



SMU | DEDMAN
SCHOOL OF LAW

Legal Clinics

Registration Packet SPRING 2023

<https://smu-law.12twenty.com/job-postings/35006701868800>

Registration Procedures

- Eligibility:** a) **COMPLETION OF One-third** of the hours required for graduation (minimum 29 hours) and all first year course work by the end of the Fall 2022 semester and b) **GPA 2.0 or above**. If you are currently on academic probation, you may not pre-register for any of the clinics.

Clinic	Prerequisites/*Co-Requisites (can take in same semester enrolled in clinic)	Mandatory Orientation
W.W. Caruth, Jr., Child Advocacy Clinic	Evidence*	T, Jan. 3, 12-4p W, Jan. 4, 9a-5p
Civil/Consumer Clinic	Professional Responsibility*	T, Jan. 3, 9:30a-4p W, Jan. 4, 10a-2p
Criminal Justice Clinic	Professional Responsibility* Evidence and Texas Criminal Procedure (recommended only)	T and W, ALL Day, Jan. 3-4
First Amendment Clinic	Evidence and Constitutional Law II (recommended only)	W, Jan. 4, 2-5p
Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women	Professional Responsibility* Evidence and Family Law (recommended only)	T & W, Jan. 3-4
Patent Law Clinic	See Patent Clinic Flyer for Requirements	T, Jan. 3, 9a-3p
Small Business & Trademark Clinics	1) Business Enterprise 2) Forming and Operating Closely-Held Businesses (recommended only)	T, Jan. 3, 9a-3p
Tax Clinic	Federal Income Tax	W, Jan.4, 9a-12p
VanSickle Family Law Clinic	Professional Responsibility*	T, Jan. 3, 9a-5p W, Jan. 4, 9a-2p

- Mandatory Orientations and Prerequisites/Co-Requisites: MAY NOT BE WAIVED.**
- Rank clinic choices:** Please rank your choice of clinic on the Clinic Application Form. Number 1 is first choice, 2 is second choice, etc. We will fill the Clinics according to your stated preference.
- Submit Application:** Download Application, complete, sign and initial application, then submit online via PerunaPro at <https://smu-law.12twenty.com/job-postings/35006701868800>. **Deadline to submit your Clinic Application online is by 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 25, 2022.**
- Drawing and Waiting List:** If your name is drawn for a Clinic slot, your name will be entered on the roll for that Clinic and your name will not be placed on any waiting list. After all Clinics slots have been filled, we will continue drawing names for the waiting lists and names will be placed on the waiting list of each clinic the student ranked on his/her application. Students will be notified of any openings in the order in which their names appear on the list. **You will be notified of the clinic selections by the close of business day, Friday, October 28, 2022.**
- Prior Clinic Experience:** If you have been enrolled in any of the Clinics at SMU (or in a clinical program at another school) **you cannot participate in the drawing**. Students without prior Clinic experience have priority. However, you may put your name on the waiting list for one of more of the Clinics after the drawing is completed. Your name will be added to the bottom of the waiting list.
- Registration:** If you are drawn for a clinic, your name will be on a Clinic list to register and you may only register for the Clinic for which you were selected. **Registration is November 1-2, 2022.**
- Dropping Clinic:** If you must drop Clinic, you must receive permission from the appropriate clinic director so other students on the waiting lists can enroll. **Drop deadline is by 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 5, 2022.**



SMU | DEDMAN
SCHOOL OF LAW

**Legal Clinics
SPRING 2023
Important Dates**

Week of October 17:	<u>Office Hours</u> with Clinic Chiefs.
Tuesday, October 18	Meet the Clinics in the Law Quad, 12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Monday, October 24	Legal Clinics Information Session with faculty/current students 201 Florence Hall 12:00-1:00 p.m. Free pizza!
Tuesday, October 25	8:00 a.m. - deadline to submit your Clinic application via PerunaPro https://smu-law.12twenty.com/job-postings/35006701868800
Friday, October 28	Clinic Placements Announcement by 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday Nov. 1 & 2	Spring 2023 Registration



W.W. Caruth, Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic: Spring 2023

<https://www.smu.edu/Law/Clinics/Caruth>

Our Clients

We represent abused and neglected children in child welfare cases in Dallas County in a dual role of attorney/guardian ad litem or only as their attorney ad litem. We also represent young adults who have aged out of foster care in certain selected legal matters.

Important Considerations in Committing to this Clinic and Our Clients

- ➔ **Mandatory orientation** Tuesday, Jan. 3 (noon-4 pm) & Wed., Jan. 4 (9a.m.-5 p.m.)
- ➔ You should expect to spend an average of **15 hours each week** on casework and classwork. The workload fluctuates with case events.
- ➔ You will likely handle from 2-3 cases, sometimes with a partner, sometimes on your own (with Director supervision).
- ➔ You will handle at least one, probably two, and possibly more court hearings.
- ➔ You will need to visit your child clients about once a month and will otherwise need to conduct “fieldwork” investigation activities around the Dallas area (and occasionally beyond).

Legal Experience

You will represent your clients first chair at all hearings, mediations, and trials, with the close supervision of the Director. You will interview child clients (or youth clients) and their family members, investigate the facts of the case, protect the interests of the children while in foster care, and advocate for the child’s needs, informally and through motion practice. A psychiatrist from UT Southwestern Med School may advise us on our cases.

Class Experience

Class occurs twice a week and explores child welfare law, oral and written advocacy, interviewing and counseling, trial preparation, and trial advocacy skills.

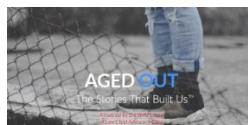
Guest speakers provide an interdisciplinary perspective on the law.

Interaction is emphasized. Classes often consist of “rounds” where Clinic cases are discussed among the class as a law firm with a Clinic student leading the discussion. Classes also include simulated or “mock” court and investigative situations – but based on *real Clinic cases* to help you prepare to represent your clients.

Supervision and Mentoring happen through one-on-one pre-scheduled weekly meetings with the Director.

Community Interaction

Among other things, you will collaborate on a podcast, conceived of and developed by Clinic students, where youth who aged out of the child welfare system are given a voice. You also will conduct intake for providing legal advice to youth who have aged out of care at the Transition Resource Access Center near downtown Dallas.



**ENROLL IN THE CHILD ADVOCACY CLINIC IF YOU WANT TO DEVELOP SKILLS
APPLICABLE TO LEGAL PRACTICE, GAIN VALUABLE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE, AND
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD**

CIVIL/CONSUMER CLINIC

5 CREDITS SPRING 2023

PRACTICE LAW ON BEHALF OF REAL CLIENTS

Students in the Civil/Consumer Clinic represent clients with real problems as **Associate Members of the State Bar of Texas** under the supervision of clinic faculty. In recent semesters, students have represented clients in landlord-tenant disputes, real estate litigation, and matters involving credit and debt. In earlier semesters, clinic students have secured U-Visas for immigrant clients, tracked down stolen cars and the “ring” engaged in scam sales, assisted in employment matters, helped a client enforce an elder healthcare employment contract, and stepped in to enforce a roofing contract.

In addition to the **direct representation**, students provide, they often engage in **outreach and education in the community**. In past semesters, students have also engaged in **legislative advocacy** on access-to-justice and consumer-related issues. Clinic students have staffed the **Covid-19 Helpline** during 2020 and 2021, participated in a monthly courthouse-based clinic for self-represented litigants and assisted tenants in coordination with the Housing Crisis Center.

While all student work is supervised by a clinic faculty member, the **student is first chair**. Students work and learn in all aspects of the lawyering process. They conduct client and witness interviews, fact investigation, legal research, and problem solving. They are responsible for advising and counseling their clients regarding available options, conducting negotiations and mediations, and if needed, engaging in litigation. For matters in litigation, Clinic students will draft pleadings and discovery, conduct negotiations and mediations, take and defend depositions, and serve as lead counsel in the courtroom where they will handle motion practice and hearings, trials and appeals.

Clinic faculty select cases that raise interesting legal and factual issues and that expose students to disputes and contested legal issues. Faculty try to keep caseloads small to allow students to fully explore the facts and legal issues of each case and to ensure that students provide excellent legal representation to their clients.

CLINIC FACULTY

Students work individually and in teams with Clinic faculty members. Associate Dean for Clinics, Professor [Mary Spector](#) is the Director of the Civil/Consumer Clinic and a Supervising Attorney. Clinical Professor [Eliot Shavin](#) is the Assistant Director and Supervising Attorney.

TIME COMMITMENT

Clinic students should expect to spend a **minimum of 15 hours each week** on clinic-related work including preparing for and attending the clinic lawyering seminar, interviewing potential new clients, and handling their assigned casework. **There is a mandatory classroom component:**

SPRING 2023: Classes will meet on Tuesdays AND Thursdays, 2:00-3:15 p.m. in Room # 305 Florence Hall.

Students also participate in weekly supervisory conferences where they work with faculty to develop their lawyering skills, discuss ethical issues, and review other dimensions of client representation. In scheduling other courses, students should take into account the flexibility that is needed to represent clinic clients and should not take a larger than normal course load.

ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION AND ORIENTATION

Eligibility

- Completion of 29 hours by the time the clinic semester begins.
- Not on academic probation at the time of pre-registration.
- Co-requisite: Professional Responsibility. May be taken before or during semester in which student is enrolled.

Registration

- You must submit an application **by 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 25th** and will be **notified about registration by end of business day, Friday, Oct. 28th**.
- Do not pre-register for a Clinic unless you intend to enroll.
- If you **MUST** drop Civil/Consumer Clinic, after registration, notify Mary Spector at mspector@smu.edu **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2022**

MANDATORY ORIENTATIONS: No Waivers!

**Tuesday, January 3, 2023, 9:30a-4:00p AND
Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 10:00a-2:00p**

SMU DEDMAN School of Law
Spring & Summer 2023
Criminal Clinic (6 Credits)

The Criminal Clinic provides law students who will practice as Associate Members of the State Bar of Texas a combination of academic and experiential learning through the practice of criminal defense law in the Dallas County Criminal Courts. In exchange, supervising attorneys certify to the Court that we will properly train and supervise you.

Students on the criminal clinic will represent low-income clients charged with misdemeanor offenses in the Dallas County Criminal Courts, some of the most common charges include: Assault, Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespass, DWI, Possession of Marijuana, Prostitution, Theft, and Unlawfully Carrying a Weapon. **YOU** will engage in investigation, interviewing, discovery, plea negotiations, case planning, motion practice and trial. With the assistance of the supervising attorneys, you will be handling real cases and represent real clients. You will act as trial counsel- arguing everything from a motion to suppress evidence with live police witnesses to a jury trial!

SMU's Criminal Clinic is in its 45th year. The supervising attorneys have been practicing criminal defense law for over a combined 86 years. Criminal Clinic Associate Director Mike McCollum has been with the Clinic for more than 43 years, and Adjunct Clinical Professor Debbie Sanchez is a former prosecutor with the Dallas District Attorney's Office and has been in private practice for over 24 years. The bulk of her practice involves representing individuals charged with felony offenses.

Your responsibility to the Clinic and your clients requires a substantial commitment on your part. Your time commitment to the Clinic is a minimum of 20 hours per week (total of at least 255 hours for the semester). This includes time spent at the courthouse, office hours (you must log 3 hours per week during business hours in the criminal clinic library) and class time. Mandatory classes are on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. In scheduling your other courses, you should take into account the flexibility you need to represent clients. It is highly recommended that you do not register for morning classes because you will be at the courthouse almost every day and court takes up most of the morning – do not schedule 9 or 10 o'clock classes in order to avoid conflicts.

The clinic is a one semester, graded course. We will enroll 12 students for the Spring semester and 4 students for the Summer for 6 credits each. Due to the nature of trial preparation, the time commitment to this Clinic has generally exceeded the minimum 20-hour requirement. Additionally, clinic assignments will include short reflective/observation papers, a trial notebook and meeting to review case file management.

Students applying for the summer should be aware that they must apply at the same time that the spring clinic students apply. Summer clinic students are required to take the class component of the clinic during the spring on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-4:45 PM and are required to observe 3 court settings at The Frank Crowley courthouse and write 3 short reflective/observation papers. Further, summer students will be enrolled in the clinic for the entire summer. This is not a 6-week or 12-week course; participating in the clinic during the summer should be considered in lieu of other internships and work. Summer clinic students will not receive all 6 credit hours in one semester, but students will be able to tell the registrar how they would like to split their hours (as long as at least one credit hour is taken in the spring and at least one is taken in the summer).

To be eligible for the Criminal Clinic, you must be a student in good academic standing, you must have completed at least one-third (29 hours) of the credits required for graduation.

Professional Responsibility is a required co-requisite class, meaning you must have either already taken Professional Responsibility or be scheduled to take Professional Responsibility at the same time you would be in the Criminal Clinic. Recommended classes are Evidence and Texas Criminal Procedure.

Student selection for the Criminal Clinic is part of the general clinic pre-registration process.

MANDATORY TWO-DAY ORIENTATION: January 3rd and 4th all day.

If you MUST DROP Criminal Clinic, you MUST RECEIVE PERMISSION by notifying Administrative Assistant Gloria Zapata at gzapata@smu.edu, by 5 p.m. on Monday, December 5, 2022, who will then contact Associate Director Mike McCollum and Associate Director Debbie Sanchez.

First Amendment Clinic (4 credits)

The First Amendment Clinic, funded by the Stanton Foundation, focuses on First Amendment issues including free speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly and petition.

Director, **Tom Leatherbury**, Senior Partner in Vinson & Elkins' Appellate Practice, regularly represents traditional and digital publishers, as well as broadcasters, in all aspects of media litigation, including libel, privacy and other torts, reporter's privilege, newsgathering and access, misappropriation, and breach of contract actions. Prior to joining SMU, he worked on cases with First Amendment clinics at Yale Law School and at Cornell Law School.

Clinic Fellow, **Peter Steffensen**. Before coming to SMU, Peter was a Staff Attorney in the Criminal Injustice Program at the Texas Civil Rights Project, where he litigated and advocated for systemic policy change in the areas of pretrial detention, conditions of confinement, and police abuse & misconduct, among others. Peter received his B.A. from Rice University in 2010, and his J.D. from NYU School of Law in 2017.

The Clinic expects to represent individuals and media organizations, both non-profit and for-profit, in a range of matters that could include:

- Defamation defense
- Texas Citizens Participation Act proceedings (anti-SLAPP)
- Motions to obtain access to court records and courtroom proceedings
- Challenges to gag orders in criminal and civil cases
- Motions to quash subpoenas of journalists
- Claims defending/advancing the rights of petition or assembly
- Pre-publication review of news articles
- Amicus briefs on First Amendment issues
- Requests for government records under state and federal records laws

Mandatory Orientation:	1 st Amendment Clinic Orientation, 2:00-5:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 4, 2023 - Location TBD
Class:	Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m., 302 Florence Hall. 4 credit hours. Students should expect to spend approximately 12 hours per week on clinic-related work.
Director:	Tom Leatherbury tleatherbury@velaw.com Ph. 214.220.7792
Clinic Fellow:	Peter Steffensen psteffensen@smu.edu Ph. 214.768.4077
Recommended Courses:	Evidence, Constitutional Law II
Drop Date:	To drop clinic you must notify Director Tom Leatherbury via email at tleatherbury@velw.com , by 5:00 p.m. Monday, December 5, 2022.

HUNTER LEGAL CENTER FOR VICTIMS OF CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN

Providing legal representation to survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking and engaging in advocacy to seek long-term solutions to gender-based violence



FIELDWORK

In teams of two, students represent survivors in matters such as securing post-conviction relief, family law claims, or humanitarian immigration petitions.

In teams of four, students work on projects such as creating educational or *pro se* materials, drafting policy papers or reports, or conducting legislative advocacy.

CLINIC SEMINAR

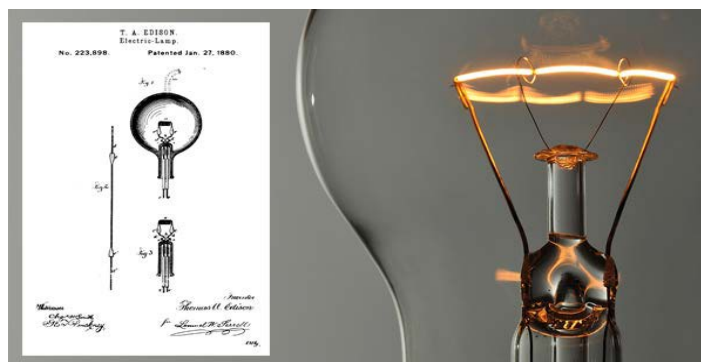
The clinic seminar provides the foundation for students' lawyering experiences. The interactive course includes small group work, role-plays, and other activities to help students gain understanding of and perspective on issues they may experience in their casework.

ELIGIBILITY

Professional Responsibility is a required co-requisite. A mandatory orientation will be held on January 3-4, 2023.

TIME COMMITMENT

Students should expect to spend approximately 20 hours per week on clinic work.



PATENT CLINIC Spring 2023

The Patent Clinic provides students with the opportunity to gain experience advising clients on patent-related matters, with the potential to represent these clients in front of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Students, under the supervision of an adjunct clinical professor who is a practicing patent attorney, will provide pro bono legal services to individual and small business clients seeking to protect their inventions using the patent system. The work will typically involve counseling clients regarding patent-related matters, conducting inventor interviews, conducting patentability searches, preparing patentability opinions, drafting and filing patent applications, and drafting and filing responses to communications received from the USPTO.

Class Time and Credit Hours: All students will meet with the clinic director on Mondays from 4:20pm to 5:50pm for advanced instruction on selected patent prosecution topics. Students successfully completing the Patent Clinic will earn 3 credit hours.

Eligibility: To participate in the Patent Clinic: (1) you cannot be a USPTO employee, (2) you must have successfully completed 1/2 of the credits required for graduation, (3) you must not be on academic probation, and (4) you must meet one or more following qualifications: (a) Successful completion of Patent Law; (b) Significant patent-related experience; and/or (c) Registered to practice before the USPTO. Preference will be given to those who have completed or are concurrently enrolled in Patent Prosecution.

Though you need not already be registered to practice before the USPTO, you must have the necessary technical background to qualify to take the Patent Bar examination for registration to practice before the USPTO. The necessary technical qualifications are explained in the USPTO's General Requirements Bulletin. (See http://www.uspto.gov/ip/boards/oed/exam/OED_GRB.pdf, pages 4-8.)

Important dates:

- Deadline to drop by Monday, December 5th at 5:00 p.m. You must contact Gloria Zapata at gzapata@smu.edu who will then contact the Director.
- Orientation is Tuesday, January 3rd 2023, 9:00-3:00.
- Class: Mondays 4:20-5:50

**SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW
SMALL BUSINESS AND TRADEMARK CLINIC**

SMALL BUSINESS AND TRADEMARK CLINIC. The Small Business and Trademark Clinic provides free legal services to new and existing small businesses and non-profit organizations that cannot afford to pay legal fees. In addition, this Clinic is a member of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's prestigious Law School Clinic program. Law students will act as Associate Members of the State Bar of Texas. Clinic students will learn how to advise clients about the start-up of their businesses and non-profit corporations, prepare necessary formation documents, counsel clients regarding various legal issues, and draft contracts, licenses and assignments. Students will also advise clients about basic trademark matters, research availability of trademarks as well as draft, file and handle federal trademark applications with the USPTO and state trademark applications with the Secretary of State.

If you are accepted for the Small Business and Trademark Clinic, you will work directly with clients in the transactional practice of law and represent clients with business, trademark and/or copyright matters.

Number of Students	6 for Spring 2023
Prerequisites	Business Enterprises and a student in good standing.
Recommended course	Counseling the Small Business Owner (not required).
Time Commitment	Minimum 135 working hours during the semester. You must be available during the day for clinic office hours.
Class	Tuesday 9:30-10:50 am
Credit	3 credits, no exam.
Orientation is Mandatory	Tuesday, January 3rd, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**DO NOT PRE-REGISTER FOR ANY CLINIC UNLESS YOU INTEND TO ENROLL AND
ATTEND ORIENTATION.**

Tremendous time and effort goes into preparing for the Clinics. Please do not sign up if you do not intend to follow through on your registration. Students who drop within 10 days of school starting may result in a Clinic slot going unfilled.

If you must drop the Small Business and Trademark Clinic, you must notify Gloria Zapata, Administrative Assistant, at gzapata@smu.edu by 5:00 p.m. on December 5th, 2022 so other students on the waiting lists can enroll. In scheduling your other courses, you should take into account the flexibility of time you will need to represent clients. **YOU MUST HAVE COMPLETED 1/3 OF YOUR HOURS FOR GRADUATION (MINIMUM 29 HOURS) BY THE END OF THE FALL SEMESTER 2022.**

**ORIENTATION IS MANDATORY. NO EXCUSED ABSENCES
PERMITTED.**

SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW
TAX CLINIC
Spring 2023

TAX CLINIC - The Tax Clinic is a combination of academic and practical experience. Students represent low-income clients who have tax problems before the Internal Revenue Service. The scope of representation ranges from negotiating settlements and collection plans with the IRS to taking a client's case to Tax Court. Participation in the Tax Clinic will be a unique educational experience in which you will be participating in the representation of actual clients before the IRS and in certain instances in the Tax Court.

Co-requisite	Federal Income Taxation and a student in good standing.
Time Commitment	Minimum of 12 hours per week. You need to be available during the day.
Class	Monday 2:00-3:15
Credit	4 hours for the spring semester

DO NOT PRE-REGISTER FOR ANY CLINIC UNLESS YOU INTEND TO ENROLL AND ATTEND ORIENTATION. Tremendous time and effort goes into preparing for the Clinics. Please do not sign up if you do not intend to follow through on your registration. Students who drop within 10 days of school starting may result in a Clinic slot going unfilled. **If you must drop the Tax Clinic, you must notify Gloria Zapata, Administrative Assistant, at gzapata@smu.edu by 5 pm on Monday, December 5th, 2022 so students on the waiting lists can enroll.**

In scheduling your other courses, you should take into account the flexibility of time you will need to represent clients. **YOU MUST HAVE COMPLETED 1/3 OF YOUR HOURS FOR GRADUATION (MINIMUM 29 HOURS) BY THE END OF THE FALL SEMESTER 2022.**

Orientation – Wednesday, January 4, 2023 9:00-12:00

ORIENTATION IS MANDATORY NO EXCUSED ABSENCES



LAUNCHED
SPRING
2016
WITH 6
STUDENT
ATTORNEYS

VanSickle Family Law Clinic

Mission

We exist to increase access to justice and mentor student associates to think and act like competent ethical lawyers.

Skills

Student associates develop fundamental lawyering skills - that can be transferred to any practice area - including, interviewing and counseling clients, negotiating, fact development and analysis, strategic case planning, conflict resolution and decision making, motion and trial practice, drafting pleadings and letters, organization and management of legal work.

THE CLINIC

The VanSickle Family Law clinic provides legal services to low-income clients in all matters of family law such as divorce, child custody, protective orders, modifications, child support & adoption. We also collaborate with Judges, DVAP, and community and pro bono organizations to increase access to justice. Through our popular "self-help desk" at the courthouse, we have provided brief services to over 1300 self-represented litigants.

Real Clients

Student associates will have an opportunity to use the law learned, such as civil procedure, while representing real clients.

Class & Time Commitment

The seminar component will integrate substantive law and theory relevant to family law, core lawyering skills and legal ethics to enhance students' real world law practice experience.

The pedagogy will include, simulations, docket call, exercises, role plays and case-rounds. It will also include guest speakers, field trips and pro se courthouse project. You will spend approximately 18 hours a week for Clinic course work (includes class time & preparation, etc.) and receive 6 credits for the course. Note - 6-8 weeks of class time will be at the courthouse providing brief services to those representing themselves.

Casework & Supervision

Students will be the primary practitioners on cases (as lead counsel or member of a team) & meet weekly with supervising attorney for guidance, tutorials, case planning & updates.

Meets Wednesdays,
9-11:20 AM

Mandatory Orientation
Tue | Jan 3 | 9-5p &
Wed | Jan 4 | 9-2p

Professional
Responsibility is a required
co-requisite (may take concurrently)