Joint M.D./J.D. Degree Program: Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and School of Law, Rutgers University-Camden

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS) and the School of Law, Rutgers University-Camden have established a MD/JD dual program option. Students may apply to this program in Fall of the third year of medical School (M3). LSAT exams will be completed in the same period. Admitted students will be assigned to a law school/medical school mentor team. The student will
sample law school courses during the M3 year—to confirm interest. Required clerkship schedules will be rearranged so that less time-intensive clerkships are subscribed concurrent with the sampling of law school courses. Following the M3 year, students will enroll full-time in the first and second year of law school (L2). Law course work will continue in summer session following L2 and possibly during available elective time of the M4 year. While enrolled in law school, students will work under a medical school mentor in her/his clinic one-half day every other week to maintain clinical skills. Students will be granted approximately one semester's credit at law school for their medical school course work. Reciprocal credit will be given for law courses in M4 elective times. This elective experience requires approval of the student's medical school advisor and the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. The combined program option may be completed in six rather than seven years. Students must be accepted independently to the Rutgers University School of Law-Camden and the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Students have great flexibility when designing their schedules. Here is a sample of courses taken by our students.

CIVIL PROCEDURE

Development of procedure; jurisdiction and venue; stating the plaintiff's claims; amendments; defendants' responsive pleadings; discovery; pretrial; disposition of cases with trial; right to jury trial; res judicata; parties; interpleader; intervention; class suits; impleader; introduction to appellate review.

CONTRACTS

An introduction to the law of contracts, including the requirements for the formation of contractual obligations and some examples of quasicontractual obligations (restitution). Included are problems relating to the agreement process, consideration and its equivalents, formalities of contracting, remedies, conditions, excuses for nonperformance, third-party beneficiaries, and assignment and delegation.
LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING

An introduction to the fundamentals of legal reasoning, research, and writing. Includes classroom instruction, library exercises, LEXIS and WESTLAW training, independent research, and writing projects.

TORTS

Protection of personal integrity, including, for example, freedom from personal contact and infliction of mental distress and compensation for personal injuries; the fault system analyzed and compared to modern insurance theory and strict liability concepts.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Functioning of courts in interpreting constitutions; separation of powers; powers of national and state governments; due process; equal protection of law; and an introduction to concepts of personal rights.

CRIMINAL LAW

An examination of the substantive criminal law stressing analysis of the justification of punishment, the definition of offenses, the significance of resulting harm, group criminality, and methods of exculpation.

PROPERTY

An introduction to the concept of property generally precedes the study of ownership and use of land. Estates in land, their evolution and characteristics; concurrent ownership; adverse possession; landlord and tenant, the creation and nature of the relationship, rights, and liabilities; private methods of allocating and developing land resources.

MOOT COURT I

An introduction to the rudiments of persuasive legal writing. Students prepare a trial brief based on an issue from their fall Legal Research and Writing course. In addition, they draft and revise an appellate brief and present oral arguments based on their written briefs. Sessions meet regularly to facilitate discussion and practice in the art of brief writing and oral argument.
HEALTH LAW

This course is a comprehensive, in-depth examination of law and health care delivery, including the rapidly developing phenomenon of managed care. The course examines rights of access to care, the financing and organization of care, and the quality of care, with particular emphasis on how law interacts with these issues. Prominent topics include: health insurance coverage decisions (e.g., denial of coverage on grounds of medical necessity or experimental care) and its regulation or lack thereof by the federal ERISA law, Medicare and Medicaid, and state legislation; ERISA preemption of state regulation and tort remedies; the Americans with Disabilities Act and its impact on access to care and on insurance coverage; the reimbursement of hospitals and other providers; the rise and regulation of managed care; the application of antitrust law to the health care industry; the law of fraud and abuse; the concept of quality of care; medical malpractice law and its reform; informed consent; and the role of hospitals, HMOs, and other entities in assuring quality of care and bearing liability for damages. The course also discusses health reform efforts at the federal and state levels, the failure of national health insurance, and the legal, market, professional, and other social dynamics of the health care system.

INTRODUCTION TO FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION

Introductory course in federal income taxation. Concentrates on tax problems of individuals: gross income, deductions, adjusted gross income, exemptions, credits, basis, capital gains and losses. Special emphasis on the use of the Internal Revenue Code and treasury regulations. Selected cases and revenue rulings also considered.

ANTITRUST

Topics covered include horizontal restraints (price fixing, conspiracy, data dissemination, concerted refusals to deal, etc.); monopolization, attempts to monopolize, and oligopoly; problems concerning the relationship of antitrust to patent law; vertical restraints (restricted distribution, tying arrangements, exclusive dealing, etc.); mergers (horizontal, vertical, and conglomerate); selected Robinson-Patman Act problems; remedies and enforcement.

EVIDENCE

A study of the law and rules (with particular attention given to the Federal Rules of Evidence) governing the proof of disputed issues of fact in criminal and civil trials, including the functions of judge and jury; relevancy; real and demonstrative evidence; authentication and production of writings; the examination, competency, and privileges of witnesses; hearsay; impeachment; and burden of proof, presumptions, and judicial notice.

LAW JOURNAL

The law school considers the Rutgers Law Journal one of its most significant activities. Participation in its work affords opportunity for intellectual and professional growth. Students are invited to compete for editorial positions on the basis of their academic achievement in the first year of law school.

HOSPITAL LAW

A critical examination of laws regulating hospital financing, operations, quality, and delivery of health care. Major areas of focus include: 1) where hospitals fit in the organization and regulation of the health care sector, e.g. certificate of need, tax-exempt status, licensing, JCAHO, EMTALA; 2) public financing of
hospital care, e.g., Medicaid, the Boren Amendment, Medicare, and the uninsured; 3) the extent
to which hospitals willingly or unwillingly become risk-bearing organizations, e.g., contract
negotiations between hospitals and managed care organizations, regulation of managed care
organizations, provider sponsored organizations, and HMO bankruptcies; 4) patient rights, e.g.,
privacy of medical records, genetic testing, and access to care; and 5) governance, e.g., medical
staff privileges, mergers and acquisitions, and conflicts of interest.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE LAW

At the conclusion of this course, student should be familiar with (1) the False Claims Act 31
U.S.C. 3729, et seq., (2) the Anti-Kickback Act 41 U.
S.C. 51, et seq., (3) the Medicare Medicaid Anti-Kickback Act 42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(b), (4) the
Stark Laws, (5) the mail, wire, and health care fraud statutes 18 U.S.C. 1341 et seq., (6) the fraud
implications of violations of state law (fiduciary duty, commercial bribery, state licensing statutes).

The student should be able to apply these laws (and governing regulations) in the following
contexts: (1) choosing and investigating cases (prosecution), (2) responding to investigations
(defense), (3) identifying and preventing violations of these laws (compliance), (4) allocating risks
of fraudulent or violative acts among parties (transactions), (5) representing a whistleblower.

This course will examine use of these statutes (and governing regulations) in the following health
care contexts: (1) hospitals and health systems, (2) nursing homes and skilled nursing facilities,
(3) health maintenance organizations and their subcontractors, (4) physicians and dentists, (5)
pharmacists and pharmaceutical companies, (6) ancillary services (medical equipment, therapies,
supplies), (7) laboratories, (8) mental health/substance abuse.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

A study of the laws designed to protect artistic, literary, and musical works, with special emphasis
on the law of copyrights, patents, and the laws of unfair competition as applied to intellectual
property.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Explores the legal constraints and ethical considerations confronting the legal profession.
Analyzes the role(s) of the lawyer and the sometimes competing obligations of the lawyer to the
client, society, the court, and the self. Specific problems examined include: lawyer regulation,
advertising and solicitation, confidentiality, conflicts of interest, and the adversary system of
justice.

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

Introductory course offering an extensive overview of the law of agency, partnership, and
corporations. Emphasis is on issues relevant to the private enterprise, although some exposure to
federal securities law is provided. Doctrinal instruction is supplemented with some “lawyering”
modules designed to introduce students to the challenges of organizing and counseling a
business venture.
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
An introduction to the law controlling how administrative agencies work. Such agencies have become extremely important; much law is made by agencies using rule-making authority, or is implemented by agencies acting in a judicial capacity. The advent of administrative agencies raises difficult constitutional and institutional issues.

LEGAL DRAFTING
The purpose of Legal Drafting is to engage students in a range of practical, transactional drafting experiences that will form a major part of their work as lawyers and teach them a valuable, transferable set of skills. The ultimate goals of this course are to prepare students to undertake with confidence and efficiency the drafting tasks demanded of lawyers as planners, problem solvers, and advocates and to improve students' analytical skills when they read legal documents.

ADVANCED PROBLEMS IN COPYRIGHT LAW
Provides an in-depth examination of recent and significant copyright case law as well as a “hands-on” introduction to some aspects of the practice of copyright law. Selected topics for discussion include the differences and overlaps in copyright/patent interface for computer software, mask works, the copyright infringement implications of digital sampling and multimedia, and recent developments concerning the “fair use” defense.

COMMERCIAL LAW: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE
This course provides an introduction to the concepts and methods of commercial law. A survey course, it explores all articles of the Uniform Commercial Code as well as international dimensions of commercial law. Completion of this course gives students a firm footing for any advanced course in commercial law.

SENIOR RESEARCH
Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member on a topic approved by the Faculty Committee on Petitions. Students are encouraged to develop specific interests in detail through senior research.

SEMINAR: LAW OF FUTURE TECHNOLOGY
Builds on the student's prior knowledge of intellectual property law, traditional notions of title, tort law, civil procedure, criminal law, and other basic legal doctrines, and presents methods and models of analogizing, analyzing and adapting them to new and, in some instances, rarely-heard-of technologies that are here or on the horizon.
Interested students should contact: Carol Terregino, MD Interim Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs Robert Wood Johnson Medical School - Camden 401 Haddon Avenue Suite 152 Camden, NJ 08103-1506 (856) 757-7751