

Clinical Externship (LAW4803)

Clinical Externship programs are small specialised clinics and are all staffed either by volunteer supervisors or supported by external bodies. This unit is generally an opportunity for students who wish to specialise in a particular area of socio-legal service. Some clinics and programs require pre-requisite units to have been completed. Please refer to the application forms for more information.

The Clinical Externship unit a 'shell' unit, intended to contain a number of specialised clinics and programs which may operate for a period and then, if necessary, close, should social conditions, law or client needs change. The unit typically enrolls about 20 students per semester.



How to apply:

In order to apply for this unit, students must receive the endorsement of their Professional Practice supervisor to apply (if relevant). This endorsement must be completed and signed on the application form.

A decision as to whether a student will be able to undertake this unit will be based on the following factors:

- » The student's performance in Professional Practice (if relevant), especially their interviewing abilities and the endorsement of the Professional Practice supervisor.
- » How close the student is to completing their degree. Preference is given to students who would be completing Clinical Externship towards the end of their degree.
- » How many hours of paid work the student is doing. If a student is doing more than 20 hours per week of paid work, then it normally they would not be accepted into the unit.
- » How many other units are being taken with the clinic. If the student is doing more than three other units as well as the clinic, normally they would not be accepted into the unit.
- » The reasons the student set out on the form for wishing to undertake the unit

In some of the clinics, the law firm or external organisation providing the placement will want to interview the applicant before deciding to grant them a place.

Students can enrol in one of the following clinics or programs:

- 1 Joint Sexual Assault Clinic**, in conjunction with the South-East Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA) at Springvale Monash Legal Service (4 places, all clinical periods) – this clinic offers legal services to victims of sexual assault. This clinic works with highly vulnerable clients and requires students to demonstrate sensitivity to victims of crime. The clinical session takes place on a Monday night weekly at Springvale Monash Legal Service.
- 2 Human Rights Clinic** (2 places, Clinical Period 2 and 3) – in conjunction with the Castan Centre for Human Rights at Holding Redlich with lawyers involved in human rights dimensions. Students work under the supervision of a partner in general civil litigation on behalf of plaintiffs, with a Human Rights bias. Attendance is required one day a week and may include further attendances for follow up work.
- 3 Family Violence Clinic** (2 places, all clinical periods) – assisting victims of family violence by attending court on family violence list days and assisting the duty lawyer to help clients make victims of crime applications to the Victims of Crime Tribunal.
- 4 JobWatch clinic** (2 places, Clinical Period 2 and 3) – students are based at JobWatch in the city. Students receive extensive training and support to give advice on the telephone advice line in relation to various employment law issues, and assist with legal education materials.
- 5 VCAT Self Help Centre Clinic** (10 places, semester 2, 2015) – students are based at VCAT in Melbourne. This clinic is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students who will be assisting in the Self Help Centre one full day each week in providing client intake support, information of VCAT practice procedures, alternative dispute resolution options and make appropriate referrals.
- 6 Monash/Ashurst Corporate Governance and Responsibility Clinic** (4 places, Semesters 1 and 2) – this clinic is open to students who have completed Corporations Law. Students participating in this clinic will work with faculty members, practitioners and corporations to provide advice on corporate governance and social responsibility issues to not-for-profits and/or ASX listed companies.
- 7 Supreme Court of Victoria Externship** (2 places, Semesters 1 and 2, preference will be given to students in their final year of studies) – for high achieving students to shadow judges at the Supreme Court of Victoria.