

| Spring 2026 JD Course Descriptions | | |
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| Course Name | Professor | Description |
| Advanced Bankruptcy | B. Rucker | Students will develop a deeper understanding of debt collection in the state and bankruptcy court systems; examine key bankruptcy legal issues requiring advocacy in both consumer and non-consumer bankruptcy cases; and, learn negotiation skills and tactics helpful to resolving debtor/creditor disputes before and after a bankruptcy filing. Prerequisite: Bankruptcy. |
| Advanced Criminal Law and Procedure Seminar: The Wire | B. Boyd | This course will explore the legal and policy issues raised by the HBO series The Wire. Among the topics covered will be searches, confessions, manipulation of crime statistics, race and the criminal justice system, incentives for charging and dismissing cases, honesty and accountability of law enforcement, government power and success/failure in the war on drugs, and the distribution of resources in the criminal justice system. In addition to class participation, grades will be determined based on a final paper. |
| Advanced Externships Seminar | A. Menendez | The Advanced Externship course is designed for students in a second or subsequent externship experience and builds upon their prior learning through individualized mentorship and self-directed reflection. Instead of in-person seminars, students will participate in one-on-one meetings and complete reflective assignments tailored to their specific field placement challenges and career goals. |
| Advising Commercial Business Clients | P. Nguyen | This course teaches students to look at a project through the lens of supporting a single client's project from inception through commercialization. Students will combine their existing training related to contract interpretation, drafting, and negotiation with skills developed to better understand business goals, legal risks, and situational context to provide practical and efficient legal advice. These skills include communicating with clients to understand the client's business goals, identifying immediate and long-term risks, providing legal advice that balances identified risk with business goals and market realities, and understanding that identical clauses have different consequences in different contracts. |
| American Indian Law | C. Griffith Hotvedt E. Parker | Study of the domestic federal law of the United States as it applies to Native Americans and their tribes. The general concept of tribal self-determination is the unifying theme of the course. Particular topics include tribal sovereignty and government; American Indian civil rights; administration of justice on and off the reservation; American Indian land claims; land, hunting, and fishing rights; water rights; American Indian health, education, and welfare; Bureau of Indian Affairs; state taxation; individual and tribal treaty rights; federal Indian policy; and zoning and environmental controls. Offered online only. |
| American Legal History | B. Brady | This course explores major developments in American law, politics, and society from the Civil War to the present. We will begin by examining the Reconstruction Amendments and their erosion during Jim Crow. We will next consider competing visions of law's role in regulating a rapidly changing economy, focusing on the Lochner Era and the New Deal. In addition, we will explore how law affected the United States' rise as a world power and consider how global events reshaped American law and society at home. Finally, we will consider the triumph of legal liberalism's vision of the Supreme Court as a force for progressive social change, as well as the backlash reflected in the emergence of the conservative legal movement. Throughout, we will pay particular attention to legal ideology and the changing role of lawyers and the legal profession. Class will combine lectures with discussion of primary sources. |
| Antitrust | S. Foster | Federal anti-trust laws and their relationship to concentrations of economic power in the contexts of monopoly mergers, price fixing, economic boycotts and discrimination, re-sale price maintenance, dealer franchises, and exclusive dealing. Comparative analysis of free enterprise market and government regulated industries. Recommended for second- and third-year students interested in business practice or government service, as well as social welfare, or students with an interest in the subject. |
| Arkansas Constitutional Law | H. Brill | This course covers provisions of the Arkansas Constitution, including the Declaration of Rights, the separation of powers, the power of the executive and legislative branches, sovereign immunity, independent commissions, amendments and initiated acts, education, elections and term limits, taxation and exemptions, taxpayer lawsuits, gambling and lotteries, local governments, and other topics. |
| Arkansas Law Review Credit | B. Brady | Law review credit. |
| Art and the Law | D. Bousquet D. Fernandez-Barkan | This course introduces students to the complex and evolving relationship between art and legal systems. What commonalities do post-Enlightenment definitions of aesthetics share with modern legal frameworks? How do the fields of art and law conflict? Co-taught by a law professor and an art historian, the seminar takes an interdisciplinary approach to a range of topics—including artists' rights, the regulation of art markets, and cultural property and repatriation. We explore these issues through cases and articles, guest speakers, and visits to relevant sites. Students will conclude their course work with an original research paper on a related topic of their choosing. |
| Board of Advocates | A. Hurst | Members of the Board of Advocates may receive ungraded academic credit, to be awarded in the spring semester of the member's third year in law school, upon completion of duties for the fall and spring semesters. |
| Business & Professional Planning for Law Practice | R. Moore | This class is intended to prepare students for the business and professional aspects of practicing law. Course topics will focus on law firm economics (from client payment to partner distribution and all points in between); professional mindset and goals; client relationships; and other essential aspects of successful law practice. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the material through creating their own law practice plan. |
| Business & Transactional Skills | C. Rose | Synthesis of legal principles dealing with taxation and form of business organizations to provide guidance in choosing form and operating business entities. |
| Choice of Business Entities | C. Goforth | This is a one-credit, asynchronous distance class taught during the first eight weeks of the semester. This class is designed to help students understand the comparative advantages and disadvantages of various forms of business, including sole proprietorships, general partnerships and LLPs, limited partnerships and LLPs, LLCs, and both C and S Corporations. The course will consider difficulties associated with forming and operating businesses in each of these formats, including basic tax issues that may face clients. It will also explore the possible benefits associated with choice of organizational form, and providing information about representing clients who need to choose between these forms of organization. |
| Choice of Business Entity | C. Goforth | Choice of Business Entity is a fully online, asynchronous one-credit class offered during the first half of the semester. It will review various options for organizing a for-profit business and covers both the strengths and weaknesses of each option. Ethical rules for helping clients choose between the available options are also part of the course. There are multiple graded assessments (objective quizzes and short drafting exercises) with deadlines for each (typically at the rate of one per week), but the class can be completed more quickly if a student so desires. |
| Clinic: Adv. Civ. Lit. & Adv | A. Smith | Students will represent low-income clients seeking to enforce their rights in civil matters. Under close faculty supervision, students will develop and refine their ability to effectively and ethically practice law. Students will handle all aspects of client representation, including interviewing and counseling, fact investigation and discovery, negotiation, and court appearances. Students will also participate in a weekly seminar and may have the opportunity to engage in other forms of advocacy. Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 2.00, successful completion of 48 semester hours, including Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, and Professional Responsibility, and qualifying for Rule XV practice. |
| Clinic: Adv. Community and Rural Enterprise Development | P. Norman | Students will represent low-income clients seeking to enforce their rights in civil matters. Under close faculty supervision, students will develop and refine their ability to effectively and ethically practice law. Students will handle all aspects of client representation, including interviewing and counseling, fact investigation and discovery, negotiation, and court appearances. Students will also participate in a weekly seminar and may have the opportunity to engage in other forms of advocacy. Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 2.00, successful completion of 48 semester hours, including Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, and Professional Responsibility, and qualifying for Rule XV practice. |
| Clinic: Civil Litigation & Advocacy | A. Smith | Students will represent small businesses, non-profits, cooperatives, and small municipalities throughout Arkansas. Under faculty supervision, students are lead attorneys on their matters, interviewing clients, conducting research, drafting legal documents, and counseling clients on their options. Students approach lawyering from a client-centered perspective, developing a deep understanding of their clients' goals and the context in which they operate, while fostering their clients' autonomy and efficacy. Through client work and the weekly seminar, students learn to break down complex real-world legal issues, engage in self-directed study of new fields of law, manage professional relationships, and reflect critically on the ethical and strategic implications of their lawyering choices. Prerequisite: LAWW 5013 Professional Responsibility and all other qualifications for Rule XV practice. |
| Clinic: Community and Rural Enterprise Development | P. Norman | Immigration Clinic will provide opportunities for students preparing for a career in immigration law or general practice by developing skills that are critical in legal practice through an experiential learning model. Working under the supervision of a clinical faculty member, students will represent sectors of the immigrant population for graded credit. Criminal Procedure and Professional Responsibility are prerequisites, as well as the completion of at least forty-eight credit hours prior to enrollment. Prerequisite: LAWW 5013 Professional Responsibility. |
| Conflict of Laws | B. Brady | In our interconnected, mobile society, cases and transactions may be subject to more than one state's law. This course examines the competing theories of choice of law for such cases and transactions, jurisdictional and other constitutional limits on state authority, the recognition of foreign judgments, and the extraterritoriality of federal law abroad. |
| Constitutional Law | B. Brady/J. Thorlin | An introduction to the basic principles of constitutional law and to current constitutional doctrines and problems. The primary focus will be on the structure of the federal system and on the rights of individuals under the Due Process and Equal Protection clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments. |
| Construction Industry Contracting and Dispute Resolution Practices | C. Circo | This online course offers law students and students in the Master of Science in Construction Management program the opportunity to collaborate in a virtual learning environment. In the first segment of this interdisciplinary course, students explore contractual aspects of alternative project delivery systems, learn to apply basic contract drafting principles, and engage in drafting exercises and projects. Next, they learn fundamental principles of contract and settlement negotiations and engage in exercises and projects to simulate negotiations involving common circumstances that industry participants encounter in structuring and managing projects. In the final segment, students use exercises and projects to simulate the processes of preparing for and attempting to resolve disputes through settlement negotiations, mediation, arbitration, and litigation. This course approaches all these skills from the perspectives of different industry participants, including project owners, designers, general building contractors, specialty contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and construction lenders. For law students, the course has been approved for experiential learning credit. |
| Contracts | A. Newbern/ R. Anderson | Formation and enforcement by litigation and commercial arbitration of commercial and family agreements. Mutual assent or consideration; third-party beneficiaries; assignments; joint obligation; performance; anticipatory breach; discharge of contractual duties; and the Statute of Frauds. |
| Copyright Law | U. Ewelukwa | This course will provide an overview of copyright law, the legal regime that governs rights in original and expressive works of authorship (such as books, music, movies, photographs, dance, sculptures, paintings, etc.). The course begins with copyright's underlying policies and theoretical framework. It then examines the requirements for copyrightability, the bundle of rights that make up copyright, fair use and other exceptions and limitations to copyrights, copyright ownership and transfer of rights, moral rights, copyright duration, contributory and vicarious liability, copyright in the digital age and the age of artificial intelligence, international protection of copyrights, and remedies for copyright infringement. This course will not address patent, trademark and other intellectual property protection issues other than in a highly abbreviated fashion for purposes of distinguishing those types of protection from copyright. Prerequisites: None |
| Copyright Law | U. Ewelukwa | The nature of the rights, acquisition and enforcement, and property and contract interests in copyrights. |

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| Criminal Law | B. Boyd/ T. Murphy | Deals with the questions of what conduct society punishes through a criminal code and of the appropriate punishment for the forbidden conduct. In this context the course includes an analysis of the theories of punishment, the definitions of various crimes, the defenses available to one charged with criminal conduct, and the limitations placed by the Constitution on governmental power in the criminal law area. Throughout the course, special emphasis is placed on the legislature's role in creating statutes alongside the judiciary's corresponding role in interpreting those statutes. |
| Criminal Procedure: Adjudication | K. Eaton | This course focuses on prosecuting crime. Principal topics include: the prosecutor's decision to charge, the role of defense counsel, initial appearance, bail and pretrial release, grand juries and preliminary hearings, discovery, guilty pleas and plea bargaining, speedy trial, double jeopardy, trials and pretrial motions, sentencing and post-conviction remedies. |
| Deposition Practice | K. Tucker | This skills-based course provides a practical, hands-on approach to understanding the real-world deposition process. After a brief review of the federal and Arkansas state rules governing depositions, students will dive into the key strategies, best practices, and common pitfalls of taking and defending depositions. Students will draft deposition notices, prepare outlines and exhibits, and develop effective witness preparation techniques. The course also includes analysis of deposition transcripts. |
| Effective Corporate Compliance | P. Pesek | This course provides a high-level overview of the importance and structure of an effective compliance program within a business, with the purpose of mitigating legal risk. The Federal Sentencing Guidelines specify the elements of an effective compliance program, and some federal agencies like have interpreted these or implemented them through regulation. Corporations are facing an ever-changing regulatory environment in a multitude of sectors, and this course prepares students with a foundational level of how compliance professionals build effective compliance programs, so as a relevant fact pattern to bring the course material to life. Students who choose to work for a corporation (even in the legal department) will need to be familiar with how that corporation implements the elements of an effective compliance program, so as to effectively defend or advise the corporation. |
| Employment Discrimination | B. Bullock | This course focuses on the study of the significant cases and statutes that protect employees from discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability, with emphasis on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. |
| Environmental Torts | R. Noland | Environmental Torts is an in-depth study of environmental property damage cases involving explosions, flooding, pesticide spray drift, oil spills, water contamination, and other environmental conditions. The course focuses on the common law causes of action of negligence, nuisance, trespass, and strict liability. The five class sessions cover the elements of those causes of action, common environmental tort fact patterns, defenses, ancillary issues, and measures of damage. |
| Essential Legal Research | D. Bell | This course covers the research techniques, books, and databases essential to practicing law. Skills developed include creating a research plan to solve specific practice problems, identifying and locating all of the case law, regulations, and statutes on a question in a jurisdiction and determining their current status through later citation, accessing government documents, assessing what statutes and regulations are in force at a given time, locating or creating legislative histories, locating foreign law, locating international law, determining how best to use treatises, monographs, and journals, and developing elementary skills in finding and utilizing materials and resources from other disciplines, such as medicine, science, or the social sciences. |
| Estate Planning | R. Hurst | Students are strongly encouraged to take either Wills, Trust and Estates or Federal Estate and Gift Taxation prior to taking the course. |
| Evidence | B. Bullock | Study of the rules of evidence under which trials are conducted; the methods by which items of evidence and admitted or excluded; relevancy, real evidence, testimonial proof, and hearsay and its exceptions. |
| Externship Seminar (Required for first time externs only) | A. Menendez | Intigration of legal doctrine, theory, skills and legal ethics in a realworld professional setting. In the academic component of the course, students will explore how they can learn from experience, specifically experience working with clients, solving problems and developing a sense of who they are and the kind of lawyer they want to be. |
| Externships | A. Menendez | Intigration of legal doctrine, theory, skills and legal ethics in a realworld professional setting. In the academic component of the course, students will explore how they can learn from experience, specifically experience working with clients, solving problems and developing a sense of who they are and the kind of lawyer they want to be. |
| Family Law | D. Bousquet | Survey of family law, including the statutory law of domestic relations as well as constitutional restraints on the state's regulation of the family. Topics covered include, but are not limited to, divorce, child custody, domestic violence, reproductive rights, and family privacy. |
| Federal Income Tax of Business Entities | W. Foster | Focus on tax issues in business formation, operation, distributions, and liquidations. |
| First Amendment | D. Rice | An in-depth examination of the Supreme Court's First Amendment jurisprudence, with an emphasis on core free-speech doctrines and modern developments concerning the Free Exercise Clause and Establishment Clause. |
| From Law School to Courtroom: Practical Skills for New Attorneys | T. Snively | |
| Independent Legal Research | TBD | Independent legal research conducted under the supervision of faculty members. Ordinarily a student may not accumulate more than two semester hours of credit for Independent Legal Research. This cumulative maximum may be exceeded only by special permission of the dean, who in exceptional circumstances may approve a cumulative maximum credit of three semester hours of credit for Independent Legal Research. |
| Interschool Competition Team | A. Hurst | Interschool Competition Team provides an avenue for outstanding student advocates to register their completion of a rigorous interschool competition for purposes of academic credit. Students may register for this credit after satisfying the standards for approval of non-graded credit for Interschool Competition Credit, as outlined in the University of Arkansas School of Law Board of Advocates Bylaws and relevant Bylaw and Academic Standards provisions, as promulgated by the Faculty. |
| Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiation | C. Kelly | This course provides instruction and practice in interviewing and counseling clients and in negotiating on behalf of clients in a wide variety of situations. In addition to teaching strategies and techniques, the course will provide extensive practice through the use of simulated exercises. When you complete this course, you should be familiar with the most common interviewing, counseling, and negotiating techniques and strategies, and you should be able to implement those techniques and strategies in many different situations that lawyers face. |
| Intro to Commodity Regulation | C. Goforth | This is a one-credit, asynchronous distance class taught during the first eight weeks of the semester. This course will introduce students to the ways in which commodities transactions are regulated in the U.S. under the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA). Issues covered include understanding how derivatives trading works, the roles of various market professionals, regulation and oversight by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), and public and private enforcement under the CEA. Some attention will be given to the question of whether the CFTC's authority should be expanded to cover the physical commodities markets. |
| Intro to Insider Trading | C. Goforth | This is a one-credit, asynchronous distance class taught during the first eight weeks of the semester. It will provide an overview of the prohibition against insider trading on the basis of material, non-public information in connection with the purchase and sale of securities. The focus is on the federal securities laws and regulations promulgated thereunder, with a particular emphasis on Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 10b-5, and section 14(e) and Rule 14e-3. Course coverage will include liability by conventional and constructive insiders, persons who misappropriate confidential information, tippers and tippees, and those who aid and abet such conduct. Short-swing profit liability for a more limited class of insiders under sections 16(a) and (b) will also be covered. |
| Journal Food Law & Policy | S. Schneider | Students receive credit for completion of duties on the Law School's publication of The Journal of Food Law & Policy. |
| Juvenile Justice | T. Jones | This course explores the juvenile justice system in this country. Topics covered will include: the philosophical reasons why juveniles are treated differently than adults, the laws and procedures that govern this system, practical insights to practicing in this system, and exploration of constitutional issues that may arise. |
| Land Use | S. Clowney | Covers public land use controls such as zoning, subdivision regulations, and eminent domain (including private property rights, takings, and inverse condemnation). Heavy emphasis is placed on planning at state and local levels. |
| Law and Accounting | R. Anderson | Study of basic accounting principles and their importance to attorneys engaged in business related activities. Topics covered include the fundamental accounting equation, the nature of accrual accounting, understanding financial statements, and accounting for assets and liabilities. Also a review of basic principles associated with financial statement analysis and valuation principles, including the time value of money. Intended for students with little or no business training, and may not be taken for credit by students who have previously earned 3 or more hours of undergraduate or graduate credit in accounting courses. (Typically offered: Irregular) |
| Legal Research & Writing II | A. Killenbeck, A. Fisher, A. Hurst, D. Weatherby | An introduction to the persuasive writing for trial and appellate courts. Emphasis will be placed on intermediate library research techniques and basic legal research using computers. Students will also engage in brief-writing and appellate argumentation. |
| Major Felonies | S. Phillips | Students explore the specifics of the criminal code and criminal procedure in Arkansas from detention and arrest through prosecution, plea negotiation, trial, and appeal. |
| Mastering Legal Analysis | T. Jordan | In this course students will revisit and expand upon the core principles of legal analysis. This course will be based on an active-learning model with a focus on practicing legal analysis under time-pressured conditions. The professor will provide extensive individualized feedback on exercises. The materials for this course will largely be drawn from the written portions of the bar exam (both Arkansas and UBE). |
| Military Law | G. Ham | This seminar explores the nature and function of contemporary military justice, the application of international human rights, and strategies for reform. Topics will include the roles of the commander; unlawful command, presidential-, and congressional-influence; constitutional rights of military personnel; court-martial jurisdiction and offenses; judicial independence; punishment; military commissions; and summary (nonjudicial) proceedings. |
| Natural Resources Law | S. Gosman | This course examines the laws and policies governing the use of natural resources. Natural resources include forests, water, and wildlife, as well as hard rock minerals, coal, oil, and natural gas. We will discuss who owns these resources, how they are used or managed, and how their use is regulated. The course will also consider the laws governing management of public lands, such as national parks, monuments, and wilderness areas. Throughout the course, we will examine the values at stake in natural resource use and protection, the conflicts between public and private use, and the challenges inherent in natural resource management. |
| Patent Law | D. Pieper | Study of the patent system of the United States, including conditions for a valid patent, procedures of the patent office, and litigation relating to patents. |
| Privacy Law | D. Cook | Information Privacy and Security Law will explore arguments regarding the importance of informational privacy and provide an overview of U.S. laws and regulations including those protecting the privacy of children, students, employees, patients, customers, and citizens. Special attention will be given to the expanding role of the FTC as well as the importance of risk management. Additional issues include artificial intelligence, government surveillance, drones, mobile device tracking, facial recognition technology, data breach response, online behavioral advertising, and use of "big data." The sectoral nature of US privacy law and the influence of international laws and frameworks will also be covered. |
| Professional Responsibility | D. Bousquet | Role of the lawyer as counselor, advocate, and public servant; obligation to society of the individual lawyer and the profession as a whole; ethical problems of the profession; representation of the unpopular cause and the desirable client, lawyers' obligation to law reform; lawyer and the press; the lawyer in public service; the aspects of law office management. |

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| | | <p>Public international law is the body of law that governs relations between states in the international system and, increasingly, regulates the treatment of individuals and corporations by states as well as the treatment of individuals and groups by corporations. The scope and importance of public international have expanded dramatically in the last century, as a result of acceleration in global trade and investment; the rise of transnational corporations; the escalation of international armed conflict; rapid deterioration of the global environment; a steady increase in the number of global public health threats; the growing transience of so-called "rogue states," and increased international awareness of large-scale human rights violations. With increased warnings about global warming and climate change, new public health threats like Ebola, and genocide unfolding in several corners of the globe, and global supply chains extending to the far reaches of the globe, whether public international law is evolving to meet new challenges is a question on the mind of many.</p> <p>This course will serve as a basic introduction to the rules, procedures, institutions, and actors that are involved in the development, enforcement, and adjudication of public international law. We will cover the nature and sources of international law; the law of state responsibility; the role and influence of states, transnational corporations, and international organizations; the use of force; and international dispute resolution. Time permitting, the course will survey specific fields within international law such as human rights, law of the sea, and international investment law.</p> <p>Throughout the course, emphasis will be on current challenges and pressures including those posed by global warming, increased economic and financial globalization, and the emergence of a multi-polar world. According to Professor José Alvarez, NYU Law, "International law is challenged by two myths on which it is built: the premise that only states matter and that they are all equal." This course is about exploring and evaluating the myths that serve as the foundation of public international law and matching them up with present-day realities.</p> <p>Pre-requisite(s): None Co-requisite(s): None</p> |
| Public International Law | U. Ewelukwa | |
| Real Estate Transactions | J. Joyce | Focuses on real estate transfer, real estate finance and real estate development. Issues relating to the sale of land and conveyances of real property, mortgages and the planning, financing, constructing and marketing of modern real estate developments are treated. |
| Regulation of Cryptotransactions | C. Goforth | This is an upper-level elective designed to introduce students to the regulatory environment in which cryptotransactions currently operate. While the focus is on U.S. law, international developments will also be mentioned more briefly. Class will start with an overview of terms and concepts, along with the history of money and blockchain developments. Then regulation of crypto as currency, as a commodity, and as a security under federal law will be covered. State laws and international law will illustrate a variety of alternative regulatory approaches. Taxation of crypto will not be covered in any depth. There are no pre-requisites. |
| Rule of Law Colloquium | C. Kelley | This course's purpose is to help you answer this question: What does the rule of law mean to you? Its goal is to encourage you to think about this questions throughout your career. This course will examine four board topics: what is the rule of law and why does it matter; the role of the rule of law in economic development; the role of the rule of law in post-conflict and other transitional societies; and the causes, consequences, and cures of corruption. The course materials will be distributed to you- this course does not use a textbook. you will be asked to participate in class discussion and to write an essay during the exam period. Your essay may be an essay explaining what the rule of law means to you. |
| Student Coordinating Attorney | TBD | The School of Law recognizes the educational value of placements under the supervision of licensed, experienced attorneys, and offers students the possibility of public service learning opportunity serving as a student coordinating attorney for 2-3 credits of ungraded credit if approved by the designated Faculty Supervisor. This option shall be available only to a student with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 who has successfully completed 30 hours of Law School classes including Professional Responsibility, and who has obtained and submitted at least one recommendation from a faculty member who has had student in at least one class in the past 12 months. A student coordinating attorney is a pro-bono position involving exposure to real world situations, involving some aspect of public service, where a lawyer's expertise and insights will be called for and can be observed. Placement is restricted to the courses offered in the all of the clinics offered at the law school. This position covers an entire semester (15 weeks during the spring and fall, and 10-12 weeks during the summer). For a two-credit student coordinating attorney position, the average work load must be no less than 8 hours per week in the fall and spring, or 10 hours per week in the summer. For a three-credit student coordinating attorney position, the average work load would be no less than 12 hours per week in the fall and spring, or 15 hours per week in the summer. Application required and must be completed in writing and delivered to the Faculty Supervisor no later than October 15 of the preceding semester for a spring semester student coordinating attorney position, no later than March 15 for a summer or fall semester student coordinating attorney position. |
| The Risk of Toxic Substances: Regulation & Torts | S. Gosman | This course explores the problem of toxics: substances arguably necessary to our industrialized society with the potential to cause injury to human health and the environment. How should government manage the risk of these substances? And what is the role of common law in compensating those who are exposed? The course will be divided into two parts. First, we will discuss federal statutes that control the production, use, and release of toxics into the environment, such as laws that govern safe drinking water and pesticides. We will consider the regulatory approaches taken to control the risk of toxics, including outright bans, balancing of risks and benefits, and information disclosure. Second, we will discuss toxic torts, the common law actions for injuries from exposure. Our discussion will focus on substantive law—theories of liability, proof, and remedies—as well as the difficulties encountered in expanding the traditional tort paradigm to encompass injuries that may not appear for decades and may have other causes. |
| The UN Human Rights System | K. McCall-Smith | Advanced Contract Drafting is an upper-level course that teaches basic practical contract skills by having students work "in role" as lawyers undertaking various contract drafting tasks in a series of exercises. The course will be taught by an Adjunct Professor, who is a retired General Counsel with significant experience in drafting, editing, and negotiating thousands of contracts. While the skills taught will be basic, they will also be translatable to more sophisticated contracts. The course will feature lectures and class discussions regarding the various components of a contract, and in-class contract issue-spotting and drafting exercises, with an emphasis on the drafting exercises. Students will learn how to structure and format each type of contract, write to maximize brevity and clarity, and allocate risk between the parties to the agreement. All drafting exercises will receive feedback from the instructor. Grading will be on the basis of the written drafting assignments and class participation. |
| Torts | S. Cravens, S. Gosman | An introduction to basic principles of civil liability for harm to persons and damage to property. The course focuses on the basic doctrines of the three primary theories of tort liability: intentional torts, negligence, and strict liability. It will also include analysis of defenses to these theories of liability, rules regarding apportionment of damages, and underlying principles and policies justifying liability and imposition of damages. |
| Trial Advocacy | T. Brooks | An introduction to actual trial work and trial techniques through simulated exercises and the conduct of a mock trial. |
| ULW: Advanced Contract Drafting | P. Pesek | Advanced Contract Drafting is an upper-level course that teaches basic practical contract skills by having students work "in role" as lawyers undertaking various contract drafting tasks in a series of exercises. The course will be taught by an Adjunct Professor, who is a retired General Counsel with significant experience in drafting, editing, and negotiating thousands of contracts. While the skills taught will be basic, they will also be translatable to more sophisticated contracts. The course will feature lectures and class discussions regarding the various components of a contract, and in-class contract issue-spotting and drafting exercises, with an emphasis on the drafting exercises. Students will learn how to structure and format each type of contract, write to maximize brevity and clarity, and allocate risk between the parties to the agreement. All drafting exercises will receive feedback from the instructor. Grading will be on the basis of the written drafting assignments and class participation. |
| ULW: Civil Pretrial Docs | E. Esterbrook | Students will draft core pretrial documents, including a complaint, a motion to dismiss, and a motion for summary judgment, while engaging with a complex civil record drawn from actual federal court filings. Course features advanced drafting and editing strategies, personalized writing feedback, and instruction on local and federal rules. |
| ULW: Literature & the Law | C. Circo/J. Candido | This course explores the relationship between law and literature by investigating two distinct questions. First, what can great literature teach about timeless legal principles and themes? These principles and themes include: justice, equity, mercy, retribution, and the rule of law; legitimate forms of government; abuse of power; the letter versus the spirit of the law; and religious influences. Second, what lessons can we draw from the best literary expositions of law? On this question, we consider influential judicial opinions and commentaries on legal arguments and analysis. Scholars in the field sometimes label the first inquiry the study of law in literature and the second the study of law as literature. |
| ULW: Race and the Law | S. Clowney | This course will examine the role of the American legal system in creating and maintaining racial categories. The intellectual goal is to think about how (and why) courts, legislatures, and local communities established racial hierarchies and how those decisions continue to reverberate through lives of modern Americans. Some of the areas of law that will be examined include criminal justice, education, housing, and the formation of family relationships. |
| Water Law | P. Hickey | Are "water wars" coming to our favorite stream or to our ground water aquifers? Water is the natural resource of life. In the United States access to and ownership rights in the world's most valuable natural resource are governed by different real property principles and statutes. These principles and statutes reflect the competing interests of stakeholders based on the need and scarcity of water. This course will include the study of these real property principles, the federal and state statutes controlling use of water, and current water issues and disputes. |
| Wills, Trusts, & Estates | W. Foster | This is the study of the traditional areas of wills and trusts (intestate and testate succession). The trusts area includes both the private trust and the charitable trust. |