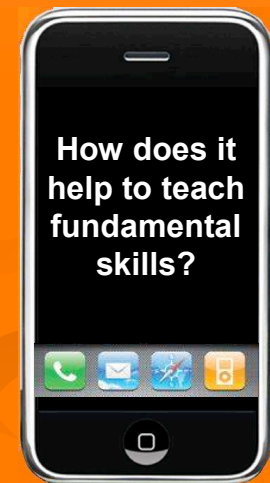


Beyond Etiquette: Bringing E-Communication into the LRW Classroom



- Email and other forms of electronic communication are more commonly used in practice than the traditional memorandum
- LRW programs should try to include more informal writing assignments to reflect trends in legal practice
- Students who have grown up with e-communication for personal use don't know how to use it in a professional context

- “Digital Natives” are more comfortable with e-communication, so it is easier to put themselves in the position of the reader
- Providing a “quick answer” that will be read on-screen allows students to see the importance of organization and context
- It highlights the need for a professional tone and the norms of legal communication



- Have a class discussion about electronic communication: variations, norms, and how it can be different from more formal writing
- Replace the Brief Answer in an existing assignment with an email asking students to summarize their findings in anticipation of a meeting with the client
- Introduce a simple research assignment by email, with a request that students answer by email in turn

