

Appellate Clinic

The Appellate Clinic Experience

Professor Bruce La Pierre, a veteran constitutional law professor and an experienced appellate advocate, established the Appellate Clinic in 2004.

Students brief and argue cases in the United States Courts of Appeals for the Sixth and Eighth Circuits under the supervision of Professor La Pierre and Adjunct Professor Brian C. Walsh, an appellate litigation partner at the law firm of Bryan Cave. The clerks of the two courts appoint the clinic to represent appellants in habeas and civil rights cases to ensure the court receives a full briefing on important issues. Students work on all aspects of the appeals, and, in most cases, one student will have an opportunity to argue the appeal. Students should be prepared to do extensive research and will have an opportunity to write and revise substantial portions of the brief.

At the beginning of the semester, there will be a few regularly scheduled meetings — on a day and time convenient for the students and instructors. Later in the semester, students will meet in groups assigned to particular cases and must be prepared to meet as often as necessary to complete the appeal.

Pre-/Co-Requisites

- There are no prerequisites for the Appellate Clinic.

Requirements

- The Appellate Clinic course requires superior research and writing skills.
- Students must be prepared to commit substantial amounts of time to preparing their clients' cases.

The Bottom Line

- This is a 4-credit course.
- The course is graded on a modified pass/fail basis.
- There is no final exam.

For more information:

Bruce La Pierre
lapierre@wustl.edu
(314) 935-6477

<http://law.wustl.edu/clinicaled/pages.aspx?id=1062>