

CIVIL RIGHTS AND RACIAL JUSTICE - GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

The Civil Rights and Racial Justice graduate certificate directly prepares students for a career in civil rights and racial justice law, focuses their education on issues in race and the law and anti-subordination, and seeks to address structural racism by studying its causes and effects.

Requirements

The Civil Rights and Racial Justice Certificate can be completed through a focused but flexible range of coursework. The certificate requires a participating student to earn no less than 92 semester hours of course credit for graduation (as contrasted with the usual 89 semester hours), and to earn at least 18 of these semester hour credits in the area of civil rights and/or racial justice. The certificate may be completed within the normal three year law degree period if a student takes a somewhat heavier than average load in each semester after completing the first year of law school.

Minimum Grade Point Average

A student who satisfies all of the course requirements for this certificate program would be awarded the certificate if the student earned a grade of at least a C in each required course. A student who satisfies all of the course requirements for a certificate program would be awarded the certificate "with honors" if the student earned at least an A- average in courses designated by the student as satisfying the certificate requirements.

Required Courses and Credits

After completion of the first year of law school study, students are required to select from the following courses to meet their 18 credits. However, consistent with other certificate programs, a student may seek permission from the faculty advisor of the certificate program to receive certificate credit for one other course (including a clinic) not listed below, upon a showing that the course/clinic will meaningfully focus on civil rights or racial justice law. Law students who wish to participate in the certificate program should consult the Law School Registrar and the certificate faculty advisor to discuss the certificate requirements, plan their schedule and obtain approval for any non-specified elective courses in advance of taking such courses for certificate credit.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
Choose one:		
LAWS 7725	American Indian Law I	
LAWS 7025	Civil Rights	
LAWS 7045	Criminal Procedure: Adjudicative Process	
LAWS 7541	Employment Discrimination	
	Seminar: Special Topics in International Law (Global Critical Race Theory Subtopic) Immigration Law or International Human Rights	
Specialized Elective Course		
Choose from the core course list or from the following courses:		

1

LAWS 7735	American Indian Law II
LAWS 7301	Copyright
or LAWS 7341	Trademark and Unfair Competition Law
LAWS 6602	Cultural Property Law
LAWS 6555	Disability Rights
LAWS 7513	Domestic Violence
LAWS 7242	Environmental Justice and Law
or LAWS 8242	Seminar: Funding Climate Action
LAWS 6521	Employment Law
LAWS 7003	Federal Courts
LAWS 7015	First Amendment
LAWS 6008	Foundations of International Legal Thought
LAWS 7715	Indigenous Peoples in International Law
LAWS 6511	Labor Law
LAWS 8645	Seminar: Law and Politics Colloquium: Race in America
LAWS 7515	Poverty Law
LAWS 7605	Refugee and Asylum Law
LAWS 7031	Regulation of Financial Institutions
LAWS 8565	Seminar: Citizenship and Equality
LAWS 8505	
LAWS 8035	Seminar Speech, Religion, and Equality: Constitutional Values in Tension
LAWS 8533	Seminar: Criminal Law in Context: Legal and Social Images of Victims and Perpetrators
LAWS 8315	Seminar: Advanced Criminal Justice
LAWS 7525	
LAWS 8728	Seminar: Critical Theory Colloquium
LAWS 8455	Seminar: Gender and Criminal Justice
LAWS 8535	Seminar: Class and Law
LAWS 8095	Seminar: Problems in Constitutional Law (civil rights focus)
LAWS 8440	Seminar: International Human Rights (cannot be counted if non-seminar version is also taken)
LAWS 7505	Sexuality and the Law

Capstone

Clinical and/or additional practice requirement as a capstone project, students are required to complete one of the below clinics or externships (or another clinic/externship approved by the faculty advisor)

Clinics

LAWS 7309	American Indian Law Clinic
LAWS 6029	Criminal and Immigration Defense Clinic
LAWS 6079	Criminal Defense Clinic

Externships/Additional Practice Opportunities

Consistent with the limitations on practice hour credits, participants could dedicate 2 credit hours toward the Certificate credit requirements or the Capstone requirement using the following:

Externships in the field of civil rights, racial justice, international human rights, or American Indian/indigenous peoples law and policy. These placements could be at agencies, non-profits, or law firms focusing on this field, such as the ACLU, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the EEOC, or could include acting as a research assistant for a professor.

¹ This list of elective courses may be altered by the certificate advisor(s).