

Residency-in-Practice

Elon Law School
Winter 2021

Eric M. Fink
efink@elon.edu
336-279-9334
Office Hours: calendly.com/emfink

Course Description

Overview

The Residency-in-Practice course includes both a field experience and a class component. The class component is an integral part of the work for which you earn academic credit. As your faculty supervisor, I will review your writing assignments and meet with you periodically as a group and individually to discuss your field experience and issues related to legal practice. I will also communicate with your site supervisor about your progress in the field placement.

To earn academic credit for work in a law or judicial office, ABA Standards require that you participate in substantial lawyering experiences, receive feedback from your site and faculty supervisors, reflect on your experiences throughout the placement, and engage in self-assessment. The Residency course is designed to meet these requirements.

During your residency, you are bound by the attorney disciplinary rules for the jurisdiction of your field placement, and other rules, guidelines, or policies applicable to your particular practice setting. You are expected to resolve any workplace issues and problems with the attorney or others involved. If you cannot resolve the issue yourself, you should discuss it with me. If necessary, we will involve the Residency Program Director, Professor Conner (kconner2@elon.edu; 336-279-9311).

Learning Goals

The Residency course is intended to advance these learning goals:

- Integrating substantive learning with practical experience and assimilate knowledge from the study of law to the practice of law.
- Transferring knowledge from study to practice, applying legal doctrines learned in class to a practice setting, and bringing knowledge and skills developed in practice back to the classroom;
- Deepening knowledge of the legal profession and lawyers' professional responsibilities, and enhancing professional development; and
- Increasing the ability to learn from experience, through regular feedback from attorneys, self-evaluation, and reflection on the lessons of practice under faculty guidance.

Each student will also identify individual goals and develop a plan for attaining these goals in the residency.

Requirements

To receive credit for the Residency, you must complete these activities and assignments:

- Field placement hours (based on credit hours for which you have enrolled)
- Weekly time logs
- Assigned readings, journals, & reports
- One hour of professional development with a report and analysis
- Two group meetings with the faculty supervisor
- Two individual conferences with the faculty supervisor
- Mid-term and final evaluations by the site supervisor
- Student self-evaluation

Note: If you complete the requisite number of hours early, you may request to end your field placement one week before the end of the term (but no earlier). Your site supervisor and faculty supervisor must both approve this request.

Grading

The course will be graded on a pass/fail basis. The minimum requirements for a passing grade are as follows:

- Completion of required field placement hours;
- Timely submission of all assignments; and
- Professionalism in dealing with your field supervisor, faculty supervisor, clients, and others during the residency.

Due dates are indicated in the Schedule & Assignments section below. If you are unable to meet a due date because of your site supervisor's schedule, you should notify me to receive an extension. Extensions will generally not be granted for other reasons absent extraordinary circumstances.

Exemplary performance in your field placement, writing assignments, and group meetings may earn a High Pass. Failure to meet the course standards (including but not limited to 3 or more late submissions of written assignments) may result in a Low Pass or a Failing grade, depending on the extent of deficiency.

Summary of Assignments & Meetings

Week	End Date	Assignments & Meetings
1	8 January	Learning Goals (Draft)
2	15 January	Learning Goals (Final)
3	22 January	Journal 1; 1st Individual Conference
4	29 January	Journal 2; 1st Group Meeting
5	5 February	Journal 3
6	12 February	Journal 4; Midterm Evaluation
7	19 February	Journal 5
8	26 February	Project Summary; 2nd Individual Conference
9	5 March	Journal 6; 2nd Group Meeting
10	12 March	Final Evaluation; Self-Evaluation; Certificate of Completion

- All required forms are available on TWEN
- All assignments must be posted on TWEN **no later than 11:59 pm on Friday of the week in which they are due.**
- If you encounter problems with TWEN, you may send the assignment to me by email to meet the deadline and then post to TWEN when you are able.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1 (January 4-8)

Orientation: January 4

- Read before orientation:
 - North Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct (bit.ly/2TrnYcg)
 - North Carolina student practice rule (bit.ly/2TmaUot)
 - Neil Hamilton, *Roadmap: The Law Student's Guide to Meaningful Employment* (Excerpts posted on TWEN)
 - Marjorie Shultz and Sheldon Zedeck, *Traits of Effective Lawyers: Self-Evaluation* (Posted on TWEN)
- Meeting with Residency Program Director, 8:30 am - Noon
- Meeting with Faculty Supervisor, 12:15 - 1:30 pm

Post to TWEN

- Memoranda of Understanding
- Confidentiality Agreement
- Draft Learning Goals and Plan

Week 2 (January 11-15)

First Individual Conference with Faculty Supervisor

- Schedule your conference to take place during Week 3 (January 18-22): calendly.com/emfink/

Post to TWEN

- Final Learning Goals and Plan
- Time log

Week 3 (January 18-22)

First Individual Conference with Faculty Supervisor

- As scheduled above

Post to TWEN

- Journal 1 (see TWEN for prompt)
- Time log

Week 4 (January 25-29)

First Group Meeting with Faculty Supervisor

- Day and time to be announced.

Post to TWEN

- Journal 2 (see TWEN for prompt)
- Time log

Week 5 (February 1-5)

Midterm Evaluation

- Give midterm evaluation form to site supervisor

Site Supervisor's Conference with Faculty Supervisor

- Consult with your faculty supervisor about their availability during Week 6 (February 8-12)
- Schedule the conference for your site supervisor: calendly.com/emfink/

Post to TWEN

- Journal 3 (see TWEN for prompt)
- Time log

Week 6 (February 8-12)

Site Supervisor's Conference with Faculty Supervisor

- As scheduled above

Post to TWEN

- Journal 4 (see TWEN for prompt)
- Time log
- Mid-term evaluation (completed by site supervisor)

Week 7 (February 15-19)

Professional Development

- Attend a one-hour professional development program of your choosing. This may include one unit completed on Procertas. See NC Bar Association website (ncbar.org) for CLE options (some are free for student members).

Second Individual Conference with Faculty Supervisor

- Schedule your conference to take place during Week 8 (February 22-26): calendly.com/emfink/

Post to TWEN

- Journal 5 (see TWEN for prompt)
- Time log

Week 8 (February 22-26)

Second Individual Conference with Faculty Supervisor

- As scheduled above

Post to TWEN

- Summary Report (See TWEN for instructions)
- Time log

Week 9 (March 1-5)

Final Evaluation

- Give final evaluation form to site supervisor

Second Group Meeting with Faculty Supervisor

- Day and time to be announced.

Post to TWEN

- Journal 6 (see TWEN for prompt)
- Time log

Week 10 (March 8-12)

Communication

- Thank you notes to site supervisor and others you worked with in your residency

Post to TWEN

- Time log
- Final evaluation (completed by site supervisor)
- Self-evaluation
- Certificate of Completion