

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN CRIMINAL LITIGATION

2020 Criminal Litigation Certificate Program Entrants Curriculum Memo

The Law School Faculty has approved a Certificate Program in Criminal Litigation for approximately 16 students per year. It is designed to give students a comprehensive and balanced professional education to prepare them adequately for the practice of criminal law. The program will enable students who earn the certificate to successfully compete for one of the limited number of defender or prosecutor jobs that are available in the Chicago area. In addition, this proposed certificate program represents an opportunity to synthesize the goals of Chicago-Kent's academic program in Criminal Law with those of Trial Advocacy and the C-K Law Group.

Required courses - 19 credits

Criminal Procedure: The Investigatory Process – 3 credits ⁽¹⁾

Criminal Defense Clinic I – 3 credits ⁽¹⁾

Evidence – 3 credits ⁽¹⁾

Criminal Procedure: The Adjudicatory Process – 3 credits ⁽²⁾

Trial Advocacy I – 3 credits (Can be satisfied by Intensive Trial Ad) ⁽³⁾

Criminal Litigation – 4 credits (Substitute for Legal Writing 4) ⁽⁴⁾

Legal Writing 4 Equivalency Class— no credits ⁽⁵⁾

⁽¹⁾ These courses must be completed in the fall semester of the second year, the student's 3rd semester, or in the summer semester preceding their third semester.

⁽²⁾ This course may be completed in the spring semester of the second year or in either semester of the third year, the student's fourth, fifth or sixth semesters.

⁽³⁾ This course must be completed in the spring semester of the second year, the student's fourth semester, or earlier.

⁽⁴⁾ This course is taught in two segments. The first segment is a two credit course in the fall semester and the second segment is a two credit course in the subsequent spring semester. Students must complete these segments in their 3rd and 4th semesters of law school.

⁽⁵⁾ This non credit course must be completed in the same semester that the student completes Criminal Litigation, if the student wishes to use Criminal Litigation as a substitute for Legal Writing 4.

A student must take 87 credits to graduate. Of these, 36 credits are required courses (30 credits in his/her first year plus Constitutional Law and Professional Responsibility). The remaining required courses – Legal Writing 4 and a seminar are part of the certificate program. Legal Writing 4 may be satisfied by the Criminal Litigation course.

SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE

Fall semester of the second year (14 credits)

- Constitution Law – 4 credits
- Criminal Procedure: The Investigatory Process – 3 credits
- Evidence – 3 credits
- Criminal Defense Clinic – 3 credits
- Criminal Litigation – 2 credits (1st segment)
- Legal Writing 3 – 1 credit

(In recent years, we have regularly offered Evidence and Criminal Procedure: The Investigatory Process in the summer session, so, if they wish, some students in the program may get a head start by taking one or both of those courses the summer after their first year.)

Spring semester of the second year (8 credits)

- Criminal Procedure: The Adjudicatory Process – 3 credits
- Trial Advocacy I – 3 credits (Can be satisfied by Intensive Trial Ad)
- Criminal Litigation – 2 credits (2nd segment)

Legal Writing 4 Equivalency Class—no credits

(Students may satisfy the Trial Advocacy I requirement by completing Intensive Trial Ad without having to enroll in Trial Advocacy II. Intensive Trial Ad is offered in the summer one week before the beginning of the fall semester and in January one week before the beginning of the spring semester. If certificate students in the program take intensive Trial Ad they will have 3 additional elective credits in the spring semester of second year.)