

Summer Trial and Evidence Program (1st STEP) Summer 2014

Program Description

The Golden Gate University School of Law and its Litigation Center present "1st STEP" (Summer Trial and Evidence Program), an integrated summer litigation curriculum for students who recently completed their first year of law school. The faculty and practitioners who lead the Litigation Center developed 1st STEP to cater to those law students who want to be trained as trial attorneys and litigators as early as possible in their legal studies. This innovative 8-week, summer program is for selected law students who apply. 1st STEP students take integrated courses specifically designed to improve their litigation and advocacy skills including Evidence, Trial Advocacy, and a unique Litigation Center course, Evidence in the Courtroom. The program also includes presentation and acting techniques from a theater instructor.

Students in 1st STEP complete law school in three years, pay the same tuition, and take the same required courses as students in the regular JD program. By taking a full-time course load of 9-credits in the summer session, however, 1st STEP students have greater freedom and opportunity to participate in mock trial and moot court competitions, on-site clinics, externship programs, and other GGU programs before graduating.

Eligibility

Current 1L students who entered law school, either as full-time day or as part-time night students in August 2013, are eligible to apply for admission into 1st STEP at this time. Part-time students must attend the program full-time for the 8-weeks of the summer. This is the only opportunity to apply to the program. All eligible students are encouraged to apply. 1st STEP students must maintain a minimum 2.2 required course GPA to gain acceptance. The criteria for selection to the program are:

- a) demonstrated success in law school;
- b) demonstrated interest and enthusiasm for advocacy training; and
- c) demonstrated ability to perform successfully in a professional setting and a career in litigation.

Summer Trial and Evidence Program (1stSTEP) Summer 2014 Application

Deadline:

Completed applications must be received by **12 noon on Monday, February 3, 2014** via (i) email to baxterfellow@ggu.edu or (ii) handed to a Baxter fellow in the Baxter room (Rm. 2314). The selection committee often reviews applications as they come in.

Personal Information: *(Please type or neatly print in ink.)*

Last Name: _____ First: _____

Student ID: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____ Age: _____

Ethnicity (optional): _____

Your application must contain the following three parts for consideration:

I. Cover Page. Attach this page as the cover to your application.

II. Resume. Submit a current resume with your application.

III. Statement of interest. Submit a typed, statement of interest, no longer than two pages (double-spaced), explaining your interest in litigation and 1st STEP, such as responses to the following questions:

1. *Did advocacy/litigation/trial factor into your decision to attend law school?*
2. *Do you have a particular aptitude for advocacy/litigation training? Why?*
3. *Describe an experience where you have welcomed critique/feedback, incorporated the feedback, and the process led to a positive result.*
4. *Understanding that you can get advocacy/litigation/trial training at ANYTIME at GGU Law, why do you want this training as early as possible in 1st STEP?*
5. *How to plan to put this training to use in your 2d and 3d year of law school (ie. representing the law school in mock trial or other competitions, and/or leading litigation center / litigation SORG activities)?*

Non-discrimination Statement

It is the intent and policy of the University to actively promote the objectives and policies of nondiscrimination set forth in Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era and Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1975, Executive Order 11246, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991, and all other applicable federal, state, and local anti-discrimination laws. Golden Gate University does not discriminate, within the meaning of these laws, on the basis of race, sex, creed, religion, age, color, disability, sexual orientation, gender identification, ancestry, national/ethnic origin, nationality/citizenship, political affiliation, marital status, medical condition, or any other status protected from discrimination by federal, state or local law in employment, in its educational programs, or in the provision of benefits and services to its students.

Consent

By signing this application, you are giving permission for 1st STEP Committee to communicate with your references and to receive and review your law school transcript and law school admissions file.

Signature of the Applicant: _____

Date: _____