



CLINICAL TRAINING

The Supreme Court Litigation Clinic has won two of three cases before the U.S. Supreme Court since it began in 2006. Instructor Mark Stancil '99 (sitting above right) will argue a fourth case, *Bloate v. United States*, in fall 2009. "The clinic's success is really a testament to the hard work and investment of a group of very dedicated students and the fantastic guidance, support and direction provided by professors Mark Stancil, Dan Ortiz and David Goldberg," said Alejandro Cruz '09 (far right).

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE PROGRAM

Virginia's Principles and Practice Program, a curricular innovation that is the first of its kind in the country, is designed to give students the opportunity to apply legal theory in real-life situations. The program teams law professors with practitioners, judges and other distinguished professionals to teach courses. The program melds the insights of theory with those of contemporary practice, giving students a more sophisticated and useful understanding of a field than either perspective can yield on its own.

TRIAL ADVOCACY COLLEGE

The Trial Advocacy College is an intensive eight-day experience offered annually between the fall and spring terms. Third-year students are enrolled with participants from the nation's best litigation units in an intensive practice program with a faculty comprised of some of the best trial lawyers and outstanding judges in the country. This selective program supplements the 14 sections of trial advocacy offered each academic year.

LAW STUDENTS AT VIRGINIA enjoy an array of clinics and courses that offer a wide range of practical training options. Virginia's 20 clinics, many of which offer contact with clients, build experience with real-world problems. Students also advance their skills through courses in public speaking, trial advocacy and professional responsibility, as well as extracurricular moot court and mock trial competitions.

CLINICS

Under the supervision of an attorney, students perform the lawyer functions associated with their cases, including client and witness interviews, factual development, legal research, preparation of pleadings and negotiation. Students with third-year practice certification may also be responsible for courtroom advocacy.

Advocacy for the Elderly

Students represent elderly clients in negotiations, administrative hearings and court proceedings on a variety of legal matters, including basic wills and powers of attorney, guardianships, consumer issues, Medicaid and Medicare benefits, nursing home regulation and quality of long-term care, elder abuse and neglect, and advance medical directives.

Appellate Litigation

Students brief and argue one or more appeals before a federal appeals court.

Capital Post-Conviction

The clinic focuses on cases assigned to the Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center. Students work on appeals, petitions for certiorari and post-conviction



STUDENTS IN THE ADVOCACY FOR THE ELDERLY CLINIC

help low-income seniors tackle a range of legal problems, including wills, powers of attorney and advance medical directives. Students also make presentations to area seniors on topics such as nursing home residents' rights and consumer protection issues. The growing number of seniors in the area suggests the need for such services will only grow.

"We have a large number of cases with people in very dire situations," supervising attorney Claire Curry '82 (above) said.



DEIRDRE ENRIGHT
'92 REPRESENTED
DEATH-PENALTY
INMATES in
Mississippi and Virginia
before joining the Law
School to lead its
Innocence Clinic.

"This is sort of the
dream class if you're a
law student because it
involves great issues
for research that
are topical — DNA,
new techniques in
DNA, new testing,
eyewitness ID,
jailhouse informants,
poor lawyering, poor
prosecuting — it's all
these great cutting-
edge issues," Enright
said.

issues, and may also work on habeas petitions at the state and federal level.

Child Advocacy

Students represent children involved in legal issues in the areas of education, foster care and social services, mental health and developmental disabilities, and delinquency.

Criminal Defense

Students represent defendants in criminal cases in local courts. They also develop a working familiarity with grand jury proceedings, indictments, immunity grants, pretrial motions, pretrial discovery, plea bargaining, motions and objections during trial, evidentiary issues, post-trial motions, sentencing and protecting the record for appeal.

Employment Law

Cases may include wrongful-discharge actions, unemployment compensation claims, employment discrimination charges and other claims arising out of the employment relationship.

Environmental Law and Conservation

Students represent and counsel environmental nonprofits, citizens' groups and community organizations seeking to protect and restore the environment of the mid-Atlantic region and other parts of the country.

Family Alternative Dispute Resolution

Students help low-income families resolve child custody, visitation and financial support issues using alternative dispute resolution techniques.

Family Resource

In this clinic, students advocate on behalf of low-income families who experience legal problems related to welfare reform and public benefits programs.

First Amendment Law

In conjunction with the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression, students in this clinic undertake litigation and nonlitigation projects in First Amendment subject areas.

Housing Law

The caseload for this clinic includes administrative proceedings and other matters for indigent clients. Students handle eviction cases, rent escrow cases, grievance hearings and other enforcement of residents' rights.

Immigration Law

Students may work with clients to appeal denials of applications for status and special categorization or procedures.

Innocence Project

Students in the Innocence Project Clinic investigate potential wrongful convictions of Virginia inmates through interviewing potential clients and witnesses and searching and reviewing pertinent case files and records.

International Human Rights Law

Students gain firsthand experience in human rights advocacy under the supervision of international human rights lawyers.

Mental Health Law

Students represent mentally ill or mentally disabled clients in negotiations, administrative hearings and court proceedings on legal matters involving Social Security, Medicaid, disability benefits, medical care and more.

Nonprofit Clinic

Students advise and work directly with local nonprofit organizations on matters such as initial formation, establishing tax-exempt status, ongoing legal compliance and good corporate governance.

Patent and Licensing Clinics I and II

These clinics train students in patent drafting as well as the negotiation and drafting of patent and software license agreements.

Prosecution

Students undertake a prosecutor's duties, including exercising discretion in the decision to prosecute, interacting with law enforcement personnel, dealing with victims and witnesses, and establishing relationships with defense counsel.

Supreme Court Litigation

Working in teams, students handle actual U.S. Supreme Court cases, from seeking review to briefing on the merits.

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www.law.virginia.edu/clinics

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