

**2012 WINTER INTERSESSION
JANUARY 4-10, 2012
SCHEDULE & COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
ALL COURSES GRADED PASS/FAIL**

NO ABSENCES ALLOWED

SEM HRS	RM	CRN	COURSE	PROFESSOR	DAYS	TIME
1	3039	15012	Collaborative Law	Trusch	MT	9:00-5:00
1	3022	15001	Internet Legal Research	Steiner	MT	9:00-5:00
1	4009	15013	Military Law for Civilian Attorneys	Corn	MT	9:00-5:00
1	3038	15007	Nonprofit Incorporation	Stevenson	MT	9:00-5:00
2	3038	15006	Case Assessment & Strategy	Stevenson	WRFS	9:00-5:00
2	514	15008	Deposition Skills	Lewinbuk	WRFS	9:00-5:00
2	4009	15010	Ethics for Criminal Prosecutors	Corn	WRFS	9:00-5:00
1	3021	15015	Family Law Mediation	Kovach/Wettman	WRFS	9:00-5:00
2	3022	15017	Interviewing and Counseling	Luke	WRFS	9:00-5:00
2	513	15011	Law Office Management	Dennis	WRFS	9:00-5:00

CRN 15006 CASE ASSESSMENT & STRATEGY – 2 SEMESTER HOURS CREDIT, PAPER

Four-day skills workshop teaching students to assess cases and strategize during different phases of litigation: when deciding whether to bring suit, during settlement negotiations or plea bargaining, discovery, trial, and assessment of damages or sanctions. Decision trees, basic game theory models, discounted valuations of damages or liability, information costs, and trial sequencing are core skills taught. Students receive an introduction to relevant economic concepts like moral hazard, adverse selection, best cost avoider, the knee of the curve, risk allocation, Pareto Optimality, and negative externalities, which as litigators they can incorporate into a theory of the case or analysis of an opponent's arguments. Strategies include calculating whether suits should be brought and when they should settle; calculating optimal initial demand amounts during negotiations; and using the sequence of issues in the upcoming trial itself to influence settlement negotiations beforehand.

CRN 15012 COLLABORATIVE LAW TRAINING – 1 SEMESTER HOUR CREDIT

This course is a two-day intensive training in the newest process in Alternative Dispute Resolution. Students at the training will be instructed in making the paradigm shift from the litigation to the collaborative model, in teaching clients to utilize interest-base negotiations (as opposed to positional bargaining) in fashioning a settlement, and in utilizing other professionals in assisting clients in reaching their goals. The faculty will utilize various instructional techniques, including lectures, live and video demonstrations, and role-plays.

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CRN 15008 DEPOSITION SKILLS – 2 SEMESTER HOURS CREDIT, PROJECT

This course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to take and defend depositions. Students will explore why and when to take depositions; how to draft deposition notices for individual deponents, non-party witnesses, and corporate designees; how to draft successful deposition outlines; proper deposition questions and objections; and approaches to dealing with unruly and unprofessional opposing counsel during depositions. Students will take and defend several mock depositions.

CRN 15010 ETHICS FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTORS – 2 SEMESTER HOURS CREDIT

This course will explore the ethical obligations and responsibilities of a prosecutor. The prosecutor has a unique charge to do justice while at the same time representing her client. Typical professional responsibility courses seldom have the time to cover the particular ethical issues faced by government lawyers in criminal cases. This course is intended to expand the student's basic understanding of the ethical rules and prepare the student for the ethical challenges he or she is likely to face when engaged in the legal profession as a criminal practitioner.

CRN 15015 FAMILY LAW MEDIATION – 1 SEMESTER HOUR CREDIT

A skills focused course, Family Law Mediation provides students the understanding and expertise for the advanced use of mediation in a variety family law related matters. The course will also explore the different approaches to mediation in this context, as well as the case law surrounding and impacting such practice. The course also complies with both the Texas statutory training requirements for mediation as well as the Texas Mediation Trainers Roundtable Standards.

CRN 15001 INTERNET LEGAL RESEARCH – 1 SEMESTER CREDIT

This course concentrates on Web browsers and Web search and indexing tools, and will emphasize the location and content of primary and secondary legal materials on the Internet.

CRN 15017 INTERVIEWING AND COUNSELING – 2 SEMESTER CREDIT

Examination of the attorney-client relationship, including establishing the relationship in the initial interview; billing arrangements; the importance of continuing communications; case analysis; decision making; counseling with the client as to case development and strategy; preparation of the client for settlement negotiations as well as trial; termination of the relationship, including the collection of fees. Students will conduct several mock interviews of clients and witnesses throughout the semester.

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CRN 15011 LAW OFFICE MANAGEMENT – 2 SEMESTER HOURS CREDIT

This course examines the issues encountered in establishing and operating a successful law office, for either a solo practitioner or small firm. Students will create an individual business plan, covering such subjects as: client generation and retention; filing and control systems; accounting methods; insurance programs; IOLTA, FDIC, and document retention obligations; fee determination and alternative billing options; interviewing and counseling clients, and cost-effective legal research options.

CRN 15013 MILITARY LAW FOR CIVILIAN ATTRN – 1 SEMESTER HOUR CREDIT

This course will provide a primer in military criminal practice for future civilian attorneys interested in practice in military jurisdictions. It will provide students with a practical understanding of the military justice system and the military trial process. Texas has the largest military population in the nation, with 8 major military installations within a four hour distance of Houston. This military presence produces a wide array of criminal cases in which civilian defense attorneys routinely participate.

CRN 15007 NONPROFIT INCORPORATION – 1 SEMESTER CREDIT, PROJECT

Students will learn how to incorporate various types of nonprofit entities, how to apply for state and federal tax exemption, and special legal issues to keep in mind as they counsel startup nonprofits. At the end of the course, students should have the necessary knowledge and practice to perform a complete incorporation for a nonprofit organization in Texas.

This is a one hour skills course. Students will complete exercises of drafting Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, obtaining an Employer Identification Number from the IRS, applying for 501(c)3 status, etc. Course requires completion of a drafting project within 28 days after the two days of class lecture.