

**Laws 930: Mentor Externship I, Second-year Students
Fall Syllabus, 2006**

Professor Contact Information

Name:

Employer:

Address:

Address:

Office Phone:

Cell/Phone:

Email Address:

Best time and method for reaching me:

Other information you need to know:

Course Description

The mission of UST Law is to integrate faith and reason in the search for truth through a focus on morality and social justice. Mentor Externship Seminar draws on student/mentor experiences to examine our mission in a practical setting. Class topics are designed to bridge the gap between student learning and life as a lawyer. Each student is given the opportunity to individualize learning goals specific to his or her unique path of professional development.

Course Schedule

This class will meet four times in the fall. For your specific class dates and times, please see the fall schedule below. If for some reason, a specific class needs to be changed to another date and/or time, students will be notified as soon as possible.

Mentor Externship	Cr.	Professor	Days	Time	Room
I					
2L Sections					
Mentor Externship I	0.5	Hamilton	Wednesday	12:30-1:25 p.m	244
			Sept. 13		
			Oct. 4		
			Nov. 1		
			Nov. 29		

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Peterson Thursday 6:00-6:55 p.m. 242
Sept. 14
Oct. 5
Nov. 2
Nov. 30

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Bateson Monday 8:00-8:55 a.m. 242
Sept. 11
Oct. 9
Oct. 30
Nov. 27

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Brabbit Tuesday 12:30-1:25 244
Sept. 12 p.m.
Oct. 3
Oct. 31
Nov. 28

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Tourek Thursday 8:00-8:55 a.m. 242
Sept. 14
Oct. 5
Nov. 2
Nov. 30

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Roehrich Wednesday 6:00-6:55 p.m. 242
Sept. 13
Oct. 4
Nov. 1
Nov. 29

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Hutton Monday 5:00-5:55 p.m. 242
Sept. 11
Oct. 9
Oct. 30
Nov. 27

Mentor Externship I 0.5 Organ Friday 9:00-9:55 a.m. 242
Sept. 15
Oct. 6
Nov. 3
Dec. 1

Course Credit

0.5 credit earned after successfully completing the fall semester; 0.5 credit earned after successfully completing the spring semester.

Course Materials

Course materials for the fall semester must be purchased from the bookstore. All assigned readings for the fall semester are contained in the packet.

Time Commitment

Each credit allocated to a course, seminar, clinic or externship at UST Law is based on a 50 hour per credit model. To earn one credit in Mentor Externship, each student must commit 50 hours to the program. The following is an overview and breakdown of the annual time commitment of the Mentor Externship based on the insight of the UST Law faculty and Mentor Externship professional staff:

Classroom	Seminar setting 8 hours (8 55-minute classes) 4 meetings in the fall 4 meetings in the spring
Reading and Class Preparation	12 hours (1.5 hours per class)
Journals/written assignments	6 hours (7 entries; minimum of 500 words);
Fieldwork/ work with Mentor	a minimum of 24 hours for the year (includes all meetings, experiences, and debriefings);
Experiences	students must also complete a minimum of 5 distinct experiences during the year.
Total	50 hours

Classroom Requirements

- Be prepared to engage in thoughtful and honest conversation with your peers. Use your mentor experiences as a starting point for class discussions. Use the required readings to analyze and reflect on your activity with your mentor.
- Attend all 8 classes with your registered section. We will not allow student to attend another section to make-up missed classes. You must attend the section for which you registered. A successful learning environment depends on attendance and participation. We only have eight sessions over the course of a

year; therefore, attendance is mandatory and absences are allowed only at the discretion of the professor.

- Complete journal/written assignments on time. Journal/written assignments are due on the date the class meets (classes 2 through 8), and should synthesize class discussions, readings, experiences and personal reflections. Each entry must be a minimum of 500 words.

Fieldwork Requirements

- Attend training; mentor assignments are distributed during training.
- Contact mentor to arrange initial meeting by September 1st.
- Attend initial meeting with mentor.
- Complete the Plan (PPDP) with mentor. This form can be found in the student manual and on Blackboard.
- Submit mentor-signed plan to MSL 327 by **Friday, September 29, 2006**.
- Log **all** program activity within 30 days of the event (if you don't, you won't be allowed to), including:
 - Five distinct experiences.
 - To receive credit for the fall semester, complete and log at least two experiences by **December 21, 2006**.
 - Twenty-four total hours of fieldwork. This consists of all time spent traveling to, preparing for, or debriefing experiences, all experience time, and all time spent meeting with your mentor outside experience time. It does NOT include time spent preparing for or attending class.
- Print completed log at the end of the year.
- Meet with mentor to wrap up the year.
- Get mentor's signature on printed log.
- Submit completed, signed mentor log by **Friday, May 4, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.**;
Complete a year-end evaluation. If you do not complete the evaluation, program administrators will not have your interest areas or requests for assigning mentor for 2007-2008.

****If you do not turn your final log in on time you will receive a failing grade.**

Record Keeping

Mentor Externship requires students to record all activity in an electronic log, much like lawyers do. Contemporaneous and accurate record keeping is a key professional skill. In this program, administrators and professors should be viewed as clients and inaccurate "bills" (logs) submitted for "payment" (academic credit) will be denied. For example, if a student attends a deposition with her mentor, she records the date of the event, a description of the event, the names of the attorneys present, and the amount of time spent preparing for and participating in the event, including travel time.

All activity must be logged within 30 days of the event. Through this process, students fine-tune the skill of contemporaneous record keeping, and learn how failing to contemporaneously record activity increases the likelihood of inaccurate reporting, guesswork, unethical behavior and unhappy clients and outcomes.

At the end of the year, the mentor's signature simply means the mentor has reviewed the information. It does not mean that the mentor has verified the accuracy of the information.

Students should not log class time, class assignments and journaling/written activity.

Grading

Grading will be pass/fail. A passing grade means all classroom and fieldwork requirements were completed at a professional level including meeting deadlines. **In order to pass the fall semester you must submit a signed and completed PPDP and you must log at least 2 experiences in the fall.** You may certainly do more than two experiences in the fall and all experiences and hours completed in the fall will carry over to the spring and count towards your final requirements.

The professor will also consider class attendance, journals, class participation and deadlines/timeliness in assigning a pass/fail grade. In summary, the Professor will ask: should this student be practicing law?

Confidentiality

In any discussion focusing on personal values and choices, participants must share a high level of trust before they can be frank about their views. Honest self-disclosure can make a speaker vulnerable to criticism from others, especially when comments are taken out of context and shared with persons not present at the discussion. It is expected that participants respect each other and the professor, and that no one will discuss comments made in the classroom with outsiders.

Maintaining confidentiality about classroom discussions is not to be viewed as a ban on discussing the activities and themes of the course with non-participants. That sort of discussion is encouraged as it helps one gain perspective and can lead to healthy reconsideration of personal views. To avoid running afoul of the confidentiality constraints, class members should keep any outside discussion focused on the ideas and general activities of class, and avoid reference to particular individuals, firms, agencies or other entities.

Topics and Assignments

Class 1 – Mentor Externship Orientation and Relationships in Law

Required reading:

- Mentor Externship: Why Does One Credit Matter?, Lisa Montpetit Brabbit

Journal/written assignment:

- No Assignment for Class 1

Class 2 – Civility in the Legal Profession

Required reading:

- *The Necessity of Civility*, Honorable Warren E. Burger
- *Dealing with Difficult Opposing Counsel*, Michelle Lore
- *The Jerk Opposing Lawyer: An Invitation to Circle the Drain Together*, Neil Hamilton
- Sample Motion to Deal with Uncivil Behavior, Mark Kosieradzki

Journal/written assignment:

- Please answer the following questions:

1. Do you see any problems with civility at UST Law? If so what are they? What does society's general decline in civility mean for our profession?
2. From your mentor experiences or clerkships, what problems of civility do you observe in the practicing bar?
3. Discuss with your mentor how he/she addresses incivility. Outline what you have learned from the discussion.
4. Imagine you show up for your very first deposition. During the deposition opposing counsel objects to each of your questions and makes comments on the record that you do not understand the case and are wasting everyone's time. He frequently instructs his client not to answer questions and is generally obstructing your attempts to ask any questions. During a break in the proceeding opposing counsel tells you that it is obvious you are not very

good at this and are in over your head. What are all of your options for responding to this lawyer? Which option will you choose?

Class 3 – Understanding the Economic Relationship Between the Lawyer & Employer

Required reading:

- *Understanding the Economic Relationship Between the Lawyer & Employer*, David M. Bateson

Journal/written assignment:

- Prepare an economic analysis of your ideal employer. What are the key elements of overhead at the employer? What impact does your desired salary have on your employment? What are all the ways you can provide benefit to your employer?

Class 4 – Work Expectations and Achieving Balance

Required reading:

- *Work Expectations and Balance*, David M. Bateson
- *The Making of a Legal Athlete*, David M. Bateson & Tim Hart

Journal/written assignment:

- Review the ideal job you selected for the third class. What parts of that job will challenge your ability to live a balanced lifestyle? After reviewing the questions in the Work Expectations and Balance article, what are your top non-work priorities? Identify five concrete things you will do to help give attention to those priorities.

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