

CRIMINAL LAW CERTIFICATE



October, 2009

University of Mississippi School of Law

Criminal Law Concentration

Introduction

The University of Mississippi School of Law is proud to offer a Criminal Law Concentration. Through this concentration of courses, students interested in criminal law are able to immerse themselves in the field of criminal law during their academic studies. Upon successfully completing the requirements of the Criminal Law Concentration, the student will be awarded a certificate evidencing their completion of the requirements for the concentration. The students will also have a notation reflecting their successful completion of the Criminal Law Concentration made in their official law school transcript.

Overview of Program

Criminal Law Concentration – University of Mississippi School of Law

The Criminal Law Concentration is designed to provide students with a broad-based exposure to concepts, topics and skills vital to criminal law practitioners. The Criminal Law Concentration prepares students for careers in criminal law as local, state, and federal prosecutors, criminal defense attorneys, public defenders, and public interest litigators.

To participate in and successfully complete a Criminal Law Concentration, students must comply with the course requirements described below. Upon graduation, a student who successfully completes all requirements for the Criminal Law Concentration will receive a certificate attesting to such. A notation reflecting successful completion of the Criminal Law Concentration will also be made in the student's transcript.

A combined grade point average of 2.5 in all Concentration courses must be achieved in order to successfully complete the Concentration.

Students earning a combined grade point average of 3.2 or higher in all Concentration courses will have “with honors” reflected on their Certificates. The “with honors” notation will only appear in a student’s Criminal Law Concentration certificate. It will not appear in the official transcript or diploma. Courses to be counted towards the Criminal Law Concentration may not be taken on an audit basis. In cases where a student successfully completes Criminal Law Concentration approved courses beyond the minimum required twenty-seven credit hours, the courses where the student earned the highest grades will be used in determining the grade point average.

In addition to receiving a certificate upon graduation, students pursuing the Criminal Law Concentration receive priority consideration for the National Center for Justice and the Rule of Law sponsored second year summer clerkship positions. These positions are offered as part of the Center’s Summer Jobs Initiative and consist of paid not-for-credit placements in prosecutor offices and prosecution policy offices across the nation. Although all second year students are eligible to compete for these positions, preference is given to students in the Criminal Law Concentration program.

To receive a Certificate in Criminal Law, a student must complete twenty-seven credit hours in criminal law and advocacy related subjects. Four core courses are required. The remainder of the credit hours can be fulfilled by taking courses from a list of approved elective courses. Each student must also complete a clinical and a writing requirement. The clinical requirement is satisfied by the student taking one approved clinical course, while the writing requirement is satisfied by selecting a course from the elective category that requires a graded term paper, or by

writing a graded term paper as an independent study under the supervision of a faculty member. The topic of the paper must pertain to criminal justice, and be a minimum of twenty-five pages. The paper should aspire to be of Law Journal quality.

❖ The four required core courses are:

- Criminal Law
- Evidence
- Criminal Procedure I
- Criminal Procedure II

❖ The currently approved elective courses (clinical courses marked with an asterisk) are:

- Advanced Search and Seizure
 - Children in the Legal System
 - Criminal Trial Practice
 - Corrections
 - Cyber Crime
 - Death Penalty
 - Federal Trial Practice
 - Federal Habeas Corpus
 - Fourth Amendment Seminar
 - Legal Problems of Indigence
 - Prosecution Function
 - Sentencing
 - Youth Court Seminar
 - White Collar Crime
 - Criminal Appeals Clinic*
 - Prosecution Externship Placement*
 - Public Service Internship placement (limited to public defender placements).*
 - Innocence Project.*
- As appropriate, additional courses and Special Legal Topic courses focusing on criminal justice may also be included in this category on a case-by-case basis.

Statement of Completion of Criminal Law Concentration

I hereby certify that I have completed all requirements for the Criminal Law Concentration, to wit:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Four Required Core Courses			
Criminal Law			
Evidence			
Criminal Procedure I			
Criminal Procedure II			
Clinical Component			
Writing Requirement			
Approved Elective Courses			
Total Criminal Law Concentration Courses Credit Hours »			
Grade Point Average for all Criminal Law Concentration Courses »			

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____