LAW 530: ADMINISTRATIVE LAW (3 CREDITS)

This course studies the law governing administrative agencies, including executive departments, in the task of carrying out governmental programs. Topics include interrelations of legislative, executive and judicial agencies in development of public policy; decision-making processes and internal procedures of administrative agencies and legislative, executive and judicial controls on them.

LAW 788: ADVANCED TRIAL METHODS (2 CREDITS)

This course is designed to provide students interested in trial practice with an opportunity to study and participate in the various aspects of a trial. Students will develop a thorough understanding of each aspect of a trial, including jury selection, opening and closing statements, introduction of evidence and examination of witnesses. Case theory, courtroom ethics and professionalism will be discussed.

Pre-requisite: Trial Methods or ITAP

LAW 738: BANKRUPTCY (3 CREDITS)

This course will address state law creditor collection remedies such as garnishment and execution, and state law priorities among competing creditors. After examining state law remedies and priorities, we will focus on the federal Bankruptcy Code. We will discuss elements common to all (business and consumer) bankruptcies, and the principal focus of the course will be Chapter 7 liquidations in the consumer context and Chapter 13 wage-earner payout plans. At the end of the course, we will discuss some issues particular to Chapter 11 business bankruptcies.

LAW 6088X: BANKRUPTCY PREP (1 CREDIT)

Students enrolled in this class will learn the basics of consumer bankruptcy preparation. Students will be taught to recognize when a simple Chapter 7 or 13 Bankruptcy will provide an appropriate remedy for a financially distressed consumer. Students will also learn how to prepare and file the Bankruptcy Petition and Schedules. This course is not a substitute for the regular Bankruptcy course, as coverage will not include matters such as business Bankruptcies, case administration, or the powers of the Bankruptcy Trustee

LAW 631: BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS (3 CREDITS)
A.J.D./LL.M survey course that analyzes the conduct of business in each of the principal forms of business organization, and the relative rights and liabilities of the members of such organizations and third persons. The course reviews the uniform partnership statutes, the Model Business Corporation Act, and the Delaware General Corporation Law, and considers the legal principles governing agency and partnership relationships as well as corporations. The course introduces the federal securities laws and the state statutes governing limited liability companies, limited partnerships and limited liability partnerships.

**LAW 504: CIVIL PROCEDURE II (3 CREDITS)**

A continuation of Civil Procedure I, this course studies civil litigation procedure, with emphasis on modern federal practice. Topics include subject matter jurisdiction, personal jurisdiction, venue, joinder, the Erie doctrine, and related concepts.

**LAW 664: CLIMATE CHANGE (2 credits)**

Climate change driven by global warming is one of the great environmental, economic, social and legal challenges facing the world, and is already reshaping the legal landscape. This seminar will examine the science, economics, and social implications of climate change driven by global warming. The seminar will consider the diverse array of local, state, national, and international legal responses to these daunting challenges. Student papers will research and analyze concrete legal developments in the U.S. (primarily at the state level), in other nations, or internationally. This seminar is intended to provide students with the legal tools and conceptual framework needed to practice in and shape the emerging law of climate change.

**LAW 803: CLINICAL EXTERNSHIPS (2-4 CREDITS)**

This course provides an extern clinical assignment in the practice of law with cooperating agencies such as a district attorney, public defender; legal aid society, etc. A weekly classroom component is also part of the externship program.

Pre-requisite: Evidence

Co-requisite: Professional Responsibility

**LAW 508: CONTRACTS II (2 CREDITS)**

A continuation of Contracts I, this course studies the law governing contracts and contractual relationships. The course introduces the student to contract formation, performance, and non-performance, and explores the role of contract law in a market society.

**LAW 505: CRIMINAL LAW (3 CREDITS)**

This course studies the general principles that underlie statutory criminal liability, including a consideration of their judicial application in the context of selected offenses and defenses.
LAW 506: CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (3 CREDITS)

This course provides in-depth consideration of the Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable search and seizure, the Fifth Amendment's right against compulsory self-Incrimination, and the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel, all with particular emphasis on the judicial Interpretation of the application of these constitutional provision's within the context of police Investigation of crime.

LAW 798/799: DIRECTED RESEARCH (1 OR 2 CREDITS)

Students may write research papers for credit under the supervision of a full-time member of the faculty. The faculty member must approve the subject.

Pre-requisite: Successful completion of one Seminar

LAW 6104X: E-DISCOVERY TECHNOLOGIES AND METHODS

Lawyers increasingly must use advanced technologies and software to address the proportionally-large volumes of electronic materials in eDiscovery. This course introduces students to the technical aspects of technology-assisted-review (TAR) tools such as keyword search and newer, machine learning or “predictive coding.” Combining learning-by-doing and lectures, students gain key insights into how to distinguish various TAR tools, how TAR technologies work, when TAR is appropriate, and what are some limitations of TAR. Students actually use “predictive coding” software in class during a hands-on, eDiscovery simulation.

Note: Students must bring a modern laptop to class to complete the graded simulation

LAW 831: ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (3 CREDITS)

This course surveys the federal and state statutes and regulatory programs which attempt to limit water pollution, air pollution, environmental degradation, species extinction, hazardous waste, and chemical regulation problems. The course will examine how and why these statutes and programs are structured the way that they are, how the laws work, and the extent to which our environmental laws achieve their goals.

LAW 836: EVIDENCE (3 CREDITS)

This course studies the law governing proof of disputed factual matters in criminal and civil trials, including, but not limited to, issues of relevancy, competency, hearsay and other exclusionary rules, and the privileges of witnesses.
LAW 636: FAMILY LAW (3 CREDITS)

This course considers state and constitutional issues relating to the regulation of sexual and family relationships. Among the areas that may be covered are defining what constitutes a family, entry into marriage, divorce, and its economic consequences (alimony, property distribution and child support) and child custody. The course draws on constitutional principles, statutes, and the common law to study the family in the legal system.

LAW 747: FEDERAL COURTS (2 CREDITS)

This course explores the role of the federal judiciary in our system of government. First, it examines the tensions inherent in the separation of powers between the political branches of the federal government and the judiciary. Second, the course explores the complicated issues of federalism presented by the existence of two sets of courts – state and federal. This course combines the study of constitutional theory with the reality of politics and jurisdictional practice in the federal courts. Topics that may be covered include standing, mootness, ripeness, the political question doctrine, Congressional power to limit federal court jurisdiction, the Eleventh Amendment, abstention, habeas corpus, 1983 civil rights actions, and other important jurisdictional doctrines not covered in the basic Civil Procedure courses.

LAW 610: FEDERAL INCOME TAX (3 CREDITS)

This course surveys and analyzes the federal system of income taxation. Topics include gross receipts, gross income, exclusions, gain-seeking and personal deductions, CREDITS, rates and tax accounting.

LAW 810: FIRST AMENDMENT (2 CREDITS)

This course focuses on constitutional rights involving speech, press, and religion. Rights of political participation, wartime limits on civil liberties, state action, associational freedoms, and constitutional and prudential limits on judicial powers are also potential topics.

Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law

LAW 690: FUNDAMENTALS OF THE BAR EXAM (2 CREDITS)

Fundamental of the Bar Exam is a pre-bar review skills-development course that uses bar examination materials to familiarize students with techniques for answering the multiple choice, essay, and performance test questions found on the bar examination. The course focuses on bar exam skills and is not a comprehensive review of the substantive law tested on the bar exam. Students will be required to work collaboratively in class and will have regular homework assignments to complete. This course is not a substitute for a commercial bar preparation course.

LAW 6035: GOVERNMENT LAW COLLOQUIUM (1 CREDIT)
This seminar will consider the special areas of law that are involved in litigation by or against a state or local agency. It will review such substantive areas of law as mandamus; statutory construction; when the existence of a statutory procedure precludes other forms of litigation, such as a declaratory judgment action; and a constitutional challenge to a state statute on procedural, as opposed to substantive grounds. The seminar will consider real life litigation, such as the pursuit of a zoning board appeal or a workers’ compensation claim.

LAW 511: INTENSIVE LEGAL ANALYSIS (I.L.A.) (2 CREDITS)

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop and refine their legal reasoning and analysis skills. Topics include: identifying an individual's learning style and problem-solving skills, critical reading of legal authorities, simple and complex rule-based reasoning, and methods of deconstructing legal rules and organizing the analysis of new legal questions. Exam-style essays and “in-basket” projects are used to practice and reinforce analytical skills.

LAW 772: INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION (1 CREDIT)

Students may earn one or two credits for participation in interscholastic moot court, trial advocacy and other competitions sanctioned by the law school as appropriate interscholastic competitions. The list of approved interscholastic competitions includes but is not limited to National Moot Court, Jessup International Moot Court, Douglas Moot Court, Patent Moot Court, Polsky Moot Court, American Trial Lawyers Association Competition, Texas Trial Lawyers Competition, American Bar Association Client Counseling Competition and like events.

LAW 678: INTERSCHOLASTIC TRIAL COMPETITION COLLOQUIUM (1 CREDIT)

This course is required for all students who wish to participate in interscholastic trial advocacy competitions. Enrollment is permitted only with permission of the Trial Advocacy Honor Society advisor. This intensive course will cover the basics of trial competition from case preparation through courtroom performance. This course will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

Prerequisite/Corequisite: LAW 836: Evidence

LAW 809: JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP (2-4 CREDITS)

Students enrolled in the Judicial Externship Program are assigned to selected state and federal trial and appellate judges for a maximum of two semesters. Externs prepare legal memoranda, conduct legal research and perform duties normally assigned to a law clerk under the supervision of the assigned judge and the judge’s graduate law clerk. The program is designed to enhance the student’s writing and research skills, familiarize the student with court procedures, permit observation of court proceedings and enable the student to learn the operation of judicial chambers. Students will meet with the faculty supervisor for mid-semester and end-of-semester reviews. Students are required to keep a daily log and retain a copy of all written work produced for the court. Graded Pass/No Pass.

Pre-requisite: Evidence
LAW 850: LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT – STARTING A SOLO OR SMALL FIRM (2 CREDITS)

Practicing law is a profession with a central purpose of serving clients. An inescapable fact of a lawyer’s life, however, is that we must also make a living through engaging in our profession. That involves the business side of practice. Efficient and cost effective operation of our practices is vital to delivering affordable services to our clients as well as earning proper remuneration. In Starting a Solo Practice, we will discuss what you need to consider if you want to start your own solo or small firm practice whether immediately after graduation or in the future. We will focus on developing a business plan for your practice. We will cover such things as good management concepts, law firm organization, fees and billings, compensation, profit sharing, initial capitalization, location, computing, and attracting and maintaining clients. The theme of the course will be how to start a law firm with good business practices and still maintain our ethical, professional and personal integrity. You will end the semester with your own personalized business plan for a solo or small practice as the final project.

LAW 770: WIDENER LAW REVIEW BOARD (1 OR 2 CREDITS)

Please contact Widener Law Review for more information.

LAW 763: WIDENER LAW REVIEW STAFF (1 CREDIT)

Please contact Widener Law Review for more information.

LAW 510: LEGAL METHODS II (2 CREDITS)

This course expands on the analysis, writing and research skills introduced in Legal Methods I, and introduces new skills. Students will learn basic techniques of persuasive legal arguments, and will draft persuasive documents such as a trial memorandum and an appellate brief. Students will also learn how to research court rules, and will prepare and deliver an appellate oral argument.

LAW 512: LEGAL METHODS III – CONTRACT DRAFTING (2 CREDITS)

This course provides students with the opportunity to learn and practice the basic principles of contract drafting and interpretation. Emphasis will be placed on drafting agreements that effectuate clients’ need and anticipate potential legal problems. Students will be required to work collaboratively in class, will have regular homework assignments to complete, and will individually draft several written contracts.

Pre-requisites: Legal Methods I & II

LAW 512: LEGAL METHODS III – TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION (2 CREDITS)
This course focuses on how technology can be used to enhance legal communication, both in writing and orally. In this course, students will learn how to create professional documents and presentations with the most commonly used technology—Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. For example, students will learn how to use styles effectively, create tables, add cross references, collaborate on documents, perform calculations, and merge Excel data into Word (to name just a few Microsoft Office topics that will be covered). This course will also cover how other technologies are used in the legal profession. Students will be evaluated on numerous writing assignments/exams and presentations, at least some of which will require legal research. Because most legal employers use PCs, not Macs, this course will cover all concepts on a PC only. This course may be of particular interest to students who are unfamiliar with much of the detailed functionality of Microsoft Office products or who will be in solo practice or in a small firm.

Pre-requisites: Legal Methods I & II

**LAW 645: LEGISLATION (2 or 3 CREDITS)**

This course studies the enactment and interpretation of statutes, principally on the national level. As such, the course is one of separation of powers, as we consider the exercise of governmental power by, and the relationship between, the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Students will learn tools for interpreting statutes and for arguing in favor of one interpretation over another; the course is not designed to teach doctrinal lessons. Students should have a basic familiarity with the legislative process and the separation of powers before beginning the course, which one can learn by reading an introductory text.

**LAW 688: MEDIATION (2 CREDITS)**

Mediation is a dispute resolution process where a neutral third party (the mediator) intervenes in an existing or threatened dispute, either by the agreement of the parties or the direction of the courts, with the goal of facilitating a negotiated resolution of the dispute. Due to the demands of clients and courts for efficient and effective means of dispute resolution, lawyers frequently find themselves engaged in the mediation process, either as an advocate for one of the disputants, or as a neutral mediator. Through readings, role-playing, and simulations, this highly interactive course will focus on the roles, skills and ethical questions involved in mediation for clients, mediators, and lawyer advocates. Students will learn the negotiation theories underlying mediation as a process; the specific stages of a typical mediation; and the roles and skill sets of the participants. The professor will base a student’s grade on the student’s performance in class, in mediation and negotiation simulations, and on papers demonstrating the student’s understanding of mediation as a dispute resolution process.

**LAW 767: MOOT COURT HONOR BOARD (1 or 2 credits)**

Please contact Moot Court Honor Society for more information.

**LAW 6070X: MOOT COURT INTERSCHOLASTIC COLLOQUIUM (1 credit)**
LAW 902: MOOT COURT INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION (1-2 credits)

Please contact Moot Court Honor Society for more information.

LAW 6044X: OIL AND GAS LAW (2 CREDITS)

This course is a comprehensive introduction to the dynamic area of oil and gas law with a particular focus on the nature of oil and gas interests, oil and gas leasing and key provisions, implied covenants in oil and gas leases, principles governing the lessor-lessee relationship, pooling and unitization, a multitude of common law doctrines peculiar to oil and gas, oil and gas conservation statutes, and contemporary environmental challenges associated with oil and gas exploration and development.

LAW 769: PATENT LAW (2 CREDITS)

The course provides an introduction to patent law, focusing upon the requirements of patent ability (patentable subject matter, utility, novelty and non-obviousness), infringement, and defenses to infringement. Other possible topics include the economics of information and innovation competition, claims drafting, licensing, patent misuse, and antitrust violations.

LAW 925: PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL CLINIC (3-6 CREDITS)

The Pennsylvania Civil Clinic is a one-semester client service clinical program offering an opportunity to study and to undertake actual cases in general civil litigation in the Pennsylvania courts on behalf of clients who are unable to afford legal services from traditional private sources. Clinical participants interview and counsel clients; frame legal issues and prepare for litigation; and participate in negotiations, non-judicial dispute resolution and litigation on behalf of clients before administrative agencies and state and federal trial courts. Students may also assist in appellate cases before state and federal courts. Clients are represented by clinical interns under the supervision of the Clinical Director.

Pre-requisites: Evidence & Professional Responsibility

LAW 926: PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL CLINIC LEADER (2 CREDITS)

The Pennsylvania Civil Clinic Leader is a one semester client service clinical program offered to selected students who have completed one semester in the Pennsylvania Civil Clinic. Students who are selected as Clinic Leader will continue to participate in the representation of actual clients in the general civil practice of the clinic. In addition, Clinic Leaders assist in the management of the Civil Clinic by ensuring that the materials used by the Clinic comply with applicable rules. The Clinic Leader also assists in supervising students by helping them in their research as well as their preparation for court proceedings. Clinic Leaders may also be asked to continue representation of clients from prior semesters or to work on special projects that may arise in the Civil Clinic from time to time.

Pre-requisites: Evidence, Professional Responsibility, and Pennsylvania Civil Clinic
LAW 652: PRODUCTS LIABILITY (2 CREDITS)

This course studies the development of liability of the distributors (manufacturers, vendors and other suppliers) for harm caused by defective products. Emphasis is placed on the development and nature of theories of strict liability in tort, negligence, misrepresentation, and warranty liability under the UCC.

LAW 702: PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (3 CREDITS)

This course examines the duties of lawyers toward clients, courts, and society. Ethical problems which confront the lawyer are raised and discussed in terms of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the Model Code of Professional Responsibility and case law. The areas covered include confidentiality, conflicts of interest, competence and unauthorized practice.

LAW 516: PROPERTY II (2 CREDITS)

A continuation of Property I, this course studies the basic elements of the law of real and personal property. Topics in personal property may include ownership and possession, finders' rights, bailment, bona fide purchasers, gifts, bank accounts, and accession. Topics involving real property include adverse possession, estates and future interests, marital interests, concurrent ownership, and landlord-tenant law. The course may also include other topics which are covered in more detail in upper level electives: nuisance law, zoning, constitutional limitations on public land use regulations, eminent domain, private land use restrictions (easements, licenses, servitudes), and real estate conveyancing and recording.

LAW 646: SALES AND LEASES (3 CREDITS)

This course covers Articles 2 and 2A of the Uniform Commercial Code. Coverage generally includes all the stages of contracts for the sale and lease of goods from formation to breach and remedies. Documents of title (Article 7) and payment by means of letters of credit (Article 5) may also be covered. The course may also include comparisons and contrasts with the Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods.

LAW 6016: SEM: ADVANCED EVIDENCE (2 CREDITS)

Students in this seminar will explore both current and controversial issues in evidence as well as the foundations of evidence law. Topics will likely include: hearsay and the Confrontations Clause, especially the developing Supreme Court doctrine in this area and the Court’s recent cases concerning victims of domestic violence; children as witnesses; evidence law theory, the codification of evidence law, and the rapidly developing area of expert and scientific evidence. In addition to assigned readings and possible trial exercises and demonstrations, each student will write a paper and do a presentation on an evidence law issue of her/his choice. Students may satisfy the writing requirement with the course.

Pre-requisite: Evidence

LAW 6084: SEM: CITIES IN CRISIS (2 CREDITS)
The financial crisis that precipitated our recent Great Recession affected cities as well as individuals and businesses. In the past few years, an unprecedented number of municipalities, including the City of Harrisburg, have taken the rare step of filing for bankruptcy. In this seminar, we will explore the causes of municipal financial distress and well as solutions on the state and federal levels. During the semester, we will discuss how cities are governed and how they raise money to pay for their operations, as well as the stresses caused by the migration of residents and businesses to the suburbs. Because many states, including Pennsylvania, are reconsidering their programs to relieve municipal financial distress and because there are many open questions regarding the efficacy of Chapter 9, the federal bankruptcy procedure to resolve such distress, we will discuss the benefits and limitations of existing laws and try to develop solutions. Each student’s grade will be based on written work, a presentation, and class

LAW 975: SEM: INTERNATIONAL LAW (2 CREDITS)

This course will examine contemporary issues in creating and reforming international governing institutions in light of the challenges presented by globalization. With historical reference to how past governing regimes have been conceived, it will explore models which could be adapted to the present international system. Specifically, the course will examine the experience of the founding fathers in unifying the American states to create the United States of America, the post-war European architects in designing what has become the European Union, and of Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, and other international planners in conceiving of the League of Nations and the United Nations.

LAW 699: SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN LEGAL ETHICS (1 CREDIT)

The advanced problems course will take a more in-depth look at the very real and very serious professional responsibility challenges which arise in everyday practice of law. We will move the consideration of professional responsibility from the theoretical study of moral codes to the application of those codes in light of other law, moral and professional considerations and the individual student’s own sense of proper action. The ultimate purpose of the course is to arm the student with a sophisticated understanding of the workings of the moral and professional rules applicable to law practice, to train the student in identification of the ethical questions which frequently arise in law practice and thus to enhance the value of the student to him/herself and to the employing firm or organization. (Inter-semester; 2-days, 1 credit)

Pre-requisite: Professional Responsibility

LAW 520: TORTS II (3 CREDITS)

A continuation of Torts I, this course examines and analyzes the general theories of tort liability for injuries to persons or property: intentional misconduct, negligence, and strict liability. The course may also introduce principles and theories of products liability. Defenses to all theories of liability are also covered.
LAW 781:  TRIAL METHODS (2 CREDITS)

Trial Methods is a semester-long course focusing on oral trial practice skills and on strategy and planning for civil or criminal trials. One hour each week will be devoted to lectures and demonstrations of trial skills. Two hours each week will be devoted to simulation exercises under the supervision of experienced practitioners and judges. The course will conclude with a short jury trial. Trial Methods is graded pass/fail.


Note: Pre-Trial Methods is not a Pre-requisite for Trial Methods.

Note: Students may not take both Trial Methods and I.T.A.P.

LAW 834:  WILLS & TRUSTS (4 CREDITS)

The course covers in testate succession; testamentary capacity; execution, revocation and component parts of wills; interpretation of wills; constructive trusts; will substitutes; creation and interpretation of inter vivos and testamentary trusts; future interests; the Rule Against Perpetuities; and ethical and practical considerations in drafting wills and trusts. The course may cover charitable trusts; powers of appointment; fiduciary responsibility; administration of trusts and estates; introduction to estate and gift tax law.