

BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL: EXPLORING SKILLS & TRANSITION INTO PRACTICE

Course Number: **Call Number:**

Semester: Fall 2011

Professor: Bilionis/Fischer

Credits: 3 Classroom

Primary Basis for the Grade: Tentatively skills exercises such as student portfolios, reflective writing, oral presentations, papers on professional fields/interviews, and individual and team contributions to the class.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment: Limited to 20; Please complete a Limited Enrollment Lottery Form.

Meets Seminar Requirement? No

Meets Writing Requirement? No

Meets Client Counseling Requirement? No

Meeting Times: M 3:05 - 4:55

Location: 100A

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a new offering that has been designed to assist third-year law students to navigate the transition into professional practice. It provides students with a “deep dive” into selected areas of law practice so that they can more fully appreciate the character of distinctive practice areas, using readings, discussion, and interviews. The course will also help students explore their own values, and will help them develop crucial lawyering skills that research suggests is critical to success (e.g., oral communication, collaboration, strategic planning, self-assessment, and reflection). The course will be offered in an innovative format with parallel sections meeting simultaneously at UNC Law School (taught by Professor Judith Wegner) and the University of Cincinnati College of Law. It will involve in-depth collaboration with leading lawyers in North Carolina and Ohio and may also draw on collaboration with the Center for Creative Leadership. Students will be assigned to pairs and teams that will collaborate virtually, and will participate in two mini-retreats involving leading lawyers (to be held on Saturday September 10 and Saturday November 19, 2011). Assessment will be based on skills exercises such as student portfolios, reflective writing, oral presentations, papers on professional fields/interviews, and individual and team contributions to the class.

Last updated: 4-8-11 cc