**OVERVIEW**

The Harvard Law School LGBTQ+ Advocacy Clinic engages in impact litigation, legislative and policy advocacy, and direct representation on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community, with a particular focus on issues affecting underrepresented groups within the LGBTQ+ umbrella. The Clinic works with community members, advocates, non-profit organizations, educators, medical professionals, and governmental entities to advance the rights of LGBTQ+ people at the national and local levels.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED** | Fall or Spring |
| **CLINICAL COURSE COMPONENTS** | LGBTQ+ Advocacy Clinical Seminar |
| **COURSE CREDITS** | 1 classroom credit |
| **ADDITIONAL COURSE CO-REQUISITE** | Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, and the Law (Fall, 3 credits) |
| **CLINICAL CREDITS** | 3-5 |
| **LOCATION** | HLS; Legal Services Center |
| **REGISTRATION TYPE** | Helios |

**TYPES OF CASES/CLIENTS/PROJECTS**

The Clinic represents LGBTQ+ clients, particularly from underrepresented portions of the LGBTQ+ community, on a variety of legal issues related to their identities. For example, the Clinic has represented LGBTQ+ people in impact litigation regarding discriminatory detention, shelter, health care, and identity document policies. The Clinic also engages in legislative and policy advocacy with federal, state, and local governments, including innovative projects advancing the rights of transgender athletes, as well as nonbinary, intersex, and polyamorous people.

Students typically work on 2 cases/clients/projects in a semester.

**SKILLS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Brief writing | Appellate litigation | Interviewing clients |
| Legal research and writing | Collaboration with partner organizations | Drafting reports and policy papers |
| Strategizing cases | Preparing comments | Oral presentations |
| Policy and advocacy work | Community Education |
| Working with experts | Fact investigation |

**TYPICAL WORK SCHEDULE**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Morning** | **Afternoon** | **Evening** |
| **9:00 - 9:30 am:** Split a ride to LSC with a few other student attorneys  **9:30 – 9:45 am:** Prepare agenda for check in with direct supervisor  **9:45 – 10:15 am:** Meet with direct supervisor for weekly check in  **10:15 – 10:30 am:** Get a cup of hot chocolate and a snack from the break room  **10:30 am - 12:30 pm:** Draft legislative testimony regarding proposed anti-LGBTQ+ state legislation | **12:30 - 1:15 pm:** Go get lunch with other student attorneys at the Cuban restaurant by LSC  **1:15 – 2:15 pm:** Meet with coalition of community organizations and advocates to coordinate opposition to anti-LGBTQ+ state legislation  **2:15 – 2:30 pm:** Debrief on coalition meeting with attorney from partner organization  **2:30 – 4:30 pm:** Research my assignment for impact litigation case with co-counsel | **4:30 - 5:00 pm:** Meet with co-counsel to share results of legal research  **5:00 - 5:45 pm:** Take the red line back to campus |