

Memo

To: Nonprofit Management, Lundquist and CRES Students
From: Beatrice Dohrn
Date: October 08, 2021
Re: Info for those interested in taking the Nonprofit Clinic

The Nonprofit Clinic is a unique interdisciplinary opportunity. This memo is intended to provide information to Nonprofit Management, CRES and Business students interested in enrolling.

A description of the program is attached. There is also a video outlining what students do in the clinic with the Student FAQ of the clinic's website. <https://law.uoregon.edu/explore/nonprofit-student-faq>

A few important points:

The Clinic is 6 term credits: 4 will be Winter and 2 Spring credits. An info sheet on registering for a law course as a non-law student is attached. Feel free to reach out to bdohrn@uoregon.edu for help with this.

The Clinic runs on the Law semester schedule, so term students will be engaged from January 11th through April 28th with Spring break being the **only week off**. We work during the Winter term's exam week and exam prep week. **Clinic students must be present during Winter term exam week.** Term students who have no exams should not make plans to be away that week.

For Nonprofit Management students the clinic may be an alternate way to fulfill your capstone project requirement, subject to the approval of your advisor.

As of this writing it is not yet clear who all of our clients will be. I'll announce once the slate is final.

Students wishing to register, or those with questions or who would like to register are welcome to contact bdohrn@uoregon.edu.

Information for Non-Law Graduate Students

Taking LAW 725: Mediation and LAW 773: Nonprofit Clinic as LAW 600

Due to program requirements and course design, we expect a relatively large number of non-law graduate students to enroll in these two graduate-level law courses every time they are offered.

- LAW 725: Mediation, 3 semester credits – Required for CRES
- LAW 773: Nonprofit Clinic, 4 semester credits – Interdisciplinary course with CRES, 3PM, and Lundquist COB

This info sheet explains the “Hows & Whys” of the LAW 600 process for these two specific courses.

Why LAW 600? Because it carries a quarter-based CRN but follows the semester law calendar, LAW 600 is a “work-around” that allows non-law graduate students to take a semester-based, graduate-level law course and have it recorded on their UO quarter-based transcript with all of their other courses. Without this work-around, students would have two separate transcripts: one for quarter-based courses and another for semester-based courses.

Administration of LAW 600 Courses. Each class will have graduate-level law students registered under the semester CRN and non-law graduate students registered under the LAW 600 quarter CRN. Course requirements and grading are the same for law and non-law students. In the classroom, the difference between law and non-law students is administrative only. The Law School’s Academic Affairs staff will ensure that the registered non-law students are added to the instructor’s semester CRN Canvas account so that all students have Canvas access to course materials and the instructor can “see” all students on their Canvas account.

Registration. Non-law students for the two courses listed above are exempt from the usual requirement to fill out the LAW 600 form. Instead, a CRES administrator or the course instructor of record will provide a list of approved students to the Law Registrar’s Office prior to the semester add deadline. The Law Registrar’s Office will register all approved students into the LAW 600 CRN for:

- Fall quarter for fall semester law courses, or
- Winter quarter for spring semester law courses, except for the 6-credit LAW 773: Nonprofit Clinic which will be registered as 4 credits for winter quarter and 2 credits for spring quarter.

The Law Registrar will also enter the appropriate course title into Banner that will appear on the students’ transcript.

Nonprofit Clinic

University of Oregon School of Law

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| Clinic Leadership | Clinic Director Beatrice Dohrn |
| Credits | 4 credits for JD students 6 credits (total) for term students (4 Winter, 2 Spring). |
| Schedule | Law: Spring Semester (1/17/22 – 4/29/22) Tuesdays 5 – 7:00, Thursdays 5:30 – 7:00 |
| Grading | Pass/No Pass – or graded --optional |
| Terms | PPPM/CRES/MBA: The clinic operates on the semester system. Term students will register as a non-law student enrollee in a law course. Upon filing a waiver form, there will be no extra per credit charge. |
| Eligible students | Up to 8 Second or third-year law students who have not previously taken the clinic Up to 4 Second year CRES Students preferred Up to 4 PPPM Students Up to 4 Business Students |
| Pre-requisite courses | None. |
| Other requirements | Students must be available for training on two Fridays –January 21 st 2022 (9am – 4pm); January 28 th 2022 (9am- 4pm). Students must also be available to participate in weekly team meetings, classes, work sessions and some site meeting with clients. These are scheduled for Tuesdays from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 – 7:00. Student teams often find it beneficial to meet informally at other times, and some travel to nonprofit organizations located in Eugene, Springfield, and nearby outlying rural areas may require additional time on some Tues or Thurs evenings. Costs of travel will be borne by the clinic. |

The Nonprofit Clinic is an interdisciplinary program that assembles a group of students to assist twelve Oregon nonprofits. Each team is made up of three to five students drawn from Law, PPPM, CRES and Lundquist School of Business, assisted by a professional consultant and guided by the clinic's director. Each team serves two new clients. A preliminary project is to evaluate how one of last year's assessments worked out for a past client. Thereafter you will assess the governance of two organizations. You are expected to apply what you've learned in your discipline, and materials that will be presented in the two full day trainings. The course has one text – *Nonprofit Lifecycles, Stage-Based Wisdom for Nonprofit Capacity* by Susan Kenny Stevens. Most assessments employ this framework in analyzing their clients' needs.

In the clinic you are expected to behave and perform professionally and do what, in your professional judgment, is needed to provide your clients with a thorough tailored governance assessment, meaningful recommendations and a useful written report with supporting resources. Ultimately, your team will facilitate a dialogue regarding the recommendations between each nonprofit's Executive Director and its Board, including assistance with development of an action plan for implementation of the team's recommendations.

This experience will be very much like employment (which is quite different from taking a course): when and how you work is dictated by the demands of creating a quality product for the clients.

You will reap rewards beyond academic credit from the experience of presenting your ideas to actual clients. The more useful the product, the greater those rewards! As in most of the working world, the project will require working respectfully and in close cooperation with other professionals (your teammates, consultant and the clinic director). The strength of the clinic's work is in its being a true team product, so you will work closely with your teammates in arriving at your impressions, recommendations and in preparing your report and presentation.

Unlike in employment, the clinic offers a preset structure for your work. We follow a detailed calendar for preparing the assessment and its report. Also, the consultants and clinic director provide a great deal of guiding feedback at each phase, to help you advance and perfect your work in the timeframe we have.

Working in the clinic offers you the opportunity to be supported as you practice a wide range of skills, including: document review, interviewing groups and individuals, planning and facilitating meetings, evaluating bylaws and articles of incorporation, applying an analytical structure, writing sensitive recommendations that require diplomacy and discussing them with clients, formatting and presenting a professional written product, working with others under pressure.

Application process

Law, PPPM, CRES, MBA and other interested students may request registration for open slots, or receive more information by contacting bdohrn@uoregon.edu.

Questions?

<https://law.uoregon.edu/explore/nonprofit-student-faq>

Or contact Beatrice Dohrn at bdohrn@uoregon.edu.

Credits & Transcripts. Graduate law courses are taught on a 15-week semester calendar, while all other UO courses run on a 10-week quarter calendar. Therefore, each law (semester) credit is worth 1.5 quarter credits.

- LAW 725: Mediation, a 3-credit semester course, equals 4.5 quarter credits.
- LAW 773: Nonprofit Clinic, a 4-credit semester course, equals 6 quarter credits (4 winter/2 spring).

The exact converted number of quarter credits will be recorded on each student's transcript for LAW 600.

Class Schedule. LAW 600 courses are held according to the semester calendar. Fall semester begins 4-5 weeks prior to fall quarter. Spring semester usually begins the week after the start of winter quarter and ends in the middle of spring quarter. Check the UO Registrar website for exact start/end dates.

Course Materials. Books and other materials for these two courses must be purchased at the Duck Store located on the first floor, south end of the Knight Law Center building. They are not available at the main Duck Store on Kincaid St.

Grading. At the end of the quarter in which a non-law student is enrolled, the law instructor will enter an incomplete ("I") grade for the non-law student's LAW 600 grade. At the end of the fall or spring semester, after determining student grades, the instructor will then change the non-law students' LAW 600 incomplete grade in Duckweb to the grade the student earned in the course. CRES students must take Mediation as a graded course.

Tuition. Law semester credits (converted to quarter credits) will be included in the non-law student's tuition bill at the same rate as the student's current tuition.

General Prohibitions. A non-law student enrolled in a graduate-level law course is not allowed to transfer credit earned to the University of Oregon School of Law if they later decide to apply and are subsequently admitted as a full-time J.D. student. Accordingly, non-law students may not enroll in any graduate-level law courses required by the University of Oregon for graduation with a J.D. degree (e.g. any first-year courses, Constitutional Law II, or Legal Profession).

Contacts

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