

## CIVIL JUSTICE CLINIC INFORMATION

FALL 2017

August 21, 2017 through December 1, 2017

<b>Professor:</b>	Wendy Vaughn, Clinical Associate Professor, <a href="mailto:wvaughn@niu.edu">wvaughn@niu.edu</a> or (815) 962-9980
<b>Credits and grading:</b>	4 credits Pass / Fail
<b>Max enrollment:</b>	8 students
<b>Required prerequisites:</b>	Lawyering Skills and Professional Responsibility (These courses may be taken concurrently with the Clinic.)
<b>Recommended courses:</b>	Evidence, Family Law, Trusts & Estates, and Trial Advocacy
<b>711 Requirement:</b>	Students must be eligible for an Illinois Supreme Court Rule 711 License which requires completion of 45 credits and Dean's approval.
<b>Summer Term:</b>	<b>Seminar Class:</b> <b>Clinic seminars will be scheduled on Wednesday afternoons.</b>  <b>Clinical Component:</b> <b>ONE FULL DAY ON TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, or FRIDAYS.</b> Students are required to work 12 hours each week, at minimum, on client related matters. Students must be present at the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic in Rockford a minimum of 8 hours per week (one full day) for intakes, court appearances, client matters and meeting with clinical faculty.
<b>Additional Clinic Hours:</b>	Students must be available to work on behalf of clients at additional times to meet the total clinic hour requirement each week and to meet the needs of their clients. These hours may be completed from campus or elsewhere, and do not necessarily need to be at the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic. You will be notified of your clinic hours shortly after registration.

### **Description of the Civil Justice Clinic**

Students in the Civil Justice Clinic will handle a variety of civil legal matters on behalf of vulnerable residents of Winnebago County, Illinois. The Civil Justice Clinic prioritizes the needs of low-income senior citizens and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The goal of the Civil Justice Clinic is to provide holistic services to the clinic's clients, including providing representation to clients in civil matters and referring clients to appropriate services and resources in the community. Through representing a variety of clients with differing legal needs, students in the Civil Justice Clinic will have the opportunity to develop interviewing and counseling skills, hone analytical skills, conduct legal research, practice legal writing and drafting, and develop litigation skills. Students in the Civil Justice Clinic will serve the needs of a diverse population of clients and will be exposed to the multiple issues and challenges faced by their clients, many of whom live in poverty. Through their experiences working with clients in the Clinic, students will develop cultural sensitivity and awareness, as well as empathy and professionalism.

The Civil Justice Clinic handles a variety of cases on behalf of seniors age 60 or older. Students in the Clinic will draft estate planning documents for their clients and may represent seniors in guardianship proceedings or in order of protection cases related to elder abuse or financial exploitation of seniors.

Civil Justice Clinic students represent clients seeking domestic violence orders of protection, stalking no contact orders, and civil no contact orders for sexual assault survivors. Students in the Civil Justice Clinic may represent clients in other related civil matters such as crime victims' compensation claims and family law cases for dissolution of marriage, establishment of parentage, child custody, visitation, child support, and/or spousal maintenance.

In Winnebago County, order of protection hearings are usually scheduled on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons. Students in the Civil Justice Clinic are required to work in Rockford on at least one of these days each week.

**Students must submit a completed Application for 711 license within seven days of being accepted into the Clinic.**

**ALL CLINIC STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND MANDATORY CLINIC ORIENTATION.**

**CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC INFORMATION**

**FALL TERM**

**August 21, 2017 through December 1, 2017**

<b>Professor:</b>	Paul Cain, Clinical Professor, <a href="mailto:pcain@niu.edu">pcain@niu.edu</a> or (815) 962-9980
<b>Credits and grading:</b>	4 credits Pass / Fail
<b>Max enrollment:</b>	8 students
<b>Required prerequisites:</b>	Lawyering Skills and Professional Responsibility (These courses may be taken concurrently with the Clinic.)
<b>Recommended courses:</b>	Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Trial Advocacy
<b>711 Requirement:</b>	Students must be eligible for an Illinois Supreme Court Rule 711 License which requires completion of 45 credits and Dean's approval.
<b>Fall Term:</b>	<b><u>Seminar Class:</u></b> The Criminal Defense Clinic will run from August 21 to December 1. Clinic seminars will be Mondays from 4:00 to 5:50 pm in DeKalb. <b><u>Clinical Component:</u></b> An additional 12 hours each week at minimum. Students must be present at the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic in Rockford a minimum of one full day per week for intakes, court
<b>Additional Clinic Hours:</b>	Students must be available to work on behalf of clients at additional times to meet the total clinic hour requirement each week. These hours may be completed from campus or elsewhere, and do not necessarily need to be at the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic. You will be notified of your clinic hours shortly after registration.

**Description of the Criminal Defense Clinic**

Students in the Criminal Defense Clinic represent adults charged with criminal offenses. The offenses will typically be misdemeanor and major traffic offenses but may include low level felony offenses. Charges may include offenses such as battery, criminal damage to property, criminal trespass, disorderly conduct, driving under suspension, drug paraphernalia, DUI, no operator's license, possession of cannabis, prostitution, resisting arrest, retail theft, solicitation, theft, obstruction of justice and uninsured motor vehicle. Representation is typically at the trial level, but may include appeals or post-conviction appeals. The clinic's representation approach is holistic with the focus being on assisting the client not only with the immediate criminal charge, but with the underlying or collateral issues to the criminal charge. Students may also advocate for systemic change. In addition, students may represent adults who are seeking to be removed from the sex offender registry as the result of adjudications for sex offenses when they were juveniles.

**FORECLOSURE MEDIATION CLINIC INFORMATION**

**FALL TERM**

**August 21, 2017 through December 1, 2017**

<b>Professor:</b>	Alan Boudreau, Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor aboudreau@niu.edu or (815) 753-2407
<b>Credits and grading:</b>	4 credits Pass / Fail
<b>Max enrollment:</b>	8 students
<b>Required prerequisites:</b>	Professional Responsibility This course may be taken concurrently with the Clinic.
<b>Recommended courses:</b>	Mediation, Negotiation, Real Estate
<b>711 Requirement:</b>	Students must be eligible for an Illinois Supreme Court Rule 711 License which requires completion of 45 credits and Dean's approval.
<b>Fall Term:</b>	<b>Seminar Class:</b> 1 hour 50 minute weekly in DeKalb or Geneva <i>To be scheduled based on student availability.</i> <b>Clinical Component:</b> An additional 12 hours each week at minimum, including two half days at the Clinical Legal Center in DeKalb or at the Kane County Court
<b>Additional Clinic Hours:</b>	Students must be available to work on behalf of clients at additional times to meet the total clinic hour requirement each week and to meet the needs of their clients. These hours may be completed from campus or elsewhere, and do not necessarily need to be at the Clinical Law Center or Geneva Courthouse. Students will also be required to cover some 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. shifts at the Foreclosure Help Desk in Kane County.

**Description of the Foreclosure Mediation Clinic**

For most homeowners, the foreclosure process is long, confusing, frustrating and terrifying. Having a legal advocate to guide homeowners through the process can make a huge difference. Law students enrolled in the Foreclosure Mediation Clinic provide limited scope representation for Kane County homeowners during the mediation part of their foreclosure cases. After an intensive training in foreclosure law, students advise clients about their options when faced with foreclosure, screen and prepare cases for mediation, coach borrowers in the mediation process, and represent borrowers in mediation. The Clinic focuses on developing students' client advising, foreclosure, negotiation and mediation advocacy skills.

Throughout the semester, law students in the Foreclosure Mediation Clinic provide legal information and assistance with filling out basic court forms at the Foreclosure Help Desk in Kane County Courthouse. Students also interview clients, evaluate cases, clarify legal procedures, and offer advice to clients about their options, such as loan modifications and home relinquishment options. Students educate clients about the mediation process, help prepare loan modification paperwork, assist borrowers in following up with lender requests for materials, and analyze offers made by lenders.

Clinical students will also help design clinic processes, forms and training materials for clients and borrowers, as well as assisting program partners, including the Kane County Courts and Prairie State Legal Services, with program implementation, educational materials development, or legal research.

## HEALTH ADVOCACY CLINIC INFORMATION

### FALL TERM

August 21, 2017 through December 1, 2017

<b>Professor:</b>	Colleen Boraca, Clinical Assistant Professor, <a href="mailto:cboraca@niu.edu">cboraca@niu.edu</a> or (630) 229-0752
<b>Credits and grading:</b>	4 credits Pass / Fail
<b>Max enrollment:</b>	8 students
<b>Required prerequisites:</b>	Professional Responsibility (may be taken concurrently)
<b>711 Requirement:</b>	is no 711 requirement. Students can be in either semester of their 2L year as long as they are currently taking or have taken Professional Responsibility.
<b>Fall Term:</b>	<b>Seminar Class:</b> The Health Advocacy Clinic will run from August 21, 2017 through December 1, 2017. Clinic seminars will be scheduled Monday from 2:30 to 4:20 pm in DeKalb. <b>Clinical Component:</b> An additional 12 hours each week at minimum. Students must be present at Hesed House in Aurora for the clinical component.
<b>Additional Clinic Hours:</b>	There Students must be available to work on behalf of clients at additional times to meet the total clinic hour requirement each week.

### **Description of the Health Advocacy Clinic**

Issues facing homeless persons are multifaceted and complex. Poverty – along with poor health – may increase the level of stress a person is dealing with on a daily basis. Health issues lead to other stressors, such as insurance problems, missed work, and even mobility or breathing issues that make every day activities more difficult. Likewise, socio- environmental issues (i.e., homelessness, lack of food, violence) can contribute to poor health. These issues, of course, are beyond the scope of a medical professional, who only has the time and resources to treat the underlying medical condition. But, it is these very issues that directly impact a person's health and well-being. A team of professionals – in medicine, law, and social work – working together in an integrated fashion can begin to address the unmet socio- environmental needs of clients. Providing more holistic care to clients will not only improve their health outcomes but also their life circumstances.

The intervention of an attorney and law students enhances the care provided to clients at Hesed House homeless shelter in Aurora, Illinois. For example, if a client became homeless because of medical debt, an attorney can help that client apply to have the debt forgiven under Illinois' Charity Care program. A malnourished patient who lacks the funds to buy food may need assistance applying for food stamps or another type of public assistance for which they are eligible. Ultimately, resolution of these issues reduces stress levels and improves health.

Students will represent clients in public benefits matters (such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and food stamps). They will assist clients with advanced care planning such as completing powers of attorney for health care. Additionally, students are beginning to represent clients with expunging/sealing criminal records. They will interview and counsel clients, perform legal research and writing, and advocate on behalf of clients in court (if the student has a 711 license) and/or before administrative agencies. They will educate the residents of Hesed House about their legal rights. Students will work closely with medical providers from Aunt Martha's Health Center and staff members of Hesed House in this medical-legal partnership.