Elective Courses To Be Offered Fall Semester 2015

**Administrative Law (8371-01) (3 credit hours).**
This course studies the relationship of administrative agencies to the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the government in the American system of constitutional government, with a particular emphasis on judicial review of agency actions. The powers of administrative agencies are addressed with in-depth treatment of the rulemaking process and procedural rights in hearings before administrative agencies.

**Advanced Legal Analysis (6101-01) (1 credit hour).**
The Advanced Legal Analysis course is an eight-week elective skills development course designed to introduce students to the analytical skills and testing techniques essential for effective bar examination performance. The course covers select substantive legal topics that are routinely tested on the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT). Note: This course is highly recommended for all students, but students who scored below the specified cut score on the 1L diagnostic examination are strongly advised to take this elective course. The course will meet on Fridays from October 2 through November 20.

**Bankruptcy (8375-02) (3 credit hours).**
This is a study of: courts of bankruptcy; acts of bankruptcy; voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy; bankruptcy process, pleading, schedules, and adjudication; debts, dischargeable and not dischargeable in bankruptcy; appointment of receivers and trustees; granting and revocation of discharges in bankruptcy; administration of the bankrupt’s estate; and pertinent provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Children’s Rights (8374-01) (3 credit hours).**
This course focuses on the relationship between children, families, and the state, with particular emphasis on the juvenile justice system and delinquency, child abuse and neglect, foster care of dependent children, and the educational rights of disabled children. The special ethical considerations of representing children will also be covered.

**Commercial Law: Secured Transactions (7344-01) (3 credit hours).**
This course covers Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. It deals with effectiveness of security agreements, attachment of security interests, categories of collateral, perfection and priority of security interests, rights of third parties, and enforcement of security interests in cases of the debtor’s default.
Corporate Compliance (8353-01) (3 credit hours).
This course addresses issues relating to the conduct of a good corporate citizen in light of the many regulatory and social challenges that a corporation faces.

MEE Family Law (7342-01) (3 credit hours).
This course is an overview of the legal relationships created by family associations. Particular emphasis is placed on the relationships between parents and child and between husband and wife. Other topics include the nature of marriage, separation, divorce, adoption, and emancipation.

Federal Income Tax (7373-01) (3 credit hours).
This course is a study of the basic laws relating to federal income taxation, including problems relating to items included in or excluded from gross income, deductions, credits, recognition and character of gains and losses from disposition of property, and timing issues.

Health Law (8384-01) (3 credit hours).
This course investigates the major legal issues arising in health care delivery, not merely physician malpractice but also corporate malpractice, economic credentialing, peer review, utilization review, quality assurance, Medicare fraud and abuse, tax exempt status for hospitals, joint ventures, managed care, antitrust, AIDS, ADA, reproductive rights, the right to die, various federal OBRAS and COBRAS, and ERISA.

Immigration Law (8341-02) (3 credit hours).
This course will survey the fundamental concepts and recent trends in immigration law. Students will learn to navigate the complex regulatory framework and resolve basic immigration problems. This course will involve the study of constitutional, statutory, and regulatory authorities. Specific topics of study may include citizenship, admissions categories and procedure, deportability grounds and procedure, refugees and the problem of asylum, and unauthorized migrant workers in the United States.

Intellectual Property (8320-01) (3 credit hours).
This course examines procedural and substantive legal issues arising out of trade secrets, trademarks/service marks, and copyrights. The course focuses on the federal and state statutory and common law regulation of intellectual property rights while also focusing on litigation and transactional issues arising out of the registration and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

Land Planning (8322-02) (3 credit hours).
This course examines the public and private planning and regulation of land. The course specifically focuses on techniques for planning the current use, future use, and intended non-use of land while covering subject matter including Smart Growth regulations, form-based zoning
regulations, traditional Euclidean zoning regulations, aesthetic controls, and other regulatory controls which arise out of the planning of land. The course also examines constitutional and environmental issues facing the public and private planning and regulation of land.

**Legislation (8276-02) (2 credit hours).**
This course is about American legislative institutions and the processes they employ to consider and enact legislation. The material will deal specifically with the Alabama Legislature at the state level and the United States Congress at the federal level. There is an evolving recognition on the part of most law schools that the education of law students must include an awareness of the significance of statutory lawmaking and a critical understanding of legislative institutions and their processes. The course is designed to provide that knowledge and understanding.

**Products Liability (8393-01) (3 credit hours).**
This course is a study of the sources, development, and limits of the law of products liability. The course examines the historical development of products liability and theories of liability rooted in negligence, contract, strict liability in tort, fraud, warranty, and statute (primarily the Uniform Commercial Code). Particular attention is given to the development of legal definitions of a “product.” The course also examines modern trends in products liability jurisprudence. Emphasis is also placed on common litigation problems encountered in products liability cases, including proper parties, proof, use of expert witnesses, and insurance considerations.

**Elective Courses that Satisfy the Professional Skills Requirement:**

**PSR** Dispute Resolution Processes (7347-01) (3 credit hours).
This is a survey course covering all of the non-litigation dispute resolution processes. Students are required to take an active part in class exercises and role-plays.

**PSR** Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiation (7349-01) (3 credit hours).
This course covers the interviewing and counseling of clients, developing and weighing options, and negotiating on behalf of clients. Students are required to take an active part in class exercises and role-plays.

**PSR** Legal Drafting (8316-01) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 20).
This course focuses on developing professional writing skills by working with some of the types of writing done by lawyers in their practices. Class projects vary, but will include discussion and drafting of several types of documents such as a lease and a contract, and other projects.
Pretrial Practice (8312-01, 8312-02) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 12 per section).
This is a problem-oriented course focusing on the preparation of a civil case for trial. Topics include initial interview, informal discovery, drafting of pleadings, conduct of formal discovery, motion practice, and preparation of a trial book.

Trial Advocacy for Competition (7374-01) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 16).
This is a practice-oriented course intended to develop the students’ legal skills in the trial setting. The course emphasizes preparation of witnesses, opening statements, presentation of evidence, examination of witnesses and closing arguments. The purpose of this intensive trial advocacy course is to prepare students to compete in regional and national trial competitions.

Seminars that Satisfy the Rigorous Writing Requirement:

Civil Rights (8254-01) (2 credit hours) (CAP: 12).
This course is a seminar on various aspects of civil rights including, but not limited to, issues of voting, employment, public accommodations, housing and other realms of public interest.

Jurisprudence (8246-01) (2 credit hours) (CAP: 12).
Exposing students to the philosophy of law, this course is an examination of the basic principles that underlie our legal system. It is a study of basic schools of jurisprudence, including natural law theory, legal positivism, legal realism, the critical legal studies movement, the law and economics movement, feminist legal theory, critical race theory, and the various strains of Christian legal theory. In keeping with the mission of the law school, the course will approach all of these topics from the standpoint of Biblical truth.

Law and Christian Theology (8248-01) (2 credit hours) (CAP: 12).
This interdisciplinary course examines various Christian theological understandings of law and government. Readings for the course will come from the Bible and from the writings of Christian theologians and jurists, from ancient times to the present day. The readings will address topics such as the origins and purposes of government, the legitimacy of particular forms of government or sources of law, political activity by Christians, nonviolent and violent resistance to law, equality under law, liberty under law, and legal toleration of religious diversity. Students in this course should expect to confront and analyze a number of conflicting Christian perspectives on these issues.

Clinics (satisfy the Professional Skills Requirement):

Elder Law Clinic (7375-01) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 10 3Ls).
The Elder Law Clinic provides opportunities for law students to represent and counsel low-income, elderly citizens in Montgomery, Autauga, and Elmore counties. Third Year law students counsel and represent clients with diverse legal needs: guardianships, advanced directives for health care, powers of attorney, simple wills, basic estate planning, public benefit applications, appeals from benefit denials, long-term care, elder abuse, and medical decision making. The Elder Law Clinic also provides public information programs on federal and state benefits, long-term care solutions, nursing home and skilled nursing facility standards, age discrimination, elder abuse, grandparental custody, medical decision making, and end-of-life issues. The Elder Law Clinic works in cooperation with the Central Alabama Aging Consortium, Montgomery Area Council on Aging, Brooks-Sellers One Place Family Justice Center, and Legal Services Alabama. Students must be certified as a legal intern (3L card) to participate in the Elder Law Clinic. Prior to registering for the course, students must have submitted their Application for Registration as a Law Student to the Alabama State Bar. A student may not take more than one clinic in the same semester. A student may not take Elder Law Clinic and a Field Placement in the same semester.

**PSR Family Violence Clinic (7372-01) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 10 3Ls).**
Operating in conjunction with Legal Services Corporation of Alabama and the Family Sunshine Center, the Family Violence Clinic provides pro bono services for victims of domestic violence. Students with limited-practice authority will represent clients in court proceedings for Protection from Abuse Orders and related matters and will interview clients, provide advice, prepare pleadings, investigate and evaluate cases. Students without limited practice authority will not appear in court but will interview clients and assist with advice and counsel, case evaluation, investigation, research and hearing preparation.

**PSR Mediation Clinic (7348-01, 03) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 8 2Ls & 3Ls in -01; 8 3Ls in -03).**
This is a clinical offering that contains a classroom component as well as “hands on” mediation experiences under the supervision of a faculty member. Students mediate disputes at the Montgomery County District Court and report their experiences during the classroom sessions. The goal of the course is to allow the students to hone their skills as mediators in courtroom settings as well as in the classroom.

**PSR Nonprofit Law Clinic (7377-02) (3 credit hours) (CAP: 10 3Ls).**
The Nonprofit Law Clinic is a three-credit, one semester, transactional legal clinic. It provides legal assistance to churches and other non-profit organizations that cannot afford to retain private counsel. Second and Third Year law students help non-profit organizations, nascent and established, with the process of organization and incorporation; draft and negotiate contracts; obtain tax exemption; advise on governance, communications and compliance matters; and solve related issues. The Non-Profit Law Clinic also hosts informational programs and workshops on topics such as employment law, safe church policies, intellectual property law, and the like.
During the course of the semester, students will develop fundamental analytical, drafting, counseling, planning and negotiation skills in the context of live projects as well as classroom work. Students must be certified as a legal intern (3L card) to participate in the Non-Profit Law Clinic. Prior to registering for the course, students must have submitted their Application for Registration as a Law Student to the Alabama State Bar. A student may not take more than one clinic in the same semester. A student may not take Non-Profit Law Clinic and a Field Placement in the same semester.

Field Placement Clinic Program:

Field Placement Class (8108-01, -03, -05, -07) (1 credit hour)
Participants in the Field Placement Class supplement their placement fieldwork experience by exploring ethical, professional, and practical issues in a specific arena within the legal profession. Students in similar placements meet weekly to reflect upon and glean lessons from the fieldwork experience, focusing on professional development and the daily realities of law practice. This offering must be taken in conjunction with Field Placement Hours. Consent of the instructor is required to register for this offering.

Field Placement Hours (8229-01) (2 credit hours).
Participants in the Field Placement Clinic Program work under the supervision of qualified and experienced practicing attorneys and judges who provide guidance and training in professional lawyering skills. Each semester hour of credit for Field Placement Hours requires 60 hours of fieldwork. Thus, students who register for two credits of Field Placement Hours must work at least 120 hours in their field placement over the course of the semester. This offering must be taken in conjunction with the Field Placement Class, unless the student is permitted by the instructor to omit the classroom component. Consent of the instructor is required to register for this offering.

Advocacy Competitions & Teams:

Trial Competition (Greg Allen) (7167-01) (1 credit hour).
One hour of credit may be earned by participating in this intra-school Trial Competition. Students are given a case file in early August; the competition is typically completed during the first half of the fall semester. All students prepare both sides of a case and try the case a minimum of three times. Some of the trials are held on week-ends. Participating in Trial Competition makes a student eligible for being considered for selection for the law school’s trial team that competes against trial teams from other law schools.

Mediation Competition Team (by instructor selection only).
This offering is for students selected by the Director of Advocacy to compete on one of the Law School’s Interscholastic Mediation teams.

**Moot Court Competition Team (by instructor selection only).**
This offering is for students selected by the Director of Advocacy on one of the Law School’s interscholastic moot court teams. Students gain expertise in appellate advocacy as they prepare for the competition by researching legal issues presented and preparing an appellate brief. Students also gain experience for and participating in oral arguments at the competition.

**Trial Competition Team (by instructor selection only).**
This offering is for students selected for one of the school’s trial teams. They gain experience in various aspects of trial work as they prepare for and participate in competition against teams from other law schools.