

## Summer Intersessions: Course Descriptions

### **First Intersession (June 22 – July 31) (see specific dates for each course on schedule)**

**Power & Judgment: The Ethics of Prosecution** – 2 credit hours (seminar): Prof. Blevins

This seminar course examines the ethical obligations and professional responsibilities unique to prosecutors as “ministers of justice.” Moving beyond black-letter rules, the course focuses on the exercise of prosecutorial discretion in real-world contexts, including charging decisions, discovery obligations, plea negotiations, courtroom advocacy, and post-conviction responsibilities. Students will analyze governing standards under the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct and relevant state rules, with particular emphasis on Rule 3.8 and constitutional disclosure requirements under Brady and its progeny. The primary graded component of the course will be a substantial research paper in compliance with the seminar writing requirement.

**Guardians Ad Litem (GALs) in the Legal Process** - 2 credit hours (general elective) (Family Law Certificate Course): Prof. James

GALs are appointed by judges in various types of cases. This course will discuss the role of GALs in child custody cases, including child welfare cases (such as foster care), and in adult cases, including proceedings to appoint guardians for incompetent adults. The different requirements in various states for qualification and appointment of GALs will be examined. The class will also examine the duties of GALs and some issue that arise in these cases, such as kinship care, abuse, co-parenting, parenting evaluations, and permanency.

### **Professor Shelly James**



Shelly James currently serves as Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Virginia Office of the Attorney General. Prof. James previously served as ASL Associate Dean of Students and Acting Dean of Students. During her time at ASL, Prof. James taught courses that included family law, criminal procedure, Appellate Advocacy, and Legal Process. Prof. James received her Master’s in Rhetoric and Public Address from the University of Pittsburgh, and her J.D. from University of Iowa College of Law. During her legal career, Professor James has worked as a prosecutor, an appellate attorney for the Virginia Attorney General’s Office, and a law clerk for two judges on the Virginia Court of Appeals. In addition, she has worked as a private practice attorney in Harrisonburg, Virginia, representing primarily criminal defendants, parties and children in family law cases, and appellate parties.

Juvenile Practice – 2 credit hours (practicum) (Family Law Certificate course): Hon. Richard Campbell (Judge, Circuit Court of the City of Richmond, Virginia)

This specialized course in Virginia Family Law procedure concentrates on actual practice in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Course of Commonwealth of Virginia and is taught by a judge who presided in such courts for nearly 16 years. The aim of the course will be to equip the JDR practitioner with the particular procedural aspects of jurisdiction, venue, parties, and appeals in cases involving Juvenile Delinquency and adult criminal cases that fall within the purview of the JDR Court's authority. Foster Care and DSS cases involving Abuse and Neglect, Protective Orders, paternity petitions as well as custody and child/spousal support cases. The aim of the course is to develop familiarity with practice and to offer real-world practical instruction in the procedures of this court. Family Law is not a prerequisite as the substantive law involved is secondary to the practice and procedure taught. This course will not duplicate the Family Law course but rather focus on other distinct issues in the JDR Courts of Virginia. Taught by lecture, guest speakers, discussion, and practical exercises.



### **Circuit Court Judge Richard Campbell**

Richard B. Campbell was appointed to the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond in 2022 and preceding that he served in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for the City of Richmond for nearly 16 years. Judge Campbell is a graduate of Trinity Episcopal School, in Richmond, and the College of William and Mary, and received his law degree from the University of Richmond. He clerked for United States District Judge Richard Kellam and served as Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Chesapeake. Judge Campbell worked at the Attorney General's Office for nearly ten years before going on the Bench, and during his tenure there, he served as Assistant Attorney General, Counsel to the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General as well as a Special Assistant United States Attorney prosecuting Project Exile cases in the United States District Court in Richmond. Judge Campbell has served on the City of Richmond's Community Criminal Justice Board, the Governor's Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, the Virginia Supreme Court's District Court Technology Committee and the Richmond Bench-Bar Committee. He is Honorary Vice-President of the Richmond Bar Association. He and his wife are the parents of three daughters.

Insurance Law - 2 credit hours (general elective): Prof. Scott

This course will focus on substantive instruction and writing skills training in issues most relevant to an insurance law practice. The course will include study of selected subject areas in insurance law, including automobile, fire and casualty (homeowners), liability, health, and disability. Among other topics covered will be the formation and operation of the insurance contract, coverage and exclusions, insurable interests, the claims process, subrogation, and vehicles to determine coverage issues such as declaratory judgment actions.

## **Second Intersession (August 3 – August 14)**

Law Office Management - 2 credit hours (practicum): Prof. Condon

This course provides grounding in lawyering skills in several areas: legal drafting, interaction with clients, and the management of a small law office. The legal drafting component emphasizes the drafting of transactional documents, e.g., various types of contracts, rather than litigation documents. The course includes practice exercises simulating work with clients and the other parties on business transactions. Topics covered in the office management component include: structure of law firms; financial issues (including compensation, billing, fees, and trust accounts); business development (marketing and advertising); law practice tools; and personnel, office, and operational issues.

Prosecution Project – 2 credits (general elective) (Criminal Law & Litigation Certificate Course): Prof. Gallagher

The Prosecution Project is a unique collaboration between law students and professional prosecutors. The Project has two aims. First, through readings and discussions with experienced prosecutors, judges, police, defense attorneys and others, students will be introduced to the professional roles of prosecutors, to their ethical responsibilities, and to the challenges faced by modern prosecutors in seeking to do justice in a rapidly changing environment. Second, through their research and analysis, students will assist the regional prosecutors in their efforts to study and address issues of importance to prosecutors and the public.