The City University of New York

CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW

Law in the Service of Human Needs

Summer 2012

Course of Study for 2L’s and 3L’s

Course Descriptions
and
Program Planning
Information

Office of Academic Affairs Room 215 – Ext. 84370
Summer is a great time to study at CUNY Law! Summer session allows you to stay on track for graduation, shape your coursework through different elective options and reduce your fall/spring academic course load. Summer session is unique in that you take only one or two courses at a time and focus intensively on your subjects. Enrich and accelerate your academic experience this summer!

Following is some key information about the summer session:

• Summer school classes start on **June 4, 2012** and end on **July 25, 2012**. Exams take place between **July 26, 2012** and **July 30, 2012**.

• All of the classes are held at the School of Law two nights per week on Monday through Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:15 p.m., except for New York Practice, which will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:00 p.m. In addition, the course entitled “Delivering Access to Justice in a Challenged Society” will meet in Manhattan at the Supreme Court, 111 Centre Street, Room 1240. Please check individual course descriptions for their exact locations.

• You will receive a summer registration packet from the Registrar’s office. **Registration is scheduled to take place from April 25th through May 23rd.** After you register, we will open enrollment to students from other law schools.

• You must register for at least 6 summer session credits to be eligible to apply for financial aid over the summer. You may pick up a brochure about summer school financial aid requirements in the Financial Aid office (Room 225). Students on probation should check with Financial Aid, as special rules apply for summer financial aid.

• You may earn a maximum of 6 credits during the summer session.
Information describing the process for obtaining permission to attend classes at another ABA-approved law school in the summer is also included in this packet.

Please keep in mind when choosing your classes that 2 substantive summer courses are the equivalent of a full-time load. In the past, students have found this load very demanding. We invite you to talk to your faculty advisor or to contact the Academic Affairs office about course selection.

**Note:** Summer session will start before we have received spring semester grades and have calculated academic point averages. We are not permitted to give credit for summer school work to students who are dismissed from the Law School during the course of the summer. **Because notification of academic dismissal will be received during the summer session and is effective immediately, students who are dismissed will not receive credit for the summer courses they are enrolled in and are not eligible for a summer session tuition rebate.** Therefore, if you are on probation or have been on probation, please consider carefully whether or not to register for summer session.

**The following courses are being offered in summer 2012:**
(These course offerings are subject to change based on budget, enrollment and other factors.)

**Criminal Procedure**
3 credits – Monday and Wednesday-6:30-9:15 p.m.
(Professor Steve Zeidman)
This course explores the various investigatory techniques utilized by law enforcement agencies in the accumulation of evidence, including analysis of their effectiveness and propriety in a democratic society. The basic constitutional decisions involving the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments, principally in the last twenty-five years, are studied. Subjects considered include the “exclusionary rule” as a means of enforcing the ban on unreasonable searches and seizures, racial profiling, police interrogation and identification. Students interested in taking the Defender Seminar/Clinic in their 2nd and 3rd years are strongly advised to take this course. **This elective is highly recommended as preparation for the bar exam.**

**Delivering Access to Justice in a Challenged Society**
3 credits – Tuesday and Thursday-6:00-9:15 p.m.
111 Centre Street Room 1240 (enter through White Street in the back of the building)
(Justice Fern Fisher)
The economic downturn both nationally and in New York State has forced many litigants to appear in court without an attorney. Many individuals are facing life-altering legal issues, such as eviction and foreclosure. The justice system is faced with numerous challenges in ensuring equal justice to all in an increasingly diverse society.
Students will explore the delivery of legal services to low-and moderate-income individuals within the context of bread and butter areas of the law, including housing, foreclosure, consumer debt and family law.

The course will explore various delivery of legal services models such as unbundling, pro-bono and low-fee models and the use of technology to provide legal assistance. Students will also explore cultural competency issues and its affect on access to justice. Students will be exposed to substantive New York law. The course will be conducted in a seminar format, but will also include interactive exercises. Students will be required to visit New York City courts on some Tuesday or Thursday evenings to observe or participate in some of the court-sponsored volunteer programs or observe court proceedings. Students will have the opportunity to engage litigants and to participate in New York State Court Programs. Twenty-five per cent of the student’s grade will be based on an access to justice paper or project. Fifty percent of the grade will be based on short exams or small assignments throughout the semester, and twenty-five percent on participation. Students who complete this course will be able to serve as volunteers providing legal advice or representation to litigants in court-based programs.

**Human Rights**  
2 credits – Monday and Wednesday-6:00-9:00 p.m. (June Only)  
(Judge Dennis Davis, Cape High Court)  
This 2 credit course, which will be taught over a 3 week period in June introduces students to the development of universal human rights norms in the international system and the efforts to implement these at the national level. Focusing on South Africa, the course analyzes the inclusion of human rights in the South African Constitution and the possibilities and limitations for human rights in such a constitutional framework. It will be taught by a South African human rights advocate. The evaluation requirement for the course will be class participation and a short paper.

**New York Practice**  
4 credits – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday-6:30-9:00 p.m.  
(Professor Sarah Valentine)  
Knowledge and strategic use of rules governing civil procedure are essential for any attorney to be successful. This course is designed to provide a foundational understanding of the Civil Practice Law and Rules (CPLR) governing New York Supreme Court Practice. The class will roughly follow the course of a civil matter as it moves through the court system, from the initiation of an action to the taking of an appeal. Topics covered include: the organization of New York courts; jurisdiction (subject matter and personal); statute of limitations; service; pleadings; parties; contribution and indemnification; provisional remedies; motion practice; pre-trial discovery; judgments; and appeals. We will also cover two articles of the CPLR often relied on by counsel representing the poor and impoverished Article 78 (challenging administrative actions) and Article 4 (governing actions under the RPAPL). The final grade will be based on a midterm and final exam as well as class participation. This is a bar-elective course.
Public Institutions
3 credits – Tuesday and Thursday-6:30-9:15 p.m.
(Professor Jenny Rivera)
This course will explore the limits and scope of the federal public regulatory system of the United States. Students will learn about the constitutional authority for administrative regulation, the structure of federal administrative agencies, the federal Administrative Procedure Act and the potential legal and practical challenges inherent in the regulation of private entities and individuals. Topics covered in this course include: constitutional protections applicable to our administrative regulatory system, including due process; legislative delegation of powers to administrators and administrative agencies; the scope of administrative investigatory powers; administrative hearing structures; rulemaking; and judicial review of agency action and inaction.

Student grades will be based on scores on a midterm and final examination and class participation.

Public Interest/Public Service (Internship Course)
2/3 credits – Monday-6:30-9:15 p.m.
(Professor Franklin Siegel)
The Public Interest/Public Service course is designed to accompany a student’s internship in a public interest practice setting or a judicial clerkship. The primary focus of this course will be legal ethics and explorations of a range of contemporary issues facing the legal profession, particularly in public interest practice settings. The Career Planning Office is available to help students find an unpaid internship/placement, which may include working for a non-for-profit organization, where an attorney admitted to practice will provide direct supervision of legal work, a government attorney’s office or working with a private lawyer on pro-bono cases. Placements in nonprofit organizations and private settings must be approved in advance by the professor to assure that the requirement of public interest is met and that there is adequate attorney supervision. Please note: ABA rules provide that students MAY NOT receive pay and credit for the same work; this includes fellowship funds. Students will be expected to work a minimum of 20 hours per week for 2 credits and 30 hours per week for 3 credits.

TIL: Advanced Topics in Legal Writing: Persuasive Writing for the Public Interest Attorney
2 credits – Monday-6:30-9:15 p.m.
(Shalina Deo)
The aim of this writing-intensive course is to provide students with an opportunity to build on the basics of, experiment in, and fine-tune their legal writing. Because this is designed as a summer course, one of our objectives is to link our work to the internship experiences of the students. We hope this pairing will allow students to apply what they are learning in this course to the work they are doing in their internship and to explore what they are doing and learning in their internship within the assignments in this course. One assignment, in particular, the position piece, will offer students the opportunity to examine and write about a topic related to their internship or develop an assignment from
their internship, employing the principles, techniques, and skills we will learn and examine.

**TIL: The Patient Advocate: Necessary Tools for Healthcare Advocacy**
2 credits – Monday and Wednesday 6:00-9:00 p.m. (June Only)
(Professor Laura Gentile)
This course will provide the practical skills and core knowledge to prepare students to advocate in a variety of healthcare settings. This course is intended to prepare all attorneys, no matter what area of specialty, to become a front-line advocate for a client in need of health care. The course will identify the common obstacles — both institutional and specific — which form barriers to health care and explore options for overcoming those obstacles. Students will learn to advocate for patients by deconstructing the power of insurance companies, hospitals and doctors.

**Wills and Trusts**
3 credits – Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-9:15 p.m.
(Professor Joe Rosenberg)
(Third Year Only)
(Pre-requisite: successful completion of Property)
This course examines wills and alternative ways of passing property upon death, intestacy, the rights of family members (including gay and lesbian spouses and partners), trusts, estate planning, and estate administration. The goals of the course are to help students master the relevant legal doctrine, successfully answer the wills and trusts questions on the New York bar exam, examine the law from a critical perspective, and understand the human, ethical, and public policy dimensions of the law. The focus is on New York law, although there is some comparative analysis with the Uniform Probate Code and other statutes. The course covers most of the doctrine and concepts tested on the New York bar exam. The course integrates a public interest lawyering perspective that helps students understand and apply the relevant doctrine and also provides a foundation for students who may practice in this area as a primary concentration or as part of a broader community-based family or elder law practice. **This elective is highly recommended as preparation for the bar exam.**
*3rd year students concurrently enrolled in Property may enroll with permission of the Academic Dean.*

**Independent Study**
This course can be taken for 1-3 credits. Each student is permitted to take up to 3 credits of Independent Study over the course of law school. Students seeking Independent Study credit must find a faculty advisor, complete a study description form, and receive approval from the Academic Dean during the registration process.

A judicial clerkship, internship, or a law office clerkship does not satisfy the requirements of an Independent Study. However, these experiences may form the basis of further research or an independent project. This research and writing must be done under direct faculty
supervision in order to gain Independent Study credit. The requirement for approval are the same as above.

**Procedure for requesting permission to attend summer session at other law schools**

Students who would like to take summer courses at other schools must receive the approval of the Academic Dean. Permission to take courses at other schools is regularly granted if the course is not offered at the Law School and is critical to the student’s career goals. Students who live outside the metropolitan area and are unable to take CUNY courses may receive permission to take summer school at another institution. Requests to attend summer school courses that do not meet these criteria will be considered only if there are significant extenuating circumstances. If permission is obtained, **transfer credit will be given for any course in which the student receives a grade of “C” or better (a “C-” is not a grade of “C” or better).** All grades of “C” or better will be entered as “credit” on a student’s transcript and will not be calculated into a student’s grade point average. **ONLY letter grades will be accepted for transfer. We will not accept pass/fail grades.**

Students seeking permission to attend summer school at another ABA-approved law school should complete and submit the forms available at the office of Academic Affairs, with a copy of the summer school brochure describing the course(s) you are requesting permission to take, how many credits for each course, and how long the classes meet (times, days, weeks), and a completed NON-CUNY Permit form to Vicki Konkowski, Administrative Executive Coordinator in the Academic Dean’s Office (Room 215).
# Academic Calendar - Summer 2012

## June

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- June 4: First day of classes
- June 5: Last day to add
- June 14: Last day to drop a course without it appearing on transcript
- June 18: First day to elect Credit/Fail
- July 4: No Classes – Independence Day
- July 9: Last day to withdraw
- July 16: Last day to elect Credit/Fail
- July 24: Last day of T/Th classes
- July 25: Last day of M/W classes
- July 26: Tuesday/Thursday exams
- July 30: Monday/Wednesday exams
- July 31: Papers are due unless extension approved by the Academic Dean

Please note: All faculty support and some administrative offices will be closed on Fridays starting Friday, June 29th to Friday, August 10th. The Independence Holiday will be observed on Wednesday, July 4th so Friday, July 6th the administrative offices will be opened.