

CFCC STUDENT FELLOWS PROGRAM I

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE SCHOOL OF LAW

**SAYRA AND NEIL MEYERHOFF
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND THE COURTS**

FALL 2016

Course: Center for Families, Children, and the Courts Student Fellows Program I
LAW 888
Section 511

Instructor: Professor Barbara A. Babb – (bbabb@ubalt.edu; 410-837-5661)
Office: AL534, John and Frances Angelos Law Center

Gloria Danziger, Senior Fellow – (gdanziger@ubalt.edu; 410-837-5613)
Office: AL532, John and Frances Angelos Law Center

Office Hours: By Appointment

CFCC Administrative Assistant: Kevin Hagin – (khagin@ubalt.edu; 410-837-5737); Suite F, John and Frances Angelos Law Center

Days/Time: Wednesday, 10:00 AM – Noon

Location: Room assignments are available through MyUB.

Course Description:

This limited enrollment course will provide students with an in-depth examination of the policies and theories surrounding court reform in family law, including unified family courts, therapeutic jurisprudence, and the ecology of human development. In addition to a weekly two-hour classroom component, students will take an active role in research and writing associated with the Center for Families, Children and the Courts' (CFCC's) projects. The research and writing will involve weekly one-hour meetings with either CFCC's Director or Senior Fellow and might include areas such as the creation and evaluation of unified family courts in specific jurisdictions, juvenile justice, truancy and truancy courts, high conflict custody programs, and addiction and substance abuse as they affect families in courts. Particular subject-matter areas will depend upon the nature of CFCC's activities at any given time.

Course Materials:

Required readings will be distributed in class or posted on TWEN.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will explain the holistic, interdisciplinary, and therapeutic approach to family law, including the development of new and promising practices.
2. Students will distinguish the non-legal as well as legal issues that affect families in family court.
3. Students will evaluate programs which characterize CFCC's approach to family justice system reform.
4. Students will assess the process and operation of the problem-solving approach to family law
5. Students will build skills that are central to the practice of family law.
6. Students will explain the roles of lawyers in the family justice and educational systems.

Grades:

Based on projects and class participation. See Memorandum regarding calculation of final class grades distributed during first class.

Course Expectations:

American Bar Association Standards for Law Schools establish guidelines for the amount of work students should expect to complete for each credit earned. Students should expect approximately one hour of classroom instruction and two hours of out-of-class work for each credit earned in a class.

You are expected to attend all classes, to complete the assigned readings for each class, to attend class on time, and to participate consistently and meaningfully in class discussions and projects. In addition to the two hour class, students will meet for one hour each week with their supervisor (either Professor Babb and/or CFCC Senior Fellow Danziger) to discuss their projects.

Consistent with the nature of the legal profession, please be in your seat when class begins and remain in your seat throughout the class session, absent extraordinary circumstances. Please turn off cell phones.

Course Website:

You are required to register for the course TWEN site.

Computers:

Students may use laptop computers for class related purposes.

Academic Integrity:

Students are obligated to refrain from acts that they know or, under the circumstances, have reason to know will impair the academic integrity of the University and/or School of Law. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, misuse of materials, inappropriate communication about exams, use of unauthorized materials and technology, misrepresentation of any academic matter, including attendance, and impeding the Honor Code process. The School of Law Honor Code and information about the process is available at http://law.ubalt.edu/academics/policiesandprocedures/honor_code/.

Title IX Sexual Misconduct and Nondiscrimination Policy:

The University of Baltimore's Sexual Misconduct and Nondiscrimination policy is compliant with Federal laws prohibiting discrimination. Title IX requires that faculty, student employees and staff members report to the university any known, learned or rumored incidents of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking on the basis of sex, dating/intimate partner violence or sexual exploitation and/or related experiences or incidents. Policies and procedures related to Title IX and UB's nondiscrimination policies can be found at: <http://www.ubalt.edu/titleix>.

Disability Policy:

If you are a student with a documented disability who requires an academic accommodation, please contact Leslie Metzger, Director of Student Services, at 410-837-5623 or lmetzger@ubalt.edu.

ASSIGNMENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
August 24	Overview of CFCC Orientation to the Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts Office Suite Introduction to Therapeutic Jurisprudence (TJ)
August 31	Introduction to TJ (cont'd) Introduction to Preventive Law Practicing TJ
September 7	Court Reform in Family Law Unified Family Courts The Ecology of Human Development
September 14	Unified Family Courts (cont'd)
September 21	Tour of Baltimore City's Family Division (Guest Speaker: T. Sue German, Family Division Coordinator, Circuit Court for Baltimore City)
September 28	New Approaches to Family Lawyering (panel discussion)
October 5	Performance Standards and Measures for Maryland's Family Divisions/Court Evaluation
October 12	Problem-Solving Courts

October 19	Current and Future Research Initiatives for Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts (Guest Speaker: Connie Kratovil-Lavelle, Esq., Executive Director, Department of Family Administration, Administrative Office of the Courts)
	Problem-Solving Courts in Maryland (Guest Speaker: Gray Barton, Executive Director, Office of Problem-Solving Courts)
October 26	Visit to Drug Treatment Court
November 2	Juvenile Justice Issues
November 9	Visit to Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center
November 16	Student Group Presentations
November 23	Wrap up