

WIDENER LAW COMMONWEALTH

ADVOCACY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM APPLICATION



2017 - 2018

REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS SEEKING THE CERTIFICATE IN ADVOCACY

Every individual who receives the Advocacy Certificate must comply with the following requirements:

1. Mandatory Courses (please remember that not all courses will be offered every year)
 - a. ITAP **or** Trial Methods
 - b. Advanced Trial Methods
 - c. At least **one** of the following courses:
 - i. Pre-Trial Methods,
 - ii. Pennsylvania Civil Practice,
 - iii. Pennsylvania Criminal Practice
 - iv. Legal Methods III – Appellate Advocacy,
 - v. Legal Methods III – Specialization (litigation),
 - vi. Negotiations,
 - vii. Alternative Dispute Resolution (graded)
 - viii. Mediation
 - d. At least **one** of the following courses:
 - i. Advanced Criminal Procedure,
 - ii. Advanced Evidence,
 - iii. Law and Policy of Sentencing and Corrections
2. Experiential Learning
 - a. Participation as an attorney in **one** of the following:
 - i. an intramural competition (Moot Court or Trial Ad),
 - ii. an interscholastic competition,
 - iii. a “live client” hearing either through a Clinic or through some other experience under the supervision of a faculty member, and
 - b. Observation of a full trial in either the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas or the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. The student must submit a report on the experience to the Director of the Advocacy Certificate Program, and
 - c. Preparation of a Trial Brief, either as part of the mandatory experiential component of the Program, or as part of Advanced Trial Methods.
3. Other
 - a. Students must earn a grade of B- or better in each mandatory course.
 - b. Students must maintain an overall GPA of 2.8 or higher.

I, _____, certify that I have read and understand the requirements for completion of the Certificate Program in Advocacy. I have met the requirements by completing the following classes and experiences.

CLASS

SEMESTER COMPLETED

Choose One:

- ITAP _____
- Trial Methods _____
- Advanced Trial Methods _____

Choose One:

- Pre-Trial Methods _____
- Pennsylvania Civil Practice _____
- Pennsylvania Criminal Practice _____
- Legal Methods III _____
 - Appellate Advocacy
- Legal Methods III _____
 - Specialization (Litigation)
- Negotiations _____
- Alternative Dispute Resolution _____
- Mediation _____

Choose One:

- Advanced Criminal Procedure _____
- Advanced Evidence _____
- Law and Policy of Sentencing _____
and Corrections

EXPERIENCE

Choose One:

Intramural Competition _____

Interscholastic Competition _____

"Live Client" Hearing _____

Nature of Proceeding (e.g. Preliminary Hearing, Administrative Hearing, etc.):

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Trial Observation _____

Trial Brief _____

APPLICATION

I, _____, hereby apply for the Advocacy Certificate. I certify that I have read and understand the requirements for completion of the Program.

Current GPA: _____

DATE: _____

Signature

(Print Name)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE. THE TRIAL BRIEF AND TRIAL REPORT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PROFESSOR LOCKARD

TRIAL OBSERVATION REPORT

Plaintiff Name: _____

Defendant Name: _____

Plaintiff Attorney: _____

Defendant Attorney: _____

Cause of Action (Charge(s) if Criminal): _____

Court: _____

Judge: _____

Length of Trial: _____

Number of Witnesses: Plaintiff(Prosecution) _____

Defense _____

Please rate the effectiveness of the following:

Opening Statements

				Plaintiff (Prosecution)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
				Defense						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Briefly explain how you believe the plaintiff (or prosecution) and the defendant could have improved the opening statements.

Direct Examinations

				Plaintiff (Prosecution)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
				Defense						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Briefly explain how you believe the plaintiff (or prosecution) and the defendant could have improved the direct examination(s).

Cross Examinations

				Plaintiff (Prosecution)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
				Defense						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Briefly explain how you believe the plaintiff (or prosecution) and the defendant could have improved the cross examination(s).

Closings

				Plaintiff (Prosecution)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
				Defense						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Briefly explain how you believe the plaintiff (or prosecution) and the defendant could have improved the closings.

What did you learn about trial techniques from observing this trial? (Use additional space if necessary)