

**Certificate Name: Criminal Practice Advocacy**

**Director's Name: Professor B.J. Priester**

Florida Coastal School of Law offers students the opportunity to earn a J.D. degree with an accompanying certificate in Criminal Practice Advocacy. The certificate program builds on the School's Program Learning Outcomes and provides students with intensive instruction in real life trial advocacy skills.

To receive a certificate in civil practice advocacy, students must meet each of the following requirements:

1. Submission of application to the Program Director,
2. Acceptance into the certificate program,
3. Completion of required curriculum,
4. Successful completion of three hours of relevant experiential learning credits (to be approved by the Program Director),
5. Successful completion of ten hours of *pro bono* service relating to criminal practice advocacy (to be approved by the Program Director),
6. Successful completion of six CLE hours relating to criminal practice advocacy (to be approved by the Program Director), and
7. Must have a cumulative LGPA of at least a 2.75 at graduation.

#### **Acceptance Criteria**

1. Students are admitted to the program through application only.
2. Applicants must demonstrate, as reflected in their admission application, a passion for criminal practice advocacy.
3. The Program Director approves the student's application and offers the student admission to the Criminal Practice Advocacy Certificate program.
4. Students may apply for admission to the Criminal Practice Advocacy Certificate Program commencing with their third full semester of law school (or after having earned 24 credits) and no later than completion of their fourth full semester of law school (or before having earned 67 credits).

#### **Required Courses**

**Students must take Pretrial Litigation Drafting and that required course will not count towards their nine credits. Students must also take Advanced Criminal Procedure for three credits.**

Students must take 6 credits from the following:

- Criminal Pre-Trial Practice (2 credits)
- Trial Practice (3 credits)
- Federal Criminal Law (3 credits)
- Florida Criminal Pre-Trial Practice (2 credits)
- Florida Practice and Procedure (3 credits)
- Immigration Law (3 credits)
- International Criminal Law (3 credits)
- White Collar Crime (3 credits)
- Other seminars or intersession offerings related to criminal practice and approved by the Program Director (1-3 credits)

**Experiential Requirement**

Students seeking a Criminal Practice Advocacy Certificate must complete three credits of an externship for an approved organization that provides criminal practice advocacy services. The externship must be approved both by the Program Director and the Externship Director. During this externship, the student must participate to the satisfaction of the Externship Director.

**Service Requirement**

Students seeking a Criminal Practice Advocacy Certificate must complete ten hours of *pro bono* service (to be approved by the Program Director) relating to criminal practice advocacy.

**CLE Requirement**

Students seeking a Criminal Practice Advocacy Certificate must complete six credits of Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") relating to criminal practice advocacy. Each CLE must be approved by the Program Director.