



Changes to the Consumer Protection Internship for the Summer 2020 Term

Dear Students,

The recent worldwide events precipitated by the Covid-19 virus has required all of us to make significant professional and personal changes to ensure our continued health and that of our family and colleagues. Earlier this week Florida's Governor, Ron DeSantis, issued a state-wide executive order directing everyone to limit interactions outside of their homes to only those necessary to obtain essential services or conduct essential activities. This executive order and the rapidly evolving measures being taken in response to the global pandemic by Broward County has required us to remain flexible and plan for how this course will be offered in the Summer 2020 term.

My goal is to ensure that students participating in the Internship this summer receive the full benefit of the course which includes one week of class work and eight weeks of experiential experience.

1. University President George L. Hanbury's announcement on April 1, 2020 stated that all summer classes that begin between March 30, 2020 and May 18, 2020 will be fully online. Technically our class begins on May 4 when the Summer I session starts. You will be required to check in with me online during that first week of the term so that I can confirm enrollment and attendance. Our first in-person class meeting, whether via Zoom or face to face, is Monday May 18th. We will meet every day that week, Monday to Friday from 9 am to 1 pm beginning May 18, 2020 through May 22, 2020. Attendance is mandatory for these class sessions, regardless of the modality, which is currently being planned via Zoom, but if world events allow, will meet in person. I will record the class sessions as well. As to class materials for this one week of class, I have prepared specific materials and will work to have these materials converted to an electronic format and made available either through Canvas or by emails to each student. Whether this class is conducted live in-person or online, you will receive the same instruction and content. Please refer to the syllabus for more detailed information.
2. The actual clinical placement at Broward County is at this time unsure. As of now, Broward County is operating in an essential services mode using online platforms. Broward County will continue to operate at this level for the next 30 days. Where Broward County will be regarding operations in May 2020 remains uncertain. This clinic—an experiential experience—can only happen if Broward County opens up and schedules regular business. Students will not get the full benefit of this Internship unless Broward County starts up again scheduling hearings and conferences and investigative work that is the crux of the clinical experience for this class. If Broward County opens for business online only, then a decision regarding if and how students can obtain the full benefits of the clinical experience will be evaluated and communicated to the students. A decision regarding whether this course will happen will be

made and communicated to each student prior to May 10, 2020, which is the last day to drop a class for the Summer session. If Broward County is not open for regular business, then the course must be cancelled for the Summer 2020 term

3. As you will note from the syllabus, after the conclusion of the class time, there is a take home exam with a return date of May 26, 2020. May 26, 2020 is also the date when students will meet with the officials at Broward County to set the clinical schedule for each student. Each student intern will be required to work a minimum of 14 hours per week for the eight-week period of the Internship, for 112 experiential hours. If Broward County is open for regular business, then this deadline for the return of the take home exam and for the scheduling conference with Broward County Officials will happen. I am sincerely hopeful this course is a go and will keep you abreast of the latest developments by email. You should be prepared to follow the safety guidelines put in place by Broward County in the event this class is cleared to go. In addition, if during the time frame for this clinical work, even if begins, if Broward County later needs to shut down, or a student is unable to attend due to illness, quarantine or government shut down or other similar circumstances due to the Covid-19 virus, the student will receive a grade of "incomplete" for the course and be able to make up the clinical hours during the remainder of the summer or the Fall 2020 term, as soon as operations resume.
4. If you absolutely need three credits this summer, and you are concerned about the possibility of the clinic experience being cancelled, it is **strongly recommended you immediately** sign up for another course for Summer 2020 to ensure a credit earning opportunity as an alternative. You will have until Sunday May 10 to drop any class, and manage your final summer enrollment

I am excited that you all signed up for the course and if it goes, you will have a terrific learning experience. Please be patient with me as I work to find out what Broward County decides and communicate with you the latest news. If you have questions about these temporary changes to the Consumer Protection Internship course, please contact me.

Professor Michael Flynn
michflyn@nova.edu