**SEMESTER IN WASHINGTON, DC**

**Professor:** Herz and others

**Credits:** 8 clinical, 4 academic  
**Pre/Corequisite:** None, but see further discussion below

This program gives students who are interested in public policy, public service, and careers in the public sector an opportunity to engage in hands-on law practice through a full-time externship in Washington, D.C. The program has two components: a semester-long placement with a federal government office or non- profit organization, and two weekly seminar meetings. Students earn 8 clinical credits for the externship (graded pass/fail) and 4 academic credits for the classes.

*Placements*

Placements are principally in federal government offices where lawyers conduct research and provide legal advice and assistance on policy, legislative, or regulatory matters, rather than investigating and litigating cases. Placement with non-profit organizations involved with policy advocacy are permitted but not preferred. Placements with law firms or other for-profit entities are not permitted.

Students who are admitted to the program will meet individually with Professor Herz to discuss their areas of interest and placement possibilities. Every effort will be made to find a placement to meet each student’s interest, but students who are accepted to the program may need to commit to participating prior to obtaining a confirmation (and security clearance) for a particular placement. Students are free – indeed encouraged -- to obtain their own placements, but all placements must be approved by Professor Herz.

Students must work at least 32 hours per week at the placement, though the exact obligations will be worked out with the on-site supervisor.

Over the course of the semester, the Program Coordinator will regularly, and Professor Herz will occasionally, meet one-on-one with students to discuss their ongoing work experience and progress.

*Coursework*

Students will take two classes, each meeting one evening a week.

One course is the Externship Seminar, which will be taught by the Program Coordinator. This course includes guest speakers with different types of DC practices and includes direct discussion of the students’ own experiences in their placements. This course will be graded P/F.

The second course is Topics in Administrative Law and Regulatory Policy. Its exact content will depend in part on the academic and other experience of the students, but it will cover topics such as the justifications for regulation, different regulatory tools, administrative procedure, judicial review of agency action, presidential and congressional oversight of agencies, FOIA, and the selection of agency officials. Grades will be based on class participation and a final paper.

*Prerequisites*

There is no pre-requisite for this program. However, Administrative Law (especially for students working in an agency) and Legislation (especially for students working for Congress) are both highly recommended.

In addition, ideally each student will have taken the substantive course relevant to the placement. For example, someone externing at the Securities and Exchange Commission should have taken Securities Regulation; someone at EPA should have taken Environmental Law, etc. This may not be possible in individual cases, but should be borne in mind when selecting fall semester classes.

*Logistics*

The Semester in DC program will run in Spring 2022 so long as conditions allow students to secure in-person externships. Remote placements will not be considered.

The classes will meet 13 times each, following the Cardozo academic schedule. Placements presumptively run for that same period of time, though students may end up arranging to begin slightly earlier or end slightly later than the Cardozo semester.

Students are responsible for their own travel and housing.

Occasional social events or other activities will take place over the course of the semester.

*Applications*

Enrollment is by application only and is limited to 2L and 3L students.

Application to and registration for the Semester in DC are separate steps. Students must submit an application to Professor Herz **by August 23, 2021**. If accepted, the student will then work with Professor Herz over the fall semester to find an appropriate placement. The student only *registers* for the program as part of the Spring semester registration process.

Applicants should consider whether the program will preclude or restrict their participation in other law school activities such as journals and moot court, and to make appropriate arrangements if it does.

To apply, students should submit the following information by email to Professor Herz at herz@yu.edu:

* Statement of Interest (no more than one page)
* Current resume
* Current transcript
* Writing sample of no more than 10 pages

All applicants will be interviewed either in person or by zoom.

*Further Information*: Anyone needing further information should email Professor Herz, herz@yu.edu.