## PACE ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION CLINIC

Law 767A and 767B – 6 Credits (4 Clinical, 2 Academic)

## 

## Summer and Fall 2019

Below is the application for the Summer and/or Fall semester of the Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic. Please use this application if you would like to be considered for a 6-credit Summer and/or Fall clinical internship or a non-credit Summer volunteer position.

Please submit this application to Jennifer Ruhle electronically at [jruhle@law.pace.edu](mailto:jruhle@law.pace.edu) or deliver a hard copy to the E-House, Room 106. Applications for Summer and Fall semesters are due by 5:00pm on Thursday, April 25th (Apply early! Exceptional applicants may be admitted before April 25th). For additional information please call (914) 422-4343.

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# Description of the Clinic

Take advantage of the opportunity to actually practice environmental law at a time when citizen and state enforcement are absolutely critical. The Environmental Litigation Clinic provides student interns with the opportunity to represent public interest environmental groups bringing citizen enforcement actions in state and federal courts on a variety of environmental and land use issues, most often seeking to stop pollution in the Hudson River and surrounding waters. As EPA continues to roll back regulations and defund enforcement of environmental laws, these citizen actions will be the last line of defense in protecting the environment, as well as forcing EPA to do the job it is required to do. The primary client of the Clinic is Riverkeeper, Inc., and students serve as attorneys for Riverkeeper and other clinic clients by, wherever possible, researching and drafting litigation papers, appearing in court, arguing motions, preparing for and conducting hearings, and all other necessary attorney work.

In addition to the case work, two weekly seminars focus on substantive environmental law and on lawyering skills encountered in major civil litigation. Skill areas include: case planning, integration of facts and law, client counseling, negotiation, drafting legal documents, and pretrial and trial advocacy. (Please note that non-credit summer volunteers will be required to attend the weekly 767A Clinic “case review” meeting on Tuesday afternoons, but will not attend the 767B seminar on Monday afternoons)

The Environmental Litigation Clinic requires a substantial time commitment. The minimum time commitment outside of class is 20 hours a week (interns may choose to do their work at the Clinic or elsewhere). Clinical students must continue client responsibilities throughout exams and holidays when necessary. Schedules must be planned to accommodate the demands of the program.

**Eligibility\***

To be eligible for the Environmental Litigation Clinic, you must be a second, third, or fourth year student. When space permits, the Clinic also welcomes LLM candidates. Students must be available for clinic work and classes during the day. We cannot accept students who work full time. The prerequisites are Evidence (which may be taken concurrently with the Clinic) and either Environmental Skills or Environmental Survey, as well as permission of the professors. (Prerequisites may be waived by the professors.) Students must be in good academic standing to be considered for the Clinic and maintain that standing if accepted.

Though grades are important for selection into the Clinic, other factors are: 1) balance in the program of students’ skills, needs, interests and background: 2) the demands of the anticipated caseload; 3) interest in the environment and litigation as a career; and 4) quality of writing sample.

Please note that simultaneous internships/externships are not permitted while enrolled in the Clinic for the Fall semester. Simultaneous internships/externships may be permitted during the Summer semester, subject to conflict checks.

\*Prerequisites apply only to those seeking enrollment for credit.

**Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic**

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**Summer and Fall 2019**

1. PELC Summer and Fall Legal Internships are 6-credit courses (4 Clinical, 2 Academic). Summer volunteer positions are non-credit experiences which do not require payment of tuition.

2. The Summer for-credit Legal Internship course is subject to sufficient enrollment. If the Clinic does not receive a sufficient number of qualified applicants for the 6-credit internship, the course will be canceled. In the event that the 6-credit Summer legal internship program is canceled, the Clinic will only accept volunteers for the Summer. As requested on the application, applicants for the summer legal internship must indicate whether or not they want to be considered for a volunteer position if the course is canceled due to low enrollment.

3. Attach a resume and brief writing sample. You must include your grade point average and class rank on the resume.

4. If necessary, we will contact you for an interview.

5. Register for the Summer or Fall semester as if you are not taking the Environmental Clinic. If you are accepted into the clinic, you can then add the course and change your schedule, without a fee, at late registration.

6. Please e-mail your application to Jennifer Ruhle at [jruhle@law.pace.edu](mailto:jruhle@law.pace.edu) or deliver your application to Jennifer in the E-House, room 106. **Do not consider your application complete until you have received confirmation of receipt via email from Jennifer Ruhle** (this goes for both email and hard copy submissions). If you have not heard from us within 2 business days of the deadline, please contact Jennifer Ruhle at [jruhle@law.pace.edu](mailto:jruhle@law.pace.edu).

7. Applicants are welcome to submit other information they feel will be helpful, but it must be submitted with the application and by the deadline.

**Applications for Summer and Fall 2019 must be submitted by 5:00pm on Thursday, April 25th**

**Apply early! Exceptional applicants may be admitted before April 25th!**

**Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic, Inc.**

**APPLICATION FOR SUMMER AND FALL 2019**

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| **Name:** |  | |
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| **Email Address:** | |  |

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| **Please indicate which position(s) you are applying for by checking all boxes that apply:** | | | |
| **Summer** | 6-credit Legal Internship\* |  | |
| \*The **Summer** 6-credit Legal Internship is subject to cancelation if we do not have sufficient enrollment. If the summer course is canceled, would you like to be considered for a Summer non-credit volunteer position? | | YES |  |
| NO |  |
| **Summer** | Non-credit volunteer position |  | |
| **Fall** | 6-credit Legal Internship |  | |

**Current Phone Numbers:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (Home/Cell) |  | (Office) |  |

**Phone Numbers where we can call you after the Spring ‘19 semester (if different):**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (Home/Cell) |  | (Office) |  |

**Current Address:**

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**Address where we can write you after the Spring 2019 semester (if different):**

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**Please list the times when you are generally available for an interview:**

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| --- | --- |
| Monday |  |
| Tuesday |  |
| Wednesday |  |
| Thursday |  |
| Friday |  |

**Class you will enter in Fall, 2019:**

3rd Year, Full Time Day  3rd Year, Equivalent[[1]](#footnote-1)1

2nd Year, Full Time Day  2nd Year, Equivalent2

LLM Candidate

**Learning/career goals:**

Why do you want to be a clinical intern or volunteer? How do you see a clinical experience relating to your learning/career goals?

Other relevant experience: Briefly describe any law school, college, personal or work-related experience that you consider relevant to your application.

Will you need to work next semester? If so, how many hours per week, and in what location, if you know?

\***Prerequisites, co-requisites and related courses:** Place a check to the left of each course that you will have completed prior to the Summer or Fall semester for which you are applying and indicate in the space to the right when you took the course, your grade, and the professor. If you have not already taken the course, indicate whether and when you plan to take it.

\*Prerequisites apply only to those seeking enrollment for credit and may be waived by the professors.

**Prerequisites** (Prerequisites are Evidence and either Environmental Skills or Environmental Survey)**:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course** | **Semester** | **Grade** | **Professor** |
| Evidence |  |  |  |
| Environmental Skills |  |  |  |
| Environmental Survey |  |  |  |

**Environmental Courses:**

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**Other Courses:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Professional Responsibility |  |  |  |
| Civil Procedure I |  |  |  |
| Civil Procedure II |  |  |  |
| Corporations and Partnerships |  |  |  |
| Administrative Law |  |  |  |
| Advanced Civil Procedure |  |  |  |
| Criminal Procedure - Investigation |  |  |  |
| Criminal Procedure - Adjudication |  |  |  |
| Drafting Legal Documents |  |  |  |
| Law Practice Management |  |  |  |
| Interviewing/Counseling/Negotiation |  |  |  |
| N.Y. Practice |  |  |  |
| Remedies |  |  |  |

**Clinics/Internships/Externships:**

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**Trial Practice courses:**

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**Other Relevant courses:**

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Other courses you plan to take along with the clinic:

As noted in the “Eligibility” section of this application, simultaneous internships/externships are not permitted while enrolled in the Environmental Litigation Clinic for the Fall semester. Simultaneous internships/externships may be permitted during the Summer semester, subject to conflict checks. Are you applying for any other internships/externships for the semester(s) for which you are applying for this Clinic? If so, please indicate which one(s):

1. 1. Part-time evening students who have completed at least 60 credits at the time of their applications are 3rd Year Equivalents.

   2. Part-time evening students who have completed at least 30 credits at the time of their applications are 2nd Year Equivalents. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)