

CIVIL RIGHTS, PUBLIC INTEREST, AND PUBLIC POLICY

MU Law has a strong tradition of service in the public interest. Public interest practice takes place in varied settings including legislatures and agencies at all levels and legal service and law reform organizations. Students contemplating practice in civil rights or in assisting the underrepresented or disadvantaged will benefit from the following list of courses. Basic courses in constitutional law and other areas will provide a foundation. Specialized courses (in the criminal setting) and clinics are also offered. The Law School also offers substantial pro bono opportunities for public interest minded students.

Foundational Courses

- Constitutional Law (2L required course)
- Constitutional and Civil Rights Litigation
- Criminal Law (1L required course)
- Criminal Procedure (upper-level required course)
- Evidence (2L required course)
- Professional Responsibility (upper-level required course)

Recommended Courses, Clinics, Practicums, Program

- Administrative Law
- Advocacy, Family Violence, and Public Policy
- Children and the Law
- Client Interviewing and Counseling
- Consumer Empowerment
- Criminal Justice Administration
- Death Penalty Law
- Election Law
- Employment Discrimination
- Food Law and Policy
- Freedom of Speech and Association
- Gender, Race, Sexuality and the Law
- Law and Practice of Criminal Sentencing
- Law of Habeas Corpus and Post-Conviction Relief
- Local Government Law
- Wrongful Convictions

- Criminal Prosecution Clinic
- Family Violence Clinic
- Innocence Clinic
- Landlord/Tenant Practicum
- Legislative Practicum

CIVIL RIGHTS, PUBLIC INTEREST, AND PUBLIC POLICY (continued)

Recommended Courses, Clinics, Practicums, Program

Veterans Clinic
Pro Bono Program

*Students considering this pathway may be interested in a dual degree program in which they receive a J.D. degree from the Law School and the Master of Public Affairs (MPA) from the Truman School of Public Affairs, normally within four academic years.

Contact List: Faculty Who Teach or Have Expertise in the Field

Abrams, Alexander, Beck, Conklin, Drake, Filbert, Henson, Johnson, Lidsky,
Lietzan, Mitchell, Oliveri, Reuben, Schmitz, Uphoff, Wells

**Not all of the above courses may be offered every academic year. Please refer to the registrar's website to see how frequently courses of interest have been offered in recent years.