

Dr. iur. Carly M. Toepke, J.D.

Curriculum vitae

EDUCATION

University of Lucerne, Law Faculty, Lucerne, Switzerland

August 2016

Doctor iuris, cum laude

Dissertation: "Teach the Way They Learn: The interpretation and realization of inclusive education in international law"

University of Illinois Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois

May 2011

Juris Doctor

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

May 2008

Bachelor of the Arts in Political Science; Bachelor of the Arts in German

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

South Illinois University Simmons Law School, Carbondale, IL

Assistant Professor

August 2024 – present

- Courses: Lawyering Skills I: Legal Writing, Lawyering Skills II: Legal Writing; Advanced Appellate Advocacy, Legal Profession
- Committees: Long Range Planning; Echo 360 Committee; Academic Affairs
- Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition, *coach*
- Supervise Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants, Law Journal notes

University of Texas at Austin School of Law, Austin, Texas

Assistant Director of Graduate & International Programs

September 2017 – July 2024

- Supervised, directed, and executed marketing, recruitment, admissions, orientation, curriculum requirements, registration, advising, networking events, bar requirements and preparation, career advising, and professional skills workshops for the LL.M. and Exchange Programs
- Orchestrated alumni engagement and giving efforts and organized networking opportunities
- Maintained and facilitated partner university relationships while advising outgoing J.D. students on study abroad opportunities, curriculum, and visa inquiries while completing the administrative duties involved
- Recruited top LL.M. students and international partners using strategic recruitment
- Coordinated with faculty, staff, and student leaders in programming and advising

Lecturer

June 2015 – July 2024

- Courses: Legal Research & Writing for Foreign Lawyers; Professional Responsibility; LL.M. Early Bar Prep
- Adapted pedagogy to meet requirements of ESL learners with mixed professional level experience
- Supervised Teaching Quizmasters while giving in depth feedback on students' writing assignments
- Texas Law INCLUDE Project, Mithoff Pro Bono Program, *supervising faculty*
- LL.M. International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court, *coach*
- Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition, *coach*

Senior Program Coordinator of Graduate & International Programs

June 2015 – August 2017

- Maintained partner university relationships while advising outgoing J.D. students on study abroad opportunities, curriculum, and visa inquiries while completing the administrative duties involved
- Guided LL.M. students on curriculum to meet concentration and bar exam goals
- Researched, promoted, recruited, and maintained international partners, students, and alumnae
- Created LL.M. Early Bar Prep Program to increase LL.M. bar passage rate

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University of Lucerne, Law Faculty, Lucerne, Switzerland

Instructor and Researcher

September 2014 – May 2015

- Courses: Advanced Lawyering Skills and Legal Writing
- Researched on the legal framework of the right to inclusive education

Mental Disability Advocacy Center, Budapest, Hungary

Secondment as External Researcher

February 2013 – May 2013

- Researched law and literature surrounding violations of international treaties in state run psychiatric institutions
- Assisted with research and information for strategic litigation cases regarding inclusive education
- Researched core inclusive education tools for use in the organization's objectives
- Discovered and assessed themes from the field notes of a multi-institution monitoring mission

Schweizer Paraplegiker Forschung (Swiss Paraplegic Research), Nottwil, Switzerland

Early Stage Researcher, Marie Curie DREAM Fellow, European Union Seventh Framework Programme, Disability Rights Expanding Accessible Markets (DREAM), Project 265057

September 2011 – August 2014

- Researched and drafted report based on an extensive law and literature review to advise the EU on treaty signatory responsibilities under United Nations Convention on The Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Researched and identified human rights indicators and monitoring mechanisms for the right to inclusive education
- Presented research at multiple international conferences and NGOs
- Engaged with a network of young professionals and activists passionate about disability human rights

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

• Legal Profession (Professional Responsibility)	2026
• Lawyering Skills II: Legal Writing	2025-2026
• Advanced Appellate Advocacy	2024-2025
• Lawyering Skills I: Legal Writing	2024-2025
• Professional Responsibility for LL.M.s	2024
• LL.M. Early Bar Exam Prep, University of Texas at Austin, School of Law	2016 – 2025
• Legal Research & Writing for Foreign Lawyers, University of Texas at Austin, School of Law	2015-2024
• Advanced Lawyering Skills & Legal Writing Course, University of Lucerne, Faculty of Law	2014

PUBLICATIONS

- Kaitlyn Poirier & Carly M. Toepke, *The Damning Digital Devices: Limiting Laptops in Legal Writing*, publication pending (2026).
- Carly Toepke, “And We Write” submission, ETHOS 3 CAPRII Newsletter (2025)
- Maria Fernanda Moreno Laporta & Carly Toepke, *The Reality of Realizing Human Rights in Mexico*, 28 TEX. HISP. J. L. & POL'Y 1 (2022).
- Carly Mara Toepke & Jerome Bickenbach, *98 Philosophie und Soziologie des Rechts*, in HANDBUCH INKLUSION UND SONDERPÄDAGOGIK 591 (Ingeborg Hedderich, Gottfried Biewer, Judith Hollenweger & Reinhard Markowitz eds., 2d ed. 2022).
- Carly Mara Toepke (ed.), International Legal Developments Year in Review: 2020, 55 ABA/SIL YIR (n.s.) 235-248 (2021).

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- Carly Mara Toepke (ed.), International Legal Developments Year in Review: 2019, 54 ABA/SIL YIR (n.s.) 407-425 (2020).
- Carly Mara Toepke (ed.), International Legal Developments Year in Review: 2018, 53 ABA/SIL YIR (n.s.) 101-130 (2019).
- CARLY MARA TOEPKE, TEACH THE WAY THEY LEARN: THE INTERPRETATION AND REALIZATION OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN INTERNATIONAL LAW (Vandeplas Publishing, 2017).
- Carly Mara Toepke, *Inclusive Education as the Key to Nondiscrimination for Children with Disabilities*, 2 THE CLARION: IHRC J. HUM. RTS. 17 (2016).
- Carly Mara Toepke & Jerome Bickenbach, 98 *Philosophie und Soziologie des Rechts*, in HANDBUCH INKLUSION UND SONDERPÄDAGOGIK 591 (Ingeborg Hedderich, Gottfried Biewer, Judith Hollenweger & Reinhard Markowetz eds., 2015).
- Carly Mara Toepke, *Realizing Culture through Realizing the Right to Education: The obligation to monitor the right to inclusive education*, in RECHT UND KULTUR: 108 JUNGE RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT LUZERN 183 (Steven Howe & Jessica Lai eds., 2015).
- LISA WADDINGTON & CARLY TOEPKE, DUTCH FUND FOR DISABLED CHILDREN, LEGAL OPINION: MOVING TOWARDS INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AS A HUMAN RIGHTS (2014).
- Carly Mara Toepke, *The Importance of Participation in Education for Society: Fulfilling the participation aspect of Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, in RECHT UND GESELLSCHAFT: 86 JUNGE RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT LUZERN 265 (Mariela Eletti-Maidana & Carly Toepke eds., 2014).
- Carly M. Toepke, *Keeping Children Health through Education: A Look into the Connectedness of Health and Education under the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, in RECHT UND GESUNDHEIT: 70 JUNGE RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT LUZERN 25 (Helena Zaugg & Lea Schläpfer, eds., 2013).
- Carly M. Toepke, *An Illinois Court Refuses to Assist in Discovery for Arbitration in England*, 39 INT'L L. NEWS 24 (2010); reprinted in 28 GP SOLO 39 (2011).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PRESENTATIONS GIVEN

- “Damning of Digital Devices in Legal Writing: Time to Remove Laptops from the Classroom,” Chicagoland Junior Scholars Conference (Sept. 27, 2025 co-presented with Professor Kaitlyn Poirier).
- “Damning of Digital Devices in Legal Writing: Time to Remove Laptops from the Classroom,” American Association of Law Schools Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education (June 18, 2025 co-presented with Professor Kaitlyn Poirier).
- “Mastering the Bluebook for Academic Citation,” Senior Writing Seminar: Disability Law, Southern Illinois University Simmons Law School (March 2025).
- Citation Fest, SIU Simmons Law citation workshop (November 2024 co-presented with Professor Kaitlyn Poirier).
- Educating and Connecting International Lawyers in the Lone Star State, Lone Star Regional Legal Writing, Texas Tech University School of Law (April 14, 2023).
- Crash Course: Disability Human Rights, ABA Life Sciences & Health Law Committee Meeting (March 4, 2020).
- Introduction to U.S. Law, Exchange Student Orientation, University of Texas, School of Law (2015-2017)
- Disability as a Human Rights Issue, Human Rights Law course, University of Texas at Austin, School of Law (2016).
- Legal Opinion. Moving Towards Inclusive Education as a Human Rights. An analysis of international legal obligations to implement inclusive education in law & policy, Conference 25 Years CRC, Leiden, The Netherlands (2014).
- The Right to Education for Children with Disabilities, Women & Children’s Rights course, University of

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Lucerne, Faculty of Law, Switzerland (2014).

- The Importance of Participation in Education for Society. Fulfilling the participation aspect of Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, DREAM Network Event, Oslo, Norway (2013).
- Transferring Skills and Experience from NGO work to Academic Research, Swiss Paraplegic Research Colloquium, Nottwil, Switzerland (2013).
- Participation in Inclusive Education under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, poster presentation at The Nordic Network on Disability Research (NNDR) International Conference 2013, Turku, Finland (2013).
- The Anatomy of the Civil Litigation Process, Advanced Lawyering Skills and Legal Writing Course, University of Lucerne, Faculty of Law, Switzerland (2013).
- Keeping Children Healthy through Education – A Look into the Connectedness of Health and Education under the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, DREAM Network Event, Maastricht, The Netherlands (2013).
- Aligning State Party Legal Obligations in Education for Children with Disabilities under the UN CRPD, SPF PhD Colloquium, Lucerne, Switzerland (2012).
- Disability Rights in Africa, African Law Course, University of Lucerne, Faculty of Law, Switzerland (2012).
- International Disability Human Rights, Transnational Litigation course, University of Lucerne, Faculty of Law, Switzerland (2012).
- Protecting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Protection of Vulnerable Groups course, University of Lucerne, Faculty of Law, Lucerne Switzerland (2012).

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- U.S. LL.M. Legal Education Conference: Alumni Panels, virtual (May 20, 2021)
- U.S. LL.M. Legal Education Conference: From Application to Bar Exam, virtual (November 21 & 22, 2020)
- DREAM 5th Network Event: Nottwil-Lucerne – Research and evidence-based policy, Swiss Paraplegic Research, University of Lucerne (February 12-14, 2014)

LICENSURE, CERTIFICATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Illinois State Bar License, ARDC 6307186 2011 – present
- Collaborative Association of Professional Responsibility Instructors in Illinois (CAPRII) 2025-present
- Leadership Academy Certificate Program, The University of Texas at Austin
 - Building Personal Leadership Skills 2023
- Mental Health First Aider Certification, from National Council for Mental Wellbeing 2023-2026
- Global Leadership League, member 2020-2024
- NAFSA: Association of International Educators, *member* 2015 – 2021
- American Bar Association, *member*
 - Center for Professional Responsibility, *member* 2024-present
 - Life Sciences and Health Law Committee, *Vice Chair for Year in Review* 2018 – 2020
- Illinois State Bar Association, *member* 2011 – present

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OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

SERVICE & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- McKinney Boyd High School, Interdisciplinary Studies & Mentorship Program, *mentor* 2019 – 2020
- Communications Arts High School, Independent Study Mentorship, *mentor* 2018 – 2019
- Texas Law INCLUDE Project, Mithoff Pro Bono Program, *supervising faculty* 2016 – 2023
 - Supervised law students advising clients of their right to a Supported Decision Making Agreement as an alternative to guardianship
 - Supervised law students empowering parents of children with disabilities regarding advocacy strategies for ARD/IEP meetings

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- Employee of the Year, University of Texas School of Law April 2019
- Employee of the Month, University of Texas School of Law August 2018

LANGUAGES SKILLS

- English, native
- German, intermediate written and spoken