

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW CLINIC

Fall 2011 / Spring 2012

Professor Deena Hurwitz T/R 11:30am-12:50pm

ENROLLMENT REQUEST COVER SHEET

(4 credits – enrollment limited to 8 students)

This **one semester clinic** gives students first-hand experience in human rights advocacy working in partnership with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), human rights practitioners and law firms in the U.S. and abroad. (*N.B. There is no direct client representation in this clinic.*) Clinic projects are selected to build the knowledge and skills necessary to be an effective human rights lawyer; to integrate the theory and practice of human rights; and to expose students to a range of human rights issues. Students collaborate on one or more projects in small teams, and have direct contact with the partner-clients. Class discussions focus on human rights law concepts and advocacy, and the legal, strategic, ethical, and theoretical issues raised by the project work. The Clinic provides substantial opportunity to develop international law research and writing skills. For a list of past Clinic projects, see:

http://www.law.virginia.edu/pdf/hr/clinic_projects_6_2010.pdf

Projects for the Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 semesters may include (among other things)

- United Nations advocacy (October meetings in NYC) in support of the recent USA report by the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women and U.S. implementation of the due diligence standard with respect to VAW;
- Freedom of Information Act lawsuit seeking release of documents regarding U.S. government knowledge of and role in the deadly May 31, 2010 attack by Israeli commandos on a Gaza-bound humanitarian aid flotilla;
- Comparative legal analysis (national and international law) for Iraqi parliamentarians working to strengthen rights-respecting law reform;
- Advocacy on behalf of Guatemalan indigenous communities for the right to education without discrimination.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: Students wishing to enroll in the International Human Rights Law Clinic for either semester must submit the enrollment cover sheet (available at <http://www.law.virginia.edu/lawweb/lawweb2.nsf/pages/Clinicapp?Open>), with the requested documents, by email to: Professor Deena Hurwitz (deena@virginia.edu) **no later than Thursday June 23**. Selected students will be notified by email no later than Monday June 27. Applications received after June 23 will be handled on a first-come basis. **Once enrolled in the Clinic, you may not drop.**

For additional information contact Professor Deena Hurwitz (deena@virginia.edu).

ENROLLMENT LIMITATION: Clinic limited to 8 students each semester. Students may enroll in one clinic per semester. On a space-available basis, students may petition to enroll in a second clinical offering after the add/drop period has ended.

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PREREQUISITE: Second- or third-year JD or second-semester LLM status. Previous course work in Human Rights Law and/or International Law strongly recommended, but not required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: In addition to the regularly scheduled clinic session, project teams will meet at mutually agreed upon times. Substantial international human rights related research, advocacy, and legal writing. Spanish capability (written) will be helpful.

ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE: **Fall 2011** **Spring 2012**




Name: _____ Year: _____

E-mail address _____ Cell Phone: _____

LRW Professor: _____

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

* Must be submitted with this application cover sheet

-  **short (1-2 page) statement of interest and international human rights experience** (*note foreign languages and skill levels, publications, experience and ease with writing and editing*)
-  **resume**
-  **(unofficial) transcript**

<u>Relevant Courses Completed:</u>	<u>Semester/Year</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
International Human Rights Law	_____	_____
Human Rights Advocacy seminar	_____	_____
Public International Law	_____	_____
Foreign Relations Law	_____	_____
International & Foreign Legal Research	_____	_____
Immigration Law	_____	_____
International Criminal Law	_____	_____
Comparative Law (course titles): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Other (please specify): _____	_____	_____

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Certification:

I hereby certify by my signature below that I have read the course description and understand:

That this is a one semester course and that space in the Clinic is limited. Not all applicants are guaranteed acceptance to the clinic. Applicants will be informed of their status as soon as selections are made.

That, if admitted to the Clinic, I must be enrolled during the Fall 2011 or the Spring 2012 semester; and, most importantly, that once enrolled in the Clinic, ***I may not drop the course.***

That, if admitted to the Clinic, I will be expected to engage in case-related work, some of which may be in the field in addition to time spent in the classroom component; and that I will be expected to participate in additional case related meetings outside of the scheduled class times.

Signature: _____
(a typed signature sent by email is sufficient)

Date: _____