

CIVIL ADVOCACY AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Students who earn the certificate for this concentration develop an understanding of a variety of advocacy methods, dispute resolution tools, and remedies, in an array of civil law contexts. Skill development focuses on litigation, negotiation, mediation and arbitration.

The civil advocacy and dispute resolution concentration lets you explore all the varied ways that lawyers help clients solve problems and resolve conflicts. You will hone your skills as a creative negotiator, as a wise adviser and as an effective courtroom litigator. You'll learn the theory and the practice of the different alternative methods to resolve disputes, make deals and reach settlements outside of court, such as mediation and arbitration. Most important, you can help us achieve our vision: to reimagine the law as a healing profession.

Our dispute resolution program was ranked 14th in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Our Center on Dispute Resolution – with its Quinnipiac/Yale Workshop Speaker Series, training sessions and student-run Society for Dispute Resolution – are all valuable resources that are at your disposal. The center's programs offer you the opportunity to learn and train with practicing professionals in the field. The highly decorated student competition teams provide you the stage to hone your advocacy skills through regional and national mock trial, moot court, negotiation, mediation and client counseling competitions.

After two semesters, you'll have the opportunity to practice what you are learning in the classroom in one of our legal clinics and in our diverse externship program. As a certified legal intern, you can counsel actual clients, negotiate, mediate cases and argue in courts.

For specific information on the program offerings, please contact:

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Civil Advocacy and Dispute Resolution Concentration

Prerequisites

To be eligible for the Civil Advocacy and Dispute Resolution concentration, you must take LAWS 311 as one of your core electives. Credits for this course do not count toward the 21-credit concentration requirement, but the grade in this prerequisite does count toward the concentration GPA requirement.

Requirements

1. Course Work

To receive the certificate for this concentration, you must earn 21 civil advocacy and dispute resolution specialty credits, divided as follows (not all courses are offered every year):

Required Course Work

In addition to LAWS 311 (credits for which do not count toward the 21-credit requirement), you must take the following courses. Credits for these courses will count toward your 21-credit concentration requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
LAWS 315	Trial Practice	2-3
LAWS 428	Negotiation	2-3
LAWS 515	Alternative Dispute Resolution ¹	2-3

¹ In lieu of ADR, students may substitute LAWS 374 Introduction to Mediation.

Remaining Credits

The balance of the credits are to be earned from the following advocacy and dispute resolution-related courses. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are particularly recommended for this concentration. (Not all of these courses are offered every year.)

Code	Title	Credits
LAWS 114	Administrative Law (*)	3
LAWS 316	Advanced Trial Practice (*)	2
LAWS 322	(*)	2
LAWS 338	Visual Persuasion in the Law (*)	3
LAWS 339	(*)	3
LAWS 347	Remedies (*)	3-4
LAWS 356	Arbitration (*)	3
LAWS 357	Federal Courts (*)	3
LAWS 372	Representation in Mediation (*)	2
LAWS 374	Introduction to Mediation (*)	2
LAWS 539	Intro. to Dispute Res. in Healthcare (*)	2-3
LAWS 574	Adv. Civil Pro. - CT Practice (*)	2-3
LAWS 591	(*)	3-3
LAWS 599	Intro to Representing Clients (*)	2

Other related courses:

LAWS 305	Federal Income Tax	4
LAWS 327	Labor Law	3
LAWS 370	Family Law	2-3
LAWS 371	Divorce and the Divorcing Family	2
LAWS 373	Products Liability	3
LAWS 384	Juvenile Law	3
LAWS 393	Business Planning	4
LAWS 431	Criminal Procedure - Adj.	3
LAWS 434	Employment Law	3
LAWS 435	Advanced Family Law I - S	2
LAWS 475		2
LAWS 525	Moot Court I	1
LAWS 526	Moot Court II	1-2
LAWS 528	Moot Court III	1
LAWS 564	Poverty Law	2
LAWS 604	Medical Malpractice	2
LAWS 606		2

Substantial-paper courses or independent study where the paper is devoted to an advocacy and/or dispute resolution topic approved by the concentration director.

Additional clinic or externship courses in addition to those required above, as approved by the concentration director.

Other courses or journal work as approved by the concentration director in consultation with the course instructor.

Competitions: The concentration director may deem participation in a non-credit competition in mock trial, negotiation, or representing clients in mediation to satisfy the requirement of one or two credits of course work in this category.

2. Clinical Requirement

At least 3 credits must be earned in a clinic and/or externship placement approved by the concentration director in consultation with the director of the relevant clinic or externship. Credits for IRC do not count toward this clinical requirement.

3. Writing Requirement

A substantial paper or a series of shorter writings that together comprise a substantial amount of written work on a topic or topics related to advocacy and/or dispute resolution. (If you write a substantial paper, you may use that paper to satisfy the law school advanced writing requirement, provided that you meet the guidelines for the advanced writing requirement as set forth in the Academic Regulations (<http://catalog.qu.edu/school-of-law/academic-regulations/#text>), section I.D.) The concentration director must approve the topic or topics for the written work used to satisfy this requirement. A paper written for a journal may qualify, if the concentration director approves the topic.

4. Honors

Students who achieve a GPA of 3.2 or better in the course work used for the concentration will receive the certificate for the concentration with honors. A student may designate the grade in any course or paper as not counting toward the concentration GPA, so long as the course is not required for the concentration, and the student meets the concentration requirements with another course or paper.

5. Waivers

Students who are interested in this concentration but fall short of specific credits or course work may apply for a waiver of requirements, to be granted at the discretion of the concentration director and the associate dean of academic affairs.