Selecting Upper-Level Courses

Spring 2022
Agenda

- Florida Bar Applications
- JD Graduation Requirements
- Upper-Level Courses
- Journals and Teams
- Summer 2022
- Pro-Bono Requirement
YOUR STUDENT REGISTRANT APPLICATIONS WITH THE FLORIDA BOARD OF BAR EXAMINERS....
90 credits for J.D. 
– 31 foundation credits =

59 credits of electives remaining to complete J.D. requirements.
Upper-Level J.D. Requirements

• Earn at least **90 hours of passing grades** in all courses.
  • 78 of those hours must be in graded courses.
  • A passing grade is D or above, but no more than 13 credits of D.
• Must earn a cumulative GPA of **2.0** or above at the end of every semester.*
Upper-Level J.D. Required Courses

- Complete **Professional Responsibility** with a grade of C or better.
- **LSV III**
- Complete **two Litigation/ADR courses**.
- Complete one **Upper-Level International Law** course.
- Complete one **seminar**.
- Complete **six credit hours of experiential courses**.
- Complete **pro bono requirement** before you start your final academic year.
Upper-Level J.D. Requirements

How do I know whether a course satisfies the specific J.D. requirements?

Registrar’s Office will provide Course Registration Guide, which lists all courses and which (if any) requirements they fulfill; and Degree audit on https://myfiu.edu.

Can a single course satisfy two or more specific J.D. requirements?

Yes. For example, you could satisfy both the International and Seminar requirements by taking The Sierra Leone Tribunal Seminar.
How to do a Degree Audit

"My.fiu.edu" = "Panthersoft" = "Peoplesoft" = "student portal"
How to do a Degree Audit
How to do a Degree Audit
Selecting Upper-Level Courses

What types of Upper-Level Courses are offered at FIU Law?

• 1. Doctrinal Courses
• 2. Skills/Simulation Courses
• 3. Experiential Courses
• 4. Non-Classroom Work
## Doctrinal Courses

### Bar-Tested Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highly Recommended Courses</th>
<th>Recommended Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Organizations</td>
<td>Family Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Procedure: Investigation</td>
<td>First Amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence</td>
<td>Florida Civil Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law and Procedure: U.S. and Florida (aka “FLAP”)</td>
<td>Florida Constitutional Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Take this the semester before you graduate</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>Payment Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills and Trusts</td>
<td>Products Liability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remedies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secured Transactions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selecting Upper-Level Courses

What types of Upper-Level Courses are offered at FIU Law?

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Experiential Course Requirement

SIMULATION/SKILLS

EXPERIENTIAL
Examples of Skills/Simulation Courses That Satisfy the 6-credit "Experiential" Requirement

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Negotiation
- Trial Advocacy/Advanced Trial Advocacy
- Pre-Trial Practice
Experiential Course Requirement

- Simulation/Skills
- Externships
- Experiential
- Clinics
What is an Experiential Course?
A course that allows students to earn law-school credit for real-world legal work representing--or working on behalf--of a client.

What Experiential Courses does FIU Law offer?

**Externships**
Law-related work in off-campus field placements.

**Clinics**
In-house law offices in different areas of practice. Students represent clients under the supervision of a clinical professor and/or staff attorney.
Experiential Courses (Externships)

What types of Externships does FIU law offer?

• Judicial
  - Prosecutors
    - State Attorney’s Office
    - U.S. Attorney’s Office
  - Government Defense
    - State Public Defender Office
    - Federal Public Defender

• Criminal
  - Government Office
  - In-House Corporate Counsel

• Civil
  - Law Firm
  - Non-Profit Organization
## Experiential Courses (Externships)

### What are the requirements to enroll in an Externship?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Externship</th>
<th>No. of credits that must be completed before enrollment</th>
<th>Course Pre-Requisites</th>
<th>CLI Florida Bar Clearance Required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judicial</td>
<td>Completion of all Foundation Courses</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil</td>
<td>45 credit hours</td>
<td>1) Professional Responsibility (pre-or co-req.)&lt;br&gt;2) Evidence (<em>if law firm</em>)</td>
<td>No (but recommended)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal</td>
<td>48 credit hours</td>
<td>1) Professional Responsibility;&lt;br&gt;2) Criminal Procedure: Investigation;&lt;br&gt;3) Evidence&lt;br&gt;*All pre-or-co-requisites)</td>
<td>Yes for SAO and State PD only; not for FPD, USAO.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Experiential Courses (Externships)

**How many credits do I earn from completing an Externship?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Externship</th>
<th>Semester of Enrollment</th>
<th>No. of Credits</th>
<th>Graded or Pass/Fail?</th>
<th>In-Class/ Non-Classroom Work Credit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil / Criminal Externship</td>
<td>Fall or Spring</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>All Pass/Fail</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial Externship</td>
<td>Fall or Spring</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pass/Fail</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 Graded 2 Pass/Fail</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil/Criminal Externship</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2 Graded 4 Pass/Fail</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Externship</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, or Summer</td>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>All Pass/Fail</td>
<td>Non-Classroom Work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Experiential Courses (Externship)

May I get paid from my externship placement and also receive course credit?

Yes
Experiential Courses
(Externships)

Can I work for my current law firm/legal employer and get experiential (Externship) credit?

Yes*
Experiential Courses (Externships)

What is the hour requirement for an externship placement?

Fall / Spring:
180 hours

Summer:
210 hours
Experiential Courses (Clinics)

What types of Clinics does FIU law offer?

• Death Penalty Clinic
• Immigration Clinic
• Community Lawyering Clinic
• Business, Innovation, and Technology (BIT) Clinic (formerly Small Business Clinic)
## Experiential Courses (Clinics)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic</th>
<th>No. of Credits B/F Enroll.</th>
<th>Course Pre- or Co Requisites</th>
<th>No. of Credits</th>
<th>Pass/Fail or Graded In-Class/ Non-Classroom Work Credit?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Death Penalty Clinic (Fall/Spring/Summer) | 45                        | Death Penalty Course (P)  
Professional Resp. (C/P)                                                                 | 4              | Graded In-Class                                        |
| Immigration Clinic (Fall/Spring/Summer)    | 45                        | Professional Resp. (C/P)  
Evidence (C/P)  
Immigration Law (C/P)                                                                 | 4              | Graded In-Class                                        |
| Community Lawyering Clinic (Fall/Spring/Summer) | 45                        | Professional Resp. (C/P) and ONE:  
Family Law (C/P)  
Health Law (C/P)  
Admin Law (C/P)  
Disability Law (C/P)  
Immigration Law (C/P)                                                                 | 2-4            | Graded In-Class                                        |
| BIT Clinic                       | 45                        | Professional Resp. (C/P)  
Bus. Orgs. (C/P)                                                                                      | 4              | Graded In-Class                                        |
Credits/Hours Conversion for Clinics

• 2 credits  =  112 hours / semester
• 3 credits  =  168 hours/ semester
• 4 credits  =  196 hours / semester
Experiential Courses (Externships and Clinics)

All of you must meet with Zoraya Ledesma to plan for your six-credit Experiential Requirement and Pro-Bono Hours.

LEDESMAZ@FIU.EDU
305-348-4242
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Non-Classroom Work

What is Non-Classroom Work?
• Credit-earning work that is not completed in a classroom.
• Pass/Fail.

What types of credit-earning work is considered Non-Classroom Work?
• Advanced Externship credits;
• Journals
• Competitions; and
• Independent Study.
Are there credit caps on Non-Classroom Work?

• Students are limited to a total of **6 credits** for Non-Classroom work; **no more than 4** of those can be for Independent Study.
Journals:
- FIU Law Review
- African Journal of Legal Studies
- World Arbitration and Mediation Review

Competition Teams
- Moot Court
- Trial Team*
- International Commercial Arbitration Team*
- Negotiation and Mediation Team*
Moot Court

You must register for **Advanced Appellate Advocacy** in Fall following completion of your foundation courses to be eligible for the Moot Court Team.
Summer 2022

• The COL offers IN-PERSON AND ONLINE LIVE classes at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the summer session.

• You can take up to 6 credit hours of courses over the summer.
  • For waiver of 6-credit limit, please contact Dean Rodriguez-Dod.

• **Seville, Spain, Summer Study Abroad**
Summer Term and Financial Aid

You must be enrolled in at least 5 credits over the summer to receive financial aid (loans).
Summer Term and Scholarships

- Scholarships are not awarded for the summer term.
- According to Financial Aid Office, if you have a full scholarship you will be refunded in subsequent terms. Please contact Gabby Mendez for details.
How do I register for Upper-Level Courses?

• You register for classes through my.FIU.edu/Student Portal/Panthersoft.

• For Summer 2022 courses, you will register in April 2022.

• For Fall 2022 courses, you will register in June 2022.

• For Spring 2023 courses, you will register in November 2022.

• You will receive registration instructions and a registration appointment from the Registrar’s Office.
Pro Bono Requirement

• All students must complete 30 hours of pro bono work before the fall of their final year.

• Students who complete 130 hours of pro bono work will receive a graduation medallion.

• Pro bono hours may be completed at FIU Law or at an outside placement.

• You should start pro bono work by summer!

• For approved placements, please visit: https://law.fiu.edu/pro-bono/

To get started, please meet with Zoraya Ledesma.