

Law 693.xx Public Interest Law: Clinical Theory (Fluker/Laing)

Law 693.xx Public Interest Law: Clinical Theory consists of a seminar held once per week throughout the Fall and Winter terms. The course is intended to encourage reflection on public interest lawyering with coverage of substantive areas of law, legal process and skills. Topics that may be covered include defining the public interest, the nature of public interest advocacy, standing, costs, public participation, rules of practice, case management, advocacy, legal drafting, evidence, test litigation, strategy, access to information, the role of an intervener, building the record, the public interest client, client relations, communication with the media, the administrative state, private prosecution, and ethics. Evaluation is based primarily on several written assignments which require students to reflect on, critically analyze, and apply the assigned readings in the course. The written assignments are due at various times over the duration of the Fall and Winter terms, and the course is graded on the 12 band scale.

Students who register in Law 693.xx Public Interest Law: Clinical Theory must also register and maintain enrolment concurrently in its companion course Law 696.xx Public Interest Law: Clinical Practice for the Fall and Winter terms.

Law 696.xx Public Interest Law: Clinical Practice (Fluker/Laing)

Law 696.xx Public Interest Law: Clinical Practice provides students with opportunities for experiential learning by working with clients dealing with public interest matters and/or performing case development work on new matters brought to the Clinic by potential clients. Each student is assigned to work on one or more client files or case development projects under the supervision of at least one of the instructors or a staff lawyer. Clinical work will require students to maintain a regular presence at the Clinic with sometimes frequent meetings with the instructors or the staff lawyer as required by a particular case. Students will have opportunities to develop and practice a range of skills including advocacy, interviewing, negotiation, public presentation, navigating the administrative state, dispute resolution, legal drafting, working with affidavits, research, judicial and administrative process, client relations, and file management.

Evaluation is based on work such as interacting with a client on a legal issue, making a public presentation, working on case development projects, assisting counsel in judicial proceedings, and legal drafting on documents such as pleadings, affidavits, factums, position papers, or research memorandums. Students are evaluated on the pass/fail methodology of completed requirements (CR), marginal pass (D), or fail (F).

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