



**Course Descriptions**  
**Spring Semester 2026**

## **FIRST YEAR COURSES**

### **Becoming Lawyers**

This series is designed to help first-year students identify professional goals and build critical academic and professional skills.

### **Civil Law Property**

This course presents fundamental principles of the civil law as they relate to property. The course is designed to provide a complete understanding of the most powerful right a person can have over a thing in the civil law, namely the right of ownership. The course is divided into four parts: the basic principles of civil law systems, the classification of things, the concept of possession, and the right of ownership, including the acquisition of ownership and how ownership is protected.

### **Common Law Property**

The course surveys the common law system of property rights. The focus is on voluntary and involuntary transfers of land including estates in land, landlord and tenant rights, eminent domain and servitudes, and other rights in the land of another.

### **Constitutional Law I**

This course is an introduction to problems arising under the Constitution of the United States, including the nature of the judicial function, the operation of the federal system, the separation of powers, and the protection of individual rights. Both the development of constitutional doctrines and current problems are considered.

### **Contracts II**

The major focus is on the law of contracts for the sale of goods, as embodied in Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Particular emphasis is placed on remedies for breach of contract and warranties as to quality. Throughout, comparison is made to the similar concepts developed at common law.

### **Criminal Law**

This course focuses on typical statutes proscribing criminal behavior as a means of studying legal concepts of responsibility and punishment. Selected topics include mens rea, mistake, attempt, conspiracy, accomplice liability, homicide, rape, insanity, and related constitutional doctrines.

### **Legal Research & Writing (Spring)**

The spring semester of Legal Research and Writing builds upon the fundamentals of research and analysis introduced in the fall semester. Students work on time-sensitive writing assignments and draft a series of short email memos. Students also begin an in-depth study of persuasive writing, ultimately drafting an appellate brief and giving an oral argument before an appellate moot court.

## **Obligations I**

This is a basic course in Louisiana contract law with primary emphasis on the Louisiana Civil Code as revised in 1985, and comparisons to the common law. It explores, comparatively, the general concept of a legal obligation, and more particularly the principles of civil law contracts. Matters dealt with include capacity, consent and cause, formation of contracts, effects of contracts, and remedies for nonperformance.

## **UPPER-CLASS COURSES**

### **Administrative Law**

Administrative Law is the law that governs government and its relationship to the governed. This course covers a lot of ground, including delegation of legislative powers, appointment and termination of agency personnel, enforcement of regulations, and (briefly) due process. A particular focus is the law of judicial review of agency action and the procedural requirements of administrative rulemaking and adjudication. The Professor plans to invoke the rule penalizing students for lack of preparation and/or excessive absenteeism.

### **Admiralty Law II**

This course deals with jurisdictional and procedural matters in admiralty law, including jurisdiction over maritime claims, considerations of federalism, forum non conveniens, choice of law, special procedures in admiralty cases, limitation of liability, and maritime liens. Admiralty II may be taken prior to Admiralty I. Both courses must be taken by JD students as prerequisites to any other regularly offered admiralty courses.

### **ADMR: Carriage of Goods by Sea**

This course involves the legal problems arising out of damage to cargoes transported between the United States and foreign ports and focusing on the Carriage of Goods by Sea and Harter Acts, as well as under the Rotterdam Rules. There is an emphasis placed on the actual practice of maritime law. Students must participate in an ungraded mock cargo negotiation. Admiralty I and II are prerequisites. The course is taught by Raymond Waid who is a Shareholder in the New Orleans office of Liskow & Lewis, APLC.

### **ADMR: Vessel Documentation & Finance**

Students in this course work with materials concerning the documentation of vessels and financing from initial decision to construct to permanent financing. A knowledge of maritime law, commercial law and security rights is recommended. The course is conceived of as a practical course, with emphasis on the financial decisions of vessel operators and financiers. Attention is also given to maritime insurance issues affecting financiers. Admiralty I and II are prerequisites. This course is taught by Neal Kling who is a Partner at Sher Garner Cahill Richter Klein & Hilbert, L.L.C.

### **Advanced Legal Research**

Building on the research techniques presented in Legal Research and Writing, Advanced Legal Research focuses on the effective use of electronic and print legal research tools and examines existing electronic sources for both legal and non-legal information of interest to lawyers. After reviewing research concepts taught during Tulane's first year Research and

Writing course, this advanced course will provide coverage of selected additional research subjects, including statutory research, legislative history, administrative and regulatory research, practice aids, research strategies, and various specialized areas, including an introduction to treaty research and international/foreign research sources. The course also offers advanced training on comprehensive proprietary online research systems such as Westlaw and LexisNexis and introduces specialized proprietary online systems such as Bloomberg Law and BNA. It will focus on using the Internet to locate legal and non-legal resources, covering such topics as search engines, legal portal sites, websites for federal and state law, government information, and no/low-cost information sources (commercial and non-commercial). This course will not be subject to the curve. The professor plans to invoke a rule penalizing students for lack of preparation and/or excessive absenteeism.

### **Antitrust**

This course will examine the basic antitrust statutes, Sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Act, Sections 3 and 7 of the Clayton Act, Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, and the Robinson Patman Act. The course will focus on the objectives of antitrust law, the concepts of market power and market definition, monopolization, horizontal and vertical restraints, mergers, the use of the per se rule and the rule of reason, price discrimination, and commercial bribery. Professor Feldman plans to invoke a rule penalizing students for lack of preparation and/or excessive absenteeism.

### **Applied Legal Analysis: Civil Law**

This course is designed to increase students' understanding of legal analysis as it relates to frequently tested subjects addressed on the Louisiana bar examination. The goal of this class is to provide students with information and opportunities for practical application that will assist them primarily with legal analysis and legal writing. The course will be in person and may include in-class lectures, pre-recorded lectures assigned as homework, in-class writing exercises, and written examinations, which will be graded. The questions on all practice, in-class, and final examinations will be similar to questions given on past Louisiana bar exams.

### **Applied Legal Analysis: Common Law**

This course is designed to increase students' understanding of legal analysis as it relates to frequently tested subjects addressed on the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) and the NextGen (NextGen) Bar Examination. The goal of this class is to provide students with information and opportunities for practical application that will assist them primarily with legal analysis and legal writing. The course will be in person and may include in-class lectures, pre-recorded lectures assigned as homework, in-class writing exercises, and written examinations, which will be graded. The questions on all practice, in-class, and final examinations will be similar to questions given on past UBE bar exams and questions on future NextGen bar exams.

### **Business Enterprises**

This four-credit course will cover the legal architecture of certain business enterprises (including partnerships, corporations, and limited liability companies), how business enterprises are financed, how control and managerial authority are allocated within a

business enterprise, and the scope of the fiduciary duties owed to a business enterprise and its owners in routine and fundamental transactions. This course will also cover aspects of federal securities law affecting the governance of business enterprises, including anti-fraud rules and insider trading.

### **Children & the Law**

This course analyzes the rights and the status of children and parents in certain contexts, including an examination of constitutional issues specific to the family relationship. It will examine what happens when those rights are in conflict as well as when parents and children's rights are infringed upon by the state. You will also learn about representing the various parties in abuse and neglect proceedings. Over the course of the semester, we will explore topics including children and parents' rights, child abuse and neglect, foster care, termination of parental rights, and adoption and the larger societal context in which this system operates.

### **Civil Law Torts**

This course will focus primarily on Louisiana's unique tort law, utilizing the Louisiana Civil Code, current Louisiana cases and statutes. Some of these concepts will be compared to common law torts. Subjects likely to be covered during the semester are duty-risk, intentional torts, damages, defenses, wrongful death, contribution and indemnification, vicarious liability, absolute liability, strict liability, products liability, liability of owners/lessors and occupiers of land, and professional malpractice (medical and legal) and prescription.

### **Comparative Constitutional Law**

This course provides a comparative survey of influential contemporary constitutions including those of the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and South Africa. Following an introduction to comparative methodology and the functions of comparative law, especially in the legislative and judicial spheres, the class focuses on a shortlist of specific topics. These include the legislative process, bicameralism, the separation of powers, electoral systems, federalism, judicial review, and the protection of human rights. The concept of transnational constitutionalism, the potential and pitfalls of constitutional legal transplants, and the drafting of new constitutions in post-conflict societies such as Iraq, Tunisia or Kenya will also be considered. Students are invited to engage with foreign approaches to these issues through the lens of US case law and constitutional doctrine. The course will be based on a study pack of selected legal materials from the systems under review. Knowledge of foreign languages is not required.

### **Comparative Equality**

This course focuses on discrimination and inequality in three different constitutional democracies: India, South Africa and the United States. It examines discrimination along the predominant identity characteristics in these nations, namely: caste, class and race. By paying particular attention to the changing and interrelated meanings of these concepts, their origins, their constitutional understanding and their influence on society and politics, we shall explore the role of law in the construction of social identity.

### **Comparative Private Law**

This course will compare common and civil law approaches to the law of property, contracts, and torts. The common law originated in England and is judge made. The civil law developed from Roman law and, in most jurisdictions today, it is codified. We will look at how England, the United States, France, and Germany deal with some concrete legal problems, and ask whether the differences are due to history, codification, culture or to the problems themselves. The topics chosen will be familiar to the students from their first year.

### **Constitutional Criminal Procedure: Investigation**

This is a constitutional law course focusing on those aspects of the Bill of Rights that apply to the rights of suspects and defendants in the investigative phases of the criminal justice system. Specifically, we will be studying United States Supreme Court case law interpreting the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments. The course is recommended for the Juvenile Law Clinic and is one of the recommended courses for the Criminal Litigation Clinic.

### **Constitutional Law: Religious Freedoms**

This course explores the history, theory, and doctrine of the Establishment Clause and Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment. Time permitting, the course will cover additional topics concerning the relationship between the Constitution and religion, such as the religious dimension of American constitutionalism, the concept of American Civil Religion, and the relationship between religion and politics.

### **Elder Law**

The course is specifically designed to provide students with a uniquely focused perspective from which to gain a deep understanding of the varied legal issues that arise at the intersection of law and aging. More specifically, "Elder Law" is the legal practice of counseling and representing older persons and their representatives about the legal aspects of health and long-term care planning, public benefits, surrogate decision-making, older persons' legal capacity, the conservation, disposition and administration of older persons' estates, and the implementation of their decisions concerning such matters. Additional issues covered include retirement planning, discrimination in employment, elder abuse, and assisted suicide. This course will inform the growing number of students who may work with or represent the elderly, family members of the elderly, legal service agencies or legislative advocacy groups.

### **Election Law**

Election law is a fascinating topic not only in politically charged times; the rules surrounding elections determine the way constitutional principles play out in practice at any point in time and thus lie at the very heart of democracy. In combination with a few other key variables, such as the structure of the executive (presidential or parliamentary) and the vertical distribution of power (unitary or federal), election systems can shape the exercise and coherence of party influence over government, the stability of the executive, the breadth and legitimacy of representation, the capacity of a system to manage internal conflict, the extent of public participation, and the overall responsiveness of government. Several factors – in particular overall system design, state funding and private campaign financing, districting, or general party influence – impact on elections. The course covers these and many other

core issues in the context of different voting systems and their respective political and constitutional dynamics. Most of the course deals with the United States; the increasing influence of proportional representation and variants of majoritarian election systems both in the U.S. and around the world, however, also invites some comparison with approaches found in the United Kingdom, France, Germany and South Africa. Due to overlap in content students may not enroll in both the Election Law and the Law of Democracy course.

### **Energy Law, Regulation & Policy**

This course will begin with an overview of the global energy situation in terms of supply and demand as well as balanced projections for the coming decades both here and abroad. It then will proceed to examine the primary sources of energy along with the multi-faceted role of electricity as the central source of secondary energy in our economy. This portion of the course will cover in some detail how these energy sources are used and regulated from economic, reliability, and environmental perspectives. There will therefore be a review of legal and regulatory principles governing fossil fuel extraction and use, the coal industry, nuclear power, a range of renewable energy sources, and finally the regulation of electricity generation, transmission, and distribution. The course will conclude with a brief review of the growing role of conservation and climate change in energy markets here and to some extent abroad. There will be an essay-based final examination and class participation will certainly be encouraged.

### **Entertainment Law**

This course will cover legal issues in representing clients within the entertainment industry, highlighting business and economic considerations. The focus will be on the nature of relationships and transactions, including implications on intellectual property rights arising from contractual and other legal matters, which arise among various players from the music, film, visual and performing arts sectors. These players will include recording artists, songwriters, producers, managers/agents, record labels, publishers, filmmakers, screenwriters, graphics artists, studios, etc. Emphasis will be placed on analyzing the initial development and evolution of these dynamic relationships as they are intertwined within a pragmatic fact-pattern involving common issues arising from entertainment legal matters. Throughout the course, consideration will be given to various revenue streams flowing from intellectual property through channels of commerce, such as tangible record sales, digital sales, performance rights, and licensing, including synchronization licensing for music placements against film. The course is taught by Ashlye M. Keaton, Esq., who is the co-founder and supervising attorney for the ELLA Project.

### **ENV: Natural Resources**

This course is one of the two foundation courses in environmental law and presents a survey of programs that govern the use and protection of natural resource systems, including energy, mining, timber, grazing, transportation and water resource development. Special attention is given to the National Environmental Policy Act, and to management statutes for public lands, forests, parks, refuges, wilderness areas, and endangered species.

**Evidence**

The focus of this course is on the law and policy considerations surrounding the proof of facts (and law) in judicial proceedings. We will be studying the Federal Rules of Evidence, as most states have adopted these rules wholesale or in large part. We will cover issues of relevance and of reliability, the two main concerns of the Rules.

**Fair Housing Law & Litigation**

With seismic shifts occurring across the regulatory and enforcement landscape, a study of civil rights law in housing and neighborhood access is particularly timely. This course will examine Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended in 1988; classes protected; transactions covered (rental, sales, lending, insurance, appraisals); and the fair housing obligations of states, municipalities, and public and affordable housing programs. Students will be challenged to consider the strengths and weaknesses of litigation as a tool for creating an equal housing market and eradicating residential segregation. This course will incorporate doctrine, theory, and practice and will be assessed using a mid-term exam and several writing assignments including a final paper.

**Family Law: Civil & Common**

This course is a study of the formation, rights and obligations in formal and informal family relationships, and the breakdown of marriage and its incidents such as nullity of marriage, divorce, division of property, support, and custody. The course will treat the family law of both the civil law and common law jurisdictions of the United States.

**Financial Institutions**

This course will provide an overview of the different regulatory regimes affecting financial institutions (e.g., insurance companies, investment banks, private funds, and depository institutions), but will focus primarily on banking law and regulation. Topics include: bank chartering, branching, deposit insurance, capital requirements, payments systems, affiliation of banks and other financial institutions, regulatory structure, and consumer protection. The course will focus heavily on the experience of the global financial crisis, the regulatory reforms adopted in the wake of that crisis, and the current debates over those reforms and other aspects of the regulatory framework affecting financial institutions.

**Foreign Affairs & National Security**

The course will examine how U.S. law enables or constrains U.S. foreign relations and national security policy-making processes, and how that in turn affects domestic law and private rights within the United States. The focus will be on the interaction among law, process, policy and politics in the making and pursuit of U.S. foreign policy and national security interests. Some of the areas that will be covered are foreign relations and the separation of powers doctrine; domestic status of U.S. international legal commitments; foreign sovereign immunity and the act of state doctrine; congressional and presidential war-making powers; military responses to terrorism; the use of covert action; and the power of states in relation to foreign affairs. Current controversies and challenges will be covered as they emerge.



**Health Law**

This course provides a general introduction to the law and policy of health care delivery in the United States. You will gain an understanding of the legal and policy considerations that shape the relationships between providers (physicians and hospitals), patients, and payers, and how different areas of law have developed when applied within the health care industry. Because health law is a broad subject matter, this course will briefly cover a wide range of topics, including the physician-patient relationship, informed consent, privacy and confidentiality, medical malpractice, end-of-life decisions, and insurance.

**History of Western Law**

The course will examine how Western Law was shaped by such disparate traditions as Roman law, Greek philosophy, Judeo-Christian religion, and the folklaw of the tribes that conquered the Roman Empire. In the Middle Ages, the mingling of these traditions produced feudal law, the law merchant, canon law, the medieval English common Law and the ius commune, which was based on Roman sources, became accepted throughout continental Europe and was the ancestor of modern civil law. In the early modern period, the ius commune was systematized by the jurists of the natural law schools. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the system was reformulated under the influence of positivism and conceptualism in civil and common law jurisdictions alike. With that reformulation came a series of problems which are still to be resolved. The course will be based on a close reading of relatively few original texts. No background in history of philosophy is needed.

**Income Taxation**

This is a general course covering the fundamentals of federal income taxation of individuals. Primary areas of attention include: the nature of income and exclusions from gross income; deductions; the choice of the taxable person; tax accounting methods; the taxable year and the time of income realization; and the law of capital gains and losses.

**Insurance Law**

Insurance plays a critical role in all areas of law practice. This course will introduce you to the basic concepts and terminology; survey numerous types of insurance such as general liability, property, life, automobile, construction, professional liability, employment, environmental, homeowners, product liability, including litigation issues such as the duty to defend, the duty to indemnify, subrogation, fraud, bad faith, defenses, damages, procedure; and address governmental regulation.

**Intellectual Property**

This survey course introduces students to the basic state and federal laws relating to inventions and cultural works. The class will cover topics that include patents, trademarks, copyright, right of publicity, and trade secrets. The course will look at the moral, cultural, economic and theoretical underpinnings to our current controversies in intellectual property law. This course is a prerequisite for nearly every advanced course in Intellectual Property.

### **International & Comparative Intellectual Property**

This class will cover the basic treaties and mechanisms related to both international intellectual property, as well as comparative laws. Topics will be both historical and contemporary, and will cover basic terms and concepts related to copyright, trademark, and patents, including the Berne Convention and the Paris Convention. We will also be covering the internationalization of the United States in the 1990s, and how that impacted our national legislation. We will be looking at the World Intellectual Property Organization, and also treaties like the Marrakesh Treaty for the blind and visually impaired, along with the Assessable Books Consortium, as well as the efforts to protect traditional cultural expressions (TCEs.) cultural preservation, fair use around the world, and the role of libraries. We will be looking at current issues, namely AI as a global problem, and how different countries/areas of the world are addressing the issue. Will there be an international AI treaty, and what would it look like. Final exam. No previous international courses required; IP Survey is a co-req.

### **International Commercial Arbitration**

Arbitration is a form of private dispute resolution that the parties to a dispute agree to use instead of litigation. It is very commonly used in international commercial disputes because it provides the possibility of decisions made by experts in the subject-matter of the dispute, neutrality between parties from different countries, and streamlined procedures, among other advantages. Some or none of those features may be available in litigation in the countries of the parties engaged in the dispute. For that reason, many international commercial agreements choose arbitration as the preferred means of dispute resolution. Although the practice of international commercial arbitration exists in a transnational space beyond national borders, it must necessarily have contact at some point with national laws. Arbitrators do not have the same government-backed powers of compulsion that judges do, so there are many points at which the process of arbitration may need to have some contact with national laws to gain assistance with enabling or enforcing the agreed arbitral processes. This course is focused principally on those points of contact, which is the law of international commercial arbitration. It is not designed to be an instruction manual in how to conduct an international commercial arbitration.

### **International Energy Transactions**

International Energy Transactions is an important part of the required knowledge base of an “energy lawyer” given the global nature of energy value chains. There is no single body of law or a treaty on “energy law” or “international energy law”. Instead, it is a combination of various rules of international, regional and national laws and of negotiated terms in form agreements between the parties. The course begins with an introduction of the main players in the field. It will cover the entire energy value chain and introduce students to legal and contractual issues relating to each segment. The course covers many forms of energy from oil and gas to renewable energy. It also provides an overview of typical national policies and policy drivers for various energy activities.

### **Labor Law**

After a brief introduction to the history and evolution of the labor movement and labor legislation, the course covers in depth the legal framework dealing with union organization

and collective bargaining. The material is considered from the beginning of the relationship between the employer and union, the organizational phase, through collective bargaining and enforcement of the contract once it is in place.

### **Laws of War**

This course provides students with a basic over-view of international humanitarian law (IHL), i.e. the body of international legal rules and principles that limit the permissible use of force during hostilities. It will do so by paying special attention to the implications for IHL of the rapidly changing nature of warfare as exemplified by hybrid-warfare, cyber operations, the use of artificial intelligence-enabled autonomous weapons systems, and drones. Specifically, the course will focus on IHL's traditional core concepts (distinction, military necessity, unnecessary suffering and proportionality), key protective regimes covering combatants, civilians, cultural property and the environment, and on typical battlefield issues, including superior orders, command responsibility and rules of engagement. The course will also discuss the security detention of combatants and civilians, the interrelationship of the IHL and human rights law and individual accountability and state responsibility for violations of IHL.

### **Legal Profession**

This course introduces students to the roles of lawyers in society, the nature and structure of the legal profession, and to fundamental concerns and dilemmas of lawyers engaged in the practice of law. The course seeks to make students aware of their ethical responsibilities, both as members of society and members of the legal profession.

### **Patent Law**

Topics to be covered include: patentability requirements, infringement, defenses, remedies, litigation, appellate issues, administrative revocation, and special topics. A technical background is not required for this course. Intellectual Property is a co-requisite.

### **Real Estate Transactions & Finance**

This course will cover issues of substantive and procedural law in their relationship to real estate transactions, and drafting, financing, and other problems encountered in sophisticated transactions.

### **Representing Physicians**

This course will begin with an overview of general issues in healthcare law but will focus primarily on practical legal issues physicians face in the current healthcare world and how lawyers can be prepared to counsel the physicians facing those issues. This course will address issues as diverse as anti-trust and ERISA to medical staff and peer review, from the viewpoint of a practitioner who specializes in representing physicians. Tulane medical students will also attend several of the classes. The course is taught by Richard Levenstein, a Shareholder at Nason Yeager. There will also be several attorney and physician guest instructors.

### **Securities Regulation**

This course provides a broad overview of U.S. Federal securities law, including statutes and regulations governing the underwriting and offering process, exemptions from registration, the operation of securities markets, and the activities of securities intermediaries, such as stock exchanges and broker-dealers. The course focuses on theoretical issues, such as the philosophy of regulating disclosure; the classification of professional and retail investors; the allocation of authority among the SEC, self-regulatory organizations and other federal and state regulators with respect to financial instruments; and the scope of and limitations on private securities litigation and the SEC's enforcement authority. Business Enterprises is a pre-requisite.

### **Sports Law: Antitrust & Labor**

This course examines how the antitrust and labor laws apply to the unique relationships in the sports industry. The course focuses on the ways the antitrust and labor laws have shaped virtually every aspect of professional and amateur sports – ranging from salary caps and age restrictions to television deals and team relocations.

### **Successions, Donations & Trusts**

A course in the Louisiana civil law governing the transfer of property by inheritance, testament or gift during life. Topics include rules of inheritance, rights of surviving spouses, acceptance and administration of successions; collation and partition; the making of wills, kinds of legacies, and forced heirship limitations on gratuitous dispositions. The course also considers the Louisiana Trust Code's provisions concerning the creation, modification, and termination of trusts; limitations on dispositive provisions; and the powers and responsibilities of trustees.

### **Taxation: State & Local Tax**

This course explores the state and local taxation of entities and individuals, focusing on multi-state taxation and overall tax planning strategies to minimize or eliminate multi-state tax liability. In this course, we will examine the concept of "nexus" (when a taxpayer or transaction is subject to the taxing jurisdiction of a state or locality), both as it has been understood historically, and in light of technological advances that have made remote business operations increasingly practical. We will also address the unique state and local tax issues created by the growth of "e-commerce" and the financial impact on state and local tax jurisdictions administering tax laws developed in the context of local business operations. Finally, we will discuss and analyze business activity taxes and sales and use taxation in detail, and will also cover very generally franchise, capital stock and gross receipts taxes, and property taxation, as time permits. Students will have an opportunity to practice handling or deciding a current significant SALT issue in a "moot court" exercise. The course will be taught by Jaye A. Calhoun, a member of the Business Tax Section of Kean Miller, L.L.P.

### **Taxation of Business Entities**

The course covers federal income taxation of C corporations, S corporations, partnerships, and limited liability companies ("LLCs") and the holders of ownership interests in such entities, including the federal income tax consequences of operations; contributions of

capital to the entity; distributions by the entity; and acquisitions, dispositions, and rearrangements of the entity. The course also will address choice of entity considerations under the new tax law. Prerequisite or Corequisite: Federal Income Taxation.

### **Mini-Courses and Workshops**

#### **Breaking Changes in Immigration Law & Policy**

This course will examine the shifts in U.S. immigration law and policy taking place in real time. The new Administration, asserting a strong mandate based on the prominence of immigration issues in the 2024 presidential and congressional elections, has promised and delivered dramatic changes. The changes include new travel bans, new limits on access to asylum, a new approach to deportation of those present in this country without authorization, and an end to existing programs set in place to address humanitarian crises. Students will examine these shifts, likely to be in full motion as the course unfolds, in an intensive and interactive setting. Guest speakers will join to help illuminate the complexity of agency decision making, strategies in judicial challenge, and other considerations adjacent to the course topics.

#### **Corporate Governance: Hot Topics in Corporate & Personal Governance**

The course carries one semester hour of credit and meets for six two-hour sessions. It is graded on the "P, D, F" basis. It considers "hot topics" in corporate governance, such as "shareholder activism" and "proxy access"; a chapter from James Freund's book "Smell Test," which examines lawyers caught in what could be career-ending ethical dilemmas involving business clients; and one or two Delaware cases in which governance failures contribute to business failures. Because a significant portion of the course is current events, which are not predictable, newspapers are part of the assigned reading. Please choose either The New York Times or The Wall Street Journal. Editorial content will not be assigned. The course syllabus may change with little or no notice. A student's background in corporation and securities law will be useful, but not prerequisite. We will review those subjects in an early class. The course is most appropriate for 3Ls, but 2Ls are also welcomed. This mini-course is taught by Louis Fishman and Maureen Gershanik, both Partners at Fishman Haygood L.L.P.

#### **Corporate Law & Practical Aspects of Hostile Acquisitions**

This is an advanced corporate law course focusing on state corporate law, corporate governance, the fiduciary duties of directors and the rights of stockholders in the context of hostile acquisitions. This course will emphasize the practical aspects of corporate law and will cover hostile acquisitions from a bidder's perspective (which will include takeover approaches, takeover negotiations, takeover techniques, and the structuring and pricing of offers), hostile acquisitions from a target's perspective (which will include advanced preparation, structural changes to reduce vulnerability, and responding to acquisition offers), proxy contests and stockholder activism. Business Enterprises is a prerequisite for 2L students and a pre-requisite or co-requisite for 3L students. The course will be taught by

Michael Maimone who is an experienced corporate attorney and litigator who practices primarily in Delaware and New York.

### **Legal Scholarship Workshop**

This “workshop” will feature presentations by five or six visiting authors of their works-in-progress. Students formally enrolled in the workshop will meet with one or more of the faculty conveners the week before each author’s presentation to discuss the paper. Students will prepare brief (one-page) response papers for each paper, which will be shared with the authors. In addition, students will be expected to attend two additional academic lectures or conference events at the law school or elsewhere on campus. The workshop is designed for students who are interested in developing skills in critically reading legal scholarship. The author presentations will be open to students who are not formally enrolled in the workshop. This course is graded on a Pass/D/Fail basis.

### **Socio-Economic Rights**

Socio-economic rights play an important role in many societies. Demands for jobs, food, water, housing/shelter, education, health care or—more generally—dignified living conditions are as important as classical liberal (‘first generation’) rights to equality, free speech, assembly, political participation or religion in countries like South Africa or India and continue to influence the human rights debate across large parts of South America. The Arab Spring is the most recent battleground over constitutionally entrenched socio-economic demands and greatly expanded the scope of such entitlements in systems like Iraq or Egypt. Other societies, including the United States and many countries in Europe, provide assistance for citizens in need but take a much more cautious stance on the constitutional protection of the socio-economic sphere.

### **Sports Law: Broadcast**

This course examines the legal foundations and contemporary issues surrounding sports broadcasting and distribution in the U.S. It delves into the commercial and legal complexities of broadcast deals in the sports industry, tracing their evolution and the current ecosystem, which includes broadcast television, cable, streaming platforms, and other digital media. Key topics include negotiating and structuring broadcast rights, rights to game inventory, exclusivity clauses, production and distribution rights, intellectual property, advertising, and emerging legal concerns related to new technologies and consumer experiences. The course will culminate in a mock negotiation to synthesize students’ understanding of sports broadcast contracts.

### **Sustainability & Private International Law**

The purpose of this course is to explore the intersection of private international law, sustainability and sustainable development, equipping students with the tools to understand key complexities in global supply chains and responsible production and consumption.

### **The Concept of (Free) Speech**

Free speech clauses protect, this much seems evident, more than just “speech”. In a very general sense, they protect “communication”. They do so for various (and well-studied)

purposes ranging from self-fulfillment to political participation. Still, this does not answer which instances of “communication” have a claim to protection under free speech clauses like the First Amendment to the US Constitution (FA) or Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). The course will identify the criteria according to which acts are considered as protected “communication” in comparative perspective (and of course: which are not). Paying close attention to the case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and the US Supreme Court (USC) as well as to relevant scholarship, the discussions in class will give us a deeper understanding of what we speak about, when we speak about “speech”.

## Upper-class Seminars

### **Admiralty Seminar**

The seminar will explore four distinct themes, from which students may choose one as the focus of their research paper. The possible themes are: (1) the shipping industry's decarbonization efforts (2) the problem of abandoned seafarers and mistreatment of seafarers, particularly in the fishing industry. (3) Mortgagees' Interest Insurance (4) Direct Action Against Insurers. Students attending the first class should have given some thought to what they would like to cover in their paper. Admiralty I is a prerequisite. This seminar may be taken to satisfy the upper-class writing requirement.

### **Criminal Legal System Seminar**

This seminar provides students with the opportunity to write a research paper on a topic of their choosing about reforms that are concerned with improving racial and social justice in the criminal legal system. Students will focus on law and policy related to some current or historical reform or potential reform proposed by legislatures, courts, prosecutors, defense counsel, police, sentencing authorities, public interest organizations, scholars, and/or community groups. Examples of possible reform fields include the reforms of progressive prosecutors, prison reforms, misdemeanor justice reforms, drug crime reforms, sentencing reforms (including but not limited to remedies for mass incarceration), bail reforms, death penalty reforms, juvenile justice reforms, reforms related to intersectionality and/or gender identity and the treatment of LGBTQIA2S+ people, substantive criminal law reforms, constitutional criminal procedure reforms, and free speech protections for arrested protesters who support particular reforms of the criminal legal system.

During the course of the semester, students will work on producing a 25-page research paper in the format of a law journal comment. Students will consult with the teacher for assistance in choosing a topic and prepare a topic memo, which will describe the proposed content of their paper and a preliminary list of sources they have discovered in their early research. Each student also will consult with the teacher to make selections of readings about their topic to be assigned to classmates so that they can prepare to participate in the 50-minute workshop-style class presentation and discussion led by each student. Each student also will create prompt questions about their readings for their classmates to answer on TWEN as part of their preparation. Students are encouraged to design their presentation to maximize the participation of classmates, by incorporating such discussion tools as power point slides, role play exercises, breakout group discussions of hypotheticals, and other creative

elements. Each student is required to participate at least once in every classmate's discussion.

A rough draft of 15 pages will be due in the middle of the semester and the draft will receive written feedback from the teacher and another classmate. The course grade will be based on the quality of the writing and research in the final research paper, the submission of the rough draft, the workshop-style discussion presentation, the submission of the paper topic memo, the satisfaction of the requirement for participation in each classmate's discussion, regular attendance, and timely completion of all writing assignments, including the TWEN postings. There are no prerequisites for the seminar. Students who have taken the Criminal Justice Seminar are not eligible to enroll in the Criminal Legal System Seminar.

This seminar fulfills the Upperclass Writing Requirement. Professor Hancock plans to invoke an attendance requirement. 3 credits.

### **ENV: Coastal & Wetlands Seminar**

This seminar provides an examination of the factual, legal, and policy framework that has developed regarding issues of coastal land loss, with a focus primarily on the quickly disappearing wetlands in Louisiana, but also with an examination of similar land loss issues in other communities. The seminar will examine the background of the importance of wetlands, the crisis of coastal land loss, the causes of that loss, and the legal and policy responses in the search for remedies for wetland and coastal harm. The seminar will be co-taught by Christopher Dalbom (Senior Research Fellow and Director of the Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy at Tulane Law School) and Bessie Antin Daschbach and Tad Bartlett.

### **ENV: Historic Preservation Seminar**

This seminar will present a national, state and local perspective on historic preservation in a broad sense, including protection of the urban environment and of archaeological, cultural and other historic resources. It will examine laws dealing directly and indirectly with preservation, and the institutions that implement them. The city of New Orleans provides rich material for this examination. Students will be required to research selected topics and to present their findings orally to the class and in a substantial final paper. Grade will be based on research paper, oral presentation of paper topic, class participation and attendance. Professor Shields plans to invoke a rule requiring students to be prepared and to attend class. This seminar may be taken to satisfy the upper-class writing requirement with permission of the Professor and meeting all of the requirements; the course does not automatically satisfy the upper-level writing requirement.

### **Intellectual Property Seminar: Writing the 1976 Copyright Act @ 50**

This seminar will focus on the 50th anniversary of the 1976 Copyright Act. In many ways, the Copyright attempts to reflect how our world has changed over the last fifty years, particularly related to technology and becoming a more global place. This class will be trying to understand just who we are in a very complicated, copyrighted world. We will be reviewing interviews by key people in the field about their thoughts on copyright, and will also have as part of our course a colloquium with guests coming to talk about their work



related to copyright. Students will be writing papers that are related to copyright, and there will be opportunities to publish their work with the Journal of the Copyright Society. Each week, we will be concentrating on different people who influenced copyright (with assigned interviews/transcripts to listen to), and reading of a key scholar from the field who will come chat with us about their work. This should be a celebration, contemplation, and great opportunity to think about what copyright means to us then and now. Students will have great flexibility on choosing their seminar paper topic. IP Survey is a co-req.

### **Jurisprudence Seminar**

This seminar is a philosophically-based introduction to law and legal thought. It has four main objectives. It aims to introduce students to the nature of the American legal system; to equip them to think in a theoretical and critical way about the nature of law and legal reasoning; to convey an understanding of some key legal concepts; and to assist them to draw on and apply these reflections in the context of some contemporary legal issues.

### **Medical Malpractice Seminar**

The seminar will provide students with an in-depth examination into the legal arena of medical malpractice with a concentration on the policies behind the various State statutes governing these claims. The course will address the caps on damages in each State, if the cap changed in each State, and which States have abolished a cap; the burden of proof; pertinent cases; large jury verdicts; States where a pre-litigation panel is required; collateral source; and other interesting aspects of medical malpractice claims which may be governed by various States. While there will be some focus on medical malpractice laws in Louisiana specifically, the seminar will mostly be a survey of medical malpractice in other States, with a small section dedicated to medical malpractice internationally, for comparison. The course will also provide a brief introduction of the history of medical malpractice lawsuits.

### **Privacy & Digital Markets Seminar**

The seminar will focus on fundamental problems in the modern regulation of digital technologies. It will familiarize participants with the key contemporary regulatory issues in the digital market—from online platforms to the protection of privacy and freedom of expression to artificial intelligence. The primary goal of the seminar is to introduce students to the foundational problems currently being discussed in the realms of law and new technologies, as well as to encourage them to think critically about the issues raised in contemporary legal, political, and economic discourses. Particular emphasis will be placed on how the law can contribute to the protection of essential social and legal values, such as equality, consumer protection, and freedom of expression. Each meeting will center around discussions of several selected texts focused on a specific issue. The texts covered throughout the semester will be diverse, including academic articles, policy studies, legislative drafts, and court decisions. While the main part of the course will concentrate on issues of U.S. law, it will also incorporate comparative elements relating to EU law, particularly regarding privacy and the regulation of online platforms.

### **Tort Theory & AI Seminar**

Today, a battle is being waged over the soul of tort law, and artificial intelligence is complicating matters. In this class, we don't have time to cover the full range of ways in which

artificial intelligence is upending our legal institutions and our everyday lives. So, we are going to adopt a fairly narrow focus: How is artificial intelligence straining the tort doctrines we have, and what should we do about this phenomenon? To help us wrap our arms around this question, we will consider a few examples of how technology has affected tort law in the past. With these examples in mind, we can examine the degree to which they should inform contemporary responses to the challenges posed by artificial intelligence.

Although this class will focus on the intersection of artificial intelligence and tort law, you might have an interest in how artificial intelligence intersects with other doctrines in either public or private law (e.g., criminal law, intellectual property, contracts, the laws of war, and more). So, you may write the final paper for this course on a to-be-determined subject based on conversations with me. Note, though, that selecting a paper topic that deviates too much from the primary focus of this course will be a lot of work, given that you will still be responsible for the readings assigned for each meeting.

## **Experiential Courses**

### **Clinics**

#### **Criminal Justice Clinic**

The Criminal Justice Clinic represents criminal defendants in all phases of a criminal case: pretrial and trials, parole hearings before the parole board; state post-conviction relief, appeals to the Circuit Court of Appeal and the Louisiana Supreme Court; and federal habeas corpus petitions in the federal district court, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal and United States Supreme Court. In addition to representing clients on a wide variety of felony cases, the Clinic, along with students in the Domestic Violence Clinic, emphasized the representation of criminalized survivors of intimate partner violence as part of the Women's Prison Project, a program that seeks freedom for women unjustly incarcerated for killing an abusive partner or for involvement in crimes under coercive circumstance related to abuse. Additionally, students may engage in non-litigation advocacy impacting clinic clients.

#### **Domestic Violence Clinic**

The Domestic Violence Clinic provides legal services to victims of domestic abuse, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual assault. The Clinic, along with students in the Criminal Justice Clinic, also represents criminalized survivors of intimate partner violence as part of the Women's Prison Project, a program that seeks freedom for women unjustly incarcerated for killing an abusive partner or for involvement in crimes under coercive circumstances related to abuse. Legal services will address the variety of legal problems which may arise as a consequence of domestic violence, including emergency assistance in obtaining protective orders, and extending to representation in family law cases, including child custody and support; problems with housing, employment, or denial of access to financial resources such as bank accounts or other community property. The Domestic Violence Clinic is offered in the fall for three credits and in the spring for three credits. Enrollment is limited to twelve students. Students are selected on the basis of an application and personal interview. Students must meet all eligibility requirements of the Louisiana

student practice rule. Prerequisites: Legal Profession and Evidence. Co-requisite: Litigation Skills for DV Clinic.

### **Environmental Law Clinic**

The Environmental Law Clinic (TELC) provides legal services to local, regional, and national groups, as well as individuals, on a wide range of environmental and public participation issues. Under the supervision of the Clinic's staff attorneys, students in the Clinic take the lead in representing clients in pleadings and oral arguments before local governmental bodies, state and federal agencies, and state and federal courts. Among the issues TELC student attorneys address are issues faced by fence line environmental justice communities impacted by facilities which pollute their land, air and water and pose risks from accidental releases; Atchafalaya Basin residents and fishermen who seek to preserve their way of life and the wetlands they rely on; clients concerned with preserving fish and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species; and regional and national groups addressing local environmental issues which reverberate nationwide. TELC is open to 3Ls, 2Ls (during the spring semester only), and LLMs with JD degrees from U.S. law schools. 2L and 3L students are required to enroll for two semesters; LLMs are limited to one semester in TELC. Under student-practice rules, 3Ls and LLMs may sign pleadings and appear in court under the guidance of TELC's supervising attorneys. Professor Jordan plans to invoke a rule penalizing students for excessive absenteeism. 3 credits each semester.

### **Federal Practice Clinic & Civil Rights Clinic**

The Civil Rights & Federal Practice Clinic represent clients asserting their rights to fair housing, equal employment opportunity, and other constitutional civil rights and liberties, including police brutality claims. Student attorneys draft motions, pleadings, discovery requests, and briefs; conduct depositions; and argue in court. The co-requisite Federal Pretrial Practice Seminar covers civil pre-trial advocacy and procedure, pre-trial practice skills from intake interview through jury selection.

### **First Amendment Clinic**

This clinical course is dedicated to protecting freedom of expression, increasing government transparency, and supporting the essential work of news gatherers. The work includes impact litigation and direct legal services. Student attorneys have professional responsibility for clients and handle all aspects of their cases.

### **Immigrant Rights Clinic**

Students in the Immigrant Rights Clinic represent detainees, migrant workers, children and other immigrants with critical legal needs working through the U.S. immigration system. Working alongside licensed attorneys, students work on behalf of clients and community groups in a variety of settings—immigration agencies and courts, state and federal courts, as well as workshops in detention centers and/or community centers.

### **Immigrant Rights Clinic Seminar**

The course is an experiential, yearlong law clinic integrating lawyering theory, skills and doctrine in the context of representing noncitizens, including detainees, migrant workers, and children. Students will be assigned to work in pairs and groups, under Professor Yanik

(yearlong) and Prof. Hlass (Fall semester), completing work on behalf of clients and community groups in a variety of settings—immigration agencies and courts, state and federal courts, as well as workshops in detention centers and/or community centers. Students will learn the substantive immigration and federal practice law, as well as ethics and professionalism, as they develop lawyering skills including: critical interviewing, investigating facts, researching and analyzing relevant law, case planning, developing a theory of the case, creative problem-solving, strategic decision-making, collaborating, legal storytelling, critical lawyering and consequences of bias in legal systems, legal writing, oral advocacy, and motion practice.

### **Juvenile Advocacy Clinic**

This is the juvenile clinic in which 10 students represent indigent clients in juvenile delinquency cases, and children in need of care cases. Students work under the direction of the supervising attorney, but the students are primarily responsible for all client and witness interviews, pre-trial hearings, trials and appeals. The course must be taken in conjunction with the Juvenile Advocacy Seminar. The course lasts the entire year and carries 3 credits in the fall and 3 credits in the spring. Students are selected during the spring of their second year based upon written applications and personal interviews with the supervising attorney. Professor Katner plans to invoke a rule penalizing students for lack of preparation and/or excessive absenteeism.

### **Externships**

#### **Public Service, Public Interest, Judicial and Corporate & In-house Counsel Externships**

The Externship courses provide legal education and skills development in real-life settings. Students work and learn in a variety of workplaces: public interest or nonprofit organizations; courts or government offices at the federal, state, or local level; and corporate counsel offices. The Externship courses allow students to gain expertise in professional skills and problem-solving; study professionalism and the lawyers' ethical requirements; examine lawyers' roles in the delivery of justice and ensuring justice for all; develop specific lawyering skills or learn a specific area of law; explore career interests in a variety of legal fields and build a professional network; and provide service to the community and to the public at large. The Judicial and Public Service Externship courses are year-long; the Corporate & In-house Counsel Externship is offered in Spring and Fall semesters and the Public Interest Externship is only offered in Spring Semester. Three non-classroom credits are awarded for each semester of fieldwork.

Externships are comprised of two courses. The fieldwork course is graded Pass-C-Fail. Students are required to complete a minimum of ten (10) weeks with their site and 135 hours of fieldwork per semester. The recommended weekly commitment is between 11 – 15 hours. One writing sample is submitted to the faculty supervisor each semester that you are enrolled in a fieldwork course. There is a 1-credit, graded co-requisite seminar in the fall semester of the yearlong course, and running concurrently during any one-semester externship course. Students submit brief reflective pieces based on questions posed by their faculty supervisor and make presentations to the seminar class. There are also small group

or individual meetings with the faculty supervisor throughout the course. The seminar class meeting times and locations appear in the course schedule. Students generally may not enroll in a clinic while enrolled in the Public Service, Public Interest, Judicial, and Corporate & In-house Counsel Externships. However, simultaneous enrollment is permitted in the Legislative & Administrative Advocacy Clinic. Environmental Law Clinic students may not simultaneously be enrolled in Externships with a judge, EPA, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, the District Attorney's Office for Orleans Parish or Jefferson Parish, a public defender's office, or a corporate counsel's office; they may, however, enroll in other third-year externships after obtaining prior approval from the Environmental Clinic.

## Simulation Courses

### **Advanced Persuasive Writing**

This experiential course combines theory and practicality to cover advanced strategies in persuasive writing and build upon the instruction provided in Legal Research and Writing. The theoretical aspect of the course will focus on principles of persuasion drawn from several disciplines, such as classical rhetoric, cognitive psychology, linguistics, and literary theory. Topics studied may include the rhetorical foundations of legal persuasion and credibility; the role of stock structures, visual imagery, and literary or cultural allusions in legal analysis and argument; leveraging storytelling and narrative coherence; and using document design and other visual techniques persuasively. The practical aspect of the course will involve the application of the covered principles to litigation-oriented documents. Students will analyze the persuasiveness of various examples of attorney communications, such as briefs, letters, and judicial opinions, and create their own versions of these documents that incorporate the principles we discuss. Thus, students will learn a number of strategies and techniques, and practice implementing them, to become more persuasive writers. The course will involve a combination of lecture, discussion, in-class exercises and workshops, and individual student-teacher conferences outside of class. Grades will be based on several writing and editing assignments of various length, as well as students' participation in class discussions and fulfillment of course requirements. There will be no final exam and this course is not subject to the curve.

### **Commercial Law: Business Reorganizations and Bankruptcy Procedure**

Through a lens examining the philosophy, principles, and policies underlying business reorganizations, this course will provide a practical look at the path a financially distressed enterprise can take, from filing to confirmation of a plan of reorganization under chapter 11, conversion to chapter 7, or dismissal. The following topics, among others, will be covered: good-faith filing and venue; retention and compensation of professionals; the extent of the court's equitable powers; use, sale, and lease of the debtor's property; successor liability; post-petition financing; the absolute priority rule; involuntary imposition of a reorganization upon creditors and shareholders; claims allowance; and the role of debtors, professionals, creditors, officers, directors, and trustees in the context of corporate restructuring. Grades will be based on draft pleadings and mock arguments for hypothetical clients at each stage. This course will be taught by the Hon. Meredith Grabill (U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana) and Mark Mintz (Jones Walker LLP).

### **Contract Drafting**

This course introduces students to the principles, processes and techniques for drafting business contracts. Students will learn how transactional lawyers translate a business deal into contract provisions. Students will draft commercial agreements with a focus on managing risk, minimizing ambiguity, drafting with clarity, using contemporary commercial drafting techniques, and solving problems through effective drafting. Students will also learn to read, review and analyze contracts with an eye toward both legal and business risk issues. The course is presented through a combination of lecture, drafting and editing assignments, and in-class exercises. Students draft sample contract provisions, draft contracts from scratch, analyze term sheets, and review and revise contracts. Grades will be based upon

drafting and editing assignments, participation in in-class exercises, and good faith completion of ungraded assignments. There is no final exam. There will be three sections of Contract Drafting offered in the Spring 2026 term: one section for 3 credits taught by Leopold Sher, Co-Managing Member of Sher Garner Cahill Richter Klein & Hilbert, L.L.C, one section for 2 credits taught by Professor Tina Boudreaux, and the other 2 credit section taught by Professor Rose. Students who have taken Business Drafting are not able to register for the Contract Drafting course. This course is not subject to the curve.

### **Deposition Practice & Procedure**

This is a skills course focused on depositions. While the course centers on basic and advanced skills in preparing for, taking, and defending depositions, its focus is broader. It begins by placing depositions in the context of formal pretrial discovery and ends with the use of depositions in pre-trial motions, negotiation and at trial. Skills exercises will include both oral and written advocacy skills relevant to this important portion of civil litigation. While most civil cases filed in federal or state court are resolved before final adjudication, all practicing attorneys will have to take depositions in order to learn what evidence they must meet at trial, or alternatively use case evaluation for settlement negotiations or mediation. The information obtained in a deposition will allow an attorney to intelligently evaluate the case and competently advise their clients. The course begins with the role of depositions in the larger discovery process, preparation, developing a theme, and the mechanics of the deposition process and procedure, including questioning techniques. More advanced topics will include the expert deposition, use of expert depositions to make effective Daubert challenges, taking and defending corporate depositions, and the use of depositions in pretrial practice including Daubert challenges and summary judgment motions.

### **Environmental Litigation**

This is a theory and practice course covering the major components of an environmental case up to trial including: substantive and procedural law, investigations, claims/defenses, discovery and depositions, experts and science, and motions. Grading will be based on written and oral exercises, no examination.

### **M&A Deal Process & Drafting Skills**

This course will provide students with an immersive learning experience by teaching them the essential skills needed when performing the role of a corporate associate on a merger transaction. Students will be provided with an in-depth look at how transactions are initiated, effectuated and completed. Practical skills that will be taught include how to draft and edit key transaction documents such as non-disclosure agreements, letters of intent, purchase and sale agreements and related disclosure schedules, due diligence memos and closing documentation. The course will include guest lecturers who are highly experienced M&A attorneys as well as experts in various subject matter areas related to M&A such as anti-trust and tax.

### **Negotiation & Mediation Advocacy**

Offered only during the spring semester. Only third year students and LLMs may enroll in this course, although a few second-year students may be admitted (see course description). Negotiation and Mediation Advocacy exposes students to the process of

negotiation as a pervasive lawyering activity; increases awareness of the technical, interdisciplinary, and ethical dimensions of that process; introduces the concept of the lawyer's role as problem-solver; enables students to experiment with and consider thoughtfully the various theories, forms, and techniques of negotiation and mediation advocacy; and provides students an opportunity to assess their own capabilities within those contexts. Students who have taken Intercultural Negotiation & Mediation, Intercultural Mediation, or Intercultural Negotiation in Berlin may not take Negotiation & Mediation Advocacy due to course overlap.

### **Solo & Small Firm Practice**

Solo and small firm practice is the most common organizational form in the legal profession today. This course will focus on the essential elements of forming and operating a small firm or solo law practice. Although many of the topics covered in this course could be translated into law practice skills in general, the course will give particular emphasis to those issues that are frequently encountered by solo and small firm practitioners, including setting up a law practice; developing business; hiring, managing, and effectively using support staff; financial planning, billing, and fee management; issues of ethics and professionalism; leveling the playing field through practice skills and management; and many others. Students will be graded on a P/C/F basis and will be assessed on quality of their involvement and participation in both individual and group exercises. Students will also be evaluated on the quality of their critiques of fellow students' performance. There will not be a final exam in this course. Attendance and participation are required. The course is primarily geared toward 3L students who will be given preference. 2L students may be accepted, with permission of the professor, provided they have taken or are enrolled in legal ethics.

### **Trial Advocacy**

This course is intended to prepare and train students in advocacy skills for litigation. It is graded on a pass/D/fail basis, with top 10% of class receiving "honors" designation. The principal method of instruction is "Learning By Doing." The students participate in intensive role playing of simulated trial problems and receive feedback from faculty members. Subjects covered during the course include: opening statements; direct and cross examination; exhibits and demonstrative evidence; impeachment and rehabilitation; examination of expert witnesses; closing arguments; and trial notebook. Asynchronous lectures on the skill of the week are provided and include faculty demonstration performances. Each student is recorded at least once during the semester as part of the faculty feedback and self-evaluation component. The faculty includes experienced trial lawyers and judges, who rotate through each section so students are exposed to a variety of views and ideas. Each student tries a mock case at the conclusion of the course at a courthouse in the New Orleans metropolitan area. Final trials occur before the normal exam period, and do not count as an excused absence for your other courses. The course has a limited enrollment. It is strongly recommended that you take Evidence prior to enrolling in Trial Advocacy, but co-enrollment is permitted. Please note that your understanding of the materials in class would be enhanced if you had prior exposure to the entire Evidence course.

Students participating in Moot Court and clinics that require Trial Advocacy seeking to enroll in the course should rank Trial Advocacy as their first choice on the Simulation application.



**Written Discovery**

This experiential course will focus on the knowledge and skills required to manage and execute written discovery. Effective discovery requires identifying and understanding the legal principles and detailed facts of a client's case; crafting a theme and trial plan; and using this information to conduct discovery in a manner that maximizes a case's strengths and accommodates its weaknesses. Students will participate in exercises designed to simulate the experience of an attorney charged with responsibility for written discovery. Topics will include preliminary case assessment; articulation of a case's themes; initial disclosures; discovery conferences and scheduling orders; drafting and responding to requests for production, interrogatories, and requests for admission; privilege and work production protections; protective orders and common interest agreements; written expert discovery; meet-and-confer letters; and motions to compel. The course will be taught by U.S. Magistrate Judge Eva Dossier of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

**Special Courses****Directed Research**

Directed Research is a way for students to receive one, two, or three hours of credit for research papers completed under the supervision of a member of the full-time faculty. The faculty member must approve the topic and scope of the paper and determine the number of pages required for the credit granted. Students may receive a maximum of three credits during their entire degree program.