ILLINOIS INNOCENCE PROJECT EXTERNSHIP
LAW 675: §002
1-3 credit hours
SIU LAW SCHOOL
Room 103
SYLLABUS FALL 2015

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
Welcome to the Innocence Project Externship at SIU Law in partnership with the Illinois Innocence Project at University of Illinois Springfield (UIS). As a law extern you are a vital part of the work to assist the wrongfully convicted in Illinois.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Knowledge and familiarity with post-conviction and criminal law.
2. Ability and proficiency in interviewing witnesses, clients, and members of the legal community.
3. Knowledge and expertise in the most common causes of wrongful convictions, including, but not limited to: eyewitness identifications, false confessions, junk science, police & prosecutor misconduct, perjury or snitches, and ineffective assistance of counsel.

4. Familiarity with the science of DNA and post-conviction testing statutes.

5. Ethics of legal representation of the indigent criminal defendant.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

The externship is graded on a modified Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory scale (S, S+, S-, U). To complete the course for 3 academic credits, students must complete 140 extern hours, for 2 credits, 94 extern hours, and for 1 credit hour, 47 extern hours. Hours must be documented to the IIP and on TWEN for SIU records. Report your hours to the IIP via their spreadsheet every 15 days.

Report your hours for SIU via TWEN drop box. Hours are due at the end of each month.

There is 1 required individual meeting with your professor to discuss your progress and casework at mid-semester. We will hold these meetings on October 16, 2015. You must turn in a mid-semester journal by October 23, 2015 and a final journal and evaluation by December 18, 2015.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:

1st semester students: Scheck, Neufled, Dwyer, Actual Innocence (2000).

We will be using a TWEN course for discussion boards, reading materials and videos.

Recommended Texts:
Mandatory Course Assignments:
1. Journal & self-evaluation, including a midterm and final.
2. Work product: As assigned by your supervising attorney.
3. Hour Submission Forms totaling appropriate number of hours for registered credits. 3 credits = 140 hours; 2 credits = 94 hours; 1 credit = 47 hours. You will receive an Unsatisfactory grade if you do not complete the hours.

SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS
Watch TWEN and emails for current events and news that may change your reading assignments or affect your casework.

1. August 28, 2015 ROOM 103 2-4PM

Topics covered:
Introductions
History of the Innocence Movement/causes of WC/infamous cases
Legal Avenues available post-conviction (Post-Conviction Act, Relief from Judgment, Motion for Forensic Testing.)
FOIA/investigation/resources
Administrative matters/case assignments

Readings Required: Scheck: preface, chapter 1-2
Garrett: ch. 1
PC Hearing Act: 725 ILCS 5/122-1;
State v. Ortiz, 235 Ill. 2d 319 (2009).
Motion Relief Jgmt: 735 ILCS 5/2-1401;
FOIA How to Guide. (on TWEN)

Complete: Law Student Agreements (found on TWEN)

*Bring to class to turn in*
2. **Online & Independent class:**

   **Topics covered:**
   Specific Causes of wrongful convictions #1
   - Eyewitness Identifications
   - False Confessions

   **Reading Required:** Scheck: Ch. 3-4
   Garrett: Ch. 2-3.
   Orientation Video: Larry Golden & John Hanlon

   **Complete:** Discussion Post on TWEN (1 for each topic) by September 11, 2015

3. **September 18, 2014 ROOM 103 2-4PM**

   **Topics covered:**
   Prosecutorial Misconduct (Brady violations)
   Frye-Evidence Standards
   Junk Science including: arson, Hair microscopy, bite marks, tool marks, ballistics, Shaken Baby Syndrome

   **Readings Required:** Scheck: 5 and 7, 8
   Garrett: Ch. 4
   Orientation video: Erica Nichols Cook
   Exculpatory Evidence—getting it and using it. 34 Mar.
   Champion 2010.
Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward—or has it been a path misplaced, 36 Champion, Feb. 2012.

4. **Online & Independent Class**

   **Topics covered:**
   - Recantations
   - Snitches/jailhouse informants

   **Reading Required:**
   - Scheck: Ch. 6
   - Garrett: Ch. 5
   - People v. Steidl, 177 Ill. 2d 239 (1997).

   **Complete:** Discussion Post on TWEN regarding recants/snitches by October 9, 2015

5. **October 16, 2015 Room 103 2-4pm**

   **Topics covered:**
   - MID-SEMESTER INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS
   - Ineffective Assistance of Counsel
   - Ethics
   - Professionalism

   **Reading Required:**
   - Scheck: Ch. 9-11
   - Garrett: Ch. 6-8
   - Orientation Video: Gwen Jordan

6. **ONLINE & independent Class**
Topics Covered:
Reforms

Reading Required: Scheck: Appendix 1
   Garrett: Ch. 9
   TWEN Postings & links

Complete: TWEN Posting- suggest reforms or discuss success of them.
Due November 6, 2015
Complete: Mid-Semester Journal is due on TWEN by October 23, 2015.

7. LAST CLASS MEETING November 13, 2015 Room 103 2-4pm

Topics Covered:
Alford Pleas/exonerations
Reforms
CASE WORK

Reading Required: Scheck: Ch. 12-13
   TWEN: exoneration videos

8. DECEMBER 18, 2015 FINAL JOURNAL/EVALUATIONS/HOURS DUE ON TWEN

POLICIES

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE:

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the
SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

DISABILITY POLICY.
Disability Support Services provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/. Upon completion of a Disability Accommodation Agreement with DSS, students should bring the agreement to the School of Law Registrar’s Office to ensure the School of Law provides the proper classroom and examination accommodations.

SALUKI CARES.
The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or siucares@siu.edu, http://salukicares.siu.edu/index.html. At the School of Law,
Assistant Dean Judi Ray is also available to help students access university resources. Her email is judiray@siu.edu, and her phone number is 618-453-3135.

**Visual and Audio Recording.** Students may record (visual or audio) of any class instruction for personal use only. Students are not authorized to distribute, share or publicize any recording made of any class instruction. Further all materials regarding clients, potential clients of the Innocence Project are subject to the Rules of Professional Conduct. Students are not authorized to make any visual or audio recordings of any client, potential client, or casework material or document without the express consent of the Illinois Innocence Project. Additionally, any visual or audio recording created during casework is not to be retained, recorded, or kept in any fashion after the completion of the externship.

NOTICE: The Law School will not be recording any of our class sessions.