

IMMIGRATION LAW AND POLICY CLINIC

Spring 2021

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Students enrolled in the semester-long Immigration Law and Policy Clinic (ILPC) will appear in immigration court representing indigent, detained clients in removal proceedings. Students may also provide consultations with student counsel in the Criminal Defense Clinic on the immigration consequences facing CDC clients. Depending on client needs, there may be additional opportunities for advocacy in the Board of Immigration Appeals, post-conviction relief, federal habeas litigation, and the federal circuit courts, and in matters in which the ILPC will provide counsel and legal assistance to non-profit advocacy organizations pursuing policy or legislative reform or other non-litigation (or possibly litigation) matters. Students will learn and apply lawyering skills such as interviewing, client counseling, fact investigation, legal research and writing, oral advocacy, negotiation, policy advocacy, and preparation for, and advocacy in, contested hearings. Through the ILPC seminar classes and fieldwork, students will have the opportunities to explore systemic problems in the immigration enforcement system—particularly where immigration and criminal enforcement are conflated and entwined—such as racial and economic bias, law enforcement accountability, hyper-incarceration, and access to justice.

Are there any prerequisites?

There are no prerequisites. Immigration Law, Crimmigration Law Seminar, Criminal Procedure, Administrative Law, Trial Practice, Evidence and Evidence Practicum are among the classes that are helpful but not required. A demonstrated commitment to immigration advocacy and/or public interest law is desirable.

Are classes required?

Yes. Classes will meet on Mondays and Thursdays from 12:50 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Class attendance is mandatory.** In addition, students will be required to attend a mandatory orientation beginning Thursday, January 7, 2021 and ending Friday, January 29, 2021. The orientation will consist of two full days of classes, followed by simulations and classes that will be arranged around clinic participants' schedules. You can expect to meet at least once daily as a class from January 11, 2021 to January 29, 2021, and to engage in significant out-of-class work as well during this orientation period. The purpose of the orientation is to introduce students to the substantive, procedural, and ethical aspects of the ILPC's curriculum, and to familiarize students with SLO and ILPC procedures. **Attendance throughout the orientation is mandatory.**

How many credits will I receive?

Students will enroll for 9 credits. Four are in-class credits; five are out-of-class credits.

What kind of time commitment is involved?

The Immigration Law and Policy Clinic requires a substantial time commitment. The clinic will be very intensive and you should expect to spend at least 25 hours per week working on client-related matters. This time commitment will vary somewhat with the ebb and flow of your client matters, and you may be required to devote considerable additional time as you prepare for significant events. In addition to the time spent serving your clients, you will spend at least four hours each week in class and at least five hours each week performing class-related work, preparation, supervision meetings with faculty, and other clinic assignments. For this reason and to avoid potential conflicts of interest, ILPC students may not take on an internship, externship, any other experiential advantage courses, or work while they are enrolled in the ILPC, unless given explicit authorization to do so.

What are the benefits of taking this clinic?

The Immigration Law and Policy Clinic offers substantial litigation experience. You will have the opportunity to integrate professional ethics and values, legal theory, and practice by representing indigent, detained clients facing removal. You will learn the lawyering skills necessary to defend a removal case, including client interviewing, client counseling, negotiation, development of a case theory, researching and drafting various motions, fact investigation, and trial skills, including argument and examination of witnesses. The laboratory for learning will be the classroom, supervision sessions with faculty, the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) Contract Detention Facility run by the GEO (Global Excellence in Outsourcing) Group in Aurora, the immigration courts in the detention facility and in Denver, and possibly other state and federal courts. You will learn how to work with clients who face a variety of legal, social and economic problems and you will learn the resources that are (or are not) available. Many students will be presented with the opportunity to litigate constitutional issues and questions of the remedies available for constitutional violations. Students will learn how immigration and criminal enforcement have become entwined and may be called on to bring both criminal and immigration practice to bear on their clients' legal problems. Cross-collaboration with the Criminal Defense Clinic will take place in the seminar component of the class and also, for some students, in the fieldwork component.

Where can I get more information?

Clinical Programs Faculty Panel - Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 12:00-1:00 p.m. (Virtual via Zoom)
Clinical Programs Student Panel - Thursday, October 15, 2020, 12:00-1:00 p.m. (Virtual via Zoom)

How and when do I apply or register?

Online Application Dates - Monday, October 12, 2020, 9:00 a.m. until Sunday, October 18, 2020, 11:59 p.m. Applications for Spring 2021 will be available at <http://law.du.edu/forms/student-law-office-clinical-programs/apply/>. **Late applications will not be considered.**

How do I respond if offered a position in the Immigration Law and Policy Clinic?

If offered a position you must accept or decline the offer, in writing, by the deadline given in the offer letter. **There are no exceptions to this requirement.** If you intend to accept the offer of a position, you must respond by the deadline or your position may be offered to another student. Additionally, you must respond in writing by the deadline even if you are declining the offer – this allows us to offer the position to another student at the earliest opportunity. Please be considerate of other students who may hope to take the clinic if offered a position.

Laurie Saraceno, the SLO Administrator, will register students who accept positions in the clinic before the beginning of the fall semester.