comprehensive academic support program for law students, which included bridge programs and first-year programs that assisted students in the transition to law school, and second-year courses designed for students who had been identified as at-risk based on academic performance; taught in bar support courses and mentored students during their bar studies; collaborated with other departments and faculty who were involved in providing academic support; participated in various faculty committees; coordinated and enhanced the institution's data collecting and analyses; processed and reported all bar results information, including the annual ABA Bar Passage Questionnaire; managed a research project aimed at identifying non-traditional factors for predicting law school and bar success; provided training for faculty in distance education methods via live workshops, pre-recorded videos, and training manuals; drafted grant applications that provided additional funding to support programming and intervention

### **SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL, Los Angeles, California**

*Director of Academic Success and Bar-Related Programs and Associate Professor of Law, August 2013-July 2017*

Developed, enhanced, and administered a comprehensive academic support and bar program for law students, which included bridge programs and first-year programs that assisted students in the transition to law school, courses designed for students who have been identified as at-risk based on academic performance, early bar workshops and a customized bar preparation program; collaborated with other departments and faculty who are involved in providing academic support; participated in various faculty committees; coordinated and enhanced the institution's data collecting and analyses; processed and reported all bar results information, including the Annual ABA Bar Passage Questionnaire

**SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL, Los Angeles, California**

*Academic Success and Bar-Related Programs Fellow and Adjunct Professor of Law, August 2012-July 2013*

Worked closely with the Director of Academic Success and Bar-Related Programs to research, design, implement and manage academic support programs, including pre-matriculation programs, first-year programs and Bar examination preparation programs; taught a first-year course for at-risk students; supervised the Dean's Fellow program; met individually with students who were struggling academically

*Courses Taught at Southwestern*

- First-year Academic Skills Courses (Academic Skills Lab 2016-2019; Foundations of Law and Practice 2019 to present)
- Remedies (co-taught summer and fall 2019)
- MBE: Skills and Strategies (co-taught 2014 to present; did not teach 2018-2019)
- Contracts II (co taught 2013-2016)
- Legal Methods (2012-2015)
- Principles of Legal Analysis (fall 2013 and fall 2014)

*Select Southwestern Law School Service*

- Faculty Recruitment Committee (2022 to present)
- Lateral Appointments with Tenure Committee (2022 to present)
- Faculty Development Committee (2022 to present)
- Tenure Committee (2022 to present)
- Sabbatical Committee (2022 to present)
- Dean's Advisory Committee (2022 to present)
- Assessment Committee (2022 to present)
- WASC Accreditation Working Group (2022 to present)
- Curriculum Committee (2022 to present; 2013 to 2015)
- SMaRT (Southwestern's Managing Risk Team)/Enterprise Risk Management Task Force (2022 to present)
- Admissions Committee (2021 to present)
- Bar Success Grant Funding Opportunity Ad Hoc Committee (2021 to present)
- Student Support & Emergency Team Ad Hoc Committee (2021 to 2022)
- Innovating and Developing Educational Alternatives Ad Hoc Committee (2019 to present; Committee Chair, 2020 to 2022)
- Faculty Advisor, Christian Legal Society (2020 to present)
- Pandemic Response Team Sub-Committee on Course Scheduling (spring 2020)
- Admissions Sub-Committee on Non-Traditional Factors (2018 to present)
- Bar Passage Task Force (2016 to 2022)
- Hybrid Online Ad Hoc Committee (2017 to 2018)
- Outcomes Ad Hoc Committee (2015 to 2017)
- Data Collection Ad Hoc Committee (2014 to 2015)
- Student Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee (2013 to 2015)

**FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT, Los Angeles, California**

*Judicial Extern to Judge Patrick Walsh, January 2012-May 2012*

Conducted legal research on Habeas Corpus Writs and Social Security claims; prepared bench memoranda; drafted opinions

**SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL**, Los Angeles, California

*Dean's Fellow and Teacher Assistant to Director of Academic Support*, August 2010-May 2012

Provided students with academic support resources through workshops and regular one-on-one meetings; taught basic professional and academic skills such as time management, note-taking, and exam preparation; assisted Director in creating materials for the skills programs and courses

**THOMSON REUTERS**, Los Angeles, California

*Westlaw Student Representative*, March 2010-May 2012

Assisted with Westlaw trainings on campus; assisted students with legal research; provided professors, faculty and students with technical support for TWEN pages; developed and implemented on-campus marketing strategies

**SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL**, Los Angeles, California

*Research and Teacher Assistant to Dean Austen Parrish*, August-December 2011

Assisted students with course material in Civil Procedure; edited and researched relevant authority to support professor's publications

**CALIFORNIA COURT OF APPEAL, SECOND DISTRICT, DIVISION SEVEN**, Los Angeles, California

*Judicial Extern to the Honorable Frank Y. Jackson*, Summer 2011

Conducted legal research on criminal and civil issues, including Habeas Corpus Writs; prepared bench memoranda; drafted opinions

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**, Los Angeles, California

*Certified Law Clerk/Extern, Sex Crimes Unit*, January-May 2011

Performed legal research on criminal law issues; drafted motions; reviewed, analyzed and summarized primary and secondary legal material; provided trial support

**SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL**, Los Angeles, California

*Research Assistant to Professor Robert Pugsley*, June 2010-May 2011

Collaborated with Professor in the creation of a syllabus for a Criminal Law course; developed PowerPoint presentations for the course; assisted students with course material; maintained the Professor's TWEN page

**SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL**, Los Angeles, California

*Certified Law Clerk, Children's Rights Clinic*, August-December 2010

Represented children in administrative hearings; performed legal research; interviewed clients regarding potential legal action; interacted with opposing counsel and school administrators; drafted research memoranda

**SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL**, Los Angeles, California

*Research Assistant to Professor Danielle Hart*, Summer 2010

Researched and submitted memoranda on numerous doctrines related to Contract Law

**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER**, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

*Site Director*, October 2004-May 2007

Developed and supervised all aspects of an after school program for at-risk children; managed a team of 20 tutors and assistants; created and implemented an enrichment activity curriculum; regularly consulted by the Program Director to assist with overall program development

**PROJECT GRAD LOS ANGELES**, North Hollywood, California

*Case Manager*, September 2002-September 2004

Provided families from low socio-economic backgrounds the essential resources needed to increase their child's achievement level in the classroom; conducted workshops and school events for families; worked with students to identify and remedy learning gaps to increase classroom performance

**SELECT PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS**

- Article, Anahid Gharakhanian, Natalie Rodriguez & Elizabeth A. Anderson, *More than Numbers: Empirical Evidence of an Innovative Approach to Admissions*, 107 MINN. L. REV. \_\_\_\_ (2023).
- Presentation, *Innovative Approach to Admissions: A Collaborative Effort*, RISE Alliance and USC Gould School of Law Symposium, Intersectionality and Social Movements: A DEI Tool for Coalition (January 13, 2023)
- Micro-essay, *Collected Wisdom Continued: What We Learned About Teaching During COVID*, AALS Section on Teaching Methods Newsletter, December 2022
- Presentation, *"More than the Numbers": Empirical Evidence of an Innovative Approach to Admissions*, Minnesota Law Review Symposium, Leaving Langdell Behind: Reimagining Legal Education for a New Era (October 7, 2022)
- Blog, *Using Meaningful Admissions Data to Improve Legal Education and the Profession*, LSSSE (June 23, 2022)
- Panel Moderator, *Leveraging Technology to Increase Student Engagement in Online Courses*, AALS Conference (January 7, 2022)
- Panel Moderator, *Who Should Own the Course Content Created for Online Delivery?*, AALS Conference (January 7, 2022)
- Podcast, *Why Can't We Have One Bar Exam for All Jurisdictions? (Ep.3)*, UnCommon Law (December 2, 2021)
- Organizer and Host, *2021 West Coast Consortium of Academic Support Professionals Conference* (November 5, 2021)
- Presentation, *Accentuate the Positive – Eliminate the Negative: Pandemic Pedagogy Wins*, AALS Teaching Methods Webinar (October 6, 2021)
- Presentation, *Breaking Things Down to Build Students Up*, AASE Conference (May 26, 2021)
- Panel Participant, *California Bar Exam Success Panel*, The Los Angeles County Bar Association (May 24, 2021)
- Micro-essay, *Collected Wisdom: Teaching During the Time of COVID*, AALS Section on Teaching Methods Newsletter, December 2020
- Article, *Forging Relationships with New Students and Encouraging a Sense of Community*, AALS Section on New Law Professors Newsletter, Summer 2020
- Presentation, *Intersections Between Deliberate Online Pedagogy and Emergency Remote Learning*, CALLcon2020 Conference hosted by The Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (June 3, 2020)

- Presentation, Lessons Learned from Pre-COVID Online Teaching Online Conference, Online Teaching Conference hosted by the Association of Academic Support Educators (May 1, 2020)
- Blog, *Online Learning Tips*, Law School Academic Support Blog (March 13, 2020)
- Podcast, *Simplicity and Flexibility*, The Productive Woman (October 30, 2019)
- Note, *Give Us Your Weary But Not Your Battered: The DHS, Politics and Asylum for Victims of Domestic Violence*, 18 SW. J. INT'L L. 317 (2012)

## **SELECT COMMUNITY AND OTHER SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

- California Supreme Court and State Bar, Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the Bar Exam (2021 to present)
- AASE, Executive Board, Secretary (2021 to 2022)
- AALS, Technology, Law and Legal Education Section, Co-Chair, Programming Committee (2021 to 2022)
- AALS, Academic Support Section, Programming Committee Member (2021 to 2022)
- AASE, Online Presence Committee Member (2020 to 2021)
- AASE, Bar Advocacy Committee Member (2019 to 2020)
- AASE, ABA 316 Sub-Committee, Chair (2019 to 2020)
- IAALS, Focus Groups Observer for "Building A Better Bar" Research Study (2019 to 2020)
- AASE, Scholarship Group Committee Member (2019 to 2020)
- California State Bar, Advisory Board Member for Law School Performance Study (2017 to 2019)
- AALS, Academic Support Section, Programming Committee Member (2017 to 2018)

## **EDUCATION**

### **SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL**, Los Angeles, California

*Juris Doctor*, May 2012

Honors:        *Recipient*, CALL and Witkin Awards  
                   *Recipient*, Public Service Award  
                   *Recipient*, Exceptional Achievement Award  
                   *Recipient*, Dean's Merit Award  
                   *Recipient*, Bluebook Award  
                   *Recipient*, Bradley Scholarship  
                   *Recipient*, Dino Hirsch Scholarship

Activities:    *Lead Article Editor*, Southwestern Journal of International Law, 2011-2012  
                   *Student Ambassador*, Southwestern Law School, 2010-2012  
                   *Staff Member*, Southwestern Journal of International Law, 2010-2011

### **LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY**, Los Angeles, California

*Bachelor of Arts*, Political Science; *Minor*, Philosophy, May 2002

Honors:        *Recipient*, Dean's List  
                   *Participant*, Oxford Scholars Program, University of Oxford, England, Summer 2001

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND BAR ADMISSION**

California State Bar (2012 to present)

Member, Association of American Law Schools, Technology - Law and Legal Education Section, (2020 to present)

Member, Association of American Law Schools - Academic Support Section, (2013 to present)

Member, Association of Academic Support Educators (2013 to present)

## **LANGUAGES**

Fluent in Spanish