



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

James E. Rogers
College of Law

Program in Criminal Law and Policy Certificate Program

Students at the College of Law may enroll in a program that will lead to the award of a Certificate in Criminal Law and Policy at Commencement. The program offers a structured curriculum preparing students for careers in criminal prosecution, defense, and policy, and a credential attesting to their commitment and training in the field. Professor Jason Kreag and Dean Marc Miller serve as directors of the certificate program. Students must enroll in the program prior to the beginning of their fifth semester of law school, i.e., generally no later than the end of second year. However, students are encouraged to review the requirements for the certificate early in their law school careers. This helps to ensure interested students can satisfy these requirements and to address potential conflicts in advance.

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS:

To earn a certificate, a student must demonstrate satisfactory completion of the following requirements:

A. Course Requirements:

1. Criminal Procedure: The Police (required for graduation)
2. Criminal Law
3. Evidence (required for graduation)
4. Trial Advocacy
5. A seminar or specialized course on a criminal justice topic at the College of Law or, with approval from Prof. Kreag, related courses in other departments at the University. A list of approved courses is included below.

B. Writing and Research Requirements:

1. A substantial paper making an original analytical contribution on a criminal justice topic. While the paper must be related to the criminal justice system, this requirement is sufficiently broad to include a range of issues, including traditional criminal law and procedure topics as well as topics related to immigration, juvenile justice, mental health, and family law. The paper topic must be approved in advance by Prof. Kreag or Dean Miller. A purely descriptive paper does not satisfy this requirement. A paper written as part of a seminar, independent study, or law journal—if supervised by a faculty member or other approved person—may satisfy this requirement. If graded, the paper must receive at least a B. If ungraded, the paper must be of quality equivalent to at least a B.

2. Participation in the Program in Criminal Law and Policy Wednesday Lunch Speaker Series. This speaker series has been central to the success of the PCLP, and it has been a remarkable opportunity for students to interact with leaders in the criminal justice system, including elected prosecutors, public defenders, judges, defendants, policymakers, and activists. Past speakers have explored a broad range of issues, including the death penalty, prosecuting and defending organized crime, prison life, wrongful convictions, victims' rights, international criminal prosecutions, prosecutorial ethics, and forensic science. To satisfy this requirement, students must attend 16 of the events while enrolled at the College of Law. Students should maintain a list of the speakers they attended as this information is needed when applying for the PCLP certificate before graduation.

C. Practice Experience Requirements:

1. Completion of the Criminal Defense Clinic, Criminal Prosecution Clinic, Attorney General Clinic, Wrongful Conviction Clinic, Child and Family Law Clinic, Immigration Clinic, Civil Rights Restoration Clinic, or completion of a similar internship or externship approved by a program director.
2. A summer or school-year practice experience, paid or volunteer (other than that used to satisfy the requirement of C(1)) with a prosecution or defense agency (local, state, federal, tribal, or military), a policy office, or a clerkship in a court with criminal jurisdiction totaling at least 300 hours. The Career Development Office provides students with information about many of these opportunities. With approval of a program director, this requirement may be met through work at more than one agency.

List of Approved Criminal Justice Courses to Satisfy Requirement A(5):
(Other courses may be approved on an individual basis. Note that several of these courses/seminars are not offered each year.)

1. A second clinical experience for credit other than the one used to satisfy C(1).
2. Advanced Criminal Procedure: Federal
3. Advanced Criminal Procedure: Prosecution and Adjudication
4. Advanced Topics in Criminal Law
5. Advanced Trial Advocacy
6. Capital Punishment
7. Crime and Punishment
8. Criminal Investigation and Discovery
9. Criminal Justice Policy Seminar
10. Critical Race Theory and Practice
11. DNA and Criminal Justice
12. Investigation: Criminal, Civil, and Internal
13. Law and Policy of Sex Crimes
14. Legal Ethics for Criminal Lawyers
15. National Security Law and Litigation

- 16. Sentencing
- 17. White Collar Crime

Additional information about the Program in Criminal Law and Policy is available here: <https://law.arizona.edu/criminal-law-policy-program>. In addition, the PCLP blog is available here: <http://uacj.typepad.com/>. The PCLP blog includes information about upcoming speakers and links to the forms needed for approving your substantial paper topic and requesting the certificate at graduation. If you have questions about the requirements or your ability to meet them, please contact Professor Jason Kreag (<jkreag@email.arizona.edu>).

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