

# TULANE LAW SCHOOL

# CLINICAL PROGRAMS

Currently, Tulane Law School offers the clinical courses described below.

CLINIC	FACULTY
Civil Litigation	Lucia Blacksher Ranier & Samuel Brandao
Criminal Defense	Katherine Mattes & Sheila Myers
Domestic Violence	Becki T. Kondkar & Timothy McEvoy
Environmental Law	Adam Babich, Lisa Jordan, Machel Lee Hall, Elizabeth Calderon, & Corinne Van Dalen
Juvenile Advocacy	David Katner
Legislative & Administrative Advocacy	David Marcello & Jim Babst

Legislative & Administrative Advocacy is offered in the fall semester. The Civil, Criminal, Environmental, Juvenile & Domestic Violence Clinics are full-year courses. The clinics offer graded credit as follows:

### FALL 2017

Clinic	Course Name	Hours
<b>A. Litigation Clinics</b>		
Civil	Civil Advocacy Seminar	3
	Civil Clinic	3
Criminal	Criminal Advocacy Seminar	3
	Criminal Clinic	3
Domestic Violence	Litigation Skills for Domestic Violence Clinic Students	3
	Domestic Violence Clinic	3
Environmental	Environmental Law Clinic	3
Juvenile	Juvenile Advocacy Seminar	3
	Juvenile Clinic	3
<b>B. Other Clinics</b>		
Legislative & Administrative	Legislative & Administrative Advocacy Clinic	3

### SPRING 2018

Clinic	Course Name	Hours
Civil	Civil Clinic	3
Criminal	Criminal Clinic	3
Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Clinic	3
Environmental	Environmental Law Clinic	3
Juvenile	Juvenile Clinic	3

# TULANE LAW CLINIC REQUIREMENTS

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must have completed legal studies amounting to at least four full-time semesters, except for Environmental Law Clinic and Legislative & Administrative Advocacy.
2. Must have completed the required law school course work in Legal Profession, except for Legislative & Administrative Advocacy.
3. Litigation clinics require a one-year (two semester) commitment.
4. Students who have completed three full-time semesters may enroll in the Environmental Law Clinic in the Spring of their 2L year. They must take Legal Profession as a co-requisite.

## COURSE PREREQUISITES:

**Civil Clinic:** Evidence and Legal Profession are pre-requisites. Civil Advocacy Seminar and Trial Advocacy are co-requisites in the fall.

**Criminal Clinic:** Evidence and Legal Profession are pre-requisites. Constitutional Criminal Procedure Adjudication and Constitutional Criminal Procedure Investigation are strongly encouraged. Criminal Advocacy Seminar and Trial Advocacy are co-requisites in the fall. Completion of Trial Advocacy in 2L year is highly recommended.

**Domestic Violence Clinic:** Evidence and Legal Profession are pre-requisites. Litigation Skills for Domestic Violence Clinic Students and Trial Advocacy are co-requisites in the fall.

**Environmental Clinic:** Legal Profession is a pre-requisite for third year students and a co-requisite for students enrolling in the spring of their 2L year.

**Juvenile Clinic:** Evidence and Legal Profession are pre-requisites. Constitutional Criminal Procedure is strongly recommended. Juvenile Advocacy Seminar and Trial Advocacy are co-requisites in the fall.

**Responsibilities:** Clinic students are fully responsible for their cases and for compliance with clinic duties from the beginning of classes in the fall through the end of classes. During vacations, exams, weekends, or other occasions of absence or scheduling conflict, each student remains responsible for his or her cases, including court or agency appearances, or must provide for their handling by another student in the same clinical program or by the Supervising Attorney. Students must check their mailbox, e-mails, and phone messages on an ongoing basis. Some clinics may hold an Orientation during the week preceding the onset of the fall semester.

**Time Commitments:** Each clinic student should expect to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week on clinic work.

**Employment and Other Outside Activities:** For reasons relating to conflicts of interest, students are not permitted to accept outside employment unless the clinic director has granted prior approval for that employment.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**Civil Clinic:** Professor of the Practice Lucia Blacksher Ranier and Clinical Instructor Samuel Brandao will supervise students representing clients primarily in the areas of fair housing, equal employment opportunity, and civil rights/civil liberties. Students may draft motions, pleadings, discovery requests, and briefs; conduct depositions; argue motions; and try cases in state and federal court. The seminar focuses on civil, pre-trial advocacy and procedure, and develops pre-trial practice skills in client interviewing, case planning, drafting pleadings and discovery requests, taking and defending depositions, motion practice, and jury selection.

**Criminal Clinic:** Senior Professor of the Practice Katherine Mattes and Clinical Instructor Sheila Myers will supervise students representing indigent criminal defendants in all phases of a criminal case: arraignments, preliminary examinations, pretrial motions and trials; parole hearings before the parole board; state post-conviction relief; appeals to the Louisiana Fourth 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 State Supreme Court. Additionally, students engage in non-litigation advocacy on behalf of clinic client's such as testifying before the state legislature, meeting with community organizations, and community legal education. The seminar consists of instruction in procedural law, evidence, professional responsibility and ethical considerations, and exercises in lawyering skills and trial technique.

**Domestic Violence Clinic:** Professor of the Practice Becki Kondkar and Clinical Instructor Timothy McEvoy will supervise students representing indigent survivors of domestic violence in cases involving protective orders, child custody, divorce, support, housing, and a variety of other legal issues. Student attorneys handle all stages of client litigation - conducting client interviews, drafting discovery and pleadings, taking and defending depositions, arguing motions, and trying contested cases in state court. The seminar focuses on civil litigation skills relating to pre-trial practice and discovery, professionalism, evidence, and trial practice.

**Environmental Law Clinic:** Professor Adam Babich, Clinical Instructors Lisa Jordan, Elizabeth Calderon, Machel Lee Hall and Corinne Van Dalen will supervise J.D. students who handle environmental matters before federal and state courts, and administrative agencies. Environmental clinic cases generally involve air and water pollution, natural resources and wildlife, energy conservation, and urban environmental issues. Student attorneys research and draft pleadings and comments, write and argue motions and petitions, conduct discovery, and present testimony and evidence at hearings and trials. Clinic meetings will include advocacy instruction and related assignments.

**Juvenile Clinic:** Professor David R. Katner will supervise ten students who represent children in cases of juvenile delinquency. The student-attorneys are required to handle all fact investigations, motions, and trials before Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, and writs and appeals in the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal and Louisiana Supreme Court. In the three-hour fall seminar, students learn procedural and substantive law, advocacy skills, civil and criminal procedure, and professional responsibility.

**Legislative & Administrative Advocacy Clinic:** Legislative Clinic is a three-hour course, covering the processes by which bills become law and rules are promulgated. It will be open for enrollment by second and third year students. Students will attend classes that meet for 75 minutes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. They will study research methodologies, drafting techniques, constitutional restrictions, and public access to information. Each student will research and draft a bill or regulation, present it in a mock hearing, and write a research paper. Fifteen students will be permitted to enroll. Students will register via Gibson Online; no application process is required. Each student's grade will be based in equal proportions on the draft of an instrument, mock hearing, and research paper.

## CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

Successful participation in clinical programs requires a substantial commitment of time, motivation, and responsibility. Selection is based on an individual evaluation process, including written applications and interviews by a member of the clinical faculty. Selection criteria include the following factors:

1. Students applying for litigation clinics must meet the requirements of the student practice rule (Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XX). This rule does not apply to students in the Legislative & Administrative Advocacy Clinic or second year students in the Environmental Clinic. Among other things, Rule XX requires that students admitted to the limited practice of law: a) Have completed legal studies amounting to **at least four full-time semesters**, or the equivalent if the school is on some basis other than a semester basis; and b) Have completed the **required law school course work in legal profession**.
2. Career goals of the student.
3. Ability of the student to satisfy standards of professional responsibility.
4. Ability of the student to devote 12-15 hours per week to clinical responsibilities while remaining in good academic standing in the Law School.
5. Demonstrated ability to meet professional and academic obligations.
6. Additional restrictions applicable to the Environmental Law Clinic appear on the Tulane Law School web page.

## **APPLICATION LOCATION**

The Experiential Learning Application can be found on the Law School Intranet page under Depts-Offices/Experiential-Learning.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

**Civil, Criminal, Domestic Violence and Juvenile Clinics:** Applications will be accepted from **Friday, March 3, 2017 through 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 15, 2017. Lisa Lamonte will contact you by email to schedule an interview.**

**Environmental Clinic:** Applications will be accepted from **Friday, March 3, 2017 through 5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 15, 2017. Interviews are not conducted for Environmental clinic positions.**

**Legislative & Administrative Advocacy Clinic:** No application is required; students can enroll using Gibson Online. Interested students who do not make the 15 student enrollment cutoff should place themselves on the wait list and attend the first class, when decisions will be made about enrollment in the course.

**Please note that if students are not accepted into their first choice clinic, students may receive an acceptance for their second or third choice experiential learning opportunity.**