

# HABEAS CORPUS & POST-CONVICTION RELIEF

Spring 2018

Wednesdays, 5-6:50 p.m. in Room 6

**Instructor:** Chelseá R. Mitchell, Assistant Public Defender

No formal office hours. Please contact me to set up an appointment.

Email: chelsearmitchell@gmail.com

**Course Description:** This is a practically-oriented course intended to help students develop advocacy skills through exposure to litigating post-conviction issues in criminal cases and challenging governmental deprivation of liberty in certain limited civil contexts. Weekly classes will be a combination of lectures, exercises, and group discussions. The first half of the semester will be reading intensive. The second half of the semester will apply the readings to actual case files.

**Required Text:** Lyons, Andrea D., et al., FEDERAL HABEAS CORPUS: CASES AND MATERIALS 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Carolina Academic Press 2011)

## Policies and Procedures

**Grades:** Attendance and Participation – 25%

Written Exercises & Arguments (PCR Motion + Habeas Petition) – 50%

Final Examination (practical-problems/petition) – 25%

**Attendance:** The class format is contingent upon active participation and discussion of weekly topics. Because participation is a significant factor in your grade, students who miss more than two classes can expect it will adversely affect his or her grade.

**Disability Policies:** If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible. If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please register with the Office of Disability Services (<http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu>), S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of the School of Law. All members of the law school community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The law

school community regards breaches of the School of Law's Honor Code as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a violation may include academic sanctions such as failing the course, and disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. Please consult me when in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating.

### **Reading Assignments**

**Week 1 – January 17**

No class.

**Week 2 – January 24**

Skim Chapter 1. Read Chapter 2 & 3; Congressional Report.

**Week 3 – January 31**

Aloha from Hawai'i. I will be on my honeymoon and will not hold class. I'm not even sorry.