

**WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW
THOMAS & MACK LEGAL CLINIC**

October 19, 2009

Dear Prospective Clinic Student:

The following Spring 2010 clinics are planned:

Appellate Clinic (continuing clinic)

Education Advocacy Clinic

Family Justice Clinic

Immigration Clinic

Juvenile Justice Clinic

Mediation Clinic

For your planning, there are no clinics planned to be offered during the Summer of 2010.

We are pleased that you are considering taking a clinic course and hope that this letter answers most of your questions about the application process.

All students who wish to enroll for a clinic must complete the Clinic Application Form. The application asks both general informational questions and more specific questions required for your certification to practice law under Rule 49.5 of the Nevada Supreme Court Rules. Please be sure to read the questions carefully and answer them accurately and completely. The Clinic Application Form, Supreme Court Rule 49.5, and a copy of this letter are posted on the Boyd School of Law website. Click on "In-House Clinics" and scroll down to "Clinical Program Information".

PLEASE NOTE: A student may **not** enroll in both a clinic course and an externship during the same semester.

Deadline:

Clinic applications for the Spring clinics are due no later than **12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2009**, in the Clinic office. Late applications will be accepted; however, there are limited seats for each clinic and the date of receipt will weigh heavily in the selection process.

Eligibility:

1. **All clinic students must be eligible for certification under Nevada's student practice rule.** Please read Nevada Supreme Court Rule 49.5 to ensure your eligibility prior to submitting your application. For example, under Rule 49.5 students must have successfully completed at least 30 hours of academic course work to be eligible for limited certification and 45 hours for full certification to practice law in the Nevada courts.

2. Students must meet all posted prerequisites or co-requisites of the clinic course (if any) prior to enrollment.

3. For students applying to the Immigration Clinic, preference will be given to students who have taken or are concurrently enrolled in Immigration Law.

Selection Process and Criteria:

Students will be selected for clinic placement based on a process that begins with the submission of the application and may include a personal interview.

Selection for the clinic will be based on the following criteria:

1. **Demonstrated capacity for and dedication to personal and professional responsibility.** This criterion is evidenced by such habits as diligent class preparation and civility within the law school community. It is marked by maturity, conscientiousness, and sound judgment.

2. **Experiences and skills likely to benefit the clinic's clients and fellow clinic students.** This criterion is evidenced by such things as public interest or other relevant work or volunteer experience, or foreign language skills.

3. **Demonstrated capacity to handle multiple tasks under pressure.** This criterion is evidenced by such accomplishments as a record of turning in assignments in a timely manner, or a history of meeting significant workplace or personal obligations.

4. **Seniority in law school.**

5. **Boyd J.D. Student.** Students who are eligible to obtain a J.D. degree from the William S. Boyd School of Law are given preference for enrollment in clinics over students who are not eligible to receive a J.D. degree from the Boyd School of Law.

6. Students who have completed one clinic course may enroll in another clinic course only if space is available after all other students have been considered.

Selection decisions for each clinic are primarily the responsibility of the faculty member teaching that clinic. Questions about the selection criteria or process should be directed to the person who will be teaching the clinic or clinics in which you are interested.

Enrollment and Registration:

In addition to the rules generally applicable to law school courses, the following rules apply to enrollment in clinic courses:

1. Unlike other law school courses, clinic courses do not have a “free” drop-add period during the first week of the semester. Anyone desiring to withdraw from a clinic course after the Friday before the semester begins must receive the written permission of the clinic professor.

2. Any student who is unable to be certified to practice law under Nevada Supreme Court Rule 49.5 may not participate in the clinic and therefore will be dropped from the course. NOTE: This does not apply to the Mediation Clinic.

3. There will be a half-day MANDATORY orientation for all Clinic students during the week preceding the beginning of the Spring 2010 semester. Clinic students are advised to keep their calendars open that week. The date and time of the orientation will be emailed to each enrolled student.

4. There will be a week-long MANDATORY boot camp for Mediation Clinic students during the week preceding the beginning of the Spring 2010 semester. Mediation Clinic students are advised to keep their calendars open that week. The date and time of the orientation will be emailed to each enrolled student.

5. Students are expected to participate in the Orientation. Failure to attend the Orientation, without the prior approval of the clinic professor, will result in being dropped from the course.

6. Preparation for and attendance at the first class of the semester is mandatory. Failure to attend the first class or pick up course materials prior to the class, without the prior approval of the clinic professor, will result in being dropped from the course.

7. The above stated grounds for being dropped from a clinic course are not exclusive. A student may be dropped from a clinic course at the discretion of the clinic professor.

Notification of Acceptance:

You will be notified as to whether you have been accepted into a Spring clinical course as soon as possible, hopefully prior to general registration for the spring semester.

We are proud and excited about our clinic courses and delighted to talk about how they might fit with your educational and career goals. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of us.

Sincerely,

The Spring 2010 Clinic Faculty

Professor Leticia Saucedo Immigration Clinic leticia.saucedo@unlv.edu 895-0491	Professor Mary Berkheiser Juvenile Justice Clinic mary.berkheiser@unlv.edu 895-2402
Professor Anne Traum Appellate Clinic anne.traum@unlv.edu 895-4399	Professor Ann Cammett Family Justice Clinic ann.cammett@unlv.edu 895-1350
Professor Rebecca Nathanson Education Advocacy Clinic rebecca.nathanson@unlv.edu 895-2323	Professor Ray Patterson Mediation Clinic ray.patterson@unlv.edu 895-2333