

## **XIX. CONCENTRATIONS AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

Chase College of Law offers four areas of concentration and/or a certificate program for those students who have a special interest in practicing in the fields of Advocacy, Transactional Law, Labor and Employment Law, or Tax Law.

### **A. Certificate in Advocacy (Effective Fall 2009)**

#### **1. Eligibility**

Any Chase law student in good standing who has completed at least 30 credits and not more than 45 credits may apply for acceptance into the advocacy concentration program. The Director of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy will make final determinations on all applications for acceptance into this program based upon consideration of the student's demonstrated commitment to the program and the likelihood that the student will be able to successfully complete the requirements of the program.

#### **2. Requirements**

To earn the Certificate for Excellence in Advocacy, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

##### **a. Required Graded Courses**

The student must earn a grade of B or better in the following graded courses:

Evidence (3)  
Legal Drafting-Litigation (2)  
Advanced Appellate Advocacy (2)

##### **b. Required Non-Graded Courses**

The student must earn a grade of "Pass" in the following courses:

ICN (3)  
Pretrial Litigation (2 or 3)  
Trial Advocacy (includes Intensive Trial Advocacy Program) (3)

##### **c. Elective Courses**

The student must earn a minimum of six credit-hours with a grade of at least a B+ or a designation of "Pass" from among the following courses:

Mediation (3)  
Arbitration Law and Practice (3)  
Voir Dire Strategies (1)  
Deposition Strategies (1)  
[Other courses to be developed.]

**d. Required Externship**

The student must earn a minimum of three credits with a grade of “Pass” in one of the following externships:

Federal and State Judicial Externship  
Kentucky Criminal Justice Externship  
State Judicial Internship  
Indigent Defense Clinic  
Constitutional Litigation Clinic  
Kentucky Innocence Project  
Local Government Externship  
IRS Chief Counsel Externship

**e. Writing Requirement**

The student must complete the research component of the Advanced Writing Requirement on an Advocacy Topic with a grade of "B" or better on the paper the student submits to satisfy the requirement.

**f. Advocacy Competition**

The student must participate in at least one advocacy-related competition from a list approved by the Director of the Center. That list includes:

Grosse Competition  
an external trial advocacy competition  
Arbitration Team  
Client Counseling Team  
Negotiation Competition  
an external moot court competition.

**g. Extracurricular Course of Study**

The student must participate in a minimum of 500 minutes of extracurricular programming sponsored by the Chase Student Advocacy Society (CSAS).

## **B. Certificate in Transactional Practice Law (Effective May 1, 2009)**

### **1. Eligibility**

To earn the certificate in Transactional Practice Law, a student must make a timely application for inclusion in the program not later than the end of his or her third semester of study at the law school and must be accepted into the program.

### **2. Requirements**

Each student must fulfill the following requirements prior to receiving his or her Certificate in Transactional Practice Law:

**a. Required Courses:** In addition to completing all graduation requirements satisfactorily, each student must earn a grade of “B” or better in the following five courses:

- Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiating (3 hr.)
- Contract Drafting (2 or 3 hr.)
- Taxation – Basic Income Tax Concepts (3 hr.)
- Taxation – Business Organizations and Business Planning (3 hr.)
- Ethics for Transactional Lawyers (1-2 hr.)

and earn a grade of “Pass” in a Transactional Clinic, Internship, or Externship (3 hr).

**b. Elective Courses.** Each student must take and earn a grade of “B” or better in six credit-hours selected from the courses listed below. Unless the appropriate certificate advisor approves a different mix of courses, of the six elective credits, a minimum of four must be earned in courses taught by full-time faculty.

- Advanced Tax Concepts
- Agency Partnership and LLCs
- Business Technology and Regulation
- Corporations
- Close Corporation Problems
- Environmental Law
- Estate Planning
- Insurance Law
- Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Modern Real Estate Transactions
- Not For Profit Corporations
- Securities Regulation

**c. Accounting and Financing Competency Test:** Each student must demonstrate fundamental competency in the fields of Accounting and Finance by passing

the Accounting and Finance Competency Test.<sup>1</sup> The test will be offered during the first month of each semester. Students who fail to pass the test may sit for the test at a subsequent administration.

**d. Writing Requirement:** Each student must complete the research component of the Advanced Writing Requirement on a Transactional Law topic. In addition, each student must satisfy the drafting component of the Advanced Writing Requirement in Contract Drafting or in another drafting course approved by the Director of the Transactional Law Practice Center (“TLPC”). Students must receive a grade of "B" or better for the paper they submit to satisfy the research requirement and for the drafting project(s) they submit to satisfy the drafting requirement.

**e. Extracurricular Course of Study:** Each student must participate in a minimum of 500 minutes of extracurricular programming sponsored by the Transactional Law Practice Center.

**f. Transactional Pro Bono:** Chase College of Law requires each student to have completed 50 hours of pro bono work before graduating. To receive the Transactional Law Practice Certificate, however, a student needs to have completed a total of 25 hours of pro bono in the field of transactional law. The Director of the TLPC, in consultation with the Pro Bono Program director, will determine which pro bono opportunities fall within the field of transactional law.

## **C. Employment and Labor Law Concentration**

Students who have a special interest in the field of employment and labor law may wish to complete a Concentration, which will help to prepare them for the practice of law in that field.

To qualify for a Concentration in Employment and Labor Law, students must satisfy the following four requirements:

**1. Take each of the following twelve hours of courses and receive a “B” or better in each course:**

Labor Relations - (3 hrs.)  
Employment Law - (3 hrs.)  
Employment Discrimination - (3 hrs.)  
Advanced Legal Research - (3 hrs.), with labor and employment focus

**2. Take at least three hours from among the following list of courses and receive a “B” or better in each course taken:**

Administrative Law - (3 hrs.)  
Alternative Dispute Resolution / Mediation - (3 hrs.)  
Employee Benefits Law - (1, 2, or 3 hrs.)

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<sup>1</sup> The Accounting and Financing Competency Test will be developed in-house.

**3. Either:**

**a.** Complete an Advanced Writing Requirement-Research course within the Concentration, in which the student writes a paper that meets or exceeds the minimum standards for obtaining AWR-Research credit, except that the paper must be at least 25 pages in length, must be of publishable quality, and must receive a grade of “B” or higher; or

**b.** Complete an externship of at least two credit-hours, or an internship of at least 100 hours over the course of a semester, with an attorney in the Department of Labor, National Labor Relations Board, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, any state or local equal employment opportunity commission such as the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, or other commensurate administrative agency approved by the Directors.

**4. File a petition with the Directors,** at least two months prior to the expected date of graduation, demonstrating that all requirements of the Concentration have been completed or will be completed prior to the expected date of graduation. Students are encouraged to inform the Directors in writing as early as possible of the intent to concentrate in order to facilitate students’ scheduling of Concentration requirements.

The course Agency, Partnership, and Limited Liability Companies is recommended but not required for students in the Labor and Employment Law Concentration.

To complete this Concentration, students on Structured Curriculum may be required to take more than the 90 hours otherwise required for graduation.

Students who wish to know more about the Concentration requirements are encouraged to contact Professor Rick Bales or Associate Dean Lawrence Rosenthal.

\*The “B” requirements listed above apply only to students who matriculated at NKU Chase after July 31, 2008.

**D. Tax Controversy and Tax Litigation Concentration**

**1. \*Students in the Tax Concentration Program must take the following courses and receive a grade of at least a “B” in each course:**

Tax - Basic Income Tax Concepts - (3 hrs.)

Tax - Advanced Income Tax Concepts - (3 hrs.)

Tax - Practice and Procedure (3 hrs.)

Trial Advocacy - (3 hrs.), or any similar trial preparation course

**2. \*Students in the Tax Concentration Program also must take one of the following three courses and receive a grade of at least a “B” in each course taken:**

Tax - IRS Chief Counsel Externship - (3 hrs.)

Tax - Moot Court Inter-School Competition - (2 hrs.)

Tax - Tax Clinic (2 or 3 hrs.)

**3. Students who wish to know more about the Tax Concentration requirements are encouraged to contact Professor Ljubomir Nacev.**

\*The “B” requirements listed above apply only to students who matriculated at NKU Chase after July 31, 2008.