Domestic Violence Clinic students are required to attend all classes. If you must miss a class, notify your supervising attorney before the scheduled class. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., from January 20, 2021 through April 21, 2021.

Student Learning Objectives

In this course, students will:

1. serve the public and understand the importance of continuing to serve the public when in practice in order to enhance the capacity of law and legal institutions to seek justice,

2. acquire an understanding of the laws under the Illinois Domestic Violence Act,

3. be able to effectively research domestic violence issues,

4. acquire an understanding of relevant facts and information necessary to competently represent domestic violence victims,

5. learn to communicate effectively in order to develop a rapport and mutual trust with the client, while maintaining the nature and bounds of a lawyer’s role, and

6. learn and appreciate the various characteristics of domestic violence and its impact on individuals, families, and society at large.

“Field trips”

Part of the time you will be expending in this class to obtain academic credit for the course will involve spending time in academic activities outside of the law school. These off-campus activities are classified by the University as “field trips.” Each student will be required to sign an acknowledgment letter from the Clinic Director and SIUC/Legal Clinic forms for Field Trip Participation and Assumption of Risk at the beginning of the semester prior to engaging in any off-campus activities. The clinic faculty will be conducting an orientation on the Field Trip Policy at the beginning of the semester.

Court Observation

During the semester, each student must observe the civil and criminal court process at work. Attend an order of protection hearing and domestic battery trial or sentencing hearing. After attending the hearings, prepare a paper at least two pages in length (double-spaced) describing what you observed. Include in your paper an assessment of what impact, if any, the hearing seemed to have on the victim and the person accused of committing the crime. In the event no domestic battery hearings are scheduled during
this time, you may attend a hearing on another crime against persons case (aggravated battery, sexual assault, etc.). The paper is due March 31, 2021.

Class schedule:

Wednesday, January 20, 2021
Introduction to the Domestic Violence Legal Clinic

Wednesday, January 27, 2021
Introduction to Domestic Violence: Why Doesn’t She Just Leave?
Assignment: Read the Student Handbook for the Domestic Violence Clinic.

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Characteristics of a Domestic Violence Victim
Common traits of an Abuser

Wednesday, February 10, 2021
The IDVA and Orders of Protection, Part I
Assignment: Read the Illinois Domestic Violence Act, 750 ILCS 60/ et. seq.

Review Order of Protection forms (Petition, Emergency Order of Protection, Plenary Order of Protection)

Wednesday, February 17, 2021
The IDVA and Orders of Protection, Part II

Wednesday, February 24, 2021
Civil No Contact Orders, Stalking No Contact Orders, Bond Conditions
When are Other Protective Orders appropriate?

Wednesday, March 3, 2021
Presentation: The Role of Victim Advocates in Law Enforcement Agencies
Presenters: Susie Toliver, Victim Advocate, Carbondale Police Department
Teresa Bastien, Victim Advocate, Jackson County Sheriff’s Dept.
Patti Cark, Jackson County State’s Attorney’s Office

Assignment: Read 750 ILCS 60/227 (advocate confidentiality) and 325 ILCS 5/1 through 5/4.02 (mandated reporting)

Wednesday, March 10, 2021
Presenter: Cass Vandermeer, Founder and Director of Possibilities Program
Presentation: Court Ordered Domestic Battery Treatment

Wednesday, March 17, 2021
Mock Interviews
**Wednesday, March 24, 2021**
Mock Interviews

**Wednesday, March 31, 2021**
Domestic Abuse of the Elderly

**Wednesday, April 7, 2021**
Presentation: Police Perspective, Policies and Procedures Regarding Domestic Violence
Presenter: Officer Randy Mathis, Carbondale Police Dept.

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**
Services for Victims and Rights of Victims:

**Wednesday, April 21, 2021**
Prosecution of Domestic Battery Cases
Domestic Violence and Criminal Law, Victim and Witness Statements

*This syllabus is subject to change and adjustments may need to be made due to the coronavirus pandemic. Guest speakers will present to you using Zoom.*