Program Sample Agendas

Using Grit and Growth Mindset to Advance Women in the Law

The sample agendas serve as guides for developing your own program using the tools offered by the Grit Project. The agendas are intended to be a starting point rather than a prescription for how a Grit Program might run.

Suggested Personalization:

- Substitute other grit scenarios or films into proposed agendas.
- Restructure the format by including a panel or a consultant to reflect on what people have learned from grit and a growth mindset. For a list of potential speakers who have worked on the Grit Project, see the Grit Project Speaker’s Bureau available on ambar.org/grit.
- Explore different methods of learning. For example, you might encourage your small groups to write down some of their key takeaways from their group discussion on large pieces of paper and post around the room. This way, visual learners can absorb more about grit and a growth mindset.
- Encourage participants to take the grit and mindset psychological tests at the beginning of the event or before the event to save time. The grit and growth mindset research PowerPoint can be presented in 20 minutes, so on the agendas, there is 10 minutes allotted for the test taking.*

Sample Agenda
Grit Presentation and Discussion of Two Scenarios
(Running Time = 1:00)

1. Presentation on grit and mindset research (12:00 - 12:30)*
2. Presentation of Scenario 1: Overwhelmed Associate (12:30 - 12:45)
   a. Play Scenario 1 (12:30-12:35)
   b. Among small groups, talk about discussion questions. (12:35 - 12:45)
2. Presentation of Scenario 2: Bullying in a Deposition (12:45-12:55)
   a. Play Scenario 2 (12:45-12:50)
   b. Among small groups, talk about discussion questions. (12:50-12:55)
3. Close Program. (12:55-1:00)
Sample Agenda
Grit Presentation and Discussion of Two Scenarios
(Running Time = 1:30)

1. Presentation on grit and mindset research (12:00 - 12:30)*
2. Presentation of Scenario 1: Overwhelmed Associate (12:30 - 12:55)
   a. Play Scenario 1 (12:30-12:35)
   b. Among small groups, talk about discussion questions. (12:35 - 12:50)
   c. (Optional) Present the results of small group discussions. (12:50-12:55)
3. Presentation of Scenario 2: Bullying in a Deposition (12:55-1:20)
   a. Play Scenario 2 (12:55-1:00)
   b. Among small groups, talk about discussion questions. (1:00-1:15)
   c. (Optional) Present the results of small group discussions to the large groups. (1:15-1:20)
4. Ask participants to set individual goals to apply grit or a growth mindset to their careers. (1:20-1:25)
5. Close program. (1:25 - 1:30)

Leveraging Your Content – and Spreading the Word about Your Good Work

- Appoint scribes charged with taking detailed notes of your program. Use the scribe’s notes to create a follow-up article to be published by the association or its member publication/periodical or to blog about the event. If such an article is produced, circulate it widely to participants, leaders of local law firms, and interested parties and post it on the association’s website, with appropriate metatags so that it is picked up by search engines and increases web traffic.

- Distribute news of the program and follow-up report or article in social media.

- Consider taping all or part of the program to create podcasts and post online.

We at the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession would appreciate receiving a copy of any such articles and a summary of your comments about the program. We are also happy to answer your questions and include your alternative agendas on our website. If you have questions or ideas about other ways to present the grit program, please email Natale Fuller at natale.fuller@americanbar.org.