

## **2024 SPRING TERM**

**COURSE NAME:** CLINICAL CRIMINAL LAW (OR CRIMINAL CLINIC)

**COURSE NUMBER:** LAW 490.001

### **INFORMATION SHEET**

**2023-2024 Fall, Spring, and Full-Year Clinics: Deadline to apply is 11:59pm (PST) on March 23, 2023**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The Criminal Clinic, conceived of more than 40 years ago, has been in operation ever since. It now runs in Winter Session, Term 2 with a maximum of 16 JD students and continues to provide students with the opportunity to learn criminal procedure, appear in court, and handle files, under the close supervision of experienced lawyers. Students are each assigned to a principal and paired up with another student to work on their files collaboratively. Four students work with Crown counsel (two at Vancouver Provincial Court, two at Surrey Provincial Court), while most work with defence counsel. Students are asked to indicate in their application their preference for Crown or defence positions, and to confirm their ability to arrange personal transportation to and from all courthouses and to UBC as may be required.

Court appearances occur weekly at specific dates, times and locations arranged between the principal and their student. On a busy week, up to 2 days may be needed to review files, meet with the client, discuss matters with opposing counsel and prepare for court proceedings. Students are also encouraged to court watch whenever possible.

Seminars are held weekly at 222 Main Street, 5 pm lead by the clinic director Judge Nancy Adams, supervising lawyers and guest judges. In person attendance is mandatory for students although MS Teams is available when needed. The cases that were handled by the students that week set the agenda for wide ranging discussions about the criminal justice system.

An orientation will be held mid-September (on a Wednesday, at 5 pm) to discuss students' applications to the Law Society of BC for temporary articles required for participation in this clinic.

#### **CLINIC DIRECTOR/INSTRUCTOR – BRIEF BIO**

After receiving her LLB from Queen's University at Kingston in 1985, Judge Adams worked at Harper, Grey, Easton as associate counsel for several years. Eager to pursue her interest in criminal law, she joined the Vancouver Crown Counsel in 1989, and then moved to private practice in 2006. After more than 30 years of trial work, almost exclusively in criminal law, Judge Adams was appointed to the BC Provincial Court in March 2017 and now sits regularly at 222 Main Street. A supervising lawyer in the clinic at the time of her appointment to the bench, she became clinic director when Judge Joseph Galati stepped down in 2022 after more than 18 years of leadership.

Judge Adams enjoys working with the many senior counsel who are dedicated to the clinic and with the students who bring energy and fresh perspectives to the seminars.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

JD students who will be in their second or third year of studies in the 2023-2024 (2023W) academic year are welcome to apply.

## **PREREQUISITES**

Successful completion of two law courses by December 31, 2023:

- LAW 476 Evidence
- LAW 400 Advanced Criminal Procedure

## **COURSE UNITS AND GRADING**

6 credits graded on a Pass/Fail basis.

## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Final acceptance into the Criminal Clinic is conditional upon your being granted “Temporary Articled Student” status by the Law Society of British Columbia. If selected for the course, you must complete the Temporary Articles Enrolment Form and the Temporary Articles Agreement Form to sign with your principal at the orientation session in the Fall term. These forms are available on the [Law Society’s website](#). The temporary articling period does not count towards your regular articles.

Please note that the status of “Temporary Articled Student” confers upon you the same responsibilities to the Court, to the profession and to your clients, as other members of the profession. Withdrawing from the course after the start of the term may place your clients in jeopardy and could result in your being reported to the Law Society for unprofessional conduct.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Students do not register for this course by the normal route, but apply for entry via the [Clinic Application Form](#). Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 Criminal Clinic.

Please direct any questions by email to Patricia Penaflores, Coordinator, Student Academic Services ([penaflores@allard.ubc.ca](mailto:penaflores@allard.ubc.ca)).

As the Clinic Director and Course Instructor, Judge Adams will review all applications and make all final decisions regarding the sixteen students to be accepted into the 2024 Criminal Clinic. Applicants are notified of Judge Adams’ decision by email.