UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

DOCUMENT N: COURSE AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COVER SHEET

SHORT TITLE OF PROPOSAL: New Credit Activity: Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition  COURSE # TBA

Box 1: TYPE OF ACTION ADD(NEW) ✗ DEACTIVATE □ MODIFY □ OTHER □

Box 2: LEVEL OF ACTION Non-Credit □ Undergraduate □ Graduate □ OTHER ✗

Box 3: ITEM OF ACTION (check appropriate boxes) APPROVAL SEQUENCE (see box 4 below) DOCUMENTS REQUIRED (see box 5 on back) INFO COPIES (see 2 on back)

1. Experimental Course 1
2. Course Title
3. Course Credits
4. Course Number
5. Course Level
6. Deactivate a Course
7. Pre & Co-Requisite
8. Course Content
9. New Course
10a. Certificate Program (ug/lp) exclusively within existing degree program
10b. Certificate Program (ug/lp) where degree programs do not exist or where courses are selected across degree programs (12 or more credits)
11a. UG Concentration (exceeds 24 credit hours)
11b. Masters Concentration (exceeds 12 credit hours)
11c. Doctoral Concentration (exceeds 18 credit hours)
12. Program Requirements
13. Program Title
14. Off-Campus Deliver of Existing Program
15. Closed Site Program
16. Program Suspension 2
17. Program Termination
18. Degree Program
19. New Center
20. Other

Box 4: APPROVAL SEQUENCE APPROVAL SIGNATURES DATE

A Department Chair:
B Final faculty review body within each school Chair:
C College Dean Dean:
D Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Provost:
E Curriculum Review Committee (UFS subcommittee) Chair:
F University Faculty Senate Chair:
G University Council 11 Chair:
H President President:
I Board of Regents – approval
J Board of Regents – notification only
K MHEC – approval
L MHEC – notification only
M Middle States Association notification Required only if the mission of the University is changed by the action

Box 5: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

1. Approval automatically lapses after two offerings unless permanently approved by Action 9.
2. Codes: a) Director of Library Services (Langsdale or Law) b) College Dean c) Planning Office d) EMSA
3. Letter of Intent is required by USM at least 30 days before a full proposal can be submitted. Letter of Intent requires only the approval of the dean and the provost and is forwarded to USM by the Office of the Provost.
4. One-page letter to include: Program title & degree/certificate to be awarded; resources requirements; need and demand; similar programs; method of instruction; and oversight and student services *
5. One page letter with description and rational *
6. One or two-page document that describes: centrality to mission; market demand; curriculum design; adequacy of faculty resources; and assurance program will be supported with existing resources. *
7. Learning objectives, assessment strategies; fit with UB strategic plan
8. Joint Degree Program or Primary Degree Programs require submission of MOU w/ program proposal
9. Temporary suspension of program to examine future direction; time not to exceed two years. No new students admitted during suspension, but currently enrolled students must be given opportunity to satisfy degree requirements.
10. Provide:
   a. evidence that the action is consistent with UB mission and can be implemented within the existing program resources of the institution.
   b. proposed date after which no new students will be admitted into the program;
   c. accommodation of currently enrolled students in the realization of their degree objectives;
   d. treatment of all tenured and non-tenured faculty and other staff in the affected program;
   e. reallocation of funds from the budget of the affected program; and
   f. existence at other state public institutions of programs to which to redirect students who might have enrolled in the program proposed for abolition.
11. University Council review (for a recommendation to the President or back to the Provost) shall be limited to curricular or academic policy issues that may potentially affect the University’s mission and strategic planning, or have a significant impact on the generation or allocation of its financial resources.

* Required by MHEC
O-1: Briefly describe what is requested: Creation of a new non-classroom credit activity

For new courses or changes in existing courses (needed by Registrar):

| New Title: Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Title #:                      | Credits: 2        |

Course Abbreviation: Family Law Moot Court Competition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Title:</th>
<th>Title #:</th>
<th>Credits:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

O-2: Set forth the rationale for the proposal: Students will build on the skills that they have learned in the LARW program. Students will improve their research and writing skills by writing an appellate brief and will hone their oral argument skills in the appellate setting through moots and oral arguments in competition. Students will have an opportunity to conduct research on novel and unsettled issues in family law.

O-3 Resources Needed:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Expendables</th>
<th>Facility Costs</th>
<th>TOTAL COSTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start-up First Year</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
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<td>Annual Thereafter</td>
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Indicate probable source of additional funds, if needed:

O-4 Impact including OTS and Library resources (Complete a or b)

a) Impact was reviewed. All impacted units were contacted and understandings worked out. No unit objects to the proposal as currently submitted. The units contacted were:

Records Office (Richard Mareck)

[Signature] 5/18/06

b) Impact was reviewed. All objections were worked out except those documented in attachments. Units contacted were:

[Signature]  

Department Chair Signature Date
Application for Approval of Non-Classroom Credit Activity:

Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition

Description of Activity

Currently, the University of Baltimore School of Law offers students 14 opportunities to participate in various moot court competitions for credit. Last year, at the suggestion of former Chair of the Moot Court Board Tamara Sanders, University of Baltimore Students began participating in the Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition, but did not receive credit for the activity. Given our strong offerings in family law and the number of students who choose the Family Law concentration, adding a family law moot court team seemed a natural choice for our students. The Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition is sponsored by the Moot Court Board of Albany Law School. Team members are required to prepare and submit an appellate brief to the competition and to compete in oral arguments, held in Albany, NY. Prior to the competition, students participate in a number of moot arguments judged by faculty, Maryland judges, practitioners, and other community members.

Credit Hours

Students will receive 2 credits for participating.

Prerequisites

Team members must participate in the consolidated Moot Court competition.

Estimate of number of students to be involved in activity

Teams will consist of two to three students.

Content Outline

After the moot court problem is released to the coaches, students are required to research and write a brief for the competition. The problems used by this competition are open research problems; students are required to conduct substantial research beyond the information provided by the problem. Faculty members are not permitted to provide assistance with that brief. Writing the brief takes approximately 90 hours of collaborative student work. After the brief has been completed and submitted to the competition, students begin an intensive program of mock oral arguments judged by faculty coaches and other faculty members, judges and other practitioners in the community. Through these mock arguments, students receive feedback both on the substance of their arguments and on their oral advocacy skills. Students also seek the
assistance of members of the faculty and other practitioners to better understand the legal underpinnings of the arguments that they will make during the competition. The experience culminates in the Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition, held in February at Albany Law School. Students participate in 2 first round arguments before learning whether they will advance in the competition. Students may participate in as many as 6 arguments during the course of the competition.

Learning Goals

Students will build on the skills that they have learned in the LARW program. Students will improve their research and writing skills by writing an appellate brief and will hone their oral argument skills in the appellate setting through moots and oral arguments in competition. Students will have an opportunity to conduct research on novel and unsettled issues in family law.

Assessment Strategies

Students’ performance will be assessed by examining their briefs and observing and critiquing their oral arguments. The faculty coaches will be responsible for assessing student performance and will solicit input from the guest judges who participate in mock arguments. This is the standard means of assessment of moot court teams.

Text

There is no text for this activity.

Suggested Concentrations

This course should be included in the Family Law concentration.

Faculty Sponsors

Leigh Goodmark will serve as the faculty sponsor for this team; Tamara Sanders, an adjunct, will co-coach the team. Professor Goodmark will be responsible for conducting the evaluation for credit determination based on her assessment of the brief submitted by the team and the team’s participation both in practices leading up to the competition and in the competition itself.

Similar Activities

The University of Baltimore School of Law currently participates in 14 appellate moot court competitions in a number of different subject matter areas. No other moot court team participates in a family law competition or related topic area competition. Each of these teams receives credit for participating in this activity. Awarding credit to moot court teams recognizes the substantial time and work commitment participating in moot court entails. Writing a moot court brief is similar to writing a
paper for a seminar class, and the brief is only half of the work required by the competition; the oral argument component requires a tremendous commitment of time and effort.

**School Goals Achieved Through Participation in this Activity**

Moot court competitions provide our students with the opportunity to refine their brief writing and appellate advocacy skills and to test those skills against law students from across the country. Participating in the Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition will provide students focusing on family law with an activity specifically tailored to their interests and will complement the other courses currently offered in the Family Law Concentration. Participating will also show other schools the depth of our commitment to family law and may raise our profile among students interested in pursuing family law as a career. Additionally, this activity provides students with an unparalleled opportunity to interact with practitioners and judges in the field in which students may hope to work.