

## **ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - SPRING 2018**

### **ADMIRALTY LAW - LAW 780**

This course involves a study of the jurisdiction of admiralty courts and the laws affecting maritime rights and obligations. Areas included are the history of maritime law, choice of law in admiralty cases, maritime property interests, rights of seamen, carriage of goods, salvage, and collision.

### **APPLIED LEGAL REASONING - LAW 889**

This class is the bridge between the three-year law school curriculum and the two months of bar review following graduation. The course teaches much of the law tested on the bar exam, yet focuses primarily on thinking skills and test-taking strategies. Extensive coverage is given to the most difficult part of the bar exam: the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), the 200-question multiple-choice test that is part of the bar exam of every state except Louisiana and Washington State. The course also covers essay and performance test writing techniques. The Fall Semester (1 credit) will cover Torts, Criminal Law, & Criminal Procedure. The spring course (2 credits) will cover Evidence, Contracts, Property, & Constitutional Law. The Fall Semester course is not a formal prerequisite for the Spring Semester, but is highly recommended.

### **BANKING LAW - LSM 804**

This course examines the systems of federal and state commercial bank and bank-holding company regulations. Coverage ranges from the business of banking and its role to consideration of permissible activities and international banking by U.S. banks.

### **BANKRUPTCY - LAW 784**

This course covers the basic principles of individual and business bankruptcies. The course will first cover the core bankruptcy principles that are generally applicable to every type of bankruptcy, including the automatic stay, the bankruptcy estate, and the rights of creditors. These provisions of the Bankruptcy Code are found in Chapters 1, 3 and 5. The course will then cover the basic principles of individual bankruptcies. This part of the course will focus on Chapters 7 and 13 of the Bankruptcy Code. The course will then cover the basic principles of business bankruptcies. This part of the course will focus on Chapter 11.

### **BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS - LAW 635**

This course surveys and analyzes the various forms of business enterprises. Organizations include sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. Topics include the legal relationships between the corporation and its directors, officers, stockholders, and creditors; risk reduction devices; formation, dissolution, and termination; and agency relationships and responsibilities. Consideration is given to cases, statutes, model acts, and securities laws.

### **CONSTRUCTION LAW - LAW.637**

This course examines various legal issues affecting public and private construction projects from inception through post-completion. Among the topics covered in the course are: (1) project delivery methods; (2) risk identification and allocation; (3) responsibilities and liabilities of project owners, architects, contractors and subcontractors; (4) design and construction contracting principles and standard forms of agreement; (5) risk mitigation using insurance, bonds, indemnities and limitations of liability; (6)

change management; (7) common dispute types such as design errors and omissions, project delays and differing site conditions; and (8) claims and dispute resolution.

### **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE: ADJUDICATION - LAW 682**

This course is an analysis of selected and evolving criminal justice issues arising under the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Eighth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Within this context, emphasis is placed on the workings of the advocacy system, prosecution and defense functions.

### **EMPLOYMENT LAW - LAW 820**

This course will examine government regulation of the relationship of the individual employee and his or her employer. The propriety of regulating particular areas of the employment relationship and the efficacy of alternative regulatory schemes will be recurring themes. Areas of coverage may include employment at-will, wrongful termination, employment discrimination, regulation of compensation, workplace health and safety, unemployment compensation, and pensions.

### **FAMILY LAW - LAW 722**

This course examines the underlying social and economic principles of family life, its regulation by government, and constitutional limitations on regulation. Direct laws covering marriage, divorce, and child custody will be examined but also the course will cover those areas of law--property, income maintenance, medical care, schooling and crime--that also have direct impact on families in this society.

### **FEDERAL INCOME TAX - LAW 647**

This course provides a survey of the federal income tax system as it relates to individual and business activity. Topics include code, regulation, and case analysis; tax policy, economics, and public finance; and tax legislation. Specific concepts included are income, exclusions, deductions, credits, tax accounting, and tax procedure.

### **INTERNATIONAL LAW - LAW 770**

This basic course introduces students to the central topics, ideas and principles of present-day public international law. It will also cover the judicial and other structures including the United Nations, which are central to the determination and enforcement of this legal regime.

### **LABOR LAW - LAW 822**

This course surveys the federal regulation of the union-management relationship in the private sector. The principle focus of the course is the National Labor Relations Act. The course will examine the establishment of the collective bargaining relationship, the negotiation of the collective agreement, unfair labor practice proceedings, economic pressure tactics, the enforcement of the collective agreement, and the duty of fair representation.

### **LAW AND MEDICINE - LAW 726**

The two professions of law and medicine intersect in many parts of American society. Issues such as expert testimony, the doctor-patient relationship, malpractice, and ethical issues, including the right to die, and their legal ramifications will be reviewed.

### **MARINE INSURANCE – LAW 788**

This course examines the legal problems involved in insurance against physical loss or damage to maritime property (hull), against maritime liabilities (protection and indemnity), and for damage to goods (cargo).

### **MARITIME SECURITY LAW - LAW 792**

The course addresses the law of maritime security in the United States in the context of the post-September 11 global economy. Recent, essential measures such as the International Ship & Port Security Code and the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 will be covered in addition to traditional statutory and regulatory schemes such as port state control and the Safety of Life at Sea Convention. An underlying premise of the course is the relationship between environmental considerations and maritime security risk management in the practical implementation of legal principles. Students will learn principles of U.S. and international maritime security law in a context of transactional practice, including simulated client counseling and formulation of transaction documents such as legal opinions. Prior maritime and/or environmental law courses will be helpful, but are not a prerequisite.

### **MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS - LAW 809**

The course will explore corporate acquisitions, including mergers and consolidations, in the form of asset sale, stock sale, or statutory merger. The consequences of these transactions will be discussed, including, potentially, successor liability, securities regulations, antitrust, tax, accounting, environmental, intellectual property, ERISA, and other legal issues. Due diligence review, negotiation, and documentation will also be discussed. **Business Organizations is a prerequisite.**

### **OCEAN & COASTAL LAW - LAW 674**

The areas in which oceans and their branches and land masses meet are the source of many relationships largely peculiar to those areas. Sea level rise, global warming and effects on our oceans, coastal resilience and retreat options from mega storms like Sandy and Katrina, wetlands protection, environment and ecological issues, the position of the area in terms of industry and commerce including such international rules as those governing fisheries, whaling and other trapping and hunting, are a part of the special problems facing this zone and the areas of water and land nearby. The course examines the various legal regimes with a consideration of policy issues that are involved in the complex relationships generated in these areas.

### **PRIVACY LAW - LAW 677**

This course introduces students to the various frameworks of law governing the collection, use, access and disclosure of private sector data. Students will learn the Fair Information Practice Principles and the laws and regulations administering these principles by area of sensitive data: identity, medical, financial, education, and sales and marketing. Other topics include state privacy laws and legal limitations on government and court access to private-sector information. This course will also cover information tested for certification as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP).

### **REGULATORY COMPLIANCE – LAW 831**

This course is intended to introduce students to the growing field of corporate compliance. Students will learn the fundamental elements of an effective corporate compliance program and will analyze the practical and legal issues involved in designing, implementing and operating such a program. A compliance program is an organization's policies, procedures, and practices designed to create an ethical corporate culture and to prevent and detect wrongdoing.

### **RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE - LAW 810**

This class will take an in-depth look into the typical residential real estate transaction. Analysis will range from parsing individual clauses of a standard Purchase and Sales Agreement, to conducting a complete title examination, to understanding the broad spectrum of primary and secondary mortgage markets and products. The emphasis of the class will be on a practical approach making cognizant distinctions between legalities and practicalities.

### **SALES - LAW 652**

This course focuses primarily on Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code. A study of the law governing the sale of goods and financing thereof is covered including the law governing the formation and interpretation of commercial contracts, perfection of security interests and available remedies upon breach of contract. Implied and express warranties, risk of loss allocation and default are discussed.

### **SECURED TRANSACTIONS - LAW 653**

This course surveys Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code and focuses on financing and creation of a security interest in personal property and fixtures.

### **SEXUALITY AND THE LAW - LAW 721**

This course explores aspects of the legal regulation of sexuality. Among the questions on which we will focus throughout the semester are these: How has sexuality (and related notions such as sexuality and gender) been defined, posed and addressed as a problem in and for the U.S. legal system? What role do various conceptions of sexuality play in framing the terms, the argumentative strategies and resolution of legal disputes? What shaping functions do legal constructions of sexuality exert in and on broader political conversations about sex and social justice in the contemporary U.S.? Topics to be discussed include the scope and limits of the "public/private" distinction as a conceptual framework in U.S. sex law; legal efforts to define and distinguish sex, gender and sexuality, sexual acts, gender identities and expressions (male, female, transgender, transsexual, intersex), and sexual identities ("homosexuality," "heterosexuality," and "bisexuality"); law, sexuality and intimate association; sexuality, gender, and reproduction; gender, sexuality, surveillance and citizenship; law, sexuality, kinship and family relations; gender identity, sexuality and the legal construction, and regulation, of the human body; sex.

### **WILLS AND TRUSTS - LAW 749**

This course is intended to prepare a student to advise clients about ordering their personal and financial affairs to more effectively provide for themselves and the people about whom they care. Various dispositive mechanisms inter vivos testamentary and in trust, will be covered, as well as devices to appoint health care and financial proxies. The course will also address the ethical and professional responsibilities of lawyers representing clients in this area.

## **SEMINARS**

### **ANTITRUST – LSM 781**

This course examines the limitations imposed by the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, and Federal Trade Commission Act on anti-competitive practices of businesses. The course includes price fixing, monopolization, mergers, tying, restraints in distribution, boycotts, price discrimination, procedural issues in private enforcement, and the relationship between state and federal laws and enforcement.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE & LAW - LSM 888**

This course explores the impact that climatic changes are having, and will continue to have, on law and policy in the United States. Recent reports anticipate increased climate change impacts including water scarcity and decreased quality, ocean warming and acidification, sea level rise and coastal impacts, extreme weather events, risks to public health, increased forest wildfires, and national security risks. Coastal states on the forefront for these climate change impacts. Many coastal states are beginning to address adaptation through changes in law and policy. This course will examine the framework for federal and state policy and law changes to adapt to climate change, and the status of efforts throughout the United States. While the focus will be on efforts within the nation in coastal areas, the course will briefly discuss non-coastal and international climate change laws and policies. Students will be evaluated based on class participation and a paper that can fulfill their writing requirements.

### **FIRST AMENDMENT – LSM 762**

This seminar will look at selected topics of free speech and religion that are not ordinarily covered (or covered in any depth) in the constitutional law survey course. Topics may include: student speech, hate speech, compelled speech, the constitutionality of campaign finance restrictions, comparative international protections for religious freedom (e.g., restrictions on headscarves and Scientology), and protection for sacred sites. Students will select three or four of these topics to write short (5+ page) papers and lead discussion. Satisfactory completion of these papers will fulfill the writing requirement.

### **PATENT LAW - LSM 744**

Creativity and productive ideas have proven essential to economic progress. The federal government has developed an elaborate set of laws and regulations to protect these ideas from appropriation by others. This body of law, and elements of the practice under it, will be covered in detail. The patent law seminar includes elements of US and foreign patentability standards, perfection of patent rights, enforcement (litigation and ADR, border controls), relation to other bodies of law and practice such as antitrust, employment, corporate finance, licensing and joint ventures, federal civil procedure and evidence, international law, legal ethics, trademark, copyright, trade secret and Constitutional law. A background of science or technology education or experience can be helpful but is not required. Practical exercises in analyzing inventions and patents are given during the semester. The seminar grade is based primarily on a term paper due at the beginning of the exam period with some adjustment for class participation.

## **COURSES THAT MEET THE EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT**

**(THE CLINICAL COURSES LISTED BELOW ALSO COUNT TOWARD SATISFACTION OF THE EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT)**

### **ADVANCED ADVOCACY: CRIMINAL LAW - LAW 680**

This course focuses on the art of persuasion, with primary attention paid to written advocacy and a secondary focus on oral advocacy. Students will have an opportunity to write from both prosecution and defense perspectives. Using transcripts of two actual criminal trials – one a disorderly conduct and the other a murder – we look at how the choice of language impacts persuasion. Words count! When do we choose to call a defendant “Ms. Smith,” when “Jacqueline,” when “Jackie” and when “the young woman”? Do we refer to “the prosecution” or “the State” or “the government” or the prosecutor by name? Do we say, “Despite the late hour, she claimed she was alert and watching carefully out the window,” or do we say, “She testified she was awake and looking out the window at 2:14 a.m.”? What difference does it make? We stress creating themes, supporting them with propositions, and crafting messages to sell those propositions. We will also spend time on issue selection and framing: how does framing influence success? Issue analysis, creative reasoning, research skills and persuasive organization are all part of the advocacy process. Admission to the course by permission only. Students must submit two writing samples – of any length. One should be non-legal – it could be a college paper, a letter to the editor, a movie review or anything you have written outside of law school that you like. If you have nothing non-legal, you may write 250 words on why we should admit you to the course.

### **ADVANCED TRIAL ADVOCACY– LAW 702**

This course will take a criminal case as the jumping off point. Students will learn how to prepare and try a complex case. The class will focus on trial technique and strategy using cutting edge trial techniques and theories. Students will be evaluated based upon class participation and role playing in mock trial during the last two sessions of the class. Trial Advocacy is a prerequisite.

### **CONTRACT DRAFTING AND TRANSACTIONAL LAWYERING – LAW 756**

This course teaches all of the foundational skills of transactional lawyering, from advising and counseling business clients to the highest professional and ethical standards, to analyzing and drafting contracts to reflect the parties’ deal, objectives, and concerns. Students learn to understand a transaction through both its legal and business issues. In learning the process of drafting a contract, students learn to understand a client’s deal and then translate the deal into contract concepts that become the building blocks of the contract. Through exercises, simulations, and projects, students then learn to draft clear, careful, unambiguous provisions in a well-organized, readable, complete contract. Students learn how to add value to the contracted deal by drafting language or structuring the deal so that it shifts the risk levels for each party. Students also learn the art of analyzing, reviewing and commenting on drafted contracts using current practices and technologies. The class involves group exercises, simulations, and role play, as well as lecture. The type of contracts covered are relevant to most transactional law practices.

### **ESTATE PLANNING AND DRAFTING - LAW 754**

This course deals with the practical application of estate planning principles to various client situations. Topics include client interviews; estate planning for young adults, individuals contemplating marriage, unmarried couples, young couples with children, and older clients with children; transfers to grandchildren; planning for second marriages; asset protection; retirement planning; perpetual trusts; charitable gifts; and an overview of estate administration. **Wills and Trusts is a prerequisite.**

### **LEGAL PRACTICE III - LAW 646**

This course is designed to provide in-depth instruction in legal writing and analysis, and to help prepare students for legal practice. Students will complete a series of in-class and take-home exercises and will receive feedback on their writing throughout the semester. In addition, students will meet individually with their professor to discuss assignments, and to enhance their writing and analytical skills.

### **LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING & ADVOCACY - LAW 757**

Our lives are bordered by statutes. This course will teach the fundamentals of enacting statutes from policy concept to enacted legislation at the State level. Topics to be covered include bill and resolution drafting; effective Committee presentations; ethical and regulatory reporting issues; and campaign finance. Students will draft bills, advocacy pieces to legislators, reports to clients, and grassroots issue coordination plans.

### **MEDIATION - LAW 733**

When parties are unable to resolve their dispute through discussion or negotiation, a logical next step is to seek the assistance of a third party mediator to facilitate communication and the search for a solution. This course is intended to familiarize students with the norms of the mediation process and to develop the skills that will enable students to either serve as mediators or to better represent clients in this increasingly important form of ADR. Attention is given to both facilitative and evaluative styles of mediation. Significant emphasis is placed on role playing exercises and on the legal consequences of the mediation process.

### **SEA GRANT LAW FELLOW PROGRAM**

Students enrolled in this program work under the professor's supervision on a legal research project on behalf of an outside organization. Projects are assigned by the professor and will focus on a specific research question related to ocean and coastal law or maritime law. Law Fellows have the opportunity to work with stakeholders on important issues, to gain in-depth substantive knowledge on the applicable law and its real-world application, and to draft a high-quality written product, and may have the opportunity to present their work in a professional setting. Certain projects can satisfy the Graduation Writing Requirement. Law Fellows must dedicate a minimum of 10 hours per week during the semester, but hours are flexible. The professor's permission is required to register.

### **TECHNOLOGY AND LAW PRACTICE - LAW 717**

This course surveys software systems that embody specialized legal knowledge and know-how, considers the role of technology on lawyering and the legal services delivery system, and provides hands-on instruction in current technologies including document assembly, automated client interviews, social media marketing, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, data analytics, project management, and virtual law practice. The course will also examine the burgeoning literature on the practicalities and ethics of "e-lawyering," with attention to the ABA's Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Student projects will

provide hands-on experience in current technologies with broad application in public interest and pro bono contexts, as well as application appropriate to solo and small firm practitioners.

### **TRIAL ADVOCACY - LAW 641**

The trial advocacy course employs a learning-by-doing approach. Thus, most of the course will involve the practice of trial skills including direct and cross examination, opening statements, closing arguments, and jury selection, in a simulated courtroom environment. During the last two weeks of the course, each student will participate as co-counsel in a full-length simulated civil or criminal trial with a sitting Rhode Island judge or professor presiding.

**Evidence is a prerequisite but may be taken concurrently with the permission of the Trial Advocacy instructor.**



## **CLINICS & EXTERNSHIPS**

### **BUSINESS STARTUP CLINIC - LAW 869**

The Roger Williams University Community Economic Development Clinic, our newest clinical offering, is scheduled to open in the fall semester of 2013. The focus of the clinic will be to provide services to small, low-income and start-up businesses and not-for-profit organizations in Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts. Students enrolled in the clinic will work with small business owners in determining and facilitating their legal needs. This will include selecting the best legal entity, assisting with the filing of organizational documents, creating agreements, and drafting leases and other contracts. The primary goal of the clinic will be to teach the practice of transactional lawyering while providing service to under-served entrepreneurs and organizations.

### **CORPORATE COUNSEL CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP & CORPORATE COUNSEL SEMINAR - LAW 797**

Students are assigned to in-house corporate offices of prominent for-profit and not-for-profit entities in and around Rhode Island and southern New England. Students will conduct legal research, write memoranda of law, draft legal documents, and engage in other activities as assigned. Students will be exposed to the various ways in which law is practiced in-house and for corporate clients. The program requires the devotion of substantial amounts of time both in and out of the assigned office and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: In-House Counsel.

### **CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC - LAW 860**

Students represent indigent criminal defendants in Rhode Island District Court and Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal from arraignment through to final trial or other original adjudicative disposition. **Trial Advocacy is a prerequisite.**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP & ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE SEMINAR - LAW 806**

Through the Environmental and Land Use Law Clinical Externship, students train in legal offices or departments of government agencies and non-government organizations doing environmental and land use legal work in Rhode Island and southern New England. Externs are exposed to the various ways in which environmental and land use law is practiced by government agencies and non-government organizations through litigation, administrative rulemaking and adjudication, and engagement in the legislative process. The students also participate in a two-credit, graded seminar "Advanced Topics in Environmental and Land Use Law" that will be designed by the professor, after consultation with the field supervisors, to teach substantive law, regulation, and policy directly relevant to the students' field work, as well as the ethics and legal skills required of an environmental attorney.

### **JUDICIAL CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP & JUDICIAL PROCESS SEMINAR - LAW 796**

Students are assigned to selected judges in Rhode Island and federal trial and appellate courts. The student externs conduct legal research, prepare memoranda of law, observe trial and appellate proceedings, participate in discussions with the court, and perform the duties of a judicial law clerk under the supervision of the assigned judge and a faculty member. The program requires the devotion of substantial amounts of time both in and out of the judge's chambers and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: Judicial Process and Ethics.

### **IMMIGRATION CLINIC - LAW 870**

Students enrolled in the immigration clinic represent noncitizens in their applications for relief from removal before the Immigration Court in Boston, prepare applications for benefits under the immigration laws and represent noncitizens in their interviews for such benefits before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Providence. Types of cases typically include asylum and other relief based on fear of persecution in the country of removal, waivers of deportation for long-term residents of the U.S., adjustment of status for noncitizens with U.S. citizen or permanent resident family members and relief for noncitizen victims of domestic violence. Students also conduct “Know Your Rights” presentations for the immigrant communities in Rhode Island and for immigration detainees in New England, conduct intake interviews following these presentations and provide consultations under the supervision of the Clinic Director. In class, students learn trial skills and discuss substantive, ethical and policy issues relating to the practice of immigration law.

### **NY PRO BONO SCHOLARS PROGRAM & PROSECUTION SEMINAR – LAW 821**

The New York Pro Bono Scholars Program (NYPBSP) bridges law school education and the practice of law while engaging students in the provision of critical legal assistance to low-income people. Students will provide approximately 520 hours of pro bono legal service over a 12-week period for which they will receive 12 fieldwork credits. In addition, students will take a two-credit weekly seminar on pro bono practice, access to justice and public interest lawyering. The field work will be graded Pass/Fail. The seminar will be graded.

### **PROSECUTION CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP & PROSECUTION SEMINAR - LAW 801**

Through our Prosecution Clinical Externship Program, students earn academic credit while working two to three days per week in a prosecution office on the federal, state or municipal level. Students are eligible to appear in court as student attorneys in federal and state courts in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Students gain valuable hands-on experience representing the government in criminal prosecutions. Students participate in a weekly seminar with classmates who are working in a variety of prosecutorial settings.

### **PUBLIC INTEREST CLINICAL EXTERNSHIP & PUBLIC INTEREST LAWYERING SEMINAR - LAW 798**

Students are assigned to state or federal government agencies or to non-profit legal services organizations. The student clerks conduct legal research, prepare memoranda of law, observe administrative, trial or appellate proceedings, participate in discussions with public officials, and perform the duties of a law clerk under the supervision of a supervising attorney and a faculty member. Students in their final year of school may also appear in court on behalf of the state or clients in limited types of proceedings. The program requires the devotion of substantial amounts of time both in and out of the assigned office and must be taken in conjunction with Seminar: Public Interest Lawyering and Ethics.

### **VETERANS DISABILITY APPEALS FIELD CLINIC – LAW 876**

The Veterans Disability Appeals Field Clinic is a one semester program in which law students represent military veterans whose applications for disability benefits have either been denied or granted at a level that is inappropriate to the level of disability. Working with experienced attorneys from Chisholm, Chisholm & Kilpatrick, a nationally recognized law firm specializing in this work, students will research

and draft legal memoranda and briefs, participate in pre-briefing conferences and, when appropriate, argue cases before the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

## **HONORS ENROLLMENT PERSPECTIVES COURSES**

### **COMPLEX LITIGATION: PRACTICAL AND ETHICAL LESSONS FROM THE STATION NIGHTCLUB FIRE**

On February 20, 2003 a heavy metal band set off pyrotechnics inside a crowded Rhode Island nightclub, igniting foam insulation on the walls. The ensuing fire and panic killed 100 persons and injured hundreds more, spawning civil litigation that lasted seven years. This interactive seminar, conducted by a lead attorney representing plaintiffs in that litigation, explores the legal and ethical issues faced by counsel in that case. While the factual context of this seminar is tort-based, emphasized skills will be useful for all future litigators. John Barylick's book, *KILLER SHOW: The Station Nightclub Fire, America's Deadliest Rock Concert*, is the seminar's main text and a jumping-off point for explorations of: legal ethics, civil procedure, plaintiff selection, defendant selection and liability theories, formal and informal discovery methods, mediation and formulation of a damages distribution plan. Audiovisuals include materials from the Station Fire case and mediations. Additional readings include sections of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Title 28 of the United States Code, law review articles and pleadings from the case. There will be a 12-15 page final written assignment, rather than a final exam.

### **THE “MINDFUL” ADVOCATE**

In just a few years, the benefits of mindfulness training have permeated American society, from elementary schools to the military, from yoga studios to corporate boardrooms, and into the legal world as well. This course explores how legal advocates can benefit from mindfulness training. At the core of most interpersonal lawyerly activity is some form of communication, whether it is to persuade, inform or dispute. Successful oral advocacy requires one to be truly present and mindful for two reasons: First, to speak in a non-rehearsed way that genuinely connects with the listener. And second, to maintain a flexible awareness that permits a lawyer to adjust to new information. Mindfulness -- defined here as moment-to-moment awareness without judgment -- is a powerful tool for the legal advocate to remain focused and on-message but still open to perceiving, interpreting, and feeling what is happening around him or her. In this course, students will engage in a variety of simulation exercises including appellate argument, trial advocacy, negotiation, and mediation aided by mindfulness exercises designed to simultaneously focus and relax the participants in what can be stressful legal environments. This course is for students who desire to be stronger legal advocates by developing the resiliency skills that mindfulness training offers. The professor was on the faculty of RWU Law for many years but returned to full-time practice in Washington six years ago where he has endeavored to integrate mindfulness into his practice as a government lawyer and investigator. He also runs the RWU D.C. Semester-in-Practice program in the Spring semester.

### **U.S. SUPREME COURT CASES**

This course will focus on the art of appellate advocacy with particular focus on two cases that will be argued this spring before the United States Supreme Court. The class will be taught by Professor Jared Goldstein and will include a trip to the Court to hear those two cases argued.

## **VOICE OF THE CHILD - GUARDIAN IN FAMILY COURT**

This course taught by Adjunct Professor Teresa Paiva Weed will review the role of the Guardian ad Litem in both domestic cases as well as child abuse and neglect cases. The class will include an overview of the law and its practical application in a variety of custody disputes, including religious and education disagreements and relocation issues.

## **OPEN ENROLLMENT PERSPECTIVES COURSES**

### **ADMIRALTY AND FOREIGN ARBITRATION**

In this course we'll examine developments in the enforcement, or not, of foreign arbitration clauses in maritime contracts since the Supreme Court decided to enforce them in contracts of carriage of goods in 1995 in *The SKY REEFER*.

### **FOCUS ON REMEDIES**

This course is an abridged treatment of Remedies topics that are testable on the Multistate Bar Exam.

### **PROFESSIONAL LEGAL WRITING:**

In this course, which will function as part seminar and part workshop, students will explore the relationship between form and content in legal writing and employ the techniques learned to craft high-quality writing samples. Specifically, this course will review the foundational elements of writing—such as grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure—and guide students as they sculpt the structural components of their texts to match the ideas they express. More than an elaborate editing session, this course will also introduce more-sophisticated writing concepts like semiotics, prosody, and classical rhetoric to have students consider and refine not only their writing, but also their thoughts and opinions. Writing and revision will be required for, and likely in, each class but, if done with care, should result in a finely crafted and cohesive professional composition.

### **SENIOR ABUSE NEGLECT AND INJURIES**

Litigation involving nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and financial exploitation of the elderly is an expanding and complicated area of civil litigation. These cases provide a complex interaction between traditional tort law as embodied in medical malpractice cases along with contract issues, corporate law, access to the civil justice system and an understanding of state and federal regulations. This course will provide an academic and practical analysis of this complex niche practice area.

### **SPIRITUAL DIMENSIONS OF LAWYERING— LSM 856 A3**

This course will be taught by Professor Colleen Murphy explores a lawyer's identity and purpose beyond the "material" aspects of practicing law. The readings in the course, evidencing a variety of religious and secular perspectives, address topics such as the integration of deeply-held personal values into the practice of law; clients who have deeply held values that are in tension with the dominant values of the legal system; exploring with the client whether justice, peace, or reconciliation is the client's true goal; and the extent to which a lawyer might engage the client in moral conversation.