

Bridge 2017 Course Descriptions 2/23/2017

Crs #	Course Name	Course Description	Credits	Faculty
874TUT	Environmtl Law&Policy CI	The Environmental Advocacy Clinic will focus on state, national, and international environmental policy issues that have direct impact on Western New York as well as national and international implications. Student Lawyers will be working on issues such as legal aspects on the first North American transboundary designation of a wetland of international importance. Under the supervision of Professor Connolly, Student Lawyers will coordinate directly with a bi-national task force and perform legal research regarding Canadian and US Federal Law as well as state, provincial, and local requirements. Student lawyers will also work on environmental justice and equity issues in the city of Buffalo, and waterfront development matters including climate change in Western NY. Student Lawyers will leave the clinic with experience in applied research, client interviewing and counseling, advocacy, fact investigation, drafting, teamwork, interdisciplinary coordination, and other profession-ready skills.	3	Connolly, Kim Diana
879TUT	Animal Law Pro Bono Project	Students in the clinic will focus on state and local policy regarding animal welfare issues related to Western New York. Student Lawyers will be working on issues such as local government laws related to the protection of community and feral cats. This work will involve presentations to municipal councils, and work with municipal attorneys to amend local law. Student Lawyers will coordinate directly municipalities and community partners to assess and update state and local requirements. Student lawyers will also work on legislation and policies supporting opposition to puppy mills. Student Lawyers will leave the clinic with experience in advocacy in various fora, applied research, working with interdisciplinary professionals, client interviewing and counseling, fact investigation, drafting, teamwork, ethics and professionalism, and other profession-ready skills.	3-4	Connolly, Kim Diana

890TUT	Civil Liberties & Trans Clinic	<p>The Civil Liberties and Transparency Clinic engages in impact litigation and other advocacy to defend individual rights—free speech, privacy, due process, and non-discrimination—and also to press for greater transparency in government. The clinic represents a range of clients that include human rights and civil liberties organizations, non-profits, journalists, news organizations, and individual victims of civil rights violations. The clinic’s caseload is currently focused on three subject areas: (1) law enforcement uses of technology, government surveillance, and digital civil liberties; (2) national security, military, and veterans’ issues; (3) promoting open, accessible, and accountable government. Students attorneys in the clinic will take the lead on all aspects of the clinic’s cases, under the guidance and supervision of the clinical professor. Students will gain practical, hands-on experience interviewing clients, developing new litigation, drafting complaints, drafting legal briefs, negotiating on behalf of clients, and arguing in court or other forums. Students may also have the opportunity to engage in public education and media advocacy on behalf of clients. The clinic is a 4-credit, semester-long course. Returning students have the option of taking the clinic in subsequent semesters for a variable number of credits.</p>	1-4	Manes,Jonathan Matthew
896TUT	Family Viol Women's Rights Cl	<p>In the U.S., one in three women and one in four men within their lifetime has been a victim of some sort of physical violence by an intimate partner. Erie County has high rates of domestic violence and child abuse, with the highest number of intimate partner homicides in New York outside of New York City. Students are invited to join the fight towards attaining justice and safety for victims of intimate partner violence. Students will gain a holistic understanding of the complex set of laws and courts that govern family violence practice in New York State and Erie County. Student attorneys will have the opportunity to conduct client and witness interviews, negotiate with opposing counsel, and argue before Judges and Court Attorney Referees. Students will conduct case specific legal research, develop case theories, collect evidence, draft and argue motions, and in some cases, may take a case to trial. Students will develop practice oriented skills such as client counseling, client interviewing, and negotiation through in class simulations. Students may deliver family violence related legal education to advocacy coalitions in Western New York. Students will gain firsthand knowledge about the multidisciplinary team approach to domestic violence cases through staffing hours at the Family Justice Center. Students will work with experts and may learn about the latest legislative reform in the field of family violence. Students may participate in legislator education sessions.</p>	1-4	Olin,Judith Gail

902LEC	Handling a Criminal Case	Knowing how to handle criminal cases is essential for today as young, up and coming lawyers. This interactive course will allow students to gather the tools and insight needed to successfully manage a criminal case. We will discuss [and practice] how to navigate through arraignment, plea negotiations, pre-trial motions, and trial while managing clients expectations.	1	Calvo-Torres,Betty
904LEC	Wkrs Comp&Emplr Liblty	This one-credit bridge course will provide students with a working knowledge of the workers compensation system in New York. The historical and theoretical foundations of this remedial system will also be covered through the use of a course textbook and supplemental readings. The textbook will be made available in the bookstore of the law school. It is also the objective of this course to impart a working knowledge of the interplay between the workers compensation system and the other diverse remedial systems existing in New York, such as the no-fault insurance system covering motor vehicle accidents, third-party tort liability, and the Federal Social Security Disability and New York State Disability systems. Students will find this course invaluable whether they are interested in representing the right of injured workers or corporate or government employers.	1	Schnurr,Jeremy
906LEC	Defending Depositions	This will be a practical one credit course in both the mechanics and strategies of taking and defending depositions in state and federal courts. After reviewing the rules for conducting depositions and the mechanics of preparing witnesses, making objections, marking exhibits and interacting with the court reporter, each member of the class will have the opportunity to conduct and defend a deposition. Student performances will be critiqued and will, along with classroom participation, form the basis for grading. Students enrolling in this class may not also enroll in Professor Altreuter's class (L947).	1	Marren,Daniel J
908LEC	Fed Pretrial Crim Pro	The course will cover all aspects of pretrial criminal practice that are generally encountered in the pretrial stages of federal criminal cases, with emphasis on procedure, rather than substantive matters. It will cover the representation of a client before the grand jury, motions to suppress, discovery motions, motions attacking the indictment, motions for bills of particulars, motions to sever, practical application of the rule of Brady v. Maryland, and charge and plea bargaining under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, and is intended to provide students with an overview of pretrial procedures they can expect in federal court, both in defending and prosecuting cases.	1	Bruce,Anthony M.
914LEC	Law, Film & Literature	This course will deal with how the law and the legal profession are treated in books, plays, and film. We will watch up to a dozen different films, and read four books. Students will submit a term paper on one topic, or several essays evaluating the films and books.	2	Muldoon,Gary

918LEC	Tax Pract & Proc	This course is designed to introduce law students to basic concepts of Federal Tax Practice and Procedure. The course will address these concepts in the sequence of an average tax controversy; audit, appeals, Notice of Deficiency, Tax Court, and collection. We will also discuss particular procedural issues such as the Trust Fund Recovery Penalty, innocent spouse, and bankruptcy.	2	Weber,Deborah
919LEC	IP Litigation	This one-credit course will involve case studies of actual litigated matters including copyright infringement actions over the films Backdraft and Shakespeare in Love, as well as an alleged sampling case involving Ice Cube's song "Gangstas Make the World Go Round." Students will review actual pleadings, expert reports and other evidentiary material presented in these cases and will engage in a "hands-on" analysis and comparison of allegedly infringing works of art, films and music. The course will also explore the use of expert witnesses, the benefits and pitfalls of seeking preliminary injunctions and the evidentiary challenges of proving damages and lost profits. There will be a review of the fundamental concepts of patent, trademark and copyright infringement cases, as well as a brief overview of unfair competition and trade secret misappropriation claims. Students will be expected to learn to distinguish between these broad areas of intellectual property law so as to be able to recognize and analyze potential infringement cases.	1	Africano,Kenneth W
919TUT	Health Justice Clinic	HJC student-attorneys staff LegalCare at Roswell, a medical-legal partnership serving patients of Roswell Park Cancer Institute who otherwise would not have access to a lawyer. Medical-legal partnerships bring lawyers and front-line health care providers together to address legal barriers to patient health in the medical setting. Working closely with Roswell Park social workers and health care providers, HJC student-attorneys interview, counsel, draft legal documents, and advocate for patients in legal matters commonly experienced by people with cancer. The HJC also seeks to work collaboratively with local health and advocacy partners to support good health at the population level through changes to statutes, regulations, and policies. In addition to working at LegalCare at Roswell, 2016-17 HJC student-attorneys will help develop an innovative interdisciplinary effort to apply the medical-legal partnership model in the addiction treatment setting. Student-attorneys will consider the broad range of laws and policies that bear on substance abuse and addiction treatment and will design an integrated program of direct legal services and systems change projects to improve health outcomes at the individual and population levels.	4	Duryea,Danielle

920TUT	Community Justice Clinic	The Community Justice Clinic represents low-income residents of Buffalo on issues relating to workers' rights, consumer justice, immigration, civil rights and government benefits. It is primarily a litigation clinic, although students will also have the opportunity to engage in community education and policy work as well. The clinic strives to be responsive to the needs of low-income communities and supportive of grassroots organizing movements. The clinic may also represent community organizations on campaigns or litigation related to the clinic's issues areas. Litigation includes a mix of individual representation and "impact" litigation. Students will work in teams and will be responsible for all aspects of their cases, including interviewing clients, drafting complaints, engaging in discovery, taking depositions, drafting briefs, and arguing in court. The clinic is a four-credit, semester-long course. Students are strongly encouraged, though not required, to stay in the clinic more than one semester. Advanced students have the option of taking the clinic for a variable number of credits.	1-4	Hallett, Amber Nicole
923LEC	Contr Negot&Arbit Prof Spr	This will be a hands-on experience in the legal and practical skills necessary to negotiate and arbitrate a professional sports employment contract. The class will be divided into two-person teams representing management and players. Each team will research, prepare and actively negotiate and arbitrate a professional athlete's contract.	1	Drew, Helen A.
925LEC	Soc Sec Disability Law	This course will provide an overview and in-depth study of social security disability law and practice in the context of administrative law. Topics will include: 1) eligibility for Social Security Disability and Supplemental Security Income benefits; and 2) the appeal process when an individual is denied benefits, with an emphasis on appeals to the U.S. District Courts. Students will write one short paper.	1	Callery, Catherine M
927LEC	Adv Con Law: 14th Amend	This course takes an in depth look at the history, initial potential and subsequent development of the Fourteenth Amendment. In addition to reviewing, from a mainstream perspective, the familiar doctrines associated with the Fourteenth Amendment, this course will explore a number of critical approaches to both understanding and interpreting the Amendment on a range of historical and contemporary issues. Course requirements include a series of short reaction papers and a re-writing of a Supreme Court decision (or a section of one) of the student's choice.	2	Mutua, Athena D.

928LEC	Commercial Litigation	This course explores the options, tactics, and procedures for commercial transactions which turned adversarial. We follow the subject equipment from purchase order, contract and delivery through malfunction, dispute, and litigation. Working from a record from an actual action (plus miscellaneous samples), we apply Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code to pleading, discovery, motion and appellate practice. EACH STUDENT WILL CONDUCT AND DEFEND MOCK DEPOSITIONS AND APPELLATE ARGUMENT AS WELL AS DRAFT DISCOVERY DEMANDS AND PROPOSED DECISIONS. The goal: crafting practical skills through real world case study.	2	Savino,William F
938LEC	Trial of Death Pnlty Case	This course will be an introduction to a death penalty trial. The course will be based upon a hypothetical case using the Federal procedures. This will be used for learning the death penalty process from the commission of the homicide through the end of the trial. Pretrial preparation, investigation, critical decisions of the prosecution and the defense, grand jury proceedings, pretrial motions, pretrial procedures, tactics, and the bifurcated trials of guilt and sentencing will be analyzed. The special development of sentencing mitigation evidence, the use of experts, the differences between regular criminal trials and capital cases, such as jury selection and the penalty phase of the trial, will be examined. Each student will do a mock jury selection. The final exam will be the delivery of a closing argument for the penalty phase of the trial. Each student will select either a prosecution or defense closing argument.	1	Harrington,Ja mes/Easton, William
946LEC	Intro to NYS Admin Law	Lawyers for agencies, regulated industries, and public interest groups understand that New York State administrative agencies wield significant power in the State. The validity of state agencies' actions depends on compliance with administrative law. This course explores: sources and limits of agency authority; procedures agencies must use in investigation, rulemaking, and adjudication; and availability and scope of judicial review of agency actions. The course uses a problem orientation to stress practical application of administrative law. Course evaluation will primarily be by a simulated challenge to a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation administrative determination, with written and oral advocacy components.	2	Calhoun,Steph anie Joy

947LEC	Discov Strat&Dep	<p>This is a course on methods, and as such our emphasis will be on (a) the statutory materials which form the basis for the taking of discovery in general; and depositions in particular; and (b) working with the “working papers” we have assembled, which are intended to provide a jumping off point for the discussion of the tactics and strategy of conducting discovery generally, and depositions in particular. Our goal will be to work towards an understanding of the overall context of discovery practice. We will cover both the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the New York Rules of Civil Procedure provisions that are pertinent, in the hope that the contrasts and similarities between the two sets of rules will provide some illumination. As suits a course on methods we will be proceeding with a minimum amount of lecture, and as much participation as possible. In general we will devote the first portion of the class to a discussion of practical approaches to the taking of discovery, referencing the relevant statutory provisions as we proceed. The second portion of each session will consist of a pair of depositions: a student will be assigned to take the deposition of the plaintiff, and a student will be assigned to take the deposition of the defendant in one of the example cases. We will critique as we go, and will look to the class to do likewise.</p>	1	Altreuter, William C.
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957LEC	Current Top Local Govt	<p>Provides an overview of the issues involved in the operation of local government by focusing on current controversial issues confronting Western New York municipalities. The first and second sessions review the structure of local governments and will study: differences in city vs. town structure; advantages and disadvantages of elected vs. appointed positions; strong executive form of government vs. County, City or Town manager form of government; term-limits, and downsizing of legislative bodies. It includes an overview of the concept of Regionalism and how it has been applied to local governments. Sessions include presentations by elected and/or appointed officials on a current governmental structure issue before their municipality. The third and fourth sessions examine the fiscal roles and responsibilities of municipal officials and ethics in government. The sessions will study tax rates, assessments, bonding for capital projects, purchasing practices and procedures, credit ratings, public/private partnerships, privatization, lobbying reform and debt management. The sessions include presentations by a Town, City or County Comptroller, Finance Director, Member of a Fiscal Stability Board or Assessor. The fifth and sixth sessions focus on Planning, Zoning, Environmental and Economic Development Issues. It includes a review of the various municipal planning, zoning and economic development boards and their interrelationship. It will cover land use moratoria, ¿sinking homes¿, deer management control, the ¿Kelo¿ eminent domain case, impact of adoption of comprehensive plans on land use decisions, brownfields funding and legislation, the role of the IDA in economic development, ¿big-box¿ stores, Wal-Marts, Waterfront Revitalization and historic preservation commissions. The class includes guest speakers from a Municipal Planning Board and/or a Planning Official and/or an Economic Development Official. The seventh and eighth sessions cover labor relations, personnel management, municipal liability issues, and access to governmental information. It covers the Taylor Law, Civil Service System, employee relations, general municipal liability, Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act. It includes speakers from organized labor and/or a Human Resources manager.</p>	2	Grelick,Susan/ Risman, Michael
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958LEC	Choosing a Jury	<p>Turn the TV to any high profile case and you will see jury consultants and “experts” critiquing the jury and selection process. It is becoming chic for attorneys to pawn off the voir dire to non-lawyers or to be assisted in their jury selection. Defense attorneys who once “relied on their instincts” are now realizing that a poorly picked jury is more harmful to their case than a murder weapon with fingerprints. This course will eradicate the notion that when picking a jury, an attorney is looking for fair and impartial people. A practiced attorney is trying to find people who will be receptive to his/her theory of the case. You will learn how to recognize favorable jurors, persuade some jurors and mold others. We will highlight the skills necessary to conduct a meaningful and constructive criminal jury selection given the time limitation of 20 minutes imposed by many State Courts. You will learn to become your own jury expert. Through case scenarios and simulations, students will learn what to say, what not to say and most importantly, how to say it. Students will learn when to use a peremptory challenge and how to effectively execute cause challenges. The course will be comprised mostly of role playing and learning through example. Students will deal with the applicable law, the psychology of behavior and even a little bit of acting. Using fact patterns based on actual trial cases, students will simulate the roles of defense counsel, prosecution and prospective juror in order to gain a practical understanding of the theories of voir dire. Student performances will be critiqued by both instructor and students and, along with class participation, will form the basis for grading.</p>	1	Austin,Stuart
959LEC	Sex Harassment Mediatn	<p>Sexual Harassment Mediation is a skillset for all those who believe that not all parties can participate in litigation due to the rigors of depositions or facing a jury and having to re-live toxic workplace events, resulting in a hostile work environment. Mediation skills in a general sense involve active listening, reframing of statements and positions, collaboration, and perhaps even an apology. Understanding sexual harassment, how it arises, listening to facts that evoke shame and blame and fear about speaking up necessitate a focus on a victim’s past, present and future. Some of the questions we will discuss include: “ How do we know if the conduct complained about was welcomed? “ What complaint policies did the employer offer? “ How did the plaintiff complain or give notice? “ Was there a pattern of sexual harassment? “ Had anyone ever complained or filed suit before? “ What effect did the Sexual harassment have on a victim’s health? “ Has the victim been treated for emotional distress? “ Has the Sexual Harassment affected the victim’s relationships outside of work? “ If a complaint was made, was it investigated? “ How can the litigation process dovetail into the mediation session to resolve the claims made? The course will involve reading cases involving sexual harassment, their outcome, and how it might have looked if a mediation had taken place.</p>	1	Korn,Lindy

964LEC	Mental Illness & the Law	To provide students with a foundation for understanding the role and function of the Court as it relates to criminal proceedings involving an accused with a mental disease or defect. To enable students to recognize the impact that persons with mental disabilities have on the legal system and to enable students to apply legal strategies to factual scenarios. This course will focus on issues relating primarily to Article 730 of the Criminal Procedure Law. The course will be conducted in lecture form. The use of guest speakers will be included to enhance the student's understanding. Distinctions between related theories such as "not responsible by reason of mental disease or defect/ insanity", "extreme emotional distress", "diminished capacity", and "developmental disability" will be discussed. Copies of relevant case law and statutes must be obtained by the students. Successful completion of Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure is required as a prerequisite to taking this class.	1	Ogden,E. Jeanette
973LEC	Anatomy Personal Injury Case	Accident claims comprise the civil litigator's practice. Recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of each individual accident is the first priority for any practitioner. Misjudging a potential liability case can result in the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars in income while accepting a case without merit will result in wasted time and lost revenues. This course will provide an overview of selected high points in the handling of such cases. This is a practice driven course, beginning with the initial client contact and continuing through pre-trial strategies, procedures and techniques. The students will be expected to consider and confront practical issues and questions that attorneys face on a daily basis. Drafting and evaluating pleading, motions, releases, lien notices and other standard documents will be a part of the course.	1	Hayes,J. Michael
978LEC	Ncaa Regulations	College athletics has grown increasingly popular to American society and has become an important element to college campuses across the nation. This course reviews the organizational structure, administrative regulations and appellate mechanisms that have developed to ensure fairness on the playing field and progress in the classroom.	1	Niland,Bridget E.
987LEC	Direct & Cross-Exam: Civil	This course presents the theory and practice of preparing (and preparing for) and examining (direct and cross) the expert witness in a civil case. The course deals with diverse experts including, but not limited to, doctors, accident reconstructionists, economists, and product analysts. Students will directly examine their own expert; cross-examine the adversary's expert witness; address matters of evidence, motions in limine and the notice requirements regarding expert testimony; and submit a written memorandum analyzing the witnesses and setting forth their goals for direct and cross-examination. Trial Technique is a pre-requisite for this course.	1	Scime,James