

## **Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study**

The Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study is designed for students who desire to practice law as a sole practitioner or in a small law firm. The Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study has four purposes:

1. To recommend those courses the faculty believes are important for the student to be an effective and competent attorney in a solo law practice or a small law firm setting generally, while at the same time giving the student the flexibility to tailor their law school training toward particular areas of legal expertise and/or a particular geographic location.
2. to sequence those courses in such a way that students will gain maximum benefit from the skills and doctrines the courses teach;
3. to encourage students to begin to develop law firm management skills while in law school; and
4. to recognize the achievements of those students completing the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study.

The faculty recognizes that effective and competent lawyers who are sole practitioners or who work in small law firms must have the ability to analyze and work with substantive legal doctrines in a variety of areas. They may begin as general practitioners, but tend to develop a special expertise in one or two practice areas over time. Therefore, the faculty encourages students participating in the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study to take a broad set of courses that emphasize different areas of the law, but also to study one or two areas in greater depth, and to customize their course of study in light of their future career goals.

***Students are encouraged to declare their intention to participate in the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study as early as possible, so they can plan their course of studies appropriately.***

The College of Law will recognize a student who successfully completes the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study by making a notation on the student's transcript and by awarding the student with a certificate of recognition at the time of the student's graduation. Completion of the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study recognizes that the student has pursued a course of study in certain basic areas that lay a foundation to practice law as a sole practitioner or in a small law firm.

The Dean's Office shall designate a Program Coordinator to administer the requirements of the Solo or Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study. The responsibilities of the Program Coordinator include:

1. assisting students in completing all Program requirements;
2. considering and approving requests from individual students to take non-Program courses in fulfillment of Program requirements due to a required or recommended Program course being unavailable; and
3. carrying out any other responsibilities necessary to administer the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study.

## Solo and Small Firm Program of Concentrated Study

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study is designed for students who desire to customize their law school training toward the future establishment of a solo or small firm practice.

In addition to successfully completing the usual requirements for graduation from the College of Law, all students in the Solo and Small Law Firm Program of Concentrated Study shall successfully complete the following courses:

<b><u>Required Courses</u></b>	<i>Semester the course was (or is to be) taken</i>
Law Office Management (2 hr)	_____
One of the following clinics:	
Children's Justice Clinic	_____
Civil Clinic	_____
Immigration Clinic	_____
Criminal Clinic	_____
Entrepreneurship Clinic	_____
Four of the following courses:	
Business Associations (3 or 4 hr)	_____
Criminal Procedure (3 hr)	_____
Family Law (3 hr)	_____
Individual Income Tax (4 hr)	_____
Wills & Trusts (3 hr)	_____

### **Areas of Focused Study**

Choose 1 area of Focused Study and 2 classes within that area from the next page.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Coordinator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Colleen Medill or Brett Stohs)

### **Areas of Focused Study**

Students must take at least two classes or seminars from within one of the following areas of focused study. All classes are recommended. Students should consider their own interests as well as the likely future location of their legal practice in selecting an area of focused study.

**Indicate your area of Focused Study from the selection below**

**Commercial and Banking Law**

- Banking Law
- Bankruptcy Law
- Commercial Law: Sales
- Insurance Law
- Payment Systems
- Real Estate Transactions
- Secured Transactions

Education Law

- Elder Law
- Estate Planning
- Family Law  
(if not taken as a required course)
- Family Law Practice
- Juvenile Law
- Law of Provider & Patient

**Employers and Employment**

- Employment Law
- Labor Law
- Employment Discrimination

**Government**

- Administrative Law
- Land Use Planning
- Statutory Interpretation: Policy & Practice
- State & Local Government Law
- State & Local Taxation

**Entrepreneurship & Infrastructure Development**

- Business Planning
- Construction Law
- Construction Law Practice
- Corporate Tax
- Cyberlaw
- Domestic Telecommunications Law
- Electronic Commerce
- Patent Law
- Unfair Competition

**Land and Natural Resources**

- Agricultural Environmental Law
- Agricultural Law
- Environmental Law
- Farm and Ranch Tax
- Natural Resources Law
- Real Estate Transactions
- Water Law

**Families, Health & Education**

### **Recommended Skills Courses**

Client Interviewing & Counseling  
Mediation  
Negotiations  
Pretrial Litigation  
Trial Advocacy