

Overview of Clinical Externship LAW4803

The Clinical Externship is an ‘umbrella’ unit that houses a number of different externship opportunities. In order to be eligible for enrolment, students must complete a number of prerequisites (see the Unit Handbook for more information). Students may only complete one externship during the course of their degree. The available externships differ as between semesters. Students should check the Monash clinical legal education website for details on available externships. The website may be updated from time to time as new or additional externships become available. Details on the available externships appear below.

1. Supreme Court of Victoria Clinic

Students participating in this externship program will work with judges and other judicial staff members of the Supreme Court of Victoria as well as faculty members from Monash University. Students will attend the Supreme Court of Victoria for half-one day each week over a 12-week period. This opportunity is typically offered first and second semesters only – it is not available over summer semesters. Places in this externship program provide an opportunity to high performing law students from the Faculty of Law to gain experience at the Supreme Court of Victoria. Places are very limited; successful candidates must submit an online application and attend an interview, if shortlisted. This externship program will include the following activities:

- Assisting judges and other judicial staff in Judges’ Chambers at the Supreme Court of Victoria with:
 - drafting speeches;
 - preparing case summaries; and
 - legal research;
- Assist Judges’ Associates in other legal and administrative duties in Chambers and Court as directed.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Oral Presentation	40%
2. Research paper (1000-1500 words)	20%
3. Completion of Legal Media Diary	40%



2. County Court of Victoria Clinic

Students participating in this externship program will work with judges and other judicial staff members of the County Court of Victoria as well as faculty members from Monash University. Students will attend the County Court of Victoria for six full days across the semester. This is comprised of: (1) part one of the placement, where the student attends one day a week, for four consecutive weeks, working with a judge/in judge's chambers; and (2) part two of the placement, where the student (separately) attends Court for a further two full days to observe hearings as part of their private study in preparation for the completion of their research paper. The research paper must be written on procedural and/or legal issues arising out of their observations of a specific case/s observed in part two of the placement.

This clinic is being piloted in 2017. Places in this externship program provide an opportunity to high performing law students from the Faculty of Law to gain experience at the County Court of Victoria. Places are very limited; successful candidates must submit an online application and attend an interview, if shortlisted. This externship program will include the following activities:

- Assisting judges and other judicial staff in Judges' Chambers at the Supreme Court of Victoria with:
 - drafting speeches;
 - preparing case summaries; and
 - legal research;
- Assist Judges' Associates in other legal and administrative duties in Chambers and Court as directed.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Oral Presentation	40%
2. Research paper based on court observations (1000-1500 words)	20%



3. Completion of Legal Media Diary	40%
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3. Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Clinic

Students participating in this externship program will work with staff members of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) in its Self Help Centre. Students will provide unrepresented parties with information about VCAT's practices and procedures that will help parties make or defend claims in diverse areas such as planning and environmental, tenancy, consumer, guardianship, mental health, equal opportunity and building and property law. Students will attend the VCAT for one full day each week over a 12-week period. Places in this externship program provide an opportunity to high performing law students from the Faculty of Law to gain experience at VCAT. Places are very limited. This externship program will include the following activities:

- Assisting VCAT staff in the Self Help Centre to:
 - Assess the legal and other needs of the unrepresented parties (triage);
 - Provide information about alternative dispute resolution options;
 - Provide legal information and information about VCAT's practices and procedures to enable unrepresented parties to make or defend a claim at VCAT;
 - Assist unrepresented parties to complete forms and obtain relevant documents where necessary;
 - Make referrals to appropriate community legal services, support services or other jurisdictions where necessary; and
 - Collate and develop written and web-based materials to assist unrepresented parties.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
Performance of Responsibilities during Externship	30%
Research paper (3500 words)	70%

4. South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA)/Springvale Monash Legal Service (SMLS) Joint Clinic for victims of sexual assault and sexual abuse

This is our longest-running clinic. Run in conjunction with the South Eastern 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 and sexual abuse. This clinic is designed for students who have developed an interest during Professional Practice in supporting victims of sexual assault. Students will undertake casework in conjunction with SECASA staff as needed. The clinic is intended for emotionally mature students who see themselves as potential criminal lawyers (whether acting for the prosecution or defence), as well as students interested in personal injury

law and other areas of law that involve dealing with vulnerable and marginalised populations. Activities include:

- Providing legal information, advice and support to victims of sexual assault, sexual abuse and their families;
- Assisting in the preparation of compensation applications to the Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal (VOCAT), in accordance with the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act*;
- Liaising with expert witnesses (e.g. psychologists and psychiatrists) to obtain reports in support of applications to VOCAT;
- Briefing of barristers and attendance at VOCAT hearings;
- Preparation of *Sentencing Act* applications (where compensation is sought from the offender themselves, as part of the offender’s sentencing process);
- Assistance and ongoing legal casework in a range of related areas, which might include: the preparation of a divorce application (this may include an opportunity to represent the applicant in a divorce hearing), preparation of a new will, etc; and
- Other administrative duties as directed.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Performance of responsibilities at Clinic according to detailed assessment criteria	80%
2. Research Paper	20%

5. King Wood Mallesons Corporate Social Responsibility Clinic

Participation in this unit will involve students providing (under KWM supervision) general advice on corporate governance and/or corporate social responsibility issues. This may include:

- Providing advice to not-for-profit organisations concerning relevant regulatory regimes (including the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, corporate governance, and reporting regimes). Not-for-profits will be invited to attend these clinics to participate in general training sessions and receive individual compliance advice from KWM lawyers and in-house counsel from corporate in-house legal teams. Students will assist with preparing for and conducting these clinics and subsequent follow-up work.
- Preparing and presenting reports to ASX listed companies addressing ASX corporate governance principles, other governance or corporate social responsibility issues.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Performance of responsibilities at Clinic according to detailed criteria	80%
2. Research Paper (1000-1500 words)	20%

6. Holding Redlich Human Rights Clinic (in conjunction with the Castan Centre for Human Rights)

This clinic is established in conjunction with the Castan Centre for Human Rights. Students are required to attend Holding Redlich, where they undertake a range of tasks associated with litigation involving human rights in the broadest sense – everything from compensation for workplace injuries and discrimination to assisting asylum seekers and elderly victims of fraud and predatory lending. Students with an interest in human rights are likely to be attracted to this clinic. Immediate casework supervision is provided by the law firm, with academic coordination by a member of staff. Activities may include:

- Attendance at client interviews;
- Attendance at meetings with clients and barristers;
- Attendance and preparation for mediations;
- Attendance and support at Court;
- Undertaking detailed legal research in support of legal practitioners preparing cases;
- Other administrative duties as directed.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Performance of responsibilities at Clinic according to detailed assessment criteria	80%
2. Research Paper	20%

7. Family Violence Clinic

In this clinic, students provide assistance to victims of family violence. This clinic is designed for students who are interested in assisting victims of family violence by attending the court on family violence list days and assisting the duty lawyer and to help clients make victims of crime applications to the Victims of Crime Tribunal. The clinic is based at Springvale Monash Legal Service. Activities include:

- Providing legal information, advice and support to victims of family violence;
- Attendance at the Dandenong Magistrates' Court on a weekly basis, where we provide duty lawyer support and representation to people with family violence matters;
- Assisting in the preparation of compensation applications to the Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal (VOCAT), in accordance with the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act*;
- Liaising with expert witnesses (e.g. psychologists and psychiatrists) to obtain reports in support of applications to VOCAT;
- Briefing of barristers and attendance at VOCAT hearings;
- Assistance and ongoing legal casework in a range of related areas, which might include: the preparation of a divorce application (this may include an opportunity to represent the applicant in a divorce hearing), preparation of a new will, etc.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Performance of responsibilities at Clinic according to detailed assessment criteria	80%
2. Research Paper	20%

8. JobWatch Clinic

In this clinic, students are based at Jobwatch, a community legal centre located in central Melbourne. Staff at JobWatch specialise in providing legal advice and ongoing casework to people with employment law problems, including unfair dismissal, workplace harassment and discrimination claims and other general protection claims. 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, preparation of cases and legal research. Activities may include:

- Provision of legal information and support to people with employment law issues;
- Assisting legal practitioners at JobWatch in the preparation of applications to the Fair Work Ombudsman and/or Fair Work Commission;
- Undertaking detailed legal research in support of legal practitioners preparing cases; and
- Other administrative duties as directed.

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task	Value
1. Performance of responsibilities at Clinic according to detailed assessment criteria	80%

2. Research Paper	20%
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