This syllabus outlines the classroom component of the Youth Advocacy Clinic. The course is a seminar, and your participation is expected to be active. To assist you in focusing on key issues in your readings, you will receive an assignment for each class that may require oral presentations, written work, or merely contemplation of certain questions. Unless otherwise noted, the seminar is in the Clinic Conference Room on Mondays from 10:10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For a detailed description of expectations, grading criteria, administrative issues, and course goals, please see the Clinic Manual.

**Attendance Policy:** Due to the importance of attendance at all seminars, supervision meetings and case-related events such as court appearances and client interviews, NO unexcused absences are permitted. Your grade will be lowered one-half mark for each unexcused absence.

### Topic | Readings Due
--- | ---
I. Course Overview | Manual (including appendices)
II. Ethics & Professionalism for Lawyers Representing Youth | Supplement: §I
III. Special Immigrant Juvenile Status | SIJ Handbook
IV. Abuse and Neglect Matters | Solomon: 85-169
V. Interviewing and Counseling | Supplement §II
VI. Nuts and Bolts of Effective Legal Advocacy
   a. Legal Research
   b. Fact Investigation & Assessment
   c. Tips for Persuasive Written Advocacy | TBA
VII. Developing a Theory of the Case | Supplement: §III
X. Effective Storytelling | TBA
XI. Working with Professionals from Other Disciplines | Re-read 64 FORDHAM L. REV. 1505, pp. 1528-1537 (1996)
KEY:

Manual = Youth Advocacy Clinic Manual
Solomon = Representing Children in Abuse and Neglect Proceedings
Supplement = Course Supplement Materials
SIJ Handbook = Special Immigrant Juvenile Handbook

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Through your participation in the Youth Advocacy Clinic you will be working toward the following Law School Learning Outcomes:

You will develop your ability to write analytically and persuasively, and to draft legal documents.

You will demonstrate proficiency in the following:

• extracting rules and policy from cases, statutes, and administrative regulations and analyzing, interpreting and arguing differing interpretations of rules and statutes;
• conducting investigation of facts and constructing a coherent narrative based on that investigation;
• identifying legal issues in facts and applying rules and policy to facts;
• weighing evidence to reach factual inferences;
• constructing arguments and identifying flaws in an argument;
• performing comprehensive legal research;
• presenting analysis orally and arguing orally; and,
• using policy to analyze and persuade.
• strategic planning;
• problem solving in light of a client’s objectives;
• counseling clients;
• interviewing;
• using procedural tools such as motions and discovery;
• working collaboratively;
• learning from experience through self-critique;
• managing projects within time and resource limitations;
• presenting orally outside of litigation;

You will learn how to:

• present written and oral communications and conduct yourself in professional settings in a manner that meets the standards of the legal profession;
• conduct yourself in accordance with standards of professional conduct;
• fulfill a lawyer’s commitment to competence, integrity, accountability, and social responsibility;
• apply the principles and policies reflected in the law governing lawyers, including a lawyer’s duty of loyalty to clients, fiduciary duties, and obligation of zealous representation.

TIME COMMITMENT:

Consistent with American Bar Association regulations, you are required to spend an average of 18-25 hours per week on your clinic work, in addition to our weekly two-hour seminar meetings.