

CIVIL LITIGATION CLINIC

Fall 2025

Professor Tamara Kuennen

The Civil Litigation Clinic ("CLC") students represent low-income clients in a variety of civil cases. During spring 2025, these cases will likely fall within the areas of landlord-tenant, wage/employment, replevin, family law, and intimate partner violence law. These cases, most often litigated in county court, involve little pre-trial discovery. As a result, the CLC focuses on trial and other practical lawyering skills. The speed with which the cases proceed to trial (generally two to four weeks depending on case type) affords students the opportunity to handle several cases in their entirety, including conducting the initial client interview and all factual investigation, developing a case theory and an opening statement, closing argument, direct and cross examination of all witnesses, and conducting the trials themselves.

Are there any prerequisites?

Evidence and Legal Profession are highly recommended as pre-requisites and are co-requisites if not already taken.

Are classes required?

Yes. Class will likely meet twice per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:15PM-2:55PM, and students will schedule at least one weekly supervision session with faculty at a mutually agreed upon time.

How many credits will I receive?

Students will receive a total of nine credits: four credits for the in-class component and five for the out-of-class (case work) component.

What kind of time commitment is involved?

The Civil Litigation Clinic requires a substantial time commitment, though the time commitment may vary somewhat with the ebb and flow of litigation. Students should plan to spend (on average) 20 hours per week working on client-related matters. Students are not permitted to participate in externships or clerkships while enrolled in a clinic.

What are the benefits of taking this clinic?

The model of the Civil Litigation Clinic is based on student self-direction and experiential learning. Because of this focus, students have a great deal of input and the ability to shape their clinical experience. Students obtain a variety of learning experiences and may seek out cases in their expressed areas of interest. Other benefits include: court experience, negotiation experience, application of the rules of evidence, development of public speaking, oral advocacy and relationship-building skills, and exposure to a type of learning other than that offered in many traditional law school classes.

Where can I get more information?

- Online at law.du.edu/student-law-office and on our Instagram [@denver_law_clinical_programs](https://www.instagram.com/denver_law_clinical_programs).
- At our in-person spring recruitment events the week of March 3rd, 2025 at Sturm College of Law.
- At the Student Law Office located in suite 335 of the Ricketson Law Building.

How do I apply?

Applications can be accessed on the Clinical Programs website at law.du.edu/student-law-office.

Applications for 2025-2026 are open from **Mon March 3rd, 2025, at 9:00am - Sun March 10th, 2025, at 11:59pm**. *Late Applications will not be accepted.*