Clinical Rotation - Spring 2015

General Description:

The Clinical Rotation (2 credits, graded pass/fail) aims to help first-year students refine their career interests by providing early exposure to diverse areas of law practice. It allows students to rotate through three in-house clinics exposing them to three distinct practice areas and lawyering styles. Students enrolled in the Clinic Rotation will spend four weeks with each of the three practice areas led by an in-house clinical faculty member/attorney. Practice areas include criminal defense, employment/civil litigation, entrepreneurial law, family law, health and disability law, and tax and probate law.

During each four-week rotation, students may be given the opportunity to gain exposure to the inner workings of a law practice and they may be exposed to or participate in any of the following: legal and factual research, client interview simulations, document drafting, discovery review, simulations of administrative hearings and negotiations, trial strategy sessions, and observation of court and motion calls. Due to the differences among the practice areas and the nature of the practice of law, student experiences will vary between practice areas and individual rotations.

Scheduling:

Students will be required to put in a total of 112 hours over the course of the semester. This includes weekly attendance for 14 weeks at a two-hour plenary session (28 hours total), which will expose students to various aspects of practice, lawyering ethics, and law offices management. Students will spend their remaining 84 hours (seven hours a week) during the 3 Clinical Rotations working independently, in groups, and in collaboration with the clinical faculty members, including a weekly two-hour group discussion session taught by the clinical professor to whom they have been assigned for the four-week period. The three four-week Clinical Rotations will end after the 13th week of the semester.

The weekly plenary sessions will meet on Thursdays from 1:55 to 3:45 pm. The weekly group discussion sessions with individual clinical professors will meet either Tuesdays 4:00-5:50pm or Thursdays 4:00-5:50pm (depending on the professor). The remainder of the student’s hours (five hours per week) will be scheduled so as not to conflict with the class meeting times for the student’s other courses.

Grading:

Students enrolled in the Clinic Rotation will be graded on a pass/fail basis and will receive a grade of Pass, Low Pass, or Fail. Attendance at all 14 plenary sessions and all 12 group discussion sessions is mandatory. If a student is absent from one or two plenary sessions or group discussion sessions or a combination of one or two such sessions his or her grade will not be affected; if however, a student is absent from a combination of either three or four such sessions, he or she will receive a grade of LOW PASS; and if a student is absent from a
combination of more than four such sessions he or she will receive a grade of FAIL. In addition, if a student does not satisfactorily complete his or her weekly Clinic Rotation assignments he or she will receive a grade of LOW PASS or FAIL.

Application:

There are spaces for 64 first-year students in the Clinical Rotation. If applications exceed the number of spaces, students will be chosen randomly. Applicants should rank the six practice areas (see above) in the order of their preference. Each student will be assigned to three practice areas. We will do our best to give students their top preferences, but it is unlikely that we will be able to give every student his or her top three preferences.

[Click here](#) to go to the application form. Applications are due no later than Friday, November 14.