

UMass Mock Trial

General Information Packet

2025 – 2026



What is Mock Trial?

Mock Trial is an academic competition that involves students performing as both attorneys and witnesses in a fictional trial based on a case packet provided by the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA). We then get to travel and compete against other schools across the country!

INFO SESSIONS:

September 8th,
9th, and 10th

TRYOUTS:

September 13th
and 14th

BOOTCAMP:

September 20th
and 21st

Why should you join?

Mock Trial helps you build strong public speaking and presentation skills while connecting with legal professionals, judges, and students from across the country. Our team travels to tournaments throughout the year, giving you the chance to explore new places and compete at a high level. Just as importantly, you'll build real connections with your teammates and form a close community that supports one another both in and out of the courtroom.

umassmock@gmail.com | [@umassamherstmock](https://www.instagram.com/umassamherstmock)

Meet the EBoard!



Viola Li
President

"This will be my fourth year on the Mock Trial Team. I'm a Neuroscience Major and I'm from Westborough, MA!"

Isabella Klink
Senior Vice President

"This will be my third year on the Mock Trial Team. I'm a Legal Studies Major and Psychology Minor and I'm from Buffalo, NY!"



Malie Geery
Vice President of Finance

"This will be my second year on the Mock Trial Team and I'm a History and Chinese Major! I'm from Hadley, MA"



Meet the EBoard!



Samantha Fung

Vice President of Logistics

"I'm a Legal Studies Major and Econ Minor from Long Island, NY. This will be my third year on the team!"

Blake Mallah

Director of Fundraising

"I'm a Political Science Major and this will be my second year on the team. I'm from Harrisburg, PA!"



Jane Whitcomb

Director of Social Media

"I'm Psychology Major and this will be my second year on the team. I'm from Lake Elmo, MN!"



What is Mock Trial? (cont.)

What is Mock Trial?

Mock Trial is a simulation of a real trial where students take on the roles of attorneys and witnesses. We put on a case in front of judges, who are usually real legal professionals, and they score individual students on their performances. Once both sides present their case, the team with the highest combined score wins the round.

Each year, the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) releases a brand-new case that sets the stage for the season. Teams spend the fall preparing and competing at invitational tournaments to practice and improve. Starting in January, the official season begins with Regionals, followed by the Open Round Championships (ORCS), and then Nationals, where the top 48 teams in the country compete. Our team takes competition seriously, and our goal is always to make it all the way to Nationals.

A note for new members:

We don't expect you to know how trials or scoring work right away. Every single person on our team started out in the same place, and many of our strongest competitors had no prior mock experience or legal background when they joined. We dedicate a significant part the start of our season to teaching new members everything they need to know, and even our returning members are still learning new skills at every practice. Don't let unfamiliarity or nerves hold you back! Mock Trial is something you learn by doing, and we'll guide you through every step.



What is the commitment level?

Excellent question!

The UMass Mock Trial team practices **every Tuesday and Thursday from 7–9 PM**. In addition to these practices, you should expect to spend 2–3 hours of your own time working on material. This time will vary depending on the week. Please note that the week leading up to a tournament, we will practice **every day from 7–9 PM**, and you are **required to attend tournaments**. You will be attending at least two tournaments in the fall and at least one in the spring. It is certainly very possible to participate in other extracurriculars, but your success on this team will be dependent on the time and effort you are willing to put in.

Here is an example schedule. It is possible some times may change as we get into October, but this is pretty accurate to our actual schedule for the month of October. Most importantly, our first tournament IS on October 25th and 26th. If you are not available that weekend, it is important to let us know.

EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				7PM–9PM Practice		
5	6	7	8	9	10	12
		7PM–9PM Practice		7PM–9PM Practice		Scrimmage 1PM–4PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		7PM–9PM Practice		7PM–9PM Practice		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	7PM–9PM Practice	7PM–9PM Practice	7PM–9PM Practice	7PM–9PM Practice	Travel to Tournament	Tournament (8AM–6PM)
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Tournament (8AM–6PM) + Travel Back		7PM–9PM Practice		7PM–9PM Practice		

These are all the important dates you need to know as a prospective member for the month of September.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		First Day of Classes				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Info Session I 6:30-7:30PM	Info Session II 6:30-7:30PM	Info Session III 6:30-7:30PM			Tryouts
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Tryouts	You will find out if you made the team			Rookie Bootcamp		Full-team Bootcamp 10AM-4PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Full-team Bootcamp 11AM-3PM		Team Practice 7PM-9PM		Team Practice 7PM-9PM		
28	29	30				
		Team Practice 7PM-9PM		Team Practice 7PM-9PM		

**Bootcamp is our mandatory orientation and training for all team members. If you're completely new to the team, you'll additionally attend the Rookie Bootcamp where we'll spend some of that time explaining more about the ins-and-outs of Mock Trial. At the full-team bootcamp, we will be going over this year's case with the whole team and getting to know each other!*



To hear us talk about all this stuff and more, even if you're undecided about trying out, come to an info session! The info session dates are:

September 8 at 6:30 PM

September 9 at 6:30 PM

September 10 at 6:30 PM

**YOU MUST ATTEND
AN INFO SESSION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN
A TRYOUT SLOT.**

We will also be at the Activities Expo in the Student Union Ballroom on Monday, September 8th, from 11:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Stop by and say hi!



Thank you for your interest in UMass Mock Trial!



We hope you join our Mock Trial family and join us on the road to Nationals! If you have any questions at all, don't hesitate to shoot us an email or DM us on Instagram. We look forward to seeing you all at tryouts!!

Best,
The UMass Mock Trial Captains

umassmock@gmail.com | [@umassamherstmock](https://www.instagram.com/umassamherstmock)