

## Family Law Courses

Lawyers who practice family law help people deal with some of the most difficult issues in life: divorce, property division, and child custody. They may also help plan family-related matters such as adoption or planning for the allocation of property. Family law is interdisciplinary, as family-law related issues also arise in business law, criminal law (domestic violence), immigration law, international law, and juvenile justice (child abuse and juvenile delinquency). Family law practice requires a wide array of practice skills: client counseling, negotiation, and mediation, as well as advocacy skills for those disputes that are not informally resolved.

### *Foundation Courses – Introducing the Basics*

Children and the Law  
Evidence  
Family Law  
Juvenile Justice  
Professional Responsibility  
Texas Matrimonial Property

### *Advanced Courses*

Advanced Family Law (EW)  
Critical Race Theory (EW)

### *Related Courses*

ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution)  
Business Enterprise  
Counseling the Small Business Owner  
Creditors' Rights  
Estate, Gift & Income Tax  
Immigration law  
Income Taxation  
Law Practice Management  
Negotiations  
Trial Advocacy or Trial Techniques I  
Trusts & Estates  
Women and the Law

Law students may request permission to take up to six credit hours of graduate-level courses in other parts of the university. Those interested in family law might find relevant courses offered by the department of Psychology, the Simmons School of Education & Human Development, or the Perkins School of Theology.

### *Clinics*

Child Advocacy Clinic  
Family Law Clinic  
Crimes Against Women Clinic

*Externships*

Catholic Charities of Dallas  
Children at Risk  
Dallas CASA  
Dallas County District Attorney's Office – Family Violence Prosecution  
Mosaic Family Services

*Public Service Placements*

Attorney General of Texas – Child Support  
Catholic Charities of Dallas  
Collin County District Attorney – Crimes Against Children  
Collin County District Attorney – Family Justice Division  
Court Appointed Special Advocates (Dallas and Collin County)  
Dallas City Attorney's Office – Family Violence Unit  
Dallas County District Attorney's Office – Child Abuse Division  
Dallas County Probate Courts – Investigator's Office  
Disability Rights Texas  
Legal Aid of Northwest Texas (Dallas and McKinney)  
Mosaic Family Services  
Texas Appleseed (summers only)  
Texas Lawyers for Children

*Faculty*

Here are the full-time faculty members who teach or are interested in this area:

Natalie Nanasi  
Chante Brantley  
Diane Sumoski  
Josh Tate  
Jessica Dixon Weaver  
Joanna Grossman