

Spring Externship Classroom Component – Course # 6946
Prof. Henry T. Wihnyk
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Prof. Wihnyk's contact information:
339 Holland Hall
U.F. Levin College of Law
Gainesville, Fl 32611
352-273-0881
wihnyk@law.ufl.edu

SYLLABUS

Course Description, Grading Policies, My Expectations, Class Assignment Schedule

Course description:

This course serves as the academic component of your externship and is designed to supplement and enhance your field placement.

Learning Outcomes and Course Objectives:

Spring Externship Program Learning Outcomes:

#1: Operation	Students will be exposed to the practice of law and able to tie the field experience to the study of law.
#2: Evaluation	Faculty and the Field supervisor will evaluate students based on performance in the field placement and work in the course.
#3: Experiential Quality	Faculty will determine the overall quality of the placement and the student's experience based on the type of work given to the student, the opportunities provided by the placement, and the assignments completed by the student.
#4: Contemporaneous Reflection	Students will reflect on their experiences and goals, through regularly scheduled online classroom assignments and synchronous discussions with their faculty supervisor.
#5: Application of Laws, Policies, Procedures, and Operational Techniques	Students will recognize the purposes for, and be able to ethically apply, laws, policies, procedures, and operational techniques to law.
#6: Legal Research and Analysis	Students' research and analysis skills will be refreshed and used effectively in their placements.
#7: Utilization of Information	Students will use practice area or subject matter information to write briefs, orders, and other documents for the field placement.

Course Objectives:

The work you will be assigned in your field placement should be the type typically handled by a lawyer, intellectually challenging, and contribute to your professional growth and development. To promote these objectives, throughout your field placement and this course, you will:

1. Examine the purpose and function of legal professionalism in a (court / private practice / government office / public interest organizational) setting.
2. Engage in legal research and produce legal writings.
3. Demonstrate a greater understanding of the technical and human aspects of the practice of law.
4. Understand the links between the study of law and the practice of law.
5. Examine various laws, regulations, and other legal sources and develop a better understanding of their practical application.
6. Become more aware of your power, responsibility, and professional identity as a lawyer.
7. Become more aware of the critical importance of acting ethically and professionally in all settings.
8. Have fun sharing ideas and experiences and getting to know each other.

Grading

The course grade is based primarily on participation in the live discussion sessions, completion of the journal entries, completion of the research refresher assignment, completion of the goals and expectations assignment and the evaluation by your field supervisor.

Preparation for class and participation in class is an expectation for all students.

The grading is Pass / Fail.

The law school grading policy is available at:

<http://www.law.ufl.edu/student-affairs/current-students/academic-policies#9>

Honor Code

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>.

Class Expectations

I expect you to:

- (1) Satisfactorily and timely complete all assignments; and
- (2) attend and demonstrate preparedness in discussion sessions.

Assignments and Conference Sessions

You will spend approximately two hours of out-of-class work per week for fifteen weeks.

Goals and Expectations

Create a set of externship goals and a list of opportunities that you expect to have in order to meet these goals (I want to better understand civil procedure, and I expect to be able to watch hearings in court), then meet with your on-site supervisor to fine tune the list, and upload a copy to the assignment drop box on the externship TWEN page. This is due at the end of the first week of your externship.

Research Refresher Assignment

Complete the Legal Research Refresher Assignment posted on the externship TWEN page. Upload the completed assignment to the assignment drop box on the externship TWEN page. The research guide referenced in the assignment is also posted on the TWEN page. This is due at the end of the second week of your externship.

Daily Journal

Complete a journal entry for each day worked. Describe what you have done each day in as much detail as you can in light of any confidentiality restrictions placed by your field supervisor. Be self-reflective. Let me know your impressions about the work, what you've learned etc. Upload your journal entries to the assignment drop box on the externship TWEN page. The schedule for uploading the journal entries is as follows:

Journal 1 - 1/22 by 5:00 p.m.

Journal 2 - 2/5 by 5:00 p.m.

Journal 3 - 2/19 by 5:00 p.m.

Journal 4 - 3/12 by 5:00 p.m.

Journal 5 - 3/26 by 5:00 p.m.

Journal 6 - 4/9 by 5:00 p.m.

Journal 7 - 4/23 by 5:00 p.m.

Conference Sessions

We will meet and confer at least four times during the semester. Dates and times t/b/a.

Attendance

You are required to attend all scheduled meetings with me.

The law school's attendance policy is available at

<http://www.law.ufl.edu/student-affairs/current-students/academic-policies#3>

Statement related to accommodations for students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Resources. The UF Office of Disability Resources will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Law School Office of Student Affairs when requesting accommodation.

Class Assignment Schedule

Our class includes weekly assignments consisting of readings and journal submissions. In addition, we'll have four (required) conferences where we'll discuss the readings, your field experiences, and anything else that may be of interest to you related to lawyering.

Externship Goals – 1/12	<u>Week One</u>
Legal Research Refresher – 1/19	<u>Week Two</u>
<u>Journal 1</u> – 1/22	<u>Week Three</u>
Conference – date and time t/b/a	<u>Week Four</u>

	<u>Week Five</u>
<u>Journal 2</u> – 2/5	
Conference – date and time t/b/a	<u>Week Six</u>
<u>Journal 3</u> – 2/19	<u>Week Seven</u>
Conference – date and time t/b/a	<u>Week Eight</u>
Spring Break	<u>Week Nine</u>
<u>Journal 4</u> – 3/12	<u>Week Ten</u>
Conference – date and time t/b/a	Week Eleven
<u>Journal 5</u> – 3/26	Week Twelve
	Week Thirteen
<u>Journal 6</u> – 4/9	Week Fourteen
Conference – date and time t/b/a	Week Fifteen
<u>Journal 7</u> – 4/23	Week Sixteen