

Residency

Elon Law School
Spring 2023

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.

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 course requirements:

- Field placement hours (based on credit hours for which you have enrolled)
- Reading assignments
- Weekly reports, time logs, and forms
- One hour of professional development
- Two group meetings with faculty supervisor
- Two individual conferences with faculty supervisor
- Mid-term and final evaluations by site supervisor
- Student self-evaluations

Required forms, assigned readings, and report prompts are available on the [Materials](#) page of this site and on TWEN.

All reports, time logs, and forms should be submitted on TWEN by 11:59 pm on Friday of the week in which they are due (see [Schedule & Assignments](#)). If you encounter problems with TWEN, you may send the assignment to me by email and then submit to TWEN when you are able.

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.

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;
- Attendance & participation in group meetings and individual conferences;
- Timely submission of all forms, reports, and time logs; and
- Professionalism in dealing with your field supervisor, faculty supervisor, clients, and others during the residency.

Exemplary performance in your field placement, 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.

Schedule & Assignments

Orientation

March 27

Reading

- NC Rules of Professional Conduct; NC student practice rules
 - If your residency placement is outside North Carolina, you should read the Rules of Professional Conduct for the appropriate jurisdiction.
- Neil Hamilton, *Roadmap*
- Leadership Skills for Attorney Success
- Self-Evaluation: Effective Lawyering Skills

Practice group meeting with faculty supervisor

- 3:30 pm by Zoom ([elon.zoom.us/my/emfink](https://elon.zoom.us/j/9876543210))

Week 1

March 27-31

- Report: Wellness in the legal profession
- Forms: Memorandum of Understanding; Confidentiality Agreement; Draft Learning Goals & Plan; Time Log

Week 2

April 3-7

- Scheduling: Schedule individual conference with faculty supervisor for Week 3 (calendly.com/emfink/)
- Forms: Final Learning Goals & Plan; Time Log

Week 3

April 10-14

- Meeting: Individual conference with faculty supervisor (as previously scheduled) by telephone or Zoom
- Report: Organizational structure
- Forms: Time Log

Week 4

April 17-21

- Report: Supervision and feedback
- Forms: Time Log

Week 5

April 24-28

- Meeting: Practice group meeting (date & time TBA) by Zoom (elon.zoom.us/my/emfink)
- Scheduling: Schedule conference with site supervisor and faculty supervisor for Week 6 (calendly.com/emfink/)
- Report: Reflection on work to date
- Forms: Time Log; Self-Evaluation: Effective Lawyering Skills (mid-term); Site Supervisor's Midterm Evaluation (give form to site supervisor and post to TWEN when completed)

Week 6

May 1-5

- Meeting: Conference with site supervisor and faculty supervisor (date and time as scheduled), by telephone or Zoom
- Report: Project analysis
- Forms: Time Log; Site Supervisor's Midterm Evaluation

Week 7

May 8-12

- Scheduling: Schedule individual conference with faculty supervisor for Week 8 (calendly.com/emfink/) Activity Attend 1-hour professional development activity (CLE program, one unit on Procertas, or other activity approved by faculty supervisor). See the NC Bar Association website (nccbar.org) for CLE options (some are free for students).
- Report: Professional development
- Forms: Time Log; Report: Professional development

Week 8

May 15-19

- Meeting: Individual conference with faculty supervisor (as scheduled above) by telephone or Zoom
- Report: List of projects and assignments

- Forms: Time Log

Week 9

May 22-26

- Meeting: Practice group meeting (date and time TBA) by Zoom (elon.zoom.us/my/emfink)
- Report: Learning milestones and benchmarks
- Forms: Time Log; Site Supervisor's Final Evaluation (give form to site supervisor and post to TWEN when completed)

Week 10

May 29-June 2

- Communication: Thank-you note to site supervisor
- Forms: Time Log; Site Supervisor's Final Evaluation; Student evaluation of residency placement; Self-Evaluation: Effective Lawyering Skills (final); Certificate of Completion