

My metaphor is that teaching law is like teaching someone to fly – except that I do the part before they have access to the plane or the flight simulator!

Learning to fly and learning to practice law both require that the student let go of preconceived ideas and learn rules and regulations that apply in no other sphere, but where misunderstanding can lead to serious consequences for them and for others.

I see my role as teacher in this light – I reveal to students both the mechanics of the processes to get the job done as well as the reasons those mechanics are necessary. Since the mechanics are constantly changing understanding the reasons behind them is the most important part. I highlight by example the potential perils they may face and help them recognize the landmarks and the “red flags” where extra caution is necessary. Then I pass them on to employers who will complete their training in the “in flight” mode. I can only hope that all my birds have gained the skills to fly!