

EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The School of Law's Externship Program offers students an opportunity to develop the skills necessary to bridge the gap between law school and the legal profession. Through this program, students apply the core concepts learned in law school courses to the challenges presented in the legal profession. Students work under the supervision of a lawyer or judge in a public law office, government agency or nonprofit organization, or for a lawyer in private practice conducting pro bono work.

The Externship Program allows students to enhance their legal research and writing skills, take part in and observe the practice of law, use concepts and skills learned in other law school courses, appear before courts and administrative agencies, understand the requirements of compliance with the rules of professional responsibility and consider the difficult human and ethical problems that face modern lawyers.

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP

Students in the Judicial Externship Program serve as externs in the chambers of Missouri state and federal judges. As judicial externs, they conduct legal research, prepare draft opinions and other judicial documents, and perform other work as assigned by judges. In addition, students are encouraged to observe judicial arguments and other proceedings. In recent years, judicial externs have worked in the chambers of Missouri circuit judges, judges on the Missouri Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of Missouri, and for United States district and magistrate judges.

SEMESTER-IN-PRACTICE EXTERNSHIP

The Semester-in-Practice Externship offers students an opportunity to be fully immersed in the practice of law in the final semester of their third year of law school. Participating students receive full-time practical experience for an entire semester at a private firm, corporation, nonprofit organization, legal services organization or government agency. Students gain hands-on experience working directly with a supervising attorney, applying the core concepts learned in law school courses to the challenges presented in the actual practice of law.

SOUTH AFRICA EXTERNSHIP

The South Africa externship offers students who enroll in the South Africa Study Abroad Program the opportunity to work with a local nonprofit or governmental agency, or other entity. Participating students apply the skills learned in the classroom to the challenges presented in the actual practice of law in a foreign jurisdiction. This opportunity is only available to students who are participating in the South Africa Study Abroad Program.

COMPETITIVE TEAMS

In their second and third years, students who compete on behalf of the School of Law on select competitive mock trial and arbitration teams receive academic credit for this work. The teams for which students can receive credit are: the Missouri Attorney General's Cup, Labor and Employment, Arbitration, Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial and National Trial Competition. Students may receive as many as three credits for participation in such competitions, with a limit of one credit per semester. Through the student-run Board of Advocates, students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of other competitions, without academic credit.