

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Nebraska, College of Law, 2023-Present

Assistant Professor of Law

Courses: Torts, Family Law, Mediation, Advocacy in Mediation

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Special Topics: Comparative International Law

Study Abroad Program, Lecturer, Summer 2026

Palacký University, Faculty of Law, Olomouc, Czech Republic

Co-enrolled students from the University of Illinois Chicago

Designed and delivered a comparative law course examining U.S. immigration law and European human rights law through the lens of family integrity, mixed-status families, and parental deportation. Instruction situated legal frameworks within the cultural and political contexts that shape their application and enforcement, drawing on site visits to Czech legal institutions, including the Constitutional Court and the Office of the Public Defender of Rights, to ground comparative analysis in lived legal systems.

University of Nebraska College of Law

Associate Professor of Law, Fall 2023- Present

Tort Law, Family Law, Mediation, Advocacy in Mediation

Pretrial Litigation

Adjunct Faculty, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022

University of Nebraska College of Law

Delivered semester-long skills-based courses simulating a civil case from inception through pretrial resolution. Instruction integrated lecture with applied skills training, grounding students in state and local civil procedure while guiding them through each stage of the litigation process, including client interviews, drafting pleadings and motions, conducting discovery, taking depositions, and preparing mediation statements. The course emphasized real-time skill development, allowing students to build litigation competencies progressively within a structured, practice-ready framework.

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Family Law, Child Welfare, Race & the Law, Family Practice, Tort Law, Mediation, Advocacy in Mediation, Family Regulation & Immigration, Pretrial Litigation, Fourteenth Amendment

EDUCATION

Northwestern University School Law, Chicago, IL
Juris Doctor, *May 2009*
Bluhm Legal Clinic: Children & Family Justice Center, *Intern*
Scholarship Recipient from Butler, Rubin, Saltarelli & Boyd, LLP

University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE
Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, *magna cum laude*, 2005
Minors: Chicano and Latino Studies, Political Science

Cemanahuac Educational Community, Cuernavaca, MX
Spanish Study Abroad Program, 2003

PUBLICATIONS

Jamie C. Cooper, *The Assimilation Matrix: Dismantling Families and Assimilating the Children Left Behind*, 56 SETON HALL L. R. 425 (2025).

Jamie C. Cooper, *From Inchoate to Explicit: A Call for Family a Consolidated Doctrine of Family Unity*, (forthcoming in the Maryland Law Review in February 2027).

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

JOHNSON & PEKNY, LLC, Omaha, NE
Attorney, June 2017-June 2023
Represented clients in domestic disputes (divorce, custody, support) Provided comprehensive criminal defense representation in matters involving minor misdemeanors to major felonies. Served as Guardian ad Litem. Defended indigent parents in abuse, neglect and termination proceedings utilizing client-centered approach. Prepared appellate briefs and presented oral arguments in Nebraska appellate courts. Served as Alternate Public Defender in Sarpy and Cass Counties, handling conflict cases involving domestic protection orders, criminal defense, and contempt actions. Advocated for Spanish-speaking immigrant clients in family law, child welfare, and criminal matters, utilizing fluency in Spanish to ensure effective representation.

Cooper Law, LLC, Omaha, NE
Owner/Attorney at Law, August 2012 – June 2017
Provided legal representation and advocacy for individuals navigating divorce, custody disputes, and adoption processes. Specialized in litigation involving unique family law issues, including *in loco parentis* and assisting clients without legal status through the state court systems. Utilized Spanish skills to provide family law and child welfare representation to historically underrepresented groups.

Jackson Lewis P.C., Omaha, NE

Associate, Employment Litigation Group, April 2011-August 2012

Advised and represented management on employment matters, including discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, retaliation, FMLA, ADA, employment contracts, and employment compliance matters.

Kutak Rock, LLP, Omaha, NE

Associate, Employment Litigation Group, September 2009- April 2011

Summer Associate, May 2008-July 2008

Represented employers in a variety of complex litigation matters including, but not limited to, lawsuits involving the ADA, FMLA and Title VII.

U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR

Law Clerk, Spring Semester 2009

Prepared opinions, reports, and recommendations regarding motions for summary judgment for the Honorable Magistrate Judge Marcos Lopez.

BUTLER, RUBIN, SALTARELLI & BOYD, LLP, Chicago, IL

Summer Associate, May 2007-July 2007

Prepared research memorandums regarding complex business disputes.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2026:

- *100 Years On: The Legacy of Meyer v. Nebraska for Parental Rights and Beyond*, Historical Society of the U.S. Courts in the 8th Circuit, the Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society, and the University of Nebraska College of Law, Panelist
- *Admit Student Day: Mock Tort Class*, Guest Lecturer
- *Early Admit Student Day: Mock Torts Class*, Guest Lecturer
- *AALS 2026 Annual Meeting Family Law Section, From Inchoate to Explicit: A Call for a Consolidated Doctrine of Family Unity*, Presenter

2025:

- *Early Admit Student Day: Mock Class*, Guest Lecturer
- *Families First: The Human Side of Immigration*, Panelist
- *Equality Law Scholars at Loyola Los Angeles*, Participant and Presenter
- *Big 10 Junior Scholars Conference at University of Nebraska College of Law*, Presenter
- *Legal Aid Probono Spotlight Recognition*, Volunteer Award
- *Court Improvement Project- Child Welfare in Uncertain Times of Immigration*, Session Leader
- *Introduction to Law*, Guest Lecturer
- *Langston Midwest Writing Workshop*, Presenter

- *Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference*, Presenter
- *The Impacts of Trump 2.0 on Family Life and Family Law—and Strategies for Resistance*, Plenary Panelist at *the Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference*
- *Families Under Siege: Eradicating Racialized Parental Deportation – Work in Progress* *International Society of Family Law Conference, 2025 North American Regional Conference*, Presenter
- *NAACP Omaha Summer Series Presentation on Family Law Basics, Child Custody, & Modification*, Presenter
- *STIR Talk with Professor Cooper -The Assimmigration Matrix: Dismantling Families and Assimilating the Children Left Behind*, Presenter, University of Nebraska College of Law
- *Mock Torts Class*, Early Admitted Students, University of Nebraska College of Law
- *Mock Torts Class*, Admitted Students, University of Nebraska College of Law

2024

- *Masculinity, Law, and Justice: The Trial of the Menendez Brothers*, University of Nebraska
- *Assimmigration: Dismantling Families and Assimilating Children Left Behind*, Northwestern Alumni Academia Conference, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
- *Assimmigration: Dismantling Families and Assimilating Children Left Behind*, 18th Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop
- *Assimmigration: Dismantling Families and Assimilating Children Left Behind*, Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, University of Baltimore School of Law
- *Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference*, Commentator
- *Mock Torts Class*, Underserved Law Opportunity Program/Project Achieve, University of Nebraska College of Law
- *Mock Torts Class*, Early Admit Students, University of Nebraska College of Law

2023:

- *Advancing Justice for the Federally Incarcerated*, Symposium Panel Moderator, University of Nebraska College of Law
- *Leadership Moments, First Year Law Student Orientation*, Speaker, University of Nebraska College of Law

SERVICE

2026:

- *Legal Aid Set Aside Clinic*, Attorney Volunteer

- *Midwest BLSA Law School Fair, 58th Regional Convention, Recruiter*
- *Admissions Committee; UNL College of Law, Committee Member*
- *Nebraska State Bar Association LSAT Scholarship Committee, Committee Member*
- *Nebraska Habeas Probono Project, Founder, Organizer, Volunteer*
- *Volunteer Lawyer's Project (Probono Divorce Cases for Domestic Abuse Survivors), Volunteer*
- *Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, Board Member*
- *Nebraska Family Law and ADR Student Organization, Faculty Advisor*
- *Research in a Selected Field, Faculty Advisor*

2025:

- *Mediation Center Volunteer, Volunteer Mediator for Small Claims matters before Lancaster County Court, Lincoln, NE*
- *Nebraska Coalition to End Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, Board Member*
- *LSAT Scholarship Board, Board Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law Scholarship/Awards Committee, Committee Member*
- *Volunteer Lawyer's Project, Attorney Volunteer for Domestic Cases of Victims of Domestic Violence*
- *Pro bono, Free Legal Answers Clinic, Volunteer*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska Set Aside and Criminal Record Sealing Clinic, Volunteer*

2024:

- *Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Equity and Fairness, Board Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law - Associate Director for the Children's Justice Clinic, Hiring Committee, Committee Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law Innocence Clinic, Hiring Committee, Committee Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law Scholarship/ Student Awards Committee, Committee Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law Bar Exam Passage Rate Committee, Committee Member*
- *Nebraska State Bar Association LSAT Scholarship Committee, Committee Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law Admitted Students Day Faculty Panel, Panelist*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska Set Aside and Criminal Record Sealing Clinic, Volunteer*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska LGBTQ Name Change Clinic, Volunteer*
- *Wellness Week Yoga Class at the Law College, Yoga Instructor*

2023:

- *Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Equity and Fairness, Board Member*
- *LSAT Scholarship Board, Board Member*
- *University of Nebraska College of Law, Leadership Moments, First Year Law Student Orientation, Speaker*
- *Hispanic Law Student Association Bilingual Attorneys in Our Community Panel, Panelist*

- *Legal Aid of Nebraska LGBTQ Name Change Clinic, Volunteer*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska Set Aside and Criminal Record Sealing Clinic, Volunteer*

2022:

- *Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Equity and Fairness, Board Member*
- *LSAT Scholarship Board, Board Member*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska LGBTQ Name Change Clinic, Volunteer*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska Set Aside and Criminal Record Sealing Clinic, Volunteer*

2021:

- *Nebraska Supreme Court Committee on Equity and Fairness, Board Member*
- *LSAT Scholarship Board, Board Member*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska LGBTQ Name Change Clinic, Volunteer*
- *Legal Aid of Nebraska Set Aside and Criminal Record Sealing Clinic, Volunteer*
- *University of Nebraska at Omaha - Goodrich Scholarship Lifespan Course, Domestic Violence and Protection Orders, Guest Lecturer*

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- *Nebraska State Bar Association Leadership Academy, Graduate of Class 10, Class Member 2018*
- *Urban League of Nebraska Young Professionals, President 2015-2017*
- *Leadership Omaha - Greater Omaha Chamber, Graduate of Class 36, Class Member 2014*
- *Urban League of Nebraska Young Professionals, Vice President, 2012-2015*

AWARDS

- *Professor of the Year Award, University of Nebraska College of Law – 1L Selected, 2025*
- *Diversity Award, Nebraska State Bar Association, 2018*

BAR LICENSES

- *Nebraska (2010) - Active*
- *Minnesota (2009) – Inactive*

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- *Certified Mediator in Nebraska*

- Languages English and Spanish (fluent)
- Registered Yoga Teacher, 200-hour certification
- Indoor Cycle Instructor

This vita was prepared in 2026.