Registering for Legal Externships

If you are registering for an externship for credit for the first time during law school, you should register for a two-credit seminar (one credit in the summer session) called Becoming a Lawyer (BAL). This seminar provides oversight of the field placement and focuses on the professional development of the participants. If you are in an Institute (e.g. Law and Public Policy), you should register for the institute-specific seminar (e.g. Becoming a Public Policy Lawyer). Once you have registered for BAL or the related institute seminar, you should also register for your fieldwork credits by signing up for Legal Externship (LE) for two credits (120 hours of fieldwork) or three credits (180 hours of fieldwork). You must take BAL and LE during the same semester. Thus, for the first semester you enroll in an externship, you will earn four or five credits (three or four credits in the summer session). The BAL seminar is graded, while the fieldwork credits (LE) are awarded on a pass-fail basis.

If you choose to do a second, third or fourth externship for credit during law school, you should enroll in the two or three credit Legal Externship. As an advanced externship student, you may be required to attend a seminar that meets every other week, or you may have a series of tutorial meetings with a faculty supervisor. You will be contacted regarding these requirements. Legal Externship credits are awarded on a pass-fail basis.

IMPORTANT: Prior to registering for an externship, you are required to submit an online placement approval form to the Experiential Education Office. Please see the Legal Externship website (http://www.law.edu/externshipprogram/externship-students.cfm) for this form and further information. Once your externship is approved by the Director of Experiential Education, you will be notified and given permission within Cardinal Station to register for your 2 or 3 credit Legal Externship.