Hofstra Law Clinic
Registration Meeting & Open House

Wednesday, March 27, 2019
Noon-2 p.m.  |  The Clinic Offices
Joan Axinn Hall

Pizza and Soft Drinks will be served

law.hofstra.edu/Clinics
What our alums have to say about their clinical experience:

“Overall, the clinic prepared me for the legal profession and exceeded all of my law school expectations.”
— Matthew De La Torre ’16

ASYLUM CLINIC

“The Asylum Clinic was one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences I had in law school.

Professor Wren is a dedicated mentor, and I learned an incredible amount about asylum law.

I had the opportunity to represent my client in a defensive proceeding in front of an Immigration Judge, and I have yet to have an experience comparable to seeing the judge tell my client that she won her asylum case.”
— Laura Robbins, 2014

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CLINIC

“I did not truly discover what I came to law school for until I was a student in the Community and Economic Development Clinic.

The hands-on experience I gained from meeting and working directly with nonprofit and small-business clients from the local communities on transactional matters both helped those different organizations and provided a rewarding experience for me as I developed the skills of client-centered lawyering.

My time as a legal intern for the Community and Economic Development Clinic truly shaped the future of my legal career and the type of member I will be in the profession.”
— Hanaiya Gholson, 2014

“The Asylum Clinic was one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences I had in law school.
— Laura Robbins ’14
CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC
“I consider myself very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work in Hofstra’s Criminal Justice Clinic with Professor Nevins. We got complete responsibility for our cases and did everything from investigation to motions to prepping for hearings to appearing on the record. I got a lot of training and experience that I draw on now that I am a public defender. Before making decisions at work, now I often ask myself what I would have done with the case in the clinic — and I think my clients are better off because of it.”
— Amanda Cannon, 2017

YOUTH ADVOCACY CLINIC
“I made the decision to attend law school at Hofstra in order to gain experience as a Clinic student in the Youth Advocacy Clinic.

My time at the Clinic was unlike any other experience that I gained in law school. As a Clinic student, I had the opportunity to conduct full hearings on behalf of clients and I gained valuable experience directly advocating for our client’s interests in both Family Court and Immigration Court.

Professor Liebmann is an invaluable resource and he continues to mentor his students well beyond their time in the Clinic.

The oral and written advocacy skills that I gained from working at the Clinic helped me to obtain my Equal Justice Works Fellowship at the Children’s Law Center.

I have already utilized the knowledge that I gained as a Youth Advocacy Clinic legal intern at other legal internships and I look forward to utilizing these skills as an Attorney for the Child. I would highly recommend the Youth Advocacy Clinic to any student who is interested in gaining practical legal experience before graduating from law school.”
— Dana Dohn, 2016

“I did not truly discover what I came to law school for until I was a student in the Community and Economic Development Clinic.”
— Hanaiya Gholson ’14
ASYLUM CLINIC
Professor Lauris Wren
Maximum Enrollment: 8 Students

In the Asylum Clinic, students represent asylum applicants in immigration proceedings before Asylum Officers, Immigration Judges, and the Board of Immigration Appeals. Our clients fled their countries because of torture or other persecution, based on race, religion, nationality, opinion, or membership in a particular social group. If they are granted asylum, our clients will be able to remain in the United States, to bring their immediate family here, and one year after winning asylum, to apply for permanent residence. Our clients’ lives literally depend on the outcome of the asylum case. Students have represented clients from such countries as Congo, Cote d’Ivoire, Cameroon, Trinidad, Albania, Chad, Venezuela, Chile, Peru, Jamaica, Tibet, India and Nepal.

For applicants to the Asylum Clinic, please write a one to two page statement of interest explaining why you are applying to the Clinic. In particular, I am interested in hearing of any prior experiences or demonstrations of interest in the following areas: immigration, international issues, political asylum, human rights, and public interest.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CLINIC
Professor Michael Haber
Maximum Enrollment: 8 Students

Students in the Community & Economic Development Clinic provide transactional (non-litigation) assistance to nonprofits and small businesses in low-income communities in and around Nassau County, with a preference for clients that contribute to social and economic justice. Clients include newly-forming businesses and nonprofits requiring start-up assistance and established entities that need help in connection with more complex issues. The Clinic’s start-up work includes: counseling concerning choice-of-entity decisions; incorporation, drafting corporate bylaws, operating agreements, shareholder agreements, and founders’ agreements; applications for tax exemption; and drafting, review, and negotiation of contracts. Our work for more established clients commonly involves corporate finance and securities law, commercial leases and real estate transactions, and employment law matters. In addition, we work with some of our nonprofit clients as project counsel in support of their community-driven activities on the legal topics of greatest concern to low-income communities on Long Island: housing, jobs, environmental issues, and more.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC

Professor Elizabeth Nevins-Saunders
Maximum Enrollment: 8 Students

Students in the Criminal Justice Clinic represent indigent clients charged with misdemeanors in Nassau County District Court. Clinic interns provide the entire range of legal representation, from initial interview to sentencing. Courtroom advocacy includes arraignments, bail arguments, bench conferences, evidentiary hearings, oral arguments on motions, bench and jury trials, plea dispositions and sentencings. Lawyering skills practiced outside the courtroom include interviewing, counseling, fact and crime scene investigation, negotiation with assistant district attorneys, and researching and drafting motions and other memoranda. Students may also represent clients in related proceedings including parole revocation, school suspension, and Department of Motor Vehicle hearings where these hearings arise from the facts of the criminal case. In order to perform their court responsibilities, students must keep Tuesday and Thursday mornings (9 a.m. -1 p.m.) free from all other obligations. Students will meet for seminars, rounds, and individual & team meetings during the term, in addition to court appearances. Criminal Procedure I and Evidence are pre- requisites or co-requisites for admission to the Clinic. Trial practice experience (mock trial, NITA classes, etc.) strongly recommended.

DEPORTATION DEFENSE CLINIC

Professor Emily Torstveit Ngara
Maximum Enrollment: 20 Students

DDC students advocate on behalf of immigrant populations most at risk of deportation. The DDC activities are shaped by the constantly changing landscape of immigration enforcement. Responsibilities may include raid response and impact litigation. Students will also provide representation in immigration court, often on behalf of detained individuals, for matters including bond, motions to suppress evidence obtained in violation of a noncitizen’s constitutional rights, motions to reopen removal proceedings for people with prior orders of removal, motions to reconsider orders of removal in light of new precedent, as well as appeals to the Board of Immigration Appeals. Additional DDC projects include extensive community advocacy in response to new federal immigration initiatives and legislative and administrative advocacy.

FEDERAL TAX CLINIC PRACTICUM

Professors Linda Galler and Lewis Mandel
Maximum Enrollment: 8 students

Students in the Federal Tax Clinic represent taxpayers in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service concerning the determination, collection or refund of any tax, additions to tax, penalties or interest under the Internal Revenue Code. They also may represent taxpayers in disputes concerning New York State income tax issues. Representation may take place at any stage of a tax controversy including, but not limited to, examination (audit), collections, IRS Appeals, and litigation in the United States Tax Court. Students will engage in client interviewing and counseling, intensive fact investigation, legal research, drafting of court and administrative documents and briefs, and negotiation. We attend a Tax Court trial session and participate in an evening open house with IRS Counsel.
YOUTH ADVOCACY CLINIC

Professor Theo Liebmann
Maximum Enrollment: 8 Students

Youth Advocacy Clinic students learn the facets of client advocacy through the challenging experience of representing immigrant children and youth in Family Court and Immigration Court. YAC clients typically come to the United States to escape abusive home environments, extreme poverty, or violence in their communities. YAC students are expected to advocate vigorously for their clients to ensure that courts provide them with safe and stable placements, to defend them from deportation, and to obtain lawful immigration status on their behalf. Students engage in all aspects of the practice, including client counseling, fact investigation, legal research, motion practice, written applications, and full trials and hearings.

ROBERT W. ENTENMANN VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC

Professor Blair Thompson
Maximum Enrollment: 8 Students

Students in the Clinic will help veterans obtain disability (and thus, often, health care) benefits and apply for discharge upgrades. More particularly, students may help veterans submit disability claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs, work on appeals of denied claims, and help veterans obtain increases in disability ratings, for cases in which increases are justified by a veteran’s service record and health status. Students may also may help veterans upgrade other-than-honorable discharges from the military so that these veterans become eligible for disability and health care benefits. Working alongside physicians, other clinicians and experienced attorneys, students will help veterans with service-connected disabilities establish that their disabling conditions are service-connected. The Clinic Practicum will be part of Starbucks’ Military Mondays – an innovative public-private partnership that engages community veterans in conversation and provides free legal counsel at nearby Starbucks locations.)
**How To Register:**

1. **Apply.** Pick up an application form at the Registration Meeting or the clinic offices. Attach your résumé to the completed application form and deliver both to the clinic. **ENROLLMENT IN ALL CLINICS IS LIMITED TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THREE FULL-TIME SEMESTERS OF LAW SCHOOL.**

2. **Deadline.** Please submit all materials by April 15, 2019 at 5 p.m.

3. **Interview.** When you return your completed application and résumé, sign up for an interview with your first-choice clinic. (Do not sign up for the interviews with the other clinics, they will exchange information.)

4. **Watch your mail and e-mail.** When the clinics have made their choices, they will notify you by mail and e-mail at the addresses you indicate on your application. If you are not accepted into a clinic, you will automatically be placed on a wait list in case a space opens up at a later date. You need not do anything further.

5. **If you are accepted:** Register as usual. The clinic will supply the Academic Records with a list of accepted students for each one of the clinics. These students will then be permitted to register.

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**Don’t Graduate from Law School without Clinical Experience**

- Represent clients under the supervision of experienced trial attorneys.
- Get “hands-on” legal experience, which translates into good job offers.
- Argue in court, negotiate with adversaries, conduct depositions and try cases, including jury trials.
- Learn effective methods for interviewing and counseling clients, negotiating, litigation drafting and developing winning case strategies.
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