

COURSE: CHILDREN'S LAW EXTERNSHIP

DESCRIPTION: Students will work approximately 6 to 8 hours per week at law firms, government agencies, or non-profit organizations which handle matters involving children in the court system. Typically, they will assist lawyers in research and drafting, and they will observe lawyering skills such as interviewing, counseling, and negotiation. Students will consider issues of professional responsibility in the representation of parties in child welfare and juvenile matters before the Family Court. In addition to their field work, students will be required to attend a class once a week with a faculty member.

CREDIT: 2 hours

FORM OF GRADE: Pass/Fail

BASIS OF GRADE: Students must submit a contemporaneously maintained daily journal of their experience, along with either an example of a written product prepared during the externship or a short paper reflecting on a professional aspect of the experience. The fieldwork supervisor will also complete an evaluation of the student's performance. The final grade will be determined by the professor, based upon evaluation submitted by the fieldwork supervisor and upon a determination by the faculty member that all other requirements of the externship have been satisfactorily completed.

ENROLLMENT LIMIT: 10

PREREQUISITES OR CO-REQUISITES: Students enrolling in the externship must have either completed or be enrolled in Children and the Law or Children and the Courts. This requirement can be waived by the instructor.

NOTE: This course does NOT satisfy the practice skills graduation requirement.