Talitha Bailey, Director
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**Course Description:** The Capital Defense Clinic is a full-year, 4 credit clinic. Students will assist private attorneys on a variety of legal issues facing persons charged with capital murder or already convicted of capital murder. Activities include, but are not limited to, preparing mitigation for the capital sentencing phase of a trial, researching and preparing a case for a federal habeas corpus petition, interviewing witnesses and digesting the trial record.

**Class Meetings:** The Capital Defense Clinic meets Thursdays, from 2 - 3:25 p.m. There will also be individual meetings scheduled periodically through the semester. These dates will be set by the student and Director.

**Course Requirements:** Students are required to comply with the following requirements in order to complete the course successfully:

1. Students must attend all class meetings
2. Students must schedule and attend individual meetings with Director. Meetings will be every other week and last approximately 30 minutes. Weeks for individual meetings are indicated with a *.  
3. Students must agree to and sign the Clinic Confidentiality Agreement.
4. Students are expected to dedicate 7-8 hours per week to Clinic work. There will certainly be busier times during the year when students will put in more hours and some times that are slower - the number of hours expected is an average.

**Course Grading:** The Capital Defense Clinic is graded with standard letter grade.

**General Information:** The School of Law Honor Code, Grading Policies and other policies will be applicable to this class, and are available for review and reference at http://www.law.ua.edu/students/

Students with disabilities are encouraged to register with the Office of Disability Services, 348-4285, and to meet with Assoc. Dean Claude Arrington, 348-5750 or carrington@law.ua.edu. You are invited to see the Director to discuss accommodations and other special needs.
**Schedule**

Thursday, August 16: Orientation; no reading assignment

Thursday, August 23: The Alabama Court System; Visiting Jails and Prisons; no reading assignment

*Thursday, August 30: Alabama Capital Murder Statue; review 13A-6-2; 5-40; 5-46 - 5-52

Thursday, September 6: Seminal Cases: *Furman v. Georgia* (head notes and syllabus); *Gregg v. Georgia* (head notes and syllabus); *Beck v. Alabama* (head notes and syllabus); *Ring v. Arizona* (pp. 602 – 605); *Ex parte Hodges*

*Thursday, September 13: Motion Drafting – John Lentine; review provided sample motions

Thursday, September 20: Mitigation: *Strickland v. Washington; Ake v. Oklahoma; Wiggins v. Smith; Rompilla v. Beard; Abdul-Kabir v. Quarterman; Ex parte Moody; Beckworth v. State; How Jurors Decide on Death*

*Thursday, September 27: Getting to Know Your Client; Dealing with Bias; Listening

Thursday, October 4: No Class – Fall Break

*Thursday, October 11: Super-Mitigators: *Atkins v. Virginia; Roper v. Simmons; Kennedy v. Louisiana*

Thursday, October 18: Interviewing Witnesses I – Joanne Terrell

*Thursday, October 25: Interviewing Witnesses II – Social Work students

Thursday, November 1: Inner City Trauma – Juvenile PTSD

*Thursday, November 8: Investigation as Advocacy

Thursday, November 15: Case Rounds; Semester Wrap Up

Thursday, November 22: No Class

*Thursday, November 29: No Class; Case Status Reports due; Motions due