This course is about the specialized, sometimes arcane, always powerful language in which Anglo–American law is written and through which it is enacted. Though we will focus on the United States, we will do so within the broader context of English Common Law. We will learn about the Anglo–Saxton and Latin roots of legal English. We will also consider the role written language plays in transmitting law from generation to generation in the form of statutes, precedents, and case law, and we will consider the role of spoken language in in–court interactions.