

# Mind Map #3 - Examples of Law School Opportunities to Encourage Reflection

## Encouraging and supporting reflection at Law School

- application to law school** - essay on why I want to go to law school
- pre-orientation**
  - Career Services Office - orientation package with reflective questions about law school and life goals
  - Assistant Dean - letter to students encouraging self-reflection on study habits, time & stress management assessment
  - First Year - letter to students recommending books or films on role of law in society

- orientation**
  - student activities
  - speakers
  - field trips

- Academic Success Program**
  - preparing for class
    - learning style
    - wellness issues
  - briefing on note-taking
  - briefing on writing exams

- Ethical Lawyering Course**
  - course content
    - use of film
    - problem-based learning
  - activities
    - student summaries of key messages/"lessons learned" class summaries
    - role plays
    - reflective papers
    - art/collages of professional image

- University Undergraduate Degree Expectations (Ministry required)**
  - developing expectations for students
  - communicating expected outcomes to students to aid in self-assessment

- courses**
  - learning objectives / outcomes clearly delineated
  - learning contracts and plan of study or learning plan
  - nature of content
  - innovative teaching methods
  - learning activities
  - evaluation & assessment methodologies
  - use of student evaluations
  - "perspective" options (courses that encourage critique or are multidisciplinary)
  - capstone courses

- mandatory public interest requirement**
  - experiential learning/volunteer work - selection of externship
  - group debriefing of experience
  - reflective paper on the experience

- clinical legal education programs**
  - reflective journals
  - debriefing
  - exercises
  - one minute paper
  - reflective paper
  - field trips & debriefing
  - reflective supervision
  - reflective supervisors

collaborative research projects

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using the free Mindomo software available at [www.mindomo.com](http://www.mindomo.com)

- events outside law school**
  - Spinlaw (National student-organized public interest law event)
  - Law Union of Ontario
  - Centre for the Legal Profession
  - summer jobs and externships
  - articling experience

Law school strategic planning process

- Curriculum Reform Process**
  - discussion papers
  - ongoing research
  - faculty retreats
  - piloting new approaches

- Faculty Professional Development**
  - Annual Course Design Institute
  - clinical & legal education conferences
  - working with consultants
  - Faculty Lunch series
  - academic journals on teaching
  - faculty as reflective practitioners
  - teaching dossier for tenure with philosophy of practice statement
  - team teaching experience
  - sabbatical opportunities

- extra and co-curricular**
  - Feminist sessions (for example) special speakers and workshops
  - broad spectrum of student clubs
  - Pro Bono Students Canada
  - special fellowships
  - Film series
  - Health & Wellness Week
  - Mindfulness Meditation

debriefing **critical incidents**

- Career Services Office**
  - one-on-one counselling
  - special speakers and programming
  - Public Interest Law Day
  - Myers-Briggs assessments
  - new software for e-portfolio development
  - webpage with social justice readings

- International Legal Partnership Externships**
  - blogs
  - reflective paper
  - reflective journals