

GENERIC CONSERVATION CLINIC SYLLABUS

This syllabus represents the Conservation Clinic's general pedagogical approach to any given semester. Due to the dynamic nature of the Clinic's activities, this approach may vary from semester to semester.

Week One: Orientation, Project Distribution & Administration

Readings:

Esty, Dan, Rethinking Clinical Environmental Law Education (Unpublished paper presented to annual AALS environmental clinician meeting , 1999)

Thomas T. Ankersen, Applying Clinical Legal Education to Community Smart Growth: The University of Florida Conservation Clinic,"in Partnerships for Smart Growth: University-Community Collaboration for Better Public Places 64-80 (Wim Wiewel & Gerrit-Jan Knaap eds., M.E. Sharpe, Inc. 2005) (coauthored with Nicole C. Kibert)

Janet Weinstein, Coming of Age: Recognizing the Importance of Interdisciplinary Education in Law Practice. 74 Washington Law Review: 319-366 (1999)

Week Two: Project Team Meetings (client interviews; draft scopes of work due)

Week Three: Professional Practice and Billing Issues and Ethics

Guest lecturer: Practicing Environmental Law Professional

Readings:

Work/Life Wisdom (Q & A on billing/Timekeeping), The New York Lawyer Richard Zitrin & Carol M. Langford, The Billing Abuses of Lawyers, in The Moral Compass of American Lawyers (Ballantine Books, 1999)

Time sheets due

Week Four: Project team meetings (finalize scopes of work)

Week Five: Project Rounds

This is an effort to ensure that, as in professional practice, all clinic students are apprised of and involved in, all projects. It is also a brainstorming session where issues raised by individual projects are subjected to group discussion and cross-fertilization and creative lawyering can take place.

Time sheets due

Week Six: Project team meetings

Week Seven: Rapid Research Simulations

This is designed to simulate a day in an environmental law office. The senior partner receives a call from a new or loyal client requesting an opinion under time duress. The client's call must be returned within two hours. Students are divided into associate teams and given 1:30 minutes to provide an answer. After the call is concluded students discuss issues related to client relations; caveating the quality of rapid research and similar law office management issues.

Week Eight: Project Team Meetings

Week Nine: Project Rounds
Time sheets due

Week Ten: Project Team Meetings

Week Eleven: Clinic Advocacy Simulation (Quasi-Judicial Hearing; Legislative Hearing;
Conservation Easement Negotiation)
Time sheets due

Week Twelve: Project Team Meetings

Week Thirteen: Issue Oriented Field Trip