

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**2009- 2010**  
**CLINIC COURSES**  
**LEGAL THEORY & PRACTICE COURSES**  
**CARDIN REQUIREMENT**

The University of Maryland School of Law operates one of the biggest, best and most diverse teaching law practice programs in the country. This program provides exciting opportunities for you to work under the direct supervision of an experienced faculty attorney to represent clients in real cases, and to work on important policy projects. You get an opportunity to apply what you have learned in your doctrinal courses and to begin to develop basic lawyering skills. You will experience and analyze the challenges inherent in the attorney/client relationship. Most importantly, you will critically reflect on the operation of law and the legal system, especially as it functions along lines of race, class, and economic and political power. Please study this material and the School of Law course catalog descriptions (<http://www.law.umaryland.edu/current.asp>) to learn more about the wide range of opportunities available and of the special obligations of Clinic and LTP students.

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ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A CLINIC OR LTP COURSE FOR THE FIRST TIME MUST ATTEND A **MANDATORY ORIENTATION** SESSION AS FOLLOWS:

Summer Clinic:	June 1, 2009.
Fall Clinics or LTP's:	Thursday, August 27 <sup>th</sup> and Friday August 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Spring Clinics or LTP:	Friday, January 15 – All New Students Thursday, January 14 – Clinic II's & Some Courses - TBD

Orientation will engage you in the applications of the Rules of Professional Responsibility to your actions as a student attorney, help you find your way around the clinic, and support you as you begin to explore the questions that will present themselves to you as an attorney. See page 4 of this document for further details.

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To provide the best learning opportunity to students, faculty members are often required to make commitments for representation of clients well before the start of the semester. For this reason, *students will not be permitted to drop or add Fall 2009 clinic or LTP courses after Friday, July 17, 2009, the Summer 2009 clinic after May 8, 2009 or Spring 2010 clinic or LTP courses after December 19, 2009* except under unusual circumstances and then only with the express written permission of the faculty instructor. We look forward to having you join this exciting program of practice and reflection. If you have any questions, you should feel free to email or call us.

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## **I. General Information**

### **(1) The Cardin Requirement**

Each student who initially enrolls in the Maryland law school's full-time, first-year day division must complete an offering that fulfills the Cardin Requirement. To fulfill the Cardin Requirement, an offering must (1) provide students with experience of how the law operates in practice; (2) provide students substantial responsibility for providing legal assistance on behalf of persons who are poor, socially disadvantaged or otherwise lack access to justice in the legal system or to organizations acting on behalf of such persons; (3) include regular classes in which a member of the School of Law faculty provides instruction that integrates students' practice experiences in ways that help them understand, apply, and critique legal theory and law practice; (4) require students to do substantial writing in connection with their practice; and (5) have a professional responsibility component.

All Clinic courses (with the exception of Intellectual Property Clinic) and all LTP courses fulfill the Cardin Program Requirement. Students may also fulfill the requirement through the South Africa Externship (contact Sherrilyn Ifill).

Once again, there is an opportunity this summer to work with the Mississippi Center for Justice in the Biloxi-Gulfport area. Participating students (five students will be selected) will be required to travel to and reside in Mississippi for 8 weeks of the summer program. The Law School continues to be able to assist substantially with the costs and arrangements of transit and housing.

### **(2) Eligibility**

All students wishing to participate in a Clinic or Legal Theory & Practice course MUST satisfy all eligibility requirements set forth in Rule 16, Maryland Rules Governing Admission to the Bar. Maryland Rule 16 permits students who are enrolled in a clinical program, who are in good academic standing and who have completed one-third of their legal education to be certified by the Dean to engage in the practice of law under the supervision of an authorized attorney. Students seeking to enroll in a Clinic or Legal Theory & Practice course must have earned at least one third of the credits required for graduation [28 Credits] prior to the start of the semester or summer session in which they plan to enroll. Certification also requires students to truthfully affirm familiarity with state and federal rules of procedure and professional responsibility.

### **(3) Becoming Competent to Represent Clients**

In Clinic and Legal Theory & Practice courses, students learn experientially what it means to be a competent lawyer by practicing law under the close and supportive supervision of an experienced attorney and analyzing their practice experiences in a structured classroom setting. Competence is the first requirement of being a lawyer. Rule 1.1 of the Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct states: "A lawyer

shall provide competent representation to a client”, which “requires legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation”.

**(4) Specialty Interests**

Although you may enroll in a Clinic or LTP course related to your particular specialty interests, the most important lessons you will learn in each of the courses are: basic concepts and practices of the profession, lawyering skills, the nature of advocacy and the adversary process, and the ways in which our justice systems ought to be reformed. The following chart suggests courses appropriate to particular areas of student academic and professional interest. We encourage you to study course descriptions and speak with individual faculty members about how their particular clinic might complement your overall course of study.

**Clinic and Legal Theory and Practice (LTP) Courses  
2009 – 2010**

Business/Community Development	Civil Litigation	Criminal Practice
Community Justice Clinic Law, Policy & Practices of Comm Recovery LTP Intellectual Property Clinic Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Mississippi Center for Justice Clinic General Practice Clinic (Summer Session) International & Comparative Law Clinic Workers Rights Clinic	Civil Rights of Persons with Disabilities Clinic Environmental Law Clinic Consumer Protection Clinic and LTP General Practice Clinic (Summer Session) Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Mediation Clinic Immigration Clinic International & Comparative Law Clinic Workers Rights Clinic	Access to Justice Clinic: Effective Assistance of Counsel at Bail Appellate Advocacy Clinic Appellate & Post-Conviction Advocacy Clinic Community Justice Clinic Law, Policy & Practices of Comm Recovery LTP Criminal Defense Clinic: Federal and State Litigation Re-Entry of Ex-Offenders LTP
Environmental Law	Health Law	Policy & Legislative Advocacy
Environmental Law Clinic Tobacco Control Clinic/Tobacco & the Law LTP International & Comparative Law Clinic	Civil Rights of Persons with Disabilities Clinic Drug Policy & Public Health Strategies Clinic Health Care Delivery & Child Welfare Legal Issues Clinic Health Care & Child Welfare Seminar: The AIDS Example: LTP Tobacco Control Clinic/Tobacco & the Law LTP	Drug Policy & Public Health Strategies Clinic Environmental Law Clinic Juvenile Law, Children’s Issues & Legislative Advocacy Clinic Re-Entry of Ex-Offenders LTP Tobacco Control Clinic/Tobacco & the Law LTP International & Comparative Law Clinic
	Youth & Family	
	General Practice Clinic (Summer Session) Health Care Delivery & Child Welfare Legal Issues Clinic Health Care & Child Welfare Seminar: The AIDS Example: LTP Juvenile Law, Children’s Issues & Legislative Advocacy Clinic Mediation Clinic	

**(5) Minimum Hours of Commitment**

Students are expected to work a minimum number of hours in order to satisfy Clinic requirements. The minimum number of hours is dependent on the number of credits taken. For every credit hour taken, the student must complete a minimum of **56 HOURS PER CREDIT**. This number is then divided over the number of weeks of the semester (for example, the fall term is 13 weeks).

**Example:** Student takes a four (4) credit clinic class.  
Credits multiplied by minimum hours, divided by thirteen weeks  
 $(C \times H) \div W = N$   
 $(4 \times 56) \div 13 = N$   
 $224 \div 13 = \mathbf{17.23 \text{ Hours per week MINIMUM}}$

Students enrolled in LTP courses have a similar time commitment.

In the Summer General Practice Clinic students are expected to work 40 hours per week for a total of 400 hours during the course (10 weeks) and unless otherwise arranged with the supervisor, these hours are Monday thru Friday daytime hours. The hourly requirement includes summer class time but the program requirements overall do not lend themselves to students having outside employment.

**(6) Course Scheduling**

Each offering has a classroom component as well as a practice component. Clinic/LTP classes typically are held on Tuesday 3:15 - 5:15, however there are a few exceptions. For meeting times of all clinic and LTP courses, refer to the Course Schedules and Booklists listed on the school's website by the Office of Registration & Enrollment (OR&E).

<http://www.law.umaryland.edu/academics/program/curriculum/schedules/>

During the Summer General Practice Clinic, there is a classroom component every day of the week for the first several weeks with a less frequent schedule for the last few weeks during which students present their cases to the group.

Attendance at clinic classroom components is mandatory.

**(7) MANDATORY Law Practice Orientation Program**

**ALL STUDENTS WHO ENROLL FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A CLINIC OR LTP COURSE MUST ATTEND A MANDATORY ORIENTATION SESSION THE WEEK BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER/OR THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SUMMER SESSION.**

The Orientation dates for students enrolling in a Summer session Clinic will coincide with the first week of the summer session beginning on June 1, 2009

The Orientation dates for students enrolling in a Fall 2009 semester Clinic or LTP shall take place on **Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday August 28<sup>th</sup>**. SPECIAL NOTE\* Not all Law Clinics will meet on Friday, however most will meet for at least a half day.

The Orientation dates for students enrolling in a Spring 2010 semester Clinic or LTP shall take place on **Friday, January 15, 2010**. All new Clinic II students and students enrolled in some courses will be required to attend a “class orientation” on **Thursday, January 14, 2010**. Students will be notified by email of the courses requiring Thursday orientation.

A student who, for very good reason, cannot attend the session *must seek permission from the Director or Managing Director of the Clinical Law Program to complete the requirement through a make-up session*. “For a very good reason” is a demanding standard, comparable to the one used by the courts to excuse an attorney from appearing for a scheduled court hearing, i.e., documented serious illness or personal or family tragedy. **Very good reasons do not include a vacation, extended summer employment or other foreseeable and preventable reasons for absence.** Requests for permission to complete the requirement through a make-up session must be submitted in writing to [bbloom@law.umaryland.edu](mailto:bbloom@law.umaryland.edu). If you have any questions about these requirements, please see Brenda Bratton Blom, Director, Clinical Law Program or A.J. Bellido de luna, Managing Director of the Clinical Law Program.

## **II. Advance Registration**

### **(1) Registration Procedures and Enrollment Priorities**

Registration for Clinic and LTP courses is integrated into the Law School’s registration process. Students requesting enrollment in a Clinic or LTP course must follow the registration process and deadlines as outlined in the advance registration schedule. These requirements include submission of the Clinic/LTP/Cardin Preference Form according to the established deadlines on or before April 6, 2009. Students who, in April 2009, are approved for enrollment in a Summer or Fall 2009 clinic or LTP course will be registered in that course by the Office of Registration and Enrollment. Students requesting enrollment in a Clinic or LTP course in November for Spring 2010 advance registration must submit the Clinic/LTP/Cardin Preference Form according to the established deadlines on or before November 2, 2009. Following are the faculty-approved priorities for determining enrollment in Clinical Law & LTP courses:

**Priority One:** Senior; Uses Wild Card; Needs to Satisfy Cardin; completing Certificate requirements and has completed six credits toward Environmental or Health Law Certificate by the end of second year and needs Clinic Course to satisfy Certificate program requirements.

**Priority Two:** Senior; Uses Wild Card; needs to satisfy Cardin.

<u>Priority Three:</u>	Senior; needs to satisfy Cardin
<u>Priority Four:</u>	Senior; uses Wild Card; needs for certificate
<u>Priority Five:</u>	Senior uses Wild Card
<u>Priority Six:</u>	Non-Senior needs to satisfy Cardin.
<u>Priority Seven:</u>	Senior, needs for certificate
<u>Priority Eight:</u>	Senior
<u>Priority Nine:</u>	Non-Senior

## (2) Add/Drop Requirements

Students who wish to **drop or add** a Clinic or Legal Theory & Practice course anytime after *July 17, 2009 for the Fall 2009 Semester*, *May 8<sup>th</sup> for the Summer 2009 Semester* or after *December 19 for the Spring 2010 Semester*, may do so **only under unusual circumstances and with the written faculty approval** (or, in the absence of the faculty member, the approval of the Director or Managing Director of the Clinical Law Program) on the Change in Registration Request (Add/Drop) Form. Once the form is completed and signed by the relevant faculty member, you must provide a copy to the Office of Registration & Enrollment and to the Managing Director, Clinical Law Program. Students may not drop or add Clinic and LTP courses online after the deadline.

## (3) Clinic and LTP Course Co- and Pre-Requisites

Students must read the course descriptions (available in the Course Catalog, online at <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/current.asp>) to determine whether the course in which you are interested has co-requisites or pre-requisites; these co-requisite and pre-requisite requirements will be enforced when you attempt to register online.

## (4) Registering for CLINIC II

Clinic II is an opportunity for students who have already completed a clinical experience to engage in advanced clinical work in the same subject matter area under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Enrolling in a second clinical program in a *new* subject area is not considered "Clinic II". *In addition to enrolling online*, a student who wants to enroll in Clinic II must secure express written approval of the faculty member by completing and having the faculty supervisor sign the course requiring Faculty Approval Form available from the Office of Registration & Enrollment.

### **III. Clinic & Legal Theory & Practice Courses –2009-2010**

Full descriptions of each of the Clinic or LTP courses listed on the attached Clinic/LTP/Cardin Preference Form below may be found in the Course Catalog, online at <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/current.asp>.