SYLLABUS – HEALTH LAW PRACTICUM
Spring Semester – 2011
Hamline University School of Law

Barbara C. Colombo
Phone: (651) 523-2118
E-mail: bcolombo01@hamline.edu

CLASS SCHEDULE

There will be six classroom meetings for the Health Law Practicum. All classes will take place on Mondays from 3:00pm to 4:50pm in Room 301 with the exception of the first class (meeting). All Practicum students must attend this first meeting which will take place during the first week of the semester. Specific date, time and location to be announced.

You are expected to meet with your mentor no later than January 31, 2011 to properly introduce yourself, discuss academic expectations of the Health Law Practicum, develop a preliminary schedule for your work hours, answer any questions your mentor may have about the practicum, and articulate several specific experiences that you hope to have during your practicum. Please email me after you have had this initial meeting.

Classroom meetings are devoted to discussing student experiences while working with hosting organizations, and the discussion of issues relating to health law in general. Each week students will be expected to reflect on an issue addressed in the practicum setting. Additionally, each student will be expected to make a brief presentation on a health related issue identified in the field. More details to come. Class will be held on the following dates:

- First week of the semester (date ,time and location pending): Mandatory meeting with the Director of Practicums. You will receive an email with specific meeting details.
- Feb. 14: Organizational Structure and Governance/Confidentiality/HIPAA
    - Come to class prepared to discuss the organizational structure and governance of your hosting organization.
    - Come to class prepared to discuss the confidentiality policies of your hosting organization.
    - Familiarize yourself with HIPAA. Is your hosting organization a "covered entity" or a "business associate"?
- Feb. 28: Conflicts of Interest/Regulatory Infrastructure
    - Come to class prepared to discuss your hosting organization's conflict of interest policy/policies.
    - Come to class prepared to discuss how your hosting organization interfaces with the health care regulatory infrastructure.
- March 14: Alternative Dispute Resolution in Health Care
    - Come to class prepared to discuss your hosting organization's experience with alternative dispute resolution.
- April 4: Presentations – More information to come.
- April 18: Career Planning/Reflections

READINGS AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

This is not a heavy reading course; however, every student will be responsible for a general appreciation for the following:

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) found at **www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/.**
- ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct concerning confidentiality and conflicts of interest.
- Other readings and assignments for classroom meetings may be distributed from time to time.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students have widely varying experiences in the health law practicum. Course objectives include:

- Applying classroom learning to the real world of practice.
- Improving problem-solving skills and becoming more self-confident in the work setting.
- Exploring career interests.
- Providing service to others.
- Working with persons different from you.
- Improving your prospects for employment.
- Building a professional network.

Prior to the end of the fall semester you are expected to formally thank your mentor through a personal letter of appreciation. Please copy me on this letter.