

Clinical Program

Developing
Practical Skills



"I was lead counsel in numerous cases in which minors were charged with delinquency. In the courtroom, I advocated on their behalf. Not only did my clinic experience teach me about my role as counselor and about zealous advocacy, it also gave me the confidence needed to enter the practice of law."

—JESSE RAMOS (ABOVE, CENTER), CLASS OF 2016,
YOUTH JUSTICE CLINIC

"Working as a student-attorney gave me a clear picture of what being a practicing attorney looks like. Unlike a summer job or internship, where I might be handed a small project within a large case, my clinic experience required me to manage an entire case by myself - from the initial contact with the client to closing the file. After this experience, I feel ready to independently handle legal matters, and understand my clients' needs better."

—MOLLY SIMPSON GROSS, CLASS OF 2016,
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CLINIC

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION offers students the opportunity to learn theory and practice while providing much-needed legal assistance to under-represented individuals and organizations. Students represent clients with a wide range of legal issues and handle litigation, transactional and policy matters. While assisting their clients in investigating a case, students learn fact-finding, analytical and rhetorical skills. Applying legal issues to real-life circumstances deepens student appreciation and understanding of legal theory and doctrine – plus, they experience first-hand the challenges of professional ethics. They also learn to solve problems, make judgments and accept responsibility for matters that are of great importance to their clients.

The Clinical Program includes:

- Civil Legal Assistance Clinic
- Community Development Law Clinic
- Consumer Financial Transactions Clinic
- Domestic and Sexual Violence Clinic
- Immigration Clinic
- Intellectual Property Clinic
- Veterans Legal Assistance Project
- Youth Justice Clinic

www.law.unc.edu/academics/clinic

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Registration for the clinics is limited to third-year students. Students may not simultaneously enroll in a clinic and externship. For more information, visit www.law.unc.edu/academics/clinic

CONTACT

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Civil Legal Assistance Clinic

In this two-semester clinic, students represent clients in civil matters related to employment, housing, education, and other areas of civil rights and poverty law practice.

Community Development Law Clinic

In this two-semester clinic, students provide corporate and transactional counsel to North Carolina nonprofit community development organizations.

Consumer Financial Transactions Clinic

In this two-semester clinic, students represent low- and moderate-income clients on matters pertaining to credit and homeownership.

Domestic and Sexual Violence Clinic

In this two-semester clinic, students represent low-income victims of domestic and sexual violence in civil matters.

Immigration Clinic

In this one- or two-semester clinic, students represent indigent clients in immigration cases. During the course of the year, students prepare claims and advocate on behalf of immigrant clients.

Special Note

Cases handled by the UNC School of Law Clinical Program are referred by partnering organizations or other community agencies. We do not accept cases directly from the public.



Stephen Dew '16, Carolyn Detmer '16, Laura Wright '16 and Molly Simpson Gross '16 attend the Law School Clinic Certification Program Conference at the USPTO in Washington, D.C. Law students from around the country who participate in intellectual property clinics meet with division leaders and examining attorneys with the USPTO, learn about the work of the USPTO with respect to the prosecution of trademark and patent applications, and job opportunities for new lawyers.

Intellectual Property Clinic

In this two-semester clinic, students represent independent non-profits, educational institutions, and small businesses in trademark cases before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Veterans Legal Assistance Project

In this one-semester project, students represent low-income veterans seeking disability compensation and other benefits.

Youth Justice Clinic

In this one or two-semester clinic, students represent children accused of crimes in delinquency and undisciplined proceedings. They also represent children in school discipline proceedings and work on related juvenile justice projects.



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