

SKILLS (LAW) (LSK)

LSK 852 - Graduate Programs Externship

Credits: 4

Residential LL.M. and Master's candidates with an "Honors" average or better at the end of their first semester and who have completed in-school coursework may be eligible for a legal externship. Students may perform their legal externship in government agencies, law firms, nonprofit organizations, or corporations. The duration of an externship is usually 6-8 weeks. Students must meet with the Director of Graduate Programs Skills or her designee in the semester prior to enrolling in an externship, and all externships must be approved by the Director or her designee. The subject matter of the externship must relate to the student's academic program at UNH Law. UNH School of Law will provide some assistance in securing an externship but cannot guarantee a placement. Students will complete weekly reports during the externship.

LSK 900 - Legal Research and Information Literacy

Credits: 2

This required two credit course introduces first year students to the basic research tools and strategies a beginning lawyer needs to practice law in the United States. The course focuses on: primary and secondary legal authority; mandatory and persuasive authority; accessing, evaluating and updating secondary legal sources, court decisions, statutes and administrative rulemaking; developing a coherent research strategy including cost effective research; and appropriate choice of electronic versus print formats. Students will be exposed to traditional print sources as well as LEXIS, Westlaw and free web sites. Historical and ethical aspects of legal research will be discussed. At the end of the first semester students should be able to take a legal issue and determine the extent of legal information needed; access the needed legal information effectively and efficiently; evaluate legal information and its sources critically; incorporate the selected legal information into their understanding of the issue; understand the economic, legal and social issues surrounding the use of legal information; access and use information ethically and legally. Classes involve a mix of lecture, discussion and the opportunity to work directly with relevant print and electronic resources through an assigned problem. In addition to a graded research midterm and final, students must successfully complete 10 weekly research assignments and two research practicums. Eligibility: Required JD course. Course enrollment is limited to 24 students. Course format: skills training. Grading: final exam, 55%; midterm exam, 30%; class prep. and participation, 5%; regular submissions/quizzes, 10%. Course has an ungraded component or practicum. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 901 - Advanced Legal Research

Credits: 2

Advanced Legal Research is designed to provide an overview of essential legal research tools and strategies to prepare students to become efficient and cost-effective researchers. Traditional and non-traditional research tools and techniques will be explored, evaluated and compared. In addition to reviewing the basic primary and secondary sources for legal research, the course will also include legislative history, administrative research, practitioner materials, topical materials, reference sources, and fact based research including: Business research including newspaper research and corporation filings Jury Verdict Reports Medical Research Criminal Records Asset Searches People Searching Other topics TBD Cost effective legal research is constantly integrated into the course to prepare students for post law school research realities. The format of the class consists of the presentation of problems, time allotted for independent group research, demonstrations, and discussions of resources, techniques, and cost-effectiveness of the research process.

LSK 903 - Advanced Trial Advocacy

Credits: 3

Through this course, students compete in one of two national trial advocacy competitions during the late winter, during which students intensively prepare and conduct a trial. One regional competition is held in mid-February and the other in late February. National finals (if a team advances) are held one month later. Students receive the competition problem in December, and normally return from winter break one week early to begin the intensive case analysis, brainstorming and courtroom advocacy practice necessary to prepare and conduct a jury trial in a short time period. Numerous practice rounds are held, with students arguing before a variety of visiting judges. The regional competitions are held before actual judges and lawyers, with UNH School of Law teams competing against trial teams from law schools throughout New England. Eligibility: Open to 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Evidence & Trial Advocacy. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course enrollment is limited to 12 students. Course format: competition. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 907 - Legal Residency

Credits: 4

Through the legal residency program, students earn academic credit while developing legal and professional skills under the close supervision of a practicing lawyer or other professionals. Students may, for instance, perform their legal residencies in government agencies, law firms, judicial chambers, nonprofit organizations, or corporations. The legal residency program is governed by Academic Rule IX. Students must meet with the Legal Residency Director or her designee in the semester prior to enrolling in a legal residency and all legal residencies must be approved by the Director or her designee. Eligibility: Open to second semester 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Professional Responsibility, except for judicial residencies. Corequisites: Legal Residency Class. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course format: clinic. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course must be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 919 - Legal Analysis and Writing 1**Credits: 2**

Legal Analysis and Writing 1 introduces you to the fundamental analytical and writing skills used by practicing lawyers - these are skills important to any practice area from civil rights to tax. In successfully completing this course, you will have learned how to: 1) Read, comprehend, analyze, and synthesize legal issues and authorities; 2) Apply facts to legal issues and authorities; 3) Organize coherent predictive analysis using conventional legal structure and format; 4) Understand and accurately use legal citation; 5) Write clearly and concisely; and 6) Participate as a professional in all stages of the writing process. Achieving these goals is not a linear process. To achieve them, you will read, reread, and repeatedly consult texts, manuals, and handouts. You will prepare written and oral exercises. You will practice reasoning, researching, analyzing, organizing, citing, revising, and editing. You will build these skills by practicing them at higher levels throughout the course, receiving and reviewing feedback, and analyzing ways you can improve. In this course, you will learn how to write and format an analytical discussion, a client advice letter, and objective interoffice memos. In doing so, you will help and learn from your classmates. This course requires you to be organized, versatile, detail-oriented, responsive, communicative, hardworking, proactive, patient, humble, and open-minded - all traits that go into being a good lawyer. Eligibility: Required JD course. Course enrollment is limited to 20 students. Course format: writing. Grading: regular submissions/quizzes, 80%; other, 20%. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 920 - Legal Analysis and Writing 2**Credits: 3**

Legal Analysis and Writing II builds upon and reinforces the goals of Legal Analysis and Writing I, adding persuasive writing and speaking. Being persuasive, showing why others should agree with you, is important for lawyers in any field, not just those who want to argue in court. Lawyers need to be persuasive in their written words and when speaking with others. In addition to practicing and achieving higher proficiency in the six goals for Legal Analysis and Writing 1, in successfully completing this course, you will have learned how to: 1) Organize coherent persuasive analysis using conventional legal structure and format; and 2) Prepare and present an oral argument. As with Legal Analysis and Writing 1, you will be required to engage in a recursive process of writing, reading, analyzing, organizing, writing and rewriting. All the traits that are important in Legal Analysis and Writing I are important here as well. In this course, you will write a persuasive memo to a trial court, completing a graded outline, first draft, and final brief. You will prepare and present an oral argument to outside judges. You will earn your grade based on your individual written work, your oral argument, and your professional engagement in class. Eligibility: Required JD course. Prerequisites: Legal Analysis and Writing 1. Course enrollment is limited to 20 students. Course format: writing. Grading: regular submissions, 80%; see syllabus, 20%. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 924 - Negotiations Workshop**Credits: 2**

In this 10 week interactive workshop, students will identify and learn different theories and types of negotiations. Negotiating effectively is important in any profession, but it is critical for attorneys to sharpen and hone these skills for the benefit of clients. Negotiations occur at all levels of an attorney's practice, whether that practice is in a small firm environment, in litigation, in a corporate setting, or working with a governmental entity. Students will apply their negotiation skills to a variety of situations. Negotiations will occur in two, three or multi-party settings. Class time will be divided between discussion of selected readings, interactive negotiations, and guest attorneys who will discuss some of their own negotiated agreements. Class attendance and participation is mandatory. "Getting to Yes," Fisher, Ury, & Patton, and "Getting Past No," Ury will be required and any additional books required will be posted before the class. Eligibility: Open to all except 1Ls. Course enrollment is limited to 18 students. Course format: simulation. This course may be taken for a grade or an S/U grade.

LSK 928 - Trial Advocacy**Credits: 3**

Sections of this course are taught by judges and experienced trial attorneys. This course provides a foundation for the development of the variety of skills necessary for effective trial advocacy no matter what the forum. Development of a theory of a case, file organization and pretrial preparation are emphasized, as well as the more traditional oral trial skills such as closing argument and cross-examination. Students regularly participate in exercises simulating segments of civil and criminal trials. Eligibility: Open to 2Ls and 3Ls. Corequisites: Evidence. Course enrollment is limited to 12 students. Course format: simulation. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 934 - Legal Residency**Credits: 11**

Through the legal residency program, students earn academic credit while developing legal and professional skills under the close supervision of a practicing lawyer or other professionals. Students may, for instance, perform their legal residencies in government agencies, law firms, judicial chambers, nonprofit organizations, or corporations. The legal residency program is governed by Academic Rule IX. Students must meet with the Legal Residency Director or her designee in the semester prior to enrolling in a legal residency and all legal residencies must be approved by the Director or her designee. Eligibility: Open to second semester 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Professional Responsibility, except for judicial residencies. Corequisites: Legal Residency Class. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course format: clinic. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course must be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 939 - Legal Residency**Credits: 2**

Through the legal residency program, students earn academic credit while developing legal and professional skills under the close supervision of a practicing lawyer or other professionals. Students may, for instance, perform their legal residencies in government agencies, law firms, judicial chambers, nonprofit organizations, or corporations. The legal residency program is governed by Academic Rule IX. Students must meet with the Legal Residency Director or her designee in the semester prior to enrolling in a legal residency and all legal residencies must be approved by the Director or her designee. Eligibility: Open to second semester 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Professional Responsibility, except for judicial residencies. Corequisites: Legal Residency Class. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course format: clinic. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course must be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 940 - Moot Court Board Advisory**Credits: 1**

Moot Court Board members are typically third year students who are selected by the outgoing moot court board during the Spring semester. Board members are responsible for organizing, coaching, and developing the moot court program from year to year. The class is a year-long commitment. Typical moot court board members: 1. Participate in selection of the upcoming year's moot court competitors as well as selection of competitions and formulation of teams. 2. Coach a moot court team, often for the same competition that the Board member competed in during the prior year. Coaching duties include: supporting and facilitating team writing of the competition brief; providing feedback as competition rules allow; organizing and executing rigorous oral argument practice for competition preparation; communicating with the board's Chief Justice about team progress/needs; being a resource for team members as they prepare for competition; registering for and overseeing competition logistics such as travel plans. 3. Participate in and organize the intramural competition in October. 4. Assist the Chief Justice of the Board in any additional duties such as information sessions for 1Ls, working with the writing specialist to prepare workshop materials, timing 1L moot court arguments, and demonstrating oral advocacy skills as representatives of the Board at various school functions. Participating in the Moot Court Board challenges students to be mentors and coaches to competitors. Board members also use their leadership, organizational, and analytical skills to continually improve this student run advocacy program. Eligibility: Open to 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Moot Court competition in 2L year and a foundation course for area coaching. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course enrollment limited to 8 students. Enrollees may not participate in other classes requiring competitions such as Advanced Trial Ad, without permission from faculty Moot Court Advisor. Course format: competition. Grading: see syllabus. Credits Fall 1 credit. Spring 1 credit. This course must be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 943 - Appellate Advocacy**Credits: 2**

This course fulfills the upper level writing requirement. Appellate Advocacy is a writing intensive course designed to teach the different components of appellate brief writing, as well as effective appellate oral advocacy. One or two case problems (depending upon the particular professor) are assigned throughout the semester, modeled after actual court cases. Students will be taught how to master the facts of a case, the rule of law applicable to the particular legal problem, and the policy underpinning the rule of law. Paramount goals of the course include professionalism and instructing students on clear, persuasive, organized, and strategic written and oral communication skills necessary for effective legal advocacy. While AA focuses on the appellate practice setting, the written and oral advocacy skills students will acquire are applicable to all settings of legal practice. Grading will be based on one or two appellate briefs, oral arguments, meaningful class participation and other assignments. Eligibility: Open to 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Legal Writing & Analysis I and II; Legal Research & Information Literacy. Course enrollment is limited to 12 students. Course format: writing. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 945 - Judicial Opinion Drafting**Credits: 2**

This course fulfills the upper level writing requirement. This two-credit seminar is designed to appeal to students planning either to extern with a judge or to enter the market for a judicial clerkship. Final opinion drafts will be due on a date to be determined during the semester. Course goals: (1) to discuss critically the theories of case resolution articulated and applied by several prominent jurists, (2) to encourage students to begin to develop their own theories of case resolution, (3) to identify and consider the varying audiences for trial and appellate court orders and opinions in both the state and federal court systems, and (4) to assist students in drafting and polishing a well written and principled opinion that they can use as a writing sample when applying for externships and clerkships. Course methodologies: (1) reading representative and provocative jurisprudential writings and opinions, (2) cooperative opinion drafting exercises, (3) conducting critical analysis of judicial opinions, and (4) drafting and polishing a judicial opinion. The course also features guest speakers. Means of evaluation: 75% of your final grade will be based on the judicial opinion you will draft; 25% will be based on class participation. Eligibility: Open to 2Ls and 3Ls. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course enrollment is limited to 15 students. Course format: writing. Grading: class prep. and participation, 25%; research paper, 75%. This course may not be taken for a S/U grade.

LSK 948 - Legal Residency**Credits: 6**

Through the legal residency program, students earn academic credit while developing legal and professional skills under the close supervision of a practicing lawyer or other professionals. Students may, for instance, perform their legal residencies in government agencies, law firms, judicial chambers, nonprofit organizations, or corporations. The legal residency program is governed by Academic Rule IX. Students must meet with the Legal Residency Director or her designee in the semester prior to enrolling in a legal residency and all legal residencies must be approved by the Director or her designee. Eligibility: Open to second semester 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Professional Responsibility, except for judicial residencies. Corequisites: Legal Residency Class. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course format: clinic. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course must be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 949 - Legal Residency Class

Credits: 1

Students participating in a legal residency are required to concurrently enroll in this 1 credit legal residency class. The legal residency class is designed to provide students with opportunities to reflect upon and internalize the practical and professional skills developed through the field placement. Assignments include weekly journals, self-evaluations, discussion forums, workshops and a final paper. Eligibility: Open to second semester 2Ls and 3Ls. Prerequisites: Professional Responsibility (except for judicial residencies). Corequisites: 4, 6, or 11 credit Legal Residency. Instructor permission required to enroll. Course format: seminar. Grading: class prep. and participation, 33%; regular submissions/quizzes, 33%; other (see syllabus), 34%. Course has an ungraded component or practicum. This course must be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 953 - Writing for Practice

Credits: 3

This course is designed to help second and third year students develop the kinds of writing, organization, critical thinking, editing and collaborative work skills essential to law practice and passing the bar. Students will work on multiple short (less than 5 pages) weekly assignments, engaging them in writing, researching, editing, rewriting or working on related tasks. These assignments are designed to help students sharpen their ability to efficiently research and apply practice-based resources to write about specific legal issues, using the appropriate format for the intended audience. The course will focus primarily on civil matters, and will include some writing on criminal issues. The course's focus on essential skills, organization, analysis, doctrine, precision and conciseness, will transfer to writing in any legal setting. In Prof. Hurn's section, all the work will be typical of a transactional practice rather than criminal or civil litigation. Although the courses differ, there is enough overlap with his Contract Design and Drafting course (spring semester) that students who take one may not take the other. Eligibility: Open to all except 1Ls. Prerequisites: Legal Skills I and II Legal Research Civil Procedure. Course enrollment is limited to 15 students. Course format: writing. This course is recommended for taking the bar exam. Grading: other (see syllabus), 100%. This course cannot be taken for an S/U grade.

LSK 955 - Defamation Law and Litigation

Credits: 2

This seminar will focus on media and defamation law, together with a significant clinical component. Each class includes student case presentations and discussion, as well as consideration of contemporary media cases such as the pending "Rolling Stone" lawsuit. Class participation is essential. Students will depose witnesses and draft pleadings. In lieu of a final exam, half the class will draft memoranda in support of summary judgment and the other half will draft opposing memos.