

**Current Developments in American Law:  
Elder Law Practicum  
LAW 609; Sec. 201 - SUMMER 2025 SYLLABUS**

**Faculty:**

**Clinical Assistant Professor Dale Aschemann**

**Legal Clinic - Room 177**

**Class – Clinic Conference Room – Room 176**

**1150 Douglas Drive**

**Phone: 618-534-1764 (cell)**

**Office phone: 618-536-4423; 618-453-8797**

**email: [dale.aschemann@siu.edu](mailto:dale.aschemann@siu.edu)**

**ATTACHMENTS:** Please note that attachments to this syllabus are available on D2L.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday thru Friday, 8:00-12:30 am with afternoon availability when not in court or attending site visits. If you visit during office hours, please be equipped with a notebook and pen for notetaking purposes.

**CLINIC STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION:** See documents contained in the Civil Practice Clinic Handbook.

**CLINIC STUDENT TRAVEL:** Students must complete and execute all documents necessary to comply with SIU's Field Trip Policy (<https://policies.siu.edu/policies/field-trip.php>). These documents can be reviewed in the Civil Practice Clinic Handbook and will be provided to you for completion. Please note that students are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy **prior to** undertaking **any** trip associated with the legal clinic.

**LEGAL CLINIC STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL CLASSES.** Should you have a compelling reason and need to miss class, please discuss this with Professor Aschemann before missing the class.

**CLASS MEETING TIME AND LOCATION: Tuesday/Thursday 8:00 am -12:30 pm at designated Senior Centers. Doctrinal portion: 11:30 – 12:15.**

## CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

This class involves interaction with clients. Please dress appropriately when in their presence.

When you attend a site visit, you are required to take interview notes regardless of whether you are conducting the interview. Sharing your notes with the interviewer can be a great assistance.

You will receive a reading assignment in advance of each class/site visit and you are expected to be able to discuss the assigned material on the day of the site visit.

By 4:00 p.m. on Friday each week, you must email your time sheets to Office Manager Linda Clendenin. If you have not emailed your time sheets by the appropriate time, you are not entitled to credit for the time contained in the tardy timesheet. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

## HOURS REQUIRED:

The Clinic is graded on a modified Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory scale (S+, S, U). To complete the course for 3 academic credits according to ABA Rule 310, students must complete **127.5** class/clinic hours. We will spend two 75-minute blocks of time together each week. The classroom portion, in concert with the time spent on assigned reading for class, accounts for one credit hour (42.5 hours). You do not need to record the time related to the doctrinal class or reading assignments. **You do, however, need to maintain a time sheet for the remaining 85 hours (2 credit hour) of clinic work. We will meet over the course of 7 weeks. With that in mind, students should expect to turn in a timesheet reflecting slightly more than 12 hours per week (85 divided by 7 equals 12.14 hours per week).** The time recorded should be any time spent on clinic matters unrelated to the doctrinal class and reading. This would include, **but is not limited to**, client interviews of any kind, drafting, travel to and from site visits, the site visits themselves, discussion of client matters with clinic staff, and any preparation time including proofing documents and making copies.

**COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** [Please also see Clinic Missions and Goals for Students and Mission Statement located in Civil Practice Clinic Handbook (tab 2).

1. To provide basic skills training and professionalism training to law students who are engaged in the supervised practice of law serving persons 60 years of age and older in a 13-county area of Southern Illinois.

2. To provide instruction in substantive areas of the law which are commonly encountered in serving older clients in rural communities.
3. To expose law students to the practice and the concept of service to the indigent elderly so that they develop an appreciation for the need for pro bono legal activities after they are out of school and in practice.
4. To provide basic legal services with special attention to the legal needs of the most frail and needy elderly and elderly minorities who are traditionally deprived of the services of an attorney due to socioeconomic factors, including poverty and isolation.
5. Professional identify, bias, cross-cultural competency, and anti-racism:  
From: [DEI Learning Objectives - Diversity Equity Inclusion - Library Guides at Manhattanville College \(libguides.com\)](#)

Students will be able to:

- interpret how external factors influence identity, and the intersection of one's multiple identities.
- identify and critically reflect upon the various aspects of one's identity.
- apply one's self-awareness of their biases to enact strategies to respond to unconscious and conscious biases.
- practice skills including self-care strategies for experiences of bias, active listening, empathy and effective allyship.
- engage non-dominant perspectives with respect and empathy
- implement strategies to achieve equity

**Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – Jackson County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.00 (NO VAN AVAILABLE):** Please review HC POA in advance of this trip.

Murphysboro Senior Center, 17 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Murphysboro, IL 62966, 618-687-1641

15 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Murphysboro

9:00 – noon = Murphysboro Site Visit

Noon – 12:30 - leave Murphysboro to Law School

**Thursday, June 12, 2025 – Pulaski County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.00 (NO VAN AVAILABLE):**

Smiles Senior Center, 412 S. Blanche Street, Mounds, IL 62964, 618-745-6149

51 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Mounds

9:20 – 11:45 = Smiles Senior Center Site Visit

11:45 – 12:30 - leave Mounds to Law School

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025 – Williamson County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.00:**

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025 – Williamson County (Marion) (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.00:** Copy Machine:

Marion Senior Citizens Center, 507 W. Main, Marion, IL 62959, 618-997-9019

31 minutes

8:30 – leave Herrin for Marion

9:10 – noon - Marion Senior Citizens Center

Noon – 12:30 – leave Marion to Law School

**Thursday, June 19, 2025 – Juneteenth – OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED: Make-up class will be scheduled in concert with student availability.**

**Tuesday, June 24, 2025 – Hardin County (8:00 – 12:30) = 4.5:**

Golden Circle Senior Center, 129 IL Route 146 East, Elizabethtown, IL 62931, 618-287-2501

1 hours 25 minutes

8:00 – leave school for Elizabethtown  
9:30 – 11:00 - Golden Circle Senior Center  
11:00 – 12:30 – Elizabethtown to Law School

**Thursday, June 26, 2025 – Gallatin County (8:00 – 12:30) = 4.5:**

Golden Circle Senior Center, 110 North Crawford Street, Ridgway, IL 62979, 618-272-7040

1 hour 15 minutes

8:00 – leave school for Ridgway  
9:15 – 11:15 - Golden Circle Senior Center  
11:15 – 12:30 – Ridgway to Law School

**Tuesday, July 1, 2025 – Union County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.00:**

Sunshine Inn (@ Harvest Church), 602 East Davie, Anna, IL 62906, 618-833-6734

27 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Anna  
9:00 – noon - Sunshine Inn (@ Harvest Church)  
Noon – 12:30 – Anna to Law School

**Thursday, July 3, 2025 – Perry County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.00:**

Gold Plate Program, 721 N. Hickory Street, DuQuoin, IL 62832, 618-542-3511

37 minutes

8:30 – leave school for DuQuoin  
9:45 – 11:50 - Gold Plate Program  
11:50 – 12:30 – DuQuoin to Law School

**Tuesday, July 8, 2025 – Pope County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.0:**

Golden Circle Senior Center, 217 S. Adams, Golconda, IL 62938, 618-683-7741

1 hour 6 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Golconda  
9:40 – 11:25 = Golden Circle Senior Center  
11:25 – 12:30 – Golconda to Law School

**Thursday, July 10, 2025 – Saline County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.0:**

Golden Circle Senior Center, 15 Veterans Drive, Harrisburg, IL 62946, 618-252-7940

52 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Harrisburg

9:25 – 11:40 - Golden Circle Senior Center

11:40 – 12:30 – Harrisburg to Law School

**Tuesday, July 15, 2025 – Alexander County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.0:**

Happy Days Senior Center, 2728 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Cairo, IL 62914, (located in First Southern Baptist Church), 618-734-1050

57 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Cairo

9:30 – 11:30 = Happy Days Senior Center

11:30 – 12:30 – Cairo to Law School

**Thursday, July 17, 2025 – Massac County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.0:**

Happy Hearts, 701 Market Street, Metropolis, IL 62960, 618-524-9755

1 hour 6 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Metropolis

9:40 – 11:30 - Happy Hearts

11:30 – 12:30 – Metropolis to Law School

**Tuesday, July 22, 2025 – Franklin County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.0:**

(Dale what was the room like when you met Stevie's client in the spring 2025 on )

Wit & Wisdom, 225 E. Poplar Street, West Frankfort, IL 62896, 618-937-3511

45 minutes

8:30 – leave for West Frankfort

9:45 – 11:45 = Wit & Wisdom

11:45 – 12:30 – West Frankfort to Law School

**Thursday, July 24, 2025 – Johnson County (8:30 – 12:30) = 4.0:**

Whistlers & Whittlers, 60 State Route 37 North, Vienna, IL 62995, 618-658-9671

45 minutes

8:30 – leave for Vienna

9:15 – 11:45 = Whistlers & Whittlers

11:45 – 12:30 – Vienna to Law School

**Tuesday, July 29, 2025 – Williamson County (Herrin) – 8:30 – 12:30 – 4.0:** Copy Machine:

Williamson County Programs on Aging, 1201 Weaver Road, Herrin, IL 62948, 618-988-1585

29 minutes

8:30 – leave school for Herrin

9:00 – noon - Williamson County Program on Aging, Herrin

Noon - 12:30 – leave Herrin to Law School