

Goal of Clinic

The Parole Representation Clinic provides students with the opportunities to represent California parolees in revocation hearings and to represent adult and juvenile parolees in administrative hearings. You will handle cases from initial assignment through resolution at the hearing, including interviewing clients, developing case strategy and advocating for your clients at their parole hearings.

Structure of Clinic

This one-semester Clinic (Spring only) will meet weekly for three and one-half hours. When students are representing clients, they will be required to travel to Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center (30 miles from campus) for interviews and hearings. A written application is required for this Clinic.

Prerequisites for Enrollment

The clinic is open to 2D/3E and 3D/4E students. Students will be certified by the California State Bar under the Practical Training of Law Students Program. A student must be enrolled in, or have successfully completed, Evidence and Civil Procedure.

Instructor

This Clinic is taught by Mary Swanson, Lecturer in Law. She oversees the California Parole Advocacy Program, which provides legal representation for all state parolees facing probable cause and parole revocation hearings. She directed all functions at the California Special Education Hearing Office from 2000 to 2005 when that program was under contract with the State of California. Contact information: mwsanson@pacific.edu.

Unit Credit and Limit on Enrollment

This is a one-semester Clinic (Spring only) for three-pass/fail units. Enrollment is limited to ten students.

Why This Clinic Is Valuable

- Build your resume with experience representing clients in administrative hearings
- Gain valuable interviewing and legal counseling skills
- Learn to develop effective case strategies
- Improve your oral advocacy skills and gain confidence while appearing before Commissioners and other adjudicators