UNC School of Law
Public Defender Mentor Project

How Can UNC Prepare Me for Public Defender Work?

1. Suggested Curriculum (not all courses are offered every year)

   a. Core PD Courses
      • Criminal Law – Law 205
      • Juvenile Justice Clinic – Law 390/395/396
      • Criminal Lawyering Process – Law 231
      • Criminal Procedure, Adjudication – Law 225.1
      • Criminal Procedure, Investigation – Law 206.1/206.2
      • Evidence – Law 242.1
      • Externship Program – Law 401.1
      • Trial Advocacy – Law 288

   b. PD-related Electives
      • Advanced Evidence – Law 227
      • Advanced Trial Advocacy – Law 288A
      • Appellate Advocacy – Law 336
      • Children and the Law – Law 346
      • Criminal Justice Policy – Law 434
      • Critical Race Theory – Law 302
      • Death Penalty and the Supreme Court – Law 306
      • Federal Habeas Corpus Procedure – Law 216.1
      • Immigration and Citizenship – Law 214.1
      • Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiation – Law 277.1
      • Juvenile Courts and Delinquency – Law 478
      • Judicial Sentencing – Law 358.1
      • Social Justice Lawyering – Law 274W.1
      • White Collar Crime – Law 383.1
      • Wrongful Convictions – Law 272.1

2. Suggested Activities
   • Carolina Public Interest Law Organization (C-PILO)
   • Carolina Street Law
   • Carolina Teen Court Assistance Program
   • Child Action
   • Holderness Moot Court
   • Honor Court
   • UNC Death Penalty Project
   • UNC Innocence Project
   • UNC Public Defender Mentor Project
• Pro Bono Program
• Trial Law Academy

3. **Resources of UNC School of Law**
• Dean Sylvia Novinsky
• Career Services Office: Adrienne Allison
• Faculty affiliated with the Public Defender Mentor Project: Professor Tamar Birckhead, Professor Barbara Fedders, Professor Joe Kennedy, Professor Bob Mosteller, Professor Robert Smith
• Professor Maria Savasta-Kennedy, Director of the Externship Program and Melissa Saltzman, Program Coordinator
• NC public defenders affiliated with the Public Defender Mentor Project
• UNC law alumni working as PDs and affiliated with the Public Defender Mentor Project

**For more information, please contact Professor Tamar Birckhead at tbirckhe@email.unc.edu or 962.6107.**