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Professor Aaron-Andrew Bruhl: Reflections on the Fall 2020 Semester

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Professor Aaron-Andrew Bruhl

Reflections on the Fall 2020 Semester

What course did you teach this fall?

I taught Civil Procedure to 1Ls and LL.Ms. The course was going to be taught in the Tennis Center — the only space in which we could fit a properly distanced 1L section — but we switched to online teaching due to additional restrictions stemming from the late summer increase in cases in this region.

Did you try any new techniques or use any new tools in your class this semester?

I'm normally a big user of the classroom whiteboard, filling it with drawings, key points, and student answers. As a substitute, I made some simple PowerPoint slides with some of the things I'd normally write on the board, shared my screen with the class, and annotated the slides by hand as we went. I think it was better than usual.

Do you have insights to share about the students you taught this semester?

All of our students are facing challenges, and some have been personally impacted in very tough ways. Given all of that, I'm even more impressed than usual with their devotion to their studies.

Did you read or watch anything for pleasure during the semester that you would recommend to others?

My wife and I enjoyed watching "The Queen's Gambit" (about chess, but fun and well produced) and "Rita" (a Danish comedy-drama), both on Netflix. With the kids, we've been watching "The Mandalorian."