

KRIS FRANKLIN
Wallace Stevens Professor of Law
Director of Academic Initiatives

New York Law School
185 West Broadway
New York, NY 10013
(212) 431-2353
kris.franklin@nyls.edu

education

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY

J.D., May 1992

Honors: Editor-in-Chief, *NYU Review of Law & Social Change*
Judge Eileen Haas Schwartz Award for outstanding student scholarship
Review of Law & Social Change Prize for Best Student Writing

YALE UNIVERSITY, New Haven, CT

B.A., May 1989

Honors: Graduated *cum laude*, with Distinction in the Sociology major and special recognition for senior thesis
U.S. Presidential Scholar

**legal education
experience**

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL, NEW YORK, NY

Wallace Stevens Professor of Law and Director of Academic Initiatives. Design innovative curriculum to articulate the process of legal reasoning. Lead faculty efforts to review and adapt law school curriculum and pedagogy to today's students. Created groundbreaking legal methods/legal reasoning course for all first-year students based on original materials that have been adopted nationally. Teach courses in a wide range of subject areas. Co-direct initiatives to study and promote cutting-edge law teaching. Founded and oversaw NYLS's co-curricular Dispute Resolution Team. Organized and taught academic programming incoming law students. Journal of Legal Education Editor. (Associate Professor, June 2002-November 2006; Professor of Law November 2006-April 2023; Chair investiture April 2023)

courses

Contracts
Torts
Family Law
Family Law in Practice
Negotiation, Counseling & Interviewing
Advanced Legal Methods
Principles of Legal Analysis
Introduction to Legal Reasoning
Race, Bias & Advocacy (team-taught interdisciplinary course)

**institutional
responsibilities**

Co-Director, NYLS Initiative for Excellence in Law Teaching
Faculty Founder, NYLS Dispute Resolution Team
Co-Chair, Curriculum Committee
Member, Admissions Committee; Coordinating Committee;
Promotion and Tenure Committee
Past Chair, Academic Support Curriculum Committee; Admissions Committee; Assessment Committee; Harassment and Discrimination Review Board; Evening Division Task Force

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY

Lawyering Program Section Leader. Taught in the Lawyering Program while supervising, mentoring and assisting other faculty members; designed, developed and shaped an innovative curriculum in critical legal thinking and sophisticated law practice. (May 1999-May 2002)

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY (cont'd)

Acting Assistant Professor of Lawyering. Developed and taught seminar in the practice and theory of Lawyering. Part of NYU's core curriculum, the Lawyering class introduces critical thinking relating to all elements of legal practice including: written and oral advocacy, client interviewing and counseling, negotiation, examination of witnesses, and litigation strategy in a program noted for its pioneering methodology. (August 1996-April 1999)

- **Workways Pedagogy Group.** Interdisciplinary practicum examining adult learning theory; designed pedagogical methods to engage an array of intellectual capacities. (May 1997- May 1999)
- **Lawyering Theory Colloquium.** Advanced multi-disciplinary symposia on Lawyering theory. Presentation topics ranged from complex client interactions to the intersections of race and gender in simulated negotiations. (September 1998-May 2002)

**books
&
book chapters**

Designing Transparent, Integrated Curricula for Practice and NextGen Readiness, in BUILDING ON BEST PRACTICES, (C. Benjie Lous & Lauren Rogal, eds. 2027) (forthcoming).

CONTRACTS: A CONTEXT & PRACTICE CASEBOOK (4th ed.) (with Michael Hunter Schwartz & Adrian Walter) (2025); and accompanying 4th edition TEACHERS' MANUAL.

LEGAL REASONING CASE FILES: A CONTEMPORARY APPROACH TO LAWYERS' METHODS (2d ed. 2023); and accompanying LEGAL REASONING CASE FILES: TEACHER'S MANUAL (2d ed 2023) [1st edition released 2019].

STRATEGIES AND TECHNIQUES FOR ACADEMIC SUPPORT TEACHING (2014).

THE LAWYER'S PRACTICE: *A Context & Practice Case File* (2011); and accompanying THE LAWYER'S PRACTICE: TEACHER'S MANUAL (2011).

articles

The Dinner Party (with Sarah E. Chinn) (forthcoming)

Everything is Complicated: Conjunctions in Legal Thinking, 50 WALLACE STEVENS J. ____ (2026) (forthcoming).

Designing Directed Questions: A Conceptual Blueprint (with Rory Bahadur) 104 U. DET. MERCY L. REV. ____ (2026) (forthcoming).

Defining the Discipline: Six Pillars of Academic Success Programming in Law Schools (with Catherine Martin Christopher) 73 J. LEGAL EDUC. 795 (2024).

How and When Do We Get to Maybe? (review essay re: RICHARD MICHAEL FISCHL & JEREMY R. PAUL, GETTING TO MAYBE 2d ed.) 72 J. LEGAL EDUC. 687 (2023).

Attentive Reading': A South African Example of Law in Context (with Sarah E. Chinn) 21 RUTGERS J. L. & PUB. POLC'Y 286, (2024).

Pass the Salt: Problem Resolution Lawyering Across the 21st Century Law Curriculum, (with F. Peter Phillips) 21 PEPP. DISP. RESOL. L.J. 1 (2023).

How to Bring Your Kids Up Queer (with Noa Ben-Asher) 55 FAM. L.Q. 311 (2022).

Meditations on Teaching What Isn't, 66 N.Y.L.S. L. REV. 387 (2021-2022).

Directed Questions: A Non-Socratic Dialogue About Non-Socratic Teaching (with Rory Bahadur), 99 U. DET. MERCY L. REV. 1 (2021).

How to Train Your Supervisor (with Paula J. Manning,) 42 PACE L. REV. 108 (2021).

Method Lawyering: Immersion Teaching Illustrated, 69 J. LEGAL ED. 334 (2020).

Transsexual, Transgender, Trans: Reading Judicial Nomenclature in Title VII Cases, (with Sarah E. Chinn) 32 BERKELEY J. OF GENDER, L. & JUST. 1 (2017).

Do We Need Subject Matter-Specific Pedagogies? 65 J. LEGAL ED. 839 (2016).

Empathy and Reasoning in Context: Thinking About Anti-Gay Bullying, 23 TULANE J. OF L. & SEXUALITY 61 (2014).

Baton Bullying: Understanding Multi-Aggressor Rotation in Anti-Harassment Cases, 70 NAT. LAWYER'S GUILD L. REV. 174 (2013).

Sim City: Teaching "Thinking Like a Lawyer" in Simulation-Based Clinical Courses, 53 N.Y.L.S. L. REV. 861 (2008-09)

. . . *See Erie.*: *Critical Study of Legal Authority*, 31U.A.L.R.. L. REV. 109 (2008).

The Authoritative Moment: Exploring the Boundaries of Interpretation in the Recognition of Queer Families, 32 WILLIAM MITCHELL L. REV. 655 (2006).

"Theory Saved My Life": The Importance of Theoretical Work in Legal Education, 8 NEW YORK CITY L. REV. 599 (2005).

Homophobia and the "Matthew Shepard Effect" in Lawrence v. Texas, 48 N.Y.L.S. L. REV. 651 (2003-04).

The Rhetorics of Legal Authority: Constructing Authoritativeness, the "Ellen Effect" and the Example of Sodomy Law, 33 RUTGERS L.J. 49 (2001).

Lesbians, Legal Theory, and Other Superheroes, (with Sarah E. Chinn) 25 N.Y.U REV. L. & SOC. CHANGE, 301 (1999).

The Revolution Will Not Be Liberalized, MINNESOTA REVIEW N.S. 40 (Spring/Summer 1993).

I Am What I Am (Or Am I?): The Making and Unmaking of Lesbian and Gay Identity in High Tech Gays v. Defense Industry Security Clearance Office, (with Sarah E. Chinn) 15 DISCOURSES 11 (1992).

A Family Like Any Other Family: Alternative Methods of Defining Families in Law, 18 N.Y.U REV. L. & SOC. CHANGE, 1027 (1991).

**selected
presentations**

Assessment is Learning, AALS Workshop for New Law Teachers, June 2026.

Top 10 Mistakes Not to Make in Your ASP Career, AASE Annual Conference, May 2026.

Crafting Scholarly Work in Legal Education: Insights From Leaders in the Field, AALS Webinar, April 2026.

Moderator, *New Law Scholars Works-in-Progress*, AALS Annual Meeting, January 2026.

Succeeding in Legal Education Research and Publication: Insights from Journal Editors (panelist)
Legal Education Research Conference, University of New South Wales, November 2025

Court-Appointed Neutrals and Legal Education (panelist), Court-Appointed Neutrals Forum, November 2025.

Bridging Doctrinal Silos (with Jamie Kleppetsch & Paula Manning), AccessLex LexCon, November 2025.

Mediation and the NextGen Bar: Crisis or Opportunity? AALS Mediation Think Tank, September 2025.

Training Tomorrow's Problem Solvers Today: Modern Legal Education 32nd, World Forum of Mediation Centres, April 2024.

The NextGen Bar: Will ADR Become a More Central Part of the Core Curriculum?, February 2024.

Whose Law Do We See? Law and Political Economy Association, New York University School of Law, October 2023.

Teaching in the NextGen Classroom: Race, Belonging, Skills, Well-Being & Doctrine, SEALS, (panelist) July 2023.

Assessment Plenary, AALS New Law Teachers Conference, June 2023.

Salt: Using ADR Approaches in Doctrinal Courses (with F. Peter Phillips), 2023 ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Spring Conference, May 2023.

Directed Reading Methodology, ILTL Annual Conference, June 2023.

Teaching Like NextGen Happened, AASE National Conference, May 2023.

Capstone Training for Law Faculty, Fergana, Andijan & Namangan Law Colleges, Uzbekistan (expert consultant for Regional Dialogues) May 2023.

Myth-Busting: Learning Styles as a Pedagogical Tool, AALS Teaching Methods Section Webinar, April 2023.

Empathy in South African Constitutional Reasoning, Johannesburg College of Law Conference, December 2022.

AALS Adjunct Law Faculty Teaching Workshop, July 2022.

Workshop on Law Teaching and Assessment, two-day training designed and conducted for 60+ faculty and graduate students at Tashkent State University of Law, June 2022.

Assessment, AALS New Law Teachers Conference, June 2022.

Categorizing Causes of Student Underperformance and the Strategies for Academic Intervention (group training session), AASE National Conference May 2022.

How to Bring Up Kids Queer: What Paula Ettelbrick Can Teach Us About the Coming LGBTQ+ Fights (with Noa Ben-Asher), NYLS Faculty Scholarship Workshop, February 2022.

Wise Feedback, UC Irvine School of Law Faculty Pedagogy workshop, July 2021

Bringing Our Whole Selves to Our Work (with Yolonda Sewell), AASE National Conference, May 2021.

Drafting and Grading Exams, AALS Faculty Focus spotlight, April 2021.

It Takes Two (with Paula J. Manning), NYLS Faculty Scholarship Workshop, January 2021.

Teaching ADR Equals Teaching Lawyering, “Wednesday Conversation,” November 2021.

Diversity and Inclusion at Law Schools in 2019: Successes and Challenges (panelist), People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference 2019.

Teaching by Immersion, featured presentation in extended conference session, AALS Annual Meeting, January 2019.

Self-Directed Learning in the Socratic Classroom, invited presenter in day-long faculty in-service workshop, DePaul University College of Law, December 2018.

Immersive Family Law, New York Family Law Scholars Colloquium, October 2018.

Assessment, AALS New Law Teachers Conference, June 2018.

Critical Reading Skills, Lawyering Theory Pedagogy Workshop, NYU School of Law, May 2018.

Race Matters: How to Discuss Racial Issues in the Law School Classroom, AASE Inaugural Diversity Conference, October 2017.

Assessment = Teaching, AALS Workshop for New Law Teachers, June 2017.

What Does it Mean to Teach Legal Reasoning?, AASE National Conference, May 2017.

Preparing Students to Learn and Work in Diverse Environments (with Deborah Archer & Kim Hawkins), SALT Teaching Conference, September 2016.

Teaching is Assessing, AALS New Law Teachers’ Conference, June 2016.

Educational Design, Faculty Training, NYU Lawyering Program, NYU School of Law, June 2016.

Developing Legal Theories, AASE National Conference, CUNY School of Law, May 2016.

New Theories of Learning, (Keynote) NY Academic Support Workshop, Brooklyn Law School, April 2016.

Empowering Students to Learn from Their Work, Assoc. of Academic Support Educators National Conference, John Marshall School of Law, May 2015.

Self-Directed Learning in the Socratic Classroom, NYLS Pedagogy Discussion Group, February 2015.

Creating Ownership and Mastery, featured plenary in “Faculty Teaching Day,” Pace University School of Law, February 2015.

Inverted Teaching in the Socratic Classroom, Seton Hall School of Law, September 2014.

But I Understood the Material! Using Visual Thinking Paths to Model the Progression from Novice to Expert (with Paula A. Manning), 16th Biennial Conference of the LWI, June 2014.

Designing Effective ASP Teaching and Learning Experiences (with Rory Bahadur), featured plenary, AASE National Conference, May 2014.

Authentic Critique, NYU School of Law Lawyering Theory Colloquium, June 2014.

Constructing a Lawyering Pedagogy for the Next Generation, Seton Hall School of Law, May 2014.

Who Won?, NYLS Faculty Presentation Day Gay Marriage Roundtable, April 2014. Moderator, *Creating the Legal Pedagogy We Need*, NYLS Faculty Presentation Day, April 2014.

Collaborative Teaching: Doctrine and Lawyering Practice, AALS Annual Meeting, Panel Presentation, January 2013.

Making the Changes You Want to See in the World, UConn Global Leadership Council, April 2012.

Empathy as a Cognitive Reasoning Skill, keynote plenary, Cognitive and Emotional Aspects of Law Learning and Practice Conference, February 2012.

Breaking New Ground in Advocacy Teaching, LWI Regional Conference, December 2011.

Generating Law School Pedagogy to Enhance Student Learning, LSAC Academic Support Newcomers’ Conference, August 2011.

Simulation Pedagogy, NYLS Faculty Colloquium, September 2011.

“Teaching Rounds”: Learning from Close Reading of Pedagogical Moments, NYLS Faculty Colloquium, September 2010.

Games Lawyers Play, Institute for Law Teaching and Learning, June 2010.

The Rhetoric of Anti-Gay Marriage Battles, NYLS, April 2010.

Trust and Interactive Teaching, Institute for Law Teaching and Learning, June 2009.

Iszy, Did You Ask a Good Question Today?, AALS Annual Meeting, joint session panel presentation, January 2009.

Designing for Interactive Teaching, Law School Admission Council National Academic Support Conference, June 2009.

Crafting Legal Authority, Lawyering Pedagogy Colloquium, NYU School of Law, September 2008.

Theorizing Art and Law, LSAC Newcomers Conference, University of Baltimore, June 2008.

Explaining Excellence, Law School Admission Council National Academic Support Conference, June 2007.

Absurdity Doctrine in Lesbian and Gay Family Law, NYLS Faculty Presentation Day, New York Law School, March 2006.

Dangerous Waters in Advocacy for Lesbian and Gay Families, (commentator and moderator) Conference on Lesbian and Gay Adoptions, NYLS May 2005.

New Techniques in Law Teaching (with Karen Gross), NYLS Adjunct Faculty Annual Workshop, April 2005.

The Reasonableness of the "Reasonable Woman Standard," NYLS Law Women Colloquium, Nov. 2004.

Teaching Legal Theory, CUNY Symposium Honoring Prof. Ruthann Robson, November 2004.

The Conceptual Work of Legal Authority, NYU Lawyering Faculty Colloquium, September 2004.

Academic Support, Clinical Legal Education and Contemporary Legal Education, NYLS Faculty Presentation Day, March 2004.

The Crisis of Confidence and the First Year Student, Roger Williams School of Law, February 2004.
Legal Rhetoric in Lawrence v. Texas, NYLS Faculty Colloquium, October 2003.

The Strategic Rhetoric of the "Partial Birth Abortion" Debate, NYLS American Constitution Society Colloquium, March 2003.

other works

Representing Clients in Mediation, 2025 film.

Is Empathy Imperiled?, RADICAL TEACHER (book review) (summer 2014).

Three entries detailing teaching methods anthologized in *TECHNIQUES FOR LAW TEACHING*, GERALD HESS, *et. al.*, (2011).

Love & Marriage, featured commentator in independent film completed in Summer 2007.

King of the Hill, the Changing Face of Drag, (with Sarah E. Chinn & Mildred Gerestant) in BUTCH-

FEMME: INSIDE LESBIAN GENDER

LIFE PLANNING: LEGAL DOCUMENTS & PROTECTIONS FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MEN, an advisory publication of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (1992).

**fellowships
and
prizes**

2026 CPR INSTITUTE AWARD for film: *Representing Clients in Mediation*.

LEGACY IN LEADERSHIP AWARD, AALS Section on Academic Support, AALS 2023.

2020 OTTO L. WALTER prize for best faculty book.

2019 Finalist (with Peggy Cooper Davis, Doni Gewirtzman & Kim Hawkins), LEADING EDGE PRIZE FOR EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION.

2018 Finalist (with Peggy Cooper Davis, Susan Brooks and Susan Kuo), LEADING EDGE PRIZE FOR EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

NYU School of Law Professional Pedagogy Lab (Research Fellow, Summer & Fall 2017).

NYU School of Law Professional Pedagogy Lab (Inaugural Fellow, Fall 2010).

**professional
leadership
& service**

Editor, JOURNAL OF LEGAL EDUCATION, 2024 to present.

Reviewer for promotion and tenure, Southern Illinois University Simmons Law School (2026).

Symposium Organizer, Host, and Moderator (with William P. LaPiana), *Impact, Excellence, Resilience: Contemporary Views on Pioneering Legal Education Scholarship*, October 2025.

Featured Educator, *Representing Clients in Mediation*, alternative dispute resolution training film.

Article Reviewer for promotion and tenure, University of Detroit Mercy, 2025.

Editorial Board Member, JOURNAL OF LAW TEACHING AND LEARNING, 2023 to 2024.

Prototype Reviewer and Drafter, NextGen Bar Examination, National Conference of Bar Examiners, 2022 to 2024.

Article reviewer, LAW & SOCIAL INQUIRY, 2022 to 2025.

Reviewer for promotion and tenure, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law, 2020.

Advisory Board Member, AccesLex, 2017-2022.

Advisory Board Member, Institute for Law Teaching and Learning, 2013-2022.

Advisory Committee Member, NYLS ADR Skills Program, 2014-present.

Editorial Board Member, *Dutch Journal of Feminist Studies* published by the University of Amsterdam, 2016-2020.

Reviewer for promotion, University of Maryland Carey School of Law, 2018. Outside reviewer for promotion and tenure, Seattle University School of Law, 2018.

2015 Chair, AALS Section on Teaching Methods; Chair-Elect 2014; Secretary 2013, Treasurer 2012.

Founder, board member and inaugural Treasurer, Association for Academic Support Educators (AASE) 2012-2015.

Reviewer for tenure, Charlotte School of Law, 2015.

Northeast Regional Consultant, Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO), 2012-2015.

Writer of materials and designer of training for NYLS faculty-led *Difficult Conversations* orientation workshops, 2014.

Consulting Trainer, Alternative Dispute Resolution for EBSA Staff, U.S. Dep't of Labor, March 2014.

Designer and founder of NYLS co-curricular program for dispute resolution competition, 2011.

Convener and drafter of recommended actions for complaints of inter-student harassment, 2012.

Conference Organizer & Host, Institute for Law Teaching and Learning National Conference, June 2011.

Reviewer of for promotion and tenure, Howard University School of Law, 2010.

Reviewer of for promotion and tenure, CUNY School of Law, 2009.

Founder and organizer of New York Academic Support Workshop, 2002-2021
Chair of AALS Section on Academic Support, 2008; Chair-elect 2007; Treasurer 2006; Board member, 2003-2005.

Trainer and Lecturer, Practicing Attorneys for Law Students (PALS) 2005-2012.

Trainer for staff of Legal Services of New York and The Legal Aid Society (1995-2000).

Contributing writer, report issued by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, in support of Assembly Bill 1871 and Senate Bill 720 (proposals to amend New York State Human Rights and Education law to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation).

Contributing writer, *amicus* brief on behalf of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, *Able v. United States* (review of U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell Policy"), submitted to U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, 1998. Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Committee on Sex and the Law, 1997-1999; Lesbian and Gay Rights Committee, 1999-2002.

**practice
experience**

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY, BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICE

Staff Attorney. Responsible for motion practice, hearings, and trial work for indigent clients. Handled extensive housing and related public benefits caseload. Maintained secondary family law practice, including litigation for foster care, child custody, and abuse/neglect cases. Briefed and argued appeals in New York Supreme Court, Appellate Term, and Appellate Division. Trained new attorneys: supervised appearances in court and administrative hearings for new lawyers, law graduates, law students, and paralegals. Interviewed, evaluated, and hired law students for the Brooklyn Office. (August 1992-1996)

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU, NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION ON
HUMAN RIGHTS**

AIDS Unit Intern. Investigated complaints, assisted mediation efforts, drafted legal documents, and prepared litigation on behalf of the Commission in cases of alleged discrimination on the basis of HIV status. (June-August 1991)

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, New York, NY

Legal Intern. Conducted legal research, contributed to briefs *amicus curiae*, drafted educational publications and legal memoranda, answered intake calls and requests for information and assistance. (May 1990-May 1991)

BAR ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, New York, NY

Pro Bono Coordinator. Organized weekly legal clinic, coordinated activities of *pro bono* committee, conducted client interviews and made referrals. (April 1990-May 1991)

**additional
activities**

Designing and building custom furniture

Elected Member, Brooklyn Democratic County Committee (2020-2026)

Board Member, ImPACCT Brooklyn (formerly Pratt-Area Community Council) (2005-2008; 2011-2016)

Community organizer and participant in a wide array of direct-action advocacy groups

Member, Park Slope Jewish Center

Member, Lakeside Brooklyn Curling League