SUMMER EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM
COURSE #634

COURSE INFORMATION

The University of Alabama School of Law is committed to offering its students the highest quality of legal education. In fulfillment of that goal, the Law School recognizes the value of employing a variety of methodologies and experiences. One such experience is the placement of students in practical legal settings outside of the Law School.

Externships assist the Law School in meeting its overall educational objective by permitting students to engage in the practical application of the legal knowledge gained in the classroom and practical skills learned in the classroom and in clinical settings. Externships provide students with an environment in which they can test the theories which they have learned in Law School and obtain verification of the practical application of the body of law and legal skills taught by the Law School. The supervision by field instructors and by Law School faculty additionally increase that student’s level of knowledge in both substantive law and in development of legal skills. Externships further enhance a student’s learning opportunities by offering “real life” problems, including professional responsibility issues that are difficult to simulate or replicate through traditional classroom experiences.

The summer externship program requires students to work full-time for six weeks at their placements, to write a series of reflective papers, and to attend two class meetings – one at the end of the spring semester, and another at the end of the summer.

Students may indicate their preferred placements on the application form. Placements are not guaranteed, but every effort will be made to place students in their preferred offices. After a student has interviewed for the program, they are expected to be committed to participation in the program if a suitable placement is obtained through the law school. Students also have the possibility of arranging their own externship placements with an office or agency not on the law school’s pre-approved list.

Please see Assistant Dean Glory McLaughlin or Judge Bill Bostick, the Externship Program Co-Director, if you have any questions.
Possible Placements:

- Calhoun County District Attorney’s Office (Anniston)
- Jefferson County District Attorney’s Office (Bessemer Division)
- Jefferson County District Attorney’s Office (Birmingham)*
- Limestone County District Attorney’s Office (Athens)
- Madison County District Attorney’s Office (Huntsville)
- Marshall County District Attorney’s Office (Guntersville)
- Mobile County District Attorney’s Office (Mobile)
- Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office (Montgomery)
- Morgan County District Attorney’s Office (Decatur)
- Shelby County District Attorney’s Office (Columbiana)
- Tuscaloosa County District Attorney’s Office (Tuscaloosa)
- Shelby County Public Defender’s Office (Columbiana)
- Tuscaloosa County Public Defender’s Office (Tuscaloosa)
- Jefferson County Public Defender’s Office (Birmingham)
- Legal Aid Society of Birmingham
- Legal Services Alabama (Birmingham)
- Federal Defender’s Office (Montgomery)
- U.S. Attorney’s Office (Birmingham)**
- The Honorable Karon Bowdre, U.S. District Court (Birmingham)
- The Honorable William H. Steele, U.S. District Court (Mobile)
- ACLU of Alabama (Montgomery)
- National Labor Relations Board (Birmingham)
- UA Office of Counsel (Tuscaloosa)
- UA Office of Counsel (Birmingham)
- UA Office of Counsel (Huntsville)
- UA System Office of Counsel (Tuscaloosa)
- Alabama Attorney General’s Office (Montgomery)

* Students placed in the Jefferson County District Attorney’s Office must sign that office’s Acknowledgement and Agreement.

** Students placed with the U.S. Attorney’s Office must fill out an Application for Security Clearance as soon as possible.
SUMMER 2019 EXTERNSHIP
APPLICATION & COURSE TIMELINE


February 26, 2019: Judge Bostick office hours from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

March 6, 2019: Judge Bostick office hours from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

March 19, 2019: All applications due via online submission. You must then sign up for an interview with Judge Bostick (sign up in Erica Nicholson’s office, Room 343).

March 22, 2019: Check your email for confirmation of your interview time.

March 25, 2019: Interviews with Judge Bill Bostick. Some offices participating in the program require an additional interview after initial selection for the program. Some judges may also request a writing sample.

April 12, 2019: Placements confirmed with students.

April 19, 2019: First class session

May 13 – June 21, 2019: First summer session placements

July 1 – August 9, 2019: Second summer session placements

TBD: Final class session