

Criminal Law Courses

Students interested in a career in criminal law may choose to become prosecutors, defense lawyers and/or aspire to be judges in a court that handles criminal cases. Prosecutors enforce state and local laws as assistant district attorneys or city prosecutors. They may also work for the federal government as Assistant U.S. Attorneys or in the Justice Department. Criminal defense lawyers may work on their own or for private firms, or in a public defenders' office. Even big firm lawyers may defend those accused of white collar crimes, or advice on legal compliance. A few criminal law practitioners may even have the opportunity to prosecute, defend, or judge crimes on an international scale. For any of these jobs, a strong understanding of the substantive criminal law as well as constitutional criminal procedure is essential.

Foundation Courses – Introducing the Basics

Criminal Law

Constitutional Criminal Procedure: Investigation

Constitutional Criminal Procedure: Adjudication

Texas Criminal Procedure (if practicing in Texas)

Trial Advocacy or Trial Techniques I

Evidence

Recommended Courses – Criminal Law Electives

Advanced Criminal Law

Comparative Law II: Criminal Procedure (GW)

Criminal Justice Policy Practicum

Criminal Plea Negotiations

Criminal Procedure in the Digital Age (GW)

Criminal Tax Fraud

Death Penalty Project (GW)

International Criminal Law (EW)

International Humanitarian Law/Law of Armed Conflict (EW)

Perspectives on Counter-Terrorism (EW))

White Collar Crime

Juvenile Justice

Clinics

Actual Innocence Clinic

Criminal Clinic

Child Advocacy Clinic

Crimes Against Women Clinic

Family Immigration Detention Clinic

Related Courses

Immigration Law

Law & Science

Legislation

Negotiations

Trial Advocacy

The following Externships are available through our Government and Public Interest Program:

Collin County District Attorney's Office
Dallas County District Attorney's Office (general and Family Violence Prosecution)
Dallas County Public Defender (general and Conviction Integrity Unit)
Department of Defense Office of General Counsel
Department of State Office of Legal Adviser
Department of Justice Counterterrorism Section
Central Intelligence Agency Office of General Counsel
International Committee of the Red Cross
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Rockwall County District Attorney's Office
Federal Public Defender
U.S. Attorney's Office (N.D. Tex.-- Dallas)
U.S. Attorney's Office (E.D. Tex – Plano)
International Law Externships

Many of the judicial externships also involve courts that hear criminal as well as civil cases.

There are also numerous Public Service placements involving criminal prosecution or defense.

Faculty

Here are some members of the full-time faculty members who teach or have an interest in this area:

Hillel Bavli (evidence)
Chris Jenks
Jeff Kahn (counter-terrorism)
Pamela Metzger
Natalie Nanasi (domestic violence)
Anna Offit
Eric Ruben
Meghan Ryan
Jenia Turner (domestic and international)