

# SYLLABUS-UH IMMIGRATION CLINIC

## Fall 2012

### Course Component and Case Rounds

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Prof. Geoffrey A. Hoffman, Director, Immigration Clinic  
Prof. Janet B. Beck, Clinical Assistant Professor  
Prof. Susham M. Modi, Clinical Supervising Attorney  
Prof. Jill Y. Campbell, Clinical Supervising Attorney

Class time and location: Room TU II Room 121, 2:30-4:30pm, Thursdays.

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#### **Case Rounds**

Premised on the medical model, case rounds help students strategize about their cases with the help of the professors and also fellow students during class. For case rounds this semester, please be ready to discuss the cases assigned to you. You will be asked to present the status of your cases. You should provide a bit of the background of the case. You may be asked to discuss what arguments or research you think will be required to win your case. We will discuss the “theory of the case” and be ready to be asked about the details of the file. Please “learn your file” so you will be able to answer questions posed by the supervising attorney and/or fellow students.

#### **Preparation**

Please be sure to read the materials relevant to the topics for each class. These materials are located on the Y drive under course materials. Read those carefully. We will call upon students who should be prepared and ready to discuss the materials and/or cases. If you wish to read more about any particular topic or prepare more for any specific case, read the appropriate section in Kurzban's Immigration Law Sourcebook (13th ed. 2012). There are copies of this text on reserve for students in the law library. We also have volumes available in the clinic area. This resource has chapters and further information relating to all topics covering immigration law.

#### **Practical Skills Training**

After case rounds are completed in a given class, if time allows, we will have presentations on certain practical topics, for example: how to properly assist a client with an affidavit, confidentiality issues, interviewing skills, ethical issues in immigration practice, etc.

#### **Outreach**

All students are required to do at least two (2) outreaches. Professor Campbell conducts about 20 outreaches each year. There are thus plenty of opportunities to do outreaches, in addition to those with Professors Hoffman, Modi, and Beck. After you do an outreach, notify Professor Campbell who will keep a record of all students' outreaches.

#### **Grades**

Please see the Student Manual and the Immigration Clinic Student Handbook.

**Journals**

Please see Student Manual. A hardcopy of your journals will be due at the beginning of designated classes and **also must be emailed to all professors**. The journals may be dropped off in the clinic box for each professor. A good journal entry will be self-reflective and indicative of your thought-processes and any issues that come up in the representation of your clients and/or your clinic experience more generally. There are four (4) required journals.

**Weekly Case Sheets**

You must turn in your Weekly Case Sheets and you may provide copies via e-mail. Remember each week to save your case sheet to your Y-drive student folder. Please see the Student Manual.

**Amicus**

Please see the Student Manual and Immigration Clinic Student Handbook. Remember to keep all your time in Amicus. You will be required to print out all your time on each case, and show the time sheets to Prof. Hoffman at the mid-semester review meeting and also at the time of your final meetings (end of semester) with your supervising professors and Professor Hoffman to review your e-log.

**Class Attendance:** Class attendance is mandatory unless otherwise excused with the written permission of Professor Hoffman, the Immigration Clinic Director.

**Meetings with your Supervising Attorneys:** See the Student Manual. You must check in with your supervising attorneys on a weekly basis on each active case you have. An “active” case is defined as a case where there is currently some project with a due date or an on-going project: for example, a brief, research memo, court filing, etc. The meetings do not have to be lengthy but you must keep each supervising attorney advised and updated on the progress on your cases on a weekly basis.

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**REMEMBER: READ YOUR MATERIALS PROVIDED TO YOU DURING ORIENTATION AS WELL AS COURSE MATERIALS ON THE Y DRIVE PRIOR TO THE CLASS IN WHICH THE VARIOUS TOPICS ARE DISCUSSED.**

**Class 1      AUG. 30**

**MOCK IMMIGRATION COURT HEARING AND INTRO TO IMMIGRATION LAW  
(All Professors)**

**Skills:** Understanding the key law sections and regulations, and important cases surrounding asylum. Researching case law. How do you plan an asylum case? Developing a Theory of the Case. What facts are important? Affidavits and their Pitfalls. The Best Strategies to win cases.

Review: Materials on Asylum; Withholding; Convention Against Torture (CAT).  
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**Class 2 SEPT. 6**

**U Visas and VAWA I -360/AOS; VAWA Cancellation of Removal – Profs. Modi and Campbell**

**CASE ROUNDS FOR STUDENTS WHERE PROFS. Modi and Campbell are the SUPERVISING ATTYS**

*NOTE: first half-hour of class we will meet in the Clinic for Amicus training.*

**Class 3 SEPT. 13**

**Practical Skills Involving Client Interviewing and Confidentiality – (Professors Hoffman, Beck and Modi will lead discussion about these important topics)**

Students should be prepared to interview and be interviewed on asylum/withholding and CAT fact patterns where the Interviewee will have the fact pattern and the Interviewer does not have the fact pattern and knows only that it is an asylum case.

**CASE ROUNDS FOR STUDENTS WHERE PROFS. HOFFMAN/BECK ARE SUPERVISING ATTYS**

**Journal entry #1 due at beginning of class.**

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**Class 4 SEPT. 20**

***Immigration Court Proceedings. Master Calendar; Individual Hearings; Judicial Review (Prof. Hoffman)***

**Practical Skills: Procedural Issues in Master and Merits Hearings. Preparing for and defending your clients' rights in proceedings. Effective techniques for representing your clients.**

Read Materials on Removal Proceedings (to be provided to you before class via email)  
Read Materials on Expert Witnesses

In-Class Case Scenario(s). Practical Skills Training:

Be prepared to act as counsel for the Respondent, the Judge, the interpreter, a witness and the trial attorney.

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**Class 5 SEPT. 27**

**Legal Writing and Immigration Practice-Prof. Hoffman**

**Guest Lecture: Professor Bruhl on Statutory Construction w/ Professor Hoffman**

**Practice Skills: Briefs and Motions.** Using the EOIR and BIA Practice Manuals, students will write parts of briefs and full motions in class based on fact patterns distributed in class.

**CASE ROUNDS ON SELECTED CASES WITH PROFESSORS HOFFMAN, MODI AND CAMPBELL – BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS YOUR CASES**

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**Class 6      OCT. 4**

**Grounds of Inadmissibility. Grounds of Deportability. Adjustment of Status. Consular Processing. Waivers of Inadmissibility (Profs. Hoffman/Beck)**

**Practice Skills: Asking the Right Questions, Preparing the adjustment application. Preparing Waivers. Preparing for the consular interview. Understanding that different rules apply to different people.**

Read: Admission to United States

Read: Adjustment of Status

Read: Grounds of Inadmissibility

Read: Criminal Grounds of Removability

Be prepared to answer questions and be part of the mock interview.

**CASE ROUNDS ON SELECTED CASES WITH PROF. BECK**

**Journal entry #2 due at beginning of class.**

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**Class 7      OCT. 11**

**Movie: “Chasing Freedom” (Prof. Beck)**

**Discussion regarding skills and ethics of attorney in the film.**

**MID-SEMESTER LOGS ARE DUE NEXT WEEK**

Schedule Interviews with your Professors for the mid-semester letters to clients and memoranda to file; status checks; and review of your Student Logs Y-drive folder.

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**Class 8      OCT. 18**

**Effective Communication Skills for Attorneys and Secondary Trauma (Profs. Hoffman/Beck/Modi/Campbell)**

Setting limits with clients, negotiating fees (for private practice), giving your clients feedback to calm their anxiety, etc. In the clinic, we will discuss with how to deal with obtain information from clients, how to be firm in setting timelines for clients, how to lower client’s anxiety levels, etc. We will discuss secondary trauma which is a problem for any professional dealing with clients who have experienced a great deal of pain and suffering.

*Guest Lecturer: Rosalie Hyde, Licensed Therapist*

**MID-SEMESTER LOGS ARE DUE THIS WEEK- schedule times to meet**

**with Prof. Hoffman for your mid-semester review.**

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**Class 9     OCT. 25**

**Best Practices- American Bar Association DVD (Prof. Beck)  
Discussion**

*To be confirmed: Guest Lecturer Prof. Barbara Evans on obtaining medical records and HIPAA*

**Journal entry #3 due at beginning of class.**

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**Class 10     NOV. 1**

**Family Based Immigration (Prof. Beck)**

**Practice Skills: Determining the importance of family relationships. What questions to ask, how to prepare the applications. In-class exercises.**

**Class 11     NOV. 8**

**Special Topics in Immigration Law (Profs. Hoffman and Modi)**

**Cutting-edge Issues in Asylum Law: Firm Resettlement, Domestic Violence, Gangs, LGBT etc.**

**Fugitive Disentitlement Doctrine**

**Unlawful Deportation**

**CASE ROUNDS - ALL PROFESSORS**

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**Class 12     NOV. 15**

**Case Rounds**

We will first discuss final logs, evaluations and issues for closing of cases and transfer memos and letters. **You will make appointments with your professors for final case dispositions.** We will discuss in class what to bring to your final meeting with Prof. Hoffman, as well as providing you with a checklist for the final Student Logs.

**NOV. 21-24 THANKSGIVING**

**(PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOUR FINAL E-LOGS ARE DUE BY Monday, November 26)**

**Journal entry #4 due at beginning of class.**

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**Class 13     NOV. 29**

**Naturalization and Citizenship-Professors Hoffman/Beck/Modi**

**Schedule exit interviews with Professor Hoffman– interviews with Prof. Hoffman will be**

**held between Dec 1 and 7.**

**All work must be finalized on or before the Last Day of Classes – Nov. 30.**

**Be sure to also meet with Professors Beck, Modi, and Campbell before November 30**

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**Class 14    DECEMBER 6**

**LAST CLASS** – Semester Review – Closing Letters and Memos – Closing Files –Drafts letters and work all due by November 30.