

5-2 B. First Year.

To complete the first year of the program, the law clerk shall pass the following prescribed courses. The course entitled "Basic Legal Skills" shall be studied and passed first. Thereafter, the courses may be studied in any order

Each course is two months. An exam is due at the end of EACH month.

7-2 First Year Clerkship.

A. Basic Legal Skills. Introduction to basic legal reference materials (including judicial, legislative and administrative primary and secondary sources) and their use; techniques of legal reasoning, analysis and synthesis; legal writing styles.

Familiarization with the structure of the federal and state court systems; the concept of case law in a common law jurisdiction; fundamental principles of stare decisis and precedent; the legislative process; principles of statutory construction and interpretation. Law Clerk should be assigned projects of increasing difficulty such as: case abstracts; analysis of a trial record to identify issues; short quizzes to demonstrate ability to locate primary and secondary sources; office memoranda or a trial oriented memorandum of authorities to demonstrate ability to find the law applicable to a factual situation and to differentiate unfavorable authority; an appellate level brief.

B. Civil Procedure. Fundamentals of pleading and procedure in civil litigation, as structured by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Washington Superior Court Civil Rules. Study shall include: jurisdiction over the person and subject matter; venue; time limits; commencement of actions; pleadings; parties; impleader; interpleader; motions; class actions and intervention; res judicata and collateral estoppel; discovery and other pretrial devices; joinder; summary judgment; judgments; post-trial motions. Law Clerk should be required to draft summons; pleadings; motions; findings of fact and conclusions of law; judgment; interrogatories; requests for admission.

C. Contracts. Study of legal principles related to the formation, operation and termination of the legal relation called contract. General topics include: offer and acceptance; consideration; issues of interpretation; conditions; performance; breach; damages or other remedies; discharge; the parol-evidence rule; the statute of frauds; illegality; assignments; beneficiaries.

D. Property. Study of the ownership, use, and transfer of real property in both historical and modern times. Topics include: estates and interests in land; concurrent ownership; easements; equitable servitudes; conveyances; real estate contracts; nuisance; adverse possession; land use controls; landlord-tenant; the recording system; title insurance.

E. Torts. Study of the historical development, principles, concepts and purposes of the law relating to redress of private injuries. Topics include: conversion; trespass; nuisance; intentional tort; negligence; strict liability; products liability; concepts of duty, causation, and damage; limitations on liability such as proximate cause, contributory negligence, assumption of the risk, immunity; comparative negligence.

F. Agency and Partnership. Legal principles of agency law including definition of the agency relationship, authority and power of agents, notice and knowledge, rights and duties between participants in the relationship, termination of agency relationship, master-servant relationship. Partnership law using the Revised Uniform Partnership Act as a model code. Topics include: formation, partners' rights and duties between themselves, powers, unauthorized acts, notice and knowledge, incoming partner liability, indemnification, contribution, partner's two-fold ownership interest, co-ownership interests and liabilities, creditor's claims and remedies, dissolution events, winding up, distribution of asset rules. Study of the Uniform Limited Partnership Act and joint venture law.