

2009 - 2010

**LITIGATION CERTIFICATE
IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**It is important to read the attached material on
the Litigation Certificate Program carefully.**

Graded courses. Particular attention should be given to the requirements that all students in the Certificate program must take both (1) Trial Advocacy, and (2) one other course for grade. (See page 2, paragraph 3, of the attached.)

Clinic students must be State Bar certified. Students who want to earn Certificate credit for clinical course work must have a State Bar Clinical Certification. (See page 2, footnote 3, of the attached.) This requirement applies whether your clinical work is in state or federal courts.

Time for obtaining faculty approval of entry/continuation in the Litigation program. Please read page 3, paragraph 7 of the attached concerning the times for obtaining approval of Litigation Certification entry/continuation forms.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LITIGATION CERTIFICATE

To earn a Certificate in Litigation, a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Successfully complete and meet grade requirements for a total of 14 units from the Litigation Certificate curriculum, which is listed below.
2. Required courses: Successfully complete the two courses listed below. Student must achieve a grade of at least B- in Trial Advocacy.

Trial Advocacy (3 units – graded)

Mock Trial (Basic) (3 units – credit)¹

3. Choices of an additional required course: Successfully complete one of the two following courses, and the student must achieve a grade of at least a B-.

Civil Litigation Pretrial (3 units – graded)

Criminal Litigation² (3 units – graded)

While only one of these two courses is required, students in the Litigation Program may take both courses for Certificate credit.

4. Elective courses: Successfully complete five additional units from among the following courses. If the course is graded, the student must achieve a grade of at least B-.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (2 or 3 units – credit)

Clinical Placement with State Bar Certification (not more than 3 units – credit)³

Courtroom As Theater (2 units – credit)

Intellectual Property Litigation (3 units)

Lawyering Skills (2 or 3 units – credit or grade)

Lawyering Skills: Client Advocacy (3 units – credit or grade)

Advanced Mock Trial – Competition Participation
(National Trial Competition, Association of
Trial Lawyers of America Competition or
other designated trial competitions.) (2 units – credit or grade)⁴

Mock Trial (Basic) course (second time) (3 units – credit)⁵

Moot Court Competitions (2 units- credit or grade)

Special courses in litigation (see paragraph below) (Varies)

N.B. Some of the courses listed above are not taught every year. Check registration materials.

¹ Mock Trial Basic is offered only in the fall semester.

² This course is usually offered only in the spring semester.

³ To earn Certificate credit for Clinical Placement, students must have State Bar Clinical certification. This requirement applies whether your placement is in California State or federal courts. State Bar certification requires prior faculty approval.

⁴ Competitions are open only to students selected or approved by faculty. A student may be chosen twice to be on a competition team and received 2 credits for each semester spent competing.

⁵ The Mock Trial course may be taken twice because in odd-numbered years the case worked on is civil and in even-numbered years the case is criminal.

5. From time to time additional courses are added to the litigation curriculum. To be accepted for credit toward the certificate, the course must be approved by the director of the Litigation program. If a student enrolls in a course which is not listed above in paragraph 4 and wants the course to count toward certificate credit, the student must apply to the director of the Litigation program for such consideration before or during the semester the student is taking such a course. Requests for credit will not be considered after the semester is completed.
6. The following courses do not count toward the requirements for a Litigation Certificate: (a) any Clinical placement that does not involve significant litigation activity⁶, (b) any Clinical placement for which the student does not have State Bar Clinical certification.
7. Time for obtaining approval of enrollment in the litigation program and approval of courses: Unless the Litigation Certificate advisors announce otherwise in writing, the only times for obtaining approval of enrollment in the Litigation Certificate program, and for the semi-annual approval of each student's Student Information Form is during the official pre-registration and registration periods (as announced by the Registrar) for the fall and spring semesters.
8. To enroll in the Litigation Certificate Program, a student must meet in person with an advisor to discuss a planned course of study. Before this meeting with the advisor the student should carefully study this statement of requirements in the Law School catalog and the pre-enrollment bulletin. See paragraph 10 below for meeting times.
9. Before the in-person meeting with the Litigation Certificate advisor, the student must complete the Application to Enroll in the Litigation Certificate Program and the Student Information Form attached hereto and present these forms in person to the advisor. The Certificate advisor will indicate his/her approval of the student's litigation schedule on this form. This form is the only authorization to enroll in the Certificate program that will be given to a student.
10. Student Information Form: Must be filled out each semester the student takes a litigation course, and the student must obtain the approval of the advisor each time.
11. **Extremely important: The Student Information Form will be returned to the student who must keep it safely until the exit interview with the Law School Registrar, held in anticipation of graduation. The Registrar and the Litigation Certificate advisor may request to examine these forms before final approval is given for the awarding of a Certificate.**
12. Litigation Certificate advisors for the current school year are Professors Bernie Segal and Susan Rutberg.

⁶ Students should consult a Certificate advisor concerning acceptability of a given Clinical placement.

APPLICATION TO ENROLL IN THE LITIGATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

This application is made only once by a student. Once it has been approved by the Litigation Certificate advisor, the student is required to keep this form in his/her personal files. Applicants must take note of the time for obtaining approval as described in paragraph 7 of the Litigation certificate pamphlet.

To the Litigation Certificate Advisor:

1. I hereby apply for enrollment in the Litigation Certificate Program.
2. I have read the rules and requirements for this program, am familiar with them and I agree to abide by them.
3. I agree to stay current with all requirements for this program as those requirements are announced in student handbooks, enrollment and other materials made available to the student body.
4. I understand that I must fill out a Litigation Certificate Program Student Information Form each semester that I am in the program.
5. I understand that I must consult with a faculty advisor for the Litigation Certificate Program at the beginning of each semester to obtain his/her written approval of the courses I will be taking for that semester.
6. I have read the foregoing carefully and understand the requirements for enrollment in the Litigation Certificate Program.
7. I understand that I must present this application in person to a faculty advisor for the Litigation Certificate Program and have the advisor sign the acceptance in person. Do not leave this application in the advisor's mailbox or office.

Date of application

Signature

Print your name

ACCEPTANCE INTO THE LITIGATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Signature of faculty member: _____

Application accepted on (date): _____