Welcome to UB Law! I am looking forward to meeting you at our first Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research ("LAWR") class on Tuesday, August 21. Before our first class, please do the following:

1. Purchase the three required books for the course:

   We will be using these texts for the entire year (including the bridge/spring semesters). These books are available at the North Campus Bookstore or from Amazon or other retailers. Please ensure that you have purchased the correct editions. There are also copies on reserve at our law library for you to review.

2. Read Chapter 1 in our textbook, Linda Edwards’ *Legal Writing and Analysis*, and the three short articles that have been posted along with this letter: “Talking to Students About the Differences Between Undergraduate Writing and Legal Writing,” “Ten Tips for Transitioning to Legal Writing,” and “Get Real About Research and Writing.” Also, I’ve posted a number of articles in the Law School Tips folder under Course Documents on UB Learns/Blackboard, our course website; I suggest that you take a look at these resources before school begins or early in the semester.

3. Review the syllabus, which I will post on UB Learns shortly before the start of class. I will distribute paper copies of the syllabus in class on August 21 and we will discuss the course then.
4. Prepare your first writing assignment—an introductory essay—and email it to me (katrinro@buffalo.edu) before class on August 21. This is an informal, one-to-two page double-spaced essay in which I’d like you to tell me a little bit about yourself. Please include the following information, in any order or format that you wish:

- Name (including any preferred nickname)
- Hometown
- Undergraduate/other educational information (including institution and degree)
- Why you chose to go to law school and become a lawyer, and why you chose UB specifically
- Possible career goals
- Your view of your strengths and weaknesses as a writer
- What you hope to learn in this course
- Anything else you think I should know at the outset of the semester

If you’d like to read ahead for the week, since you’ll have a busy orientation schedule, I’ve also included the reading and assignments for Wednesday, August 22 and Thursday, August 23:

- Wednesday, August 22
  - Read Edwards Ch. 2, 5(I-III); “How to Read a Legal Opinion”; Lucy v. Zehmer (Edwards App. E, p. 349)
  - Complete Edwards Ex. 2-5
- Thursday, August 23
  - Read Edwards Ch. 3(I-II)
  - Complete Case Brief Exercise #1 (instructions to be provided in class)

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact me at katrinro@buffalo.edu. I’m looking forward to meeting you on August 21.