Judicial Clerkship Externship

The Judicial Clerkship Externship Experience

This externship course offers students a structured, hands-on exposure to civil and criminal litigation from the judicial perspective.

Students work as part-time law clerks under the supervision of local, state or federal trial or appellate judges.

The clerkship provides an opportunity for students to develop advanced legal research and writing skills.

Typical Activities

- Observing hearings, trials and other court proceedings
- Performing extensive legal research
- Drafting a series of legal memoranda relevant to cases under submission by the courts

Requirements

To receive 3 credits, students must work in their placements a minimum of 156 hours; they must work 208 hours to earn 4 credits; 260 hours to earn 5 credits; 312 hours to earn 6 credits; 364 hours to earn 7 credits; or 416 hours to earn 8 credits. Additionally, students must produce a minimum of 10 pages of polished research and writing for each credit hour for which they are enrolled.

Attend bi-weekly meetings with course instructor. Students who are notified that they are enrolled in this externship must attend an orientation meeting prior to the start of the semester.

Judicial Clerkship Externship Faculty

Adjunct Professor Charles Bobinette
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(314) 621-9550

Prerequisites

Students must have completed a course from the ethics curriculum.

NOTE: Some courts require that students have legal writing experience or have demonstrated their scholastic excellence.

The Bottom Line

- Enrollment is limited to 14 students.
- The course is graded on a credit/no credit basis.
- There is no final exam for this course.
- This course can be taken for 3-8 credits, with each credit hour having a minimum number of written pages that must be produced and a minimum number of hours per week that must be worked.

Note: Credits from this course count toward the 19 maximum credits a J.D. student can take in non-law classes and law classes without a classroom component or clinics/externships without direct supervision of the clinical work by a law school faculty member.

- Students are NOT required to have Rule 13 certification.
- Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.40 to be accepted into the Judicial Clerkship Externship.