

Civil Litigation General Course Guide

Civil litigation is the process of resolving a legal dispute between two or more parties (individuals, business entities, and sometimes government entities) through monetary damages, equitable remedies (such as injunctions), or both. Civil litigation is used to resolve disputes in a wide variety of areas, including contracts, torts, family law, labor and employment law, health law, and civil rights.

In addition to required courses (*e.g.*, Civil Procedure, Torts, and Contracts), students interested in becoming civil litigators should take elective courses addressing civil litigation issues as well as courses relating to relevant areas of substantive law.¹

Core Courses:

Administrative Law
Federal Courts or Alabama Civil Litigation
Practice and Procedure
Insurance Law
Legislation

Core Experiential/Skills Courses:

Basic Skills in Trial Advocacy*
Deposition Skills and Technology
Negotiation or Mediation
Pretrial Practice

Recommended Courses:

Advanced Evidence
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Complex Litigation
Conflict of Laws
Damages
E-Discovery and Digital Evidence
Equitable Remedies
Torts II

Recommended Experiential/Skills Courses:

Appellate Advocacy
Jury Selection
Mediation Advocacy
Advanced Skills in Trial Advocacy – Civil
Externships/Clinics²

Related Courses:

Advanced Legal Research
Advanced Legal Technology
Art of Persuasion
Arbitration
Business Bankruptcy
Civil Rights
Consumer Protection
Employment Discrimination
Municipal Courts
Products Liability
Scientific Evidence
Shakespeare and Trial Advocacy
Toxic Torts
Business/Trademark Torts

¹Please consult the course schedule for current course availability. Courses may be offered in alternating years.

² Students are strongly encouraged to get practical work experience through the Veterans Clinic and externships and internships with civil judges, civil-litigation focused law firms, and public interest organizations such as Volunteer Lawyers Birmingham and Legal Services Alabama. Available externships and internships are posted on 12Twenty. The director of Externships and the director of the Career Development Office may be contacted for additional information.

* Indicates that this course may be a prerequisite to another course(s). Accordingly, it is strongly recommended that students take it in the 2L year.