

# **HANDBOOK**

**Judicial Studies  
University of Nevada, Reno**

**2009**

**Sponsored by:**

**University of Nevada, Reno**

**The National Judicial College**

**National Council of Juvenile  
and Family Court Judges**

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**JUDICIAL STUDIES HANDBOOK**

## INTRODUCTION

The Judicial Studies Program (JSP) is a unique enterprise in American judicial education. The Master of Judicial Studies (MJS) Program began in 1985 jointly by the University of Nevada, Reno, The National Judicial College, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The Doctor of Philosophy in Judicial Studies (DJS) Program was approved effective January, 2001 and requires that all applicants complete the JS Master's before being admitted to the Ph.D. Program. The JSP enables sitting judges at all levels of the American judiciary to integrate technical study of the judiciary with advanced knowledge in other disciplines<sup>1</sup>. The JS Program now has more than 120 Master's graduates, several of whom are continuing toward the Ph.D. Degree in Judicial Studies, and 5 Ph.D. graduates.

The major academic objective of the JSP is to create, define, and develop a new academic field, Judicial Studies. To this end, the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) provides advanced graduate courses addressing judicially-related issues from an interdisciplinary liberal arts perspective. Judges study the humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, and communications in order to research the many factors which impact the process of judicial decision making. The National Judicial College (NJC) and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) also provide a series of required and elective courses teaching technical subject matter immediately relevant to the courtroom.

Although scholars outside the judiciary have begun to study the behavior and practices of the judiciary, judges have seldom participated directly in the work. Courtrooms have served as scholarly laboratories, but the comprehensive, intellectual, and practical understanding of the experienced judge has rarely been acknowledged, defined, or described. A central body of information, nuance, perspective, and expertise thus remains to be tapped.

The JSP enables judges to think from within their discipline about the discipline itself: its opportunities, possibilities, and limitations; its situation in a body of rules and law; its role in preserving and refining the common law tradition; its power to ground and define its future in powerful forms of institutional and personal self-knowledge. Judges enrolled in the JSP evaluate changing legal issues, political and legal climates, aspects of the common law tradition, regional practices in relation to constitutional and national issues, procedural and linguistic issues, and new forms of evidence and expertise as well as changes in rules of admissibility of evidence which influence the outcome of cases.

The JSP offers training in research techniques and knowledge of the operating assumptions relevant to fields which influence decision making. It trains a cadre of highly skilled judges who are thereby prepared to serve in judicial education programs throughout the country. The JSP is a border crossing between disciplines and appropriately so, for judging is inherently interdisciplinary. If judges

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<sup>1</sup>At its inception, the JS Program was jointly funded by the University of Nevada, Reno and the State Justice Institute, with assistance from The National Judicial College and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The Ph.D. degree was initially funded by the E.L. Cord Foundation.

apply the law to facts, they also weigh, balance, and integrate a diverse set of intellectual, ethical, social, and legal assumptions as they conduct and decide cases.

The JSP recognizes current accomplishments in the field of Judicial Studies and encourages new achievement by enhancing the discipline's intellectual resources, and by making the field visible to the judiciary and the academic community at large. Judges who enter the JSP work collaboratively with faculty and staff to establish the outlines, premises, and research objectives of a field on the cutting edge of legal knowledge.

The JSP offers one of the most progressive models of adult graduate education available in the country today. All NJC and NCJFCJ courses acknowledge adult education models, which depend upon stated objectives and measurement of whether these objectives have been met. UNR courses offers thoughtful training in intellectual inquiry and critical thinking, based upon advanced legal and liberal arts understanding. The JSP balances adult education models with critical inquiry, theory with practice, and progressive legal research with practical conclusions in the creation of a new discipline. The program encourages continuing exchange between the judiciary and other professional disciplines. It has been from its inception cognizant and critical of its own discourse and practices.

**In sum, the Judicial Studies Program:**

- provides a structured, interdisciplinary academic curriculum aimed at providing judges with knowledge applicable to judicial needs;**
- provides experience to judges in conducting and publishing research of interest to judges, the judicial system, and the wider legal community;**
- provides an academic degree program of national and international scope, enrolling judges from a majority of the 50 states and several foreign countries;**
- encourages judges to take an active role in teaching, planning, and administering judicial education in their own regions.**

## **INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE AND FACULTY**

The JSP offers a collaborative institutional structure to match its collaborative academic program. The program draws its faculty from a national pool of judges, academicians, including law school faculty, and other professionals. Three distinct educational institutions (the University of Nevada, Reno, The National Judicial College, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges) collaborate in presenting this program. Each cooperating institution provides faculty, research facilities, institutional support, and educational expertise to the JSP. All three provide required and elective courses to the curriculum. Two separate majors are provided in the master=s program: the Trial Court Judge Major and the Juvenile and Family Court Judge Major. Administrative Law judges would follow the Trial Court Judge Major.

While the program is diverse and collaborative, its administrative structure is unified and coherent. The program is under the College of Liberal Arts and the Graduate School. Dr. James Richardson, J.D., Ph.D., directs the program, designs and approves the curriculum, advises students, teaches a JSP course, supervises faculty and staff, and is involved in relevant research. Denise Schaar-

**Buis, MJM, JS Program Officer advises students, oversees faculty and staff, assists with designing curriculum, manages budgets, maintains student records, coordinates record keeping among the three cooperating institutions, sends, receives and processes program applications and forms, coordinates UNR courses and the curriculum, administers scholarships, conducts orientations, assists with program promotion, reviews theses and dissertations for format completeness, and answers questions from students and faculty alike. Staff from the NCJFCJ, monitors NCJFCJ examinations for the JSP, oversees NCJFCJ records and courses, advises judges on NCJFCJ courses, and promotes the JSP to visiting judges. Staff from the NJC, administers and monitors JSP examinations given at the NJC, maintains NJC records, organizes NJC courses, advises judges on NJC courses, and promotes the JSP to visiting judges. Dr. Elizabeth Francis, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English, UNR, has a partial appointment in the JSP to assist students with Master=s theses, and to teach JSP courses.**

**The JSP Admissions Committee, which reviews applications for admission to the program, is made up of representatives from the three sponsoring entities. Upon review of a completed application for admission, the application is submitted to the University of Nevada, Graduate School with a recommendation to approve or not approve. The Graduate School at UNR has final authority over admissions.**

**The JSP Advisory Committee, which oversees the program, is made up of representatives from the three sponsoring entities, as well as others representing various constituency groups interested in the JSP. The Advisory Committee reviews the curriculum, establishes regulations as necessary, provides broad national perspective on issues relevant to the developing field of Judicial Studies, and promotes the JSP nationally. The Advisory Committee meets with program staff to consider policy matters concerning the program.**

**The UNR/JSP teaching staff is both a local and a national faculty. Because UNR is the degree-granting institution for the JSP, courses presented to JSP students must meet the standards of the UNR Graduate School. UNR faculty are central to the design of the program, but equally important are distinguished faculty from cooperating institutions and guest lecturers who teach segments of certain courses. Faculty members from Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California at Berkeley, Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, University of Missouri and others teach or lecture in the program. A number of UNR professors teach specially designed UNR/JSP courses, their work augmented by other UNR professionals who offer guest lecturers or serve on thesis committees for JSP students.**

Students meet faculty in classes and continue their association by fax, e-mail, telephone, and mail. Faculty in UNR/JSP courses teach two or four week intensive classes requiring a considerable amount of reading be done before a class begins, and written work to be completed after a class has ended. Typically the course syllabus and required readings are sent to students enrolled in a course 60 days prior to the beginning of the course so the materials can be read prior to arriving to class. Thus, although class time is intensive and relatively brief, a given course will, in effect, extend over the equivalent of an academic semester.

The NJC faculty consists of more than 300 active judges and law professors who volunteer their time and talents to the College, which is located on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. The NJC faculty is supplemented by professionals from other disciplines--physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, sociologists, computer specialists, probation and corrections officials, experienced jurists, and others. The NJC trains its faculty in the special interests and requirements of judicial education, asking that all faculty meet national adult education standards.

The NJC continually identifies new topics for instruction, seeking liaison with state judicial education projects in the development of curriculum. It cooperates with the American Bar Association, the State Justice Institute, the National Association of Women Judges, and state judicial educators to identify talented faculty and engage them for NJC programs. The NJC employs faculty in constitutional and procedural law, evidence, court and trial management, decision making process, philosophy and literature of the law, special court issues, communication, community and media relations, alternate dispute resolution, criminal and civil law, and a host of other disciplines. The NJC's talented staff of program attorneys, course administrators, and academic staff assist JSP students by offering information about courses and examinations, and by providing liaison with faculty coordinators and curriculum designers in courses that JSP students will take.

The NCJFCJ, also located on the UNR campus, similarly draws its faculty from a broadly based national pool, sharing some faculty with the NJC. The NCJFCJ faculty consists of more than 220 active judges and law professors who volunteer their expertise for the advancement of the judiciary. It also includes psychiatrists, psychologists, child development experts, juvenile justice professionals, district court personnel, and others whose major professional concern is the well-being of children. The NCJFCJ educates judges to understand the law in relation to families, acquire the sensitivity necessary to deal with families in crisis and assist families in efforts to prevent further trauma to the child. The NCJFCJ chooses faculty who understand and affirm the Council's goals.

The NCJFCJ offers JS degree students immediate access to national expertise on practically every aspect of juvenile and/or family court jurisdiction, including but not limited to the following areas: substance abuse, sexual abuse, family violence, legislative advocacy for children, permanency placement, medical/legal issues, juvenile delinquency, child abuse and neglect, and learning disabilities. Staff members research these topics and work with faculty to design courses offering the most recent information in all relevant fields. The NCJFCJ pioneered faculty development programs in 1975 and has continued them since.

One research arm of the NCJFCJ is located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and considerable research is also conducted at the NCJFCJ headquarters in Reno, Nevada. This research is accessible to JSP students. It offers technical assistance and databases which help JSP students optimize their resources and research time. Both the teaching and the research arms of the NCJFCJ undertake research projects which become available to states and judges nationwide. The NCJFCJ is developing

model state legislation on family violence, which is being adopted into statutory schemes around the country. The Publications Committee of the NCJFCJ reviews essays submitted by JSP students in the Juvenile and Family Court Major for publication in NCJFCJ publications and other journals, as appropriate. The Publications Committee and NCJFCJ staff serves as mentors for JSP students.

## **WHO CHOOSES THE JUDICIAL STUDIES PROGRAM?**

Judges enter the JSP for diverse personal and professional reasons and at various stages of their judicial career. Experienced judges often wish to reflect on a lifetime in the law, interpreting their experience in a comprehensive legal and intellectual framework. They may wish to understand recent changes in the law, recommend directions for change, consider the effects of public policy on court proceedings, or improve judicial practice. Younger judges may anticipate a life-long career in the judiciary and wish to prepare for it by undertaking a specific course of study in the JSP. Such judges often conduct on-going research and analysis which improves judicial practice in their own courts or districts. Still others prefer to engage in theoretical study of legal history, legal theory, legislative issues, or the effects of social and economic change. Classes composed of judges who represent a range of experience and court type inevitably produce powerful and challenging exchanges. Class discussions and the relationships formed in JSP courses often begin continuing professional exchanges, which contribute to students' thesis or dissertation research. Students enrolled together in the JSP create a program of national impact and perspective, and a network of associates accessible in the future.

Judges who enter the JSP are encouraged to plan carefully, thoughtfully, and comprehensively for a period of study and writing consistent with the work requirements of their courts. They should consider work, family, and other issues as they build a study plan, to make certain they can complete the program within the allowable time period. All students must submit a Program of Study after consulting with their Thesis/Dissertation Advisory Committee and the JSP Director or Officer. A student may wish to have judges already in the JSP read and react to their academic plan.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS, CRITERIA, PROCEDURES, AND FORMS.**

### **Master=s Program:**

Full-time judges currently serving on the bench and who have graduated from an ABA accredited law school may apply for one of two academic majors - the Trial Court Judge Major or the Juvenile an Family Court Judge Major. Administrative Law judges will follow the Trial Court Judge Major. Exceptions may be made for sitting judges who are graduates of recognized foreign law schools or graduates of non-accredited American law schools who have been admitted to the Bar, and when it appears that the applicant is otherwise qualified and would, if accepted, contribute to the success of the program.

An applicant for admission to the JSP must file an application with the JS Program Officer. A master=s application consists of: the JSP application, application fee, two official copies of undergraduate, graduate and law school transcripts sent directly by the school to the JSP office, copies of written opinions and/or articles, and three letters of reference. Applicants also need to demonstrate proof of immunizations. If born before 1957, provide proof of current tetanus/diphtheria immunization. If born in or after 1957 proof of MMR 1 & 2 and current tetanus/diphtheria immunizations. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the UNR/JSP Office receives all required

materials. *Only complete applications are considered.*

Master=s applicants should have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75, a law school GPA of at least 2.5, have demonstrated a continued interest in the law and the judiciary through published writings (including opinions) and extracurricular activities, and be highly regarded by their colleagues in order to gain consideration. If an applicant's GPA is lower than those noted or other problems exist, additional information (i.e. samples of writings and additional reference names) may be requested.

The JSP evaluates the applicant's professional qualifications and potential for making a sustained contribution to the judiciary, and the applicant's potential contribution to the field of Judicial Studies. Priority for admission is given to sitting trial court judges of general jurisdiction courts and judges of juvenile and family courts. Appellate and administrative law judges are welcome under the Trial Court Judge Major. The JSP seeks students from widely dispersed geographic areas, intending to expose students to national and international perspectives. Applicants are notified by the Graduate School of UNR=s final decision.

Judges admitted to the master=s program are responsible for making arrangements to spend parts of two or more summers in Reno. The JSP requests that admitted students work closely with court personnel to ensure that they can be absent from their courtroom for the required period.

#### Ph.D. Program:

Judges seeking the Ph.D. degree must be graduates of the Master=s Program. Applications are accepted throughout the year for consideration each January, with notification given in mid-February.

A Ph.D. application consists of: the JSP application, application fee, copies of written opinions and/or articles, and three letters of reference. In addition, the JSP will request letters from the students master=s committee chairperson. Doctoral applicants must have a minimum master=s GPA of 3.0 to gain consideration. Complete applications must be filed with the JS Program Officer.

In addition to the time spent in Reno during the MJS Program, those admitted to the Ph.D. Program should expect to spend parts of one or more additional summers on the UNR campus. It is the student=s responsibility to arrange to be absent from their courtroom for the required residency period.

## **DEGREES OFFERED**

### Master=s Degree

The JSP serves as an umbrella for two related but distinct academic majors at the master=s level: one designed for trial and appellate judges (Administrative Law judges as well), with special courses offered by the NJC; the other for juvenile and family court judges, with special courses offered by the NCJFCJ. Although the JSP allows a student six (6) years to complete the master=s degree, it is designed to enable students to complete the degree in two years if they wish. Some seek a double major, graduating with an emphasis and competence in both areas. A few judges have obtained both master=s degrees by meeting additional course requirements and writing a second master=s thesis.

The curriculum outlined below invites students to perceive and create connections among

courses, study ideas progressively, and design research/paper topics, which consolidate and reinforce learning in several areas. Some NJC and NCJFCJ courses are useful preliminaries to UNR/JSP courses. All MJS students should take JS 710, History and Theory of Jurisprudence, and JS 615, Judicial Writing, *as early in their sequence as possible*, since ideas and skills learned in both contribute to study in other courses. Reminder: Only judges who have been officially matriculated by UNR to the JSP may take UNR/JSP courses (courses numbered 700-799).

To be awarded the master=s degree, the student must complete a minimum of 32 credits in the prescribed curriculum, maintain a 3.0 grade point average in graded courses, take classes for at least 12 weeks in residence on the University of Nevada, Reno campus, and complete all required courses, exams, assigned papers, and a thesis. The student=s advisory committee, composed of JSP faculty members, approves the program of study and thesis. Students in UNR courses receive letter grades. All NJC and NCJFCJ courses are taken Apass/fail@ and students taking NJC or NCJFCJ courses receive an "S" (satisfactory) or "U" (unsatisfactory). No more than one-half of the courses for a degree can be taken pass/fail.

### Ph.D. Degree

To be awarded the Ph.D. degree, the student must complete a minimum of 73 credits in the prescribed curriculum, maintain a 3.0 grade point average in graded courses, take classes for at least 12 additional weeks in residence on the University of Nevada, Reno campus, and complete all required courses, exams, assigned papers, and a dissertation. A minimum of 30 credits, not including dissertation credits, of the 73 credits must be 700 level substantive courses. The maximum number of transfer credits from the master=s program is 24, with one-half of those in 700 level, UNR, courses. Thesis credits do not transfer. An additional one credit is required for the comprehensive exam, which is usually completed in conjunction with the final oral defense of the dissertation. The student=s advisory committee, composed of JSP faculty members, approves the program of study and dissertation. Course grading is the same as the master=s degree. The doctoral degree allows a student eight (8) additional years (beyond the Master=s) to complete the degree requirements.

## CURRICULUM

### Master=s Degree

The following offers a description of the Master=s curriculum, by major, and a synopsis of the required and elective courses for both majors. NJC and NCJFCJ courses are numbered 600-699. UNR courses are numbered 700-799.

### Major for Trial Court Judges/Trial Court Judge Major

#### Required courses:

JS 610 General Jurisdiction, 4 credits (NJC)

Or

JS 611 Advanced General Jurisdiction, 4 credits (NJC)

JS 612 Administrative Law: Fair Hearing, 4 credits (NJC – ALJ’s only)

JS 615 Judicial Writing, 2 credits (NJC)

JS 710 History and Theory of Jurisprudence, 3 credits (UNR)

**JS 797 Thesis, 6 credits (UNR)**

**Elective courses:**

**Group I (a minimum of 8 credits for master=s) (NJC)**

- JS 613 Criminal Evidence, 2 credits**
- JS 617 Advanced Evidence, 2 credits**
- JS 618 Decision Making Process, 2 credits**
- JS 619 Ethical Issues in Law: A Novel Approach, 2 credits**
- JS 621 Logic and Opinion Writing, 2 credits**
- JS 622 Scientific Evidence and Expert Testimony, 2 credits**
- JS 623 Handling Capital Cases, 2 credits**
- JS 624 Enhancing Judicial Bench Skills, 2 credits**
- JS 625 Dispute Resolution, 2 credits**
- JS 626 Advanced Judicial Writing, 2 credits**
- JS 627 Effective Case Flow Management, 2 credits**
- JS 628 Practical Approaches to Substance Abuse Issues, 2 credits**
- JS 629 Managing Complex Cases, 2 credits**
- JS 632 Conducting the Trial, 2 credits**
- JS 633 Evidence in the Courtroom, 2 credits**
- JS 634 Current Issues in Family Law, 2 credits**
- JS 636 Domestic Violence, 2 credits**
- JS 638 Probate Court, 2 credits**
- JS 642 Today=s Justice, 2 credits**
- JS 644 When Justice Fails, 2 credits**
- JS 645 Search, Seizure and Criminal Procedure, 2 credits**

**JS 649 Administrative Law: Advanced, 2 credits (ALJ's only)**

**JS 690 Topics in Comparative Jurisprudence, 3 credits**

**Group II (a minimum of 9 credits for master=s) (UNR)**

- JS 715 Justice, Law, and Literature, 3 credits**
- JS 718 Scientific Research Methods for Judges, 3 credits**
- JS 720 Comparative Law, 3 credits**
- JS 725 Media and the Courts, 3 credits**
- JS 730 Law and Economics, 3 credits**
- JS 735 Law and the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 3 credits**
- JS 740 Legal/Medical Issues, 3 credits**
- JS 745 Public Policy in the Courts, 3 credits**
- JS 750 Criminology: Causation, Enforcement, Responsibility, 3 credits**
- JS 760 Language and Judicial Process, 3 credits**
- JS 765 Science in Law, 3 credits**
- JS 770 Gaming and the Law, 3 credits**
- JS 889 Graduate Advisement, 1-4 credits**

**Major for Juvenile and Family Court Judges/Juvenile and Family Judge Court Major**

**Required courses:**

**JS 610 General Jurisdiction, 4 credits (NJC)**

**OR**

- JS 612 Advanced General Jurisdiction, 4 credits (NJC)**
- JS 660 Core College in Juvenile Justice, 2 credits (NCJFCJ)**
- JS 615 Judicial Writing, 2 credits (NJC)**
- JS 710 History and Theory of Jurisprudence, 3 credits (UNR)**
- JS 797 Thesis, 6 credits (UNR)**

**Elective courses:**

**Group I (a minimum of 6 credits for master=s)(NCJFCJ)**

- JS 661 Current Issues in Family Law, 2 credits**
- JS 662 Evidentiary Problems in the Juvenile and Family Court, 2 credits**
- JS 663 Advanced Juvenile Justice Management Institute, 2 credits**
- JS 664 Child Abuse and Neglect Institute, 2 credits**
- JS 690 Topics in Comparative Jurisprudence, 2 credits**

**Group II (a minimum of 9 credits for master=s) (UNR)**

- JS 715 Justice, Law, and Literature, 3 credits**
- JS 718 Scientific Research Methods for Judges, 3 credits**
- JS 720 Comparative Law, 3 credits**
- JS 725 Media and the Courts, 3 credits**
- JS 730 Law and Economics, 3 credits**
- JS 735 Law and the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 3 credits**
- JS 740 Legal/Medical Issues, 3 credits**
- JS 745 Public Policy in the Courts, 3 credits**
- JS 750 Criminology: Causation, Enforcement, Responsibility, 3 credits**
- JS 760 Language and Judicial Process, 3 credits**
- JS 765 Science in Law, 3 credits**
- JS 770 Gaming and the Law, 3 credits**
- JS 889 Graduate Advisement, 1-4 credits**

**Recommended Sequence of Courses**

The average length of time for students to complete the master=s degree is about four years. With this in mind, the following sequence of courses is recommended to steadily move students through the program.

**Year 1**

- General Jurisdiction (NJC)\***
- History and Theory of Jurisprudence (UNR)\***
- 600 Level Elective (NCJFCJ or NJC)**

**Year 2**

- Judicial Writing (NJC)\***
- Core College (NCJFCJ - Juvenile and Family Major)**
- 700 Level Elective (UNR)**

**Year 3**

- 600 Level Elective (NCJFCJ or NJC)**
- 700 Level Elective (UNR)**

**Year 4**

**600 Level Elective (NCJFCJ or NJC)  
700 Level Elective (UNR)  
Thesis (UNR)\***

**Year 5**

**600 Level Elective (NCJFCJ or NJC)  
Complete Thesis Requirement  
Graduation**

\*Denotes required course for either major.

**Ph.D. Degree**

The Ph.D. requires 24 additional required and elective credits beyond the master's, as described below. Upon completion of the Master's contact the JS Program Officer for an evaluation of your file to determine additional course needs.

**Required Courses include:**

**JS 795 Comprehensive Exam, 1 credit (UNR)  
JS 799 Dissertation, 24 credits (UNR)**

**Elective Courses Include:**

**JS 775 Independent Study, 1-3 credits (UNR)  
JS 780 Special Problems, 1-3 credits (UNR)  
JS 889 Graduate Advisement, 1-4 credits (UNR)**

**Enrolling in Courses**

JSP students enroll in courses through the institution offering them. Those enrolling in University of Nevada, Reno courses register through the JSP Office, University of Nevada, those enrolling in NJC courses register through The National Judicial College, and those enrolling in NCJFCJ courses, register through the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Students should *reference their participation in the JSP* when registering for a course and address enrollment requests to the following offices:

**UNR Courses**

**Denise Schaar-Buis, Program Officer  
Judicial Studies Program/311  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, Nevada 89557  
(775)784-6270  
(775)784-6271 fax  
jsp@unr.nevada.edu**

**NJC Courses**

**Registrar**

The National Judicial College/358  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, Nevada 89557  
(775)784-6764  
(775)784-1253 fax

**NCJFCJ Courses**

Registrar  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges/276  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, Nevada 89557  
(775)784-6012  
(775)784-6628 fax

**Applying for Retroactive Credit by Examination**

Judges who have participated in NJC or NCJFCJ courses before enrolling in the JSP may receive, under certain conditions, retroactive credit toward their master=s degree for the courses taken. Judges may receive up to 10 credits for courses approved for master=s credit, required or elective, as specified herein. Those who wish to obtain academic credit for courses taken previously must complete the appropriate request form and take a written examination administered by the NJC or NCJFCJ, as appropriate. Retroactive credit does not apply to UNR courses or courses taken at other institutions. The following regulations apply to retroactive credit by examination:

- a. Students complete an application to take the most current examination for retroactive credit.
- b. Students receive credit only when they have successfully passed an essay examination covering the basic topics and objectives of the relevant course. The examination will closely resemble the examination currently presented to master=s students enrolled in the course.
- c. Students can receive credit for the NJC General Jurisdiction course, whether they took the three week course or four week course.
- d. Students who have participated in a course as a faculty member, and have attended the sessions taught by other faculty members, may take the examination for retroactive credit.
- e. Students may not receive more than ten (10) retroactive examination credits toward the Master=s degree.
- f. Students may not obtain retroactive credit for courses taken more than seven (7) years before their admission to the JSP.
- g. Prospective students who believe they may be interested in the JSP at a later date, may take an examination in any course offered for JSP credit while they are enrolled in the course, receiving credit for their work so long as they enroll in the

**JSP within seven years of taking the examination.**

## **THE MASTER=S THESIS AND THE Ph.D. DISSERTATION: A SERIES OF TASKS**

### **Introduction**

**The thesis/dissertation requirements bring to bear the analytical and methodological skills learned throughout the program on a subject worthy of research and study. The research problem should be of real interest to the JSP student and should extend, deepen, and contribute to the development of the field of Judicial Studies. The thesis/dissertation should not be a one-sided point of view on the selected topic. It should be a balanced and objective look at all the evidence relevant to the chosen topic. A thesis/dissertation project, whether designed for publication in a law review or refereed academic journal in lieu of a thesis, or as a regular thesis or dissertation "published" in the University of Nevada, Reno library, should:**

**--be developed from a prospectus approved by the student's committee and which defines the topic to be considered, research questions to be asked, and the method of analysis to be undertaken;**

**--identify a problem in a scientific/technical, humanistic, or theoretical/jurisprudential area of judicial studies;**

**--include methods of inquiry which incorporate knowledge of prior writing and research in the area, and a research program and set of research techniques appropriate to the problem;**

**--demonstrate thorough library research and knowledge of past research in the chosen area;**

**--employ an appropriate, well-understood method of gathering and analyzing data. Some projects require primary research in courtrooms or other public arenas. Other projects require analysis of theoretical and legal positions taken in earlier research and offer proposals for their revision. Still others require students to gather and analyze archival data, conduct a survey or analyze statistical data;**

**--include an extensive and appropriate bibliography and list of relevant cases as a ground from which to depart;**

**--result from a cooperative pattern of consultation with the advisory committee;**

**--anticipate publication in an approved law review, refereed academic journal, or as a book;**

**The thesis/dissertation requirement thus completes and synthesizes advanced study in the program. It represents both a process and a product. Theses/Dissertations often result in recommendations for improved management of courts or types of cases, and sometimes result in changed legal thinking or statutory modifications. Theses at their best become part of ongoing scholarship in the field of study. (See appendix for list of Master=s theses and place of publication.)**

**For most students the thesis/dissertation topic derives from a personal interest or expertise, amplified as students write papers for UNR/JSP courses. Some students come to the JSP with well-**

formed interests or problems they wish to study. The JSP provides a context in which to develop recommendations for change in the judicial system. Whether the student comes to the JSP with a well-formed problem or discovers a thesis/dissertation topic during the course of study, it is *highly recommended* that the thesis/dissertation topic be defined precisely and as early as possible. Thesis/Dissertation work in the JSP proceeds by well-defined stages, under the direct guidance of the student's committee, the overall guidance of the JSP Director, and with assistance, if desired, from the JSP Thesis Consultant.

### **Forming and Working with the Advisory Committee**

Early in the second year of study in the master=s degree program or immediately following acceptance into the Ph.D. program, the student should form, in consultations with the JS Program Director, an advisory committee. The committee serves as both an advisory and examining body, guiding the student's research throughout the thesis/dissertation process. The master=s advisory committee consists of three members. Since the University of Nevada, Reno grants the master=s degree, the official committee chair must be a member of the UNR graduate faculty. A second member of the committee must be a member of the NJC or NCJFCJ faculties, according to the major the student has chosen. The third member can be from UNR, NJC, NCJFCJ, or may be drawn from another institution, as appropriate for a given thesis topic and subject to the approval of the JSP Director. If the student desires to have the third member not be a faculty member at UNR, NJC or NCJFCJ, approval must be received from the JSP Director following a written request from the student explaining why the person should be approved for the position, along with the resume of the person being recommended.

The Ph.D. advisory committee must have five members, chosen similarly to the master=s advisory committee. The Program Director and Program Officer will work closely with individual students to make sure the committee is established and functioning properly. The committee chair must be a member of the UNR faculty approved for service on doctoral committees. There will usually be at least one member from both NJC and NCJFCJ, depending on the focus of the research topic. The other three members can be from any of the three faculties, or elsewhere, subject to the approval of the Program Director. It is assumed that most other doctoral advisory committee members will be regular teaching faculty in the JSP, but may be others selected for their special expertise in the topic area chosen by the student for a dissertation.

All committee members should have an active interest in and knowledge of the student's topic or area of research, and be ready to advise and assist the student at each stage of the thesis/dissertation process. The advisory committee is responsible for: reviewing and approving the prospectus; reviewing and approving the program of study; reviewing and recommending revisions, improvements, and bibliography suggestions on drafts of the thesis/dissertation; approving the final draft of the thesis/dissertation; and, if the thesis to be published in a law review or refereed academic journal, approving the journal(s) for submission. (Note: The Apublication in lieu of a thesis@ option is available only at the master=s level.)

Students choose committee members, in consultation with the JSP Director and Program Officer, by discussing possible topics with faculty during course work, consulting the NJC faculty database, and reviewing scholarship in the field they wish to study. Because the student body and faculty of the JSP live and work throughout the nation, JSP students should plan to use telephone, fax, and mail (including e-mail) to maintain close contact with their advisory committee. Regular contact with committee members should begin as soon as the committee is chosen, even if the student is still

engaged primarily in course work.

Although the committee chair will be the major contact person for the student, the student must plan to include all committee members in reading drafts of the prospectus and thesis/dissertation. Students need to send drafts of their thesis/dissertation to all committee members well in advance of any graduation submission dates. Always remember that the committee both guides the thesis/dissertation process and evaluates its result and that *the advisory committee must approve the thesis before it is submitted to any journal or law review.*

### Submitting an Approved Program of Study

The JSP Director and student=s advisory committee must, after consultation with the student, approve and sign the Program of Study for each JSP student, including the thesis/dissertation topic. This insures that the specific courses in the proposed Program of Study are consistent with the requirements of the Graduate School and the JSP. The Program of Study lists by title and number all courses to be completed in fulfilling requirements for the graduate degree. If a student changes their Program of Study, the advisory committee, or the thesis/dissertation title, the student must submit a Program of Study/Committee Change Form when filing the Advanced Degree Application (see below for description; see appendix for samples of this and other forms). The Graduate Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno gives final approval to the course of study for each student.

### Advancing to Candidacy

The JSP student "advances to candidacy" when all courses are complete, the prospectus and Program of Study have been approved, all residency requirements have been met, and the student anticipates graduating within the next six to twelve months. In order to advance to candidacy, the student must file an application for graduation. The student should also consult the JS Program Officer, *well in advance of graduation* for deadlines appropriate to a given academic year. The student should file for graduation only when the thesis/dissertation is well underway and the committee agrees that the document will be finished within a semester's time. Please see Preparing the Thesis/Dissertation for Submission, below.

### Writing the Prospectus

Once an advisory committee is in place and a topic for the thesis/dissertation has been chosen, the student must submit a formal prospectus to the committee outlining the topic and method of research to be undertaken. The committee chair, Program Director, committee members, and Thesis Consultant may be helpful to consult at the prospectus writing stage. The prospectus is a proposal which names a topic, asserts claims or hypotheses about the topic, defines a specific research problem to be undertaken with respect to the topic, outlines an objective research plan to be followed (together with any quantitative or qualitative techniques for gathering and measuring data to be used, if appropriate), identify potential outcomes or implications of the study. The prospectus should also anticipate possible recommendations which may result from the research.

It is often helpful for students to think about and write the prospectus in terms of the familiar components of the judicial decision, recognizing that the outcome of the thesis/dissertation will not be certain until the proposed hypothesis is tested in the research. The master=s prospectus is usually 10 to 12 double-spaced typed pages in length. The dissertation prospectus will usually be much more substantial (forty to fifty pages minimum). The prospectus must include the following elements:

- (a) A cover sheet including the student's name, address, telephone number; proposed thesis/dissertation title; and approval signature block for the advisory committee members' signatures;
- (b) A one or two paragraph summary of the thesis topic, setting forth the hypotheses to be tested and issues to be engaged;
- (c) A review of previous scholarship in the chosen area, demonstrating that the hypotheses have not been definitely investigated previously;
- (d) A summary of the research plan and methodological approach to be taken in the thesis/dissertation, including:
  - a section setting out the major sections of the thesis/dissertation and demonstrating the logical relations among those sections, so that the committee can see the logical structure and scope of the proposed thesis/dissertation;
  - a full description of the methods of research to be employed in completing the thesis/dissertation. *If the thesis/dissertation is to be empirical, then the description should clearly define details of how an empirical study is to be conducted.* If the research is not empirical, then the prospectus should clearly describe the analytical methods to be followed (research in published case law, analysis of law review articles, close study of language issues, and so on);
  - a bibliography of works to be consulted so that the committee can advise and supplement the bibliography as necessary.

Students must consult with the chair of their advisory committee to facilitate the committee members' approval of the prospectus and course of study. A meeting of the committee may take place by conference telephone call, with students bearing the cost of such calls, if it is deemed necessary by the committee chair.

A major issue to be determined as the student writes a prospectus for the master=s degree is whether the final document will take the form of a published article, book, or a regular academic thesis. The forum chosen for the final document affects the student's focus, sense of audience, organizational strategy, point of view, style, and format during the writing process. The prospectus should clearly state which thesis plan the student intends to follow. Publishing the thesis is the preferred way to meet the thesis requirement, since this helps build the new discipline and also calls attention to the JSP and the judge doing the thesis research.

A Ph.D. dissertation must be presented as a regular dissertation, Apublished@ in the University library. It is anticipated that several articles or a book will then be published from the dissertation, after it is accepted by the Graduate School. The student=s committee will assist in developing publication opportunities for Ph.D. students as they complete their degrees.

## Human Research Protections at the University of Nevada, Reno

All research and related activities done under the auspices of the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), in which data or information are collected from human subjects, must be reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB): either the Biomedical Human Subjects Committee or the Social Behavioral Human Subjects Committee. The Institutional Review Boards of UNR operate under the US Department of Health and Human Services regulations for the Protection of Human Research Subjects (Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 46 ([45 CFR 46](#)), as well as the regulations for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (21 CFR Parts 50, 56, 312, and 812) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (38 CFR 16). To certify that UNR complies with these federal regulations, the University and Community College System of Nevada has an approved Institutional Assurance of Compliance with DHHS Regulations (M-1164) filed with the Office for Human Research Protections, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services. As part of its assurance, the University's IRBs review all research involving human subjects regardless of sponsorship, and this requirement applies to all studies in all locations, whether funded or not funded, and whether conducted by faculty, students, or staff. No such study may begin before it has been so approved, and may not continue past its approved term.

All non-invasive research (i.e., non-biomedical research) is reviewed by the Social Behavioral Human Subjects Committee. The type of research reviewed by this IRB includes, but is not limited to, surveys, questionnaires, telephone and in-person interviews, focus groups, psychology laboratory experiments, educational/pedagogical research, and anthropological or sociological fieldwork. The level of potential risk to the subjects of any research project determines the manner and level of evaluation by the IRBs. For further information how to file for human subjects approval for either a thesis or dissertation, please contact the JS Program Officer, the Office of Human Subjects Research at (775) 327-2368, or write to this office at 205 Ross Hall/331, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557-0246.

Most research done in the JS program qualifies for expedited review, but *it must be submitted for review in a timely manner*. Students must work with the chair of their advisory committee to insure that this requirement is met.

### Writing Consultation

Once the master's prospectus has been approved, the student may seek additional assistance from James Richardson, JSP Director or Elizabeth Francis, MJS Thesis Consultant, with writing issues, organization, or thesis/dissertation design. For assistance on the PhD. prospectus, students should seek assistance from the Program Director. The student may also seek assistance from the JSP Director and advisory committee members and other resource persons at UNR, NJC and NCJFCJ if problems arise during the research phase of a project or during the analysis of data. The Program Director and the advisory committee chairman will be available on a regular basis to deal with problems arising during thesis or dissertation development. The Program Officer, will review the final copy of the thesis/dissertation for format and writing issues.

### "Prewriting"

The "prewriting" or research phase of the thesis/dissertation project also includes library study and careful note taking. The JSP encourages students to employ efficient contemporary tools to aid them in research. Several NJC courses introduce students to word processing and use of library

resources, including LEXIS WESTLAW databases. Such courses teach students to incorporate recent technical advances into an efficient plan for research. In addition, the library staff at the NJC and other consultants and faculty at the NJC and the NCJFCJ stand ready to advise students when information-gathering problems arise. JSP students working away from law libraries or in rural areas can benefit significantly from such help.

### **Funding for Dissertation Research**

Funding may be available to assist with dissertation research projects, and students are urged to consider this possibility seriously. There are programs available from a number of federal agencies that fund dissertation research on a competitive basis. Particularly, the National Science Foundation's Law and Society section offers grants in substantive areas germane to Judicial Studies (see [www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/law](http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/law)), but other divisions of NSF and other governmental agencies or private foundations may offer such support as well. Any student doing an empirical research project for their dissertation should, in consultation with their advisory committee chair, examine such funding possibilities, and plan to submit a proposal for grant funding of their research. Such proposals need to be well grounded in theory and have a well-developed research and methodology plan. It usually requires six months for grant proposals to be reviewed, so students (and their advisors) must plan well in advance if funding is being sought for a dissertation research project. The JSP Director is available for consultation on possible funding sources for dissertation projects.

### **Drafting the Thesis/Dissertation**

Students should apply the principles and techniques of clear writing as a means of organizing and critiquing ideas. Drafts are provisional works rather than final documents, and are meant to be revised. The JSP encourages students to draft ideas into continuous form by the most comfortable means possible, carefully revising the result after receiving feedback from the advisory committee. Students should clearly focus on the aims of the project and audiences for the work as they write. Master's theses may be written directly for a presumed law review or academic audience, depending upon the type of thesis students intend to submit. All dissertations are written initially for the academic audience, with separate publications presumed to follow.

### **Revising the Thesis/Dissertation**

Students must submit drafts of all chapters to all advisory committee members for their comments. The JSP presumes that the student will revise drafts of the thesis/dissertation in consultation with the committee. "Revision" can mean substantive change. Committee members may ask questions about method, data analysis, or interpretation of results. They may recommend structural or stylistic changes. They will suggest positive methods of achieving whatever changes they recommend. Students should specify reasonable dates by which they prefer to receive commentary from committee members, and should forewarn committee members that a draft will arrive in the near future. Occasionally, a student may not receive timely comments from an advisory committee member. Students may need to remind committee members that a fairly inflexible graduation schedule needs to be met. Should a serious problem develop in receiving responses from committee members, the student should contact the JS Program Officer for assistance. Drafts of chapters also should be sent to the JSP Director as a way of keeping him informed of the student's progress.

The Graduate School at the University of Nevada, Reno and JSP require that a proposed final draft of the thesis/dissertation be submitted to the advisory committee at least eight weeks in advance of

the final draft, thus allowing sufficient time for corrections and suggestions to be incorporated before final typing of an academic thesis/dissertation or submission of a law review or refereed journal article in place of an academic master=s thesis. Students should note that no thesis/dissertation will be accepted for graduation credit--even if it has been published--unless the student has consulted the advisory committee appropriately during the writing process.

### Preparing the Thesis/Dissertation for Submission: Editing, Formatting, Final Revisions, and Oral Examinations

If the master=s thesis is to be published as a law review or academic journal article, it must follow the format appropriate to the journal in which it is to be published, and it must be prepared for submission to the University of Nevada, Reno Graduate School in "modified thesis format" as defined below. If the thesis is to constitute a traditional academic thesis, then its style and format must follow the conventions of the academic thesis as described below.

The JSP assumes that all theses and dissertations constitute original work, that the student will correctly cite all work by others, and seek formal permission for the use of material copyrighted by others beyond brief excerpts. A full discussion of copyrighting the thesis appears below under GRADUATING FROM THE JSP.

(a) Law Review Article/Modified Article Option - Master=s Degree ONLY

(1) Article Format and Requirements

In lieu of a formal thesis, the UNR Graduate School allows master=s students to submit an article published in an acceptable law review or other refereed academic journal approved by the student's advisory committee, under the conditions discussed below. *The article must be approved by the student's committee before it is submitted.* Law reviews of ABA accredited law schools are acceptable venues for publication if approved by the advisory committee. Since law reviews allow submission to more than one review at a time, students do well to submit to several such reviews simultaneously. Students should develop lists of acceptable law reviews in consultation with the chair of their advisory committee. Acceptable academic journals are those which use external, confidential, referees to judge the quality of articles submitted to the journal. Again, students should develop lists of acceptable academic journals in consultation with the advisory committee chair. Refereed academic journals usually require that an article be submitted to only one journal at a time.

Published articles used to meet graduation requirements must acknowledge the JSP. The following sentence *must* be inserted at an appropriate place in the printed document (usually as a footnote to the title):

This article is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Judicial Studies degree program at the University of Nevada, Reno.

For purposes of graduation, the JSP deems an article "published" when it has been accepted for publication in an approved law review or academic journal. The student must submit the original acceptance letter from the journal's editor to the JS Program Officer, stating that the article has been accepted as submitted, and indicating the anticipated date of publication.

(2) Presenting the law review or academic article in "Modified Article Format"

Although an approved published article meets graduation requirements for the master=s degree, law review and/or academic journal formats *do not* meet the requirements of the UNR Graduate School and JSP for filing in the UNR Library. Students who take the law review/academic journal option must therefore prepare the article in "Modified Article Format" for submission to the UNR Graduate School. The words "modified article" refer to the article and supporting materials submitted to the UNR Graduate School as a substitute for a formal academic thesis. When questions arise concerning what additional material is to be included in a "modified article," the chair of the advisory committee, in consultation with the JSP Director, will decide.

The "Modified Article" must be submitted following the academic thesis format below and containing the following items (see Appendix E):

(NOTE: Items f. through j. are usually acceptable as printed in the journal article, but additional material may be required by the advisor. The modified article must be retyped in proper format for submission to the library. Items a. through e., and k., however, are additional requirements for the Graduate School and/or JSP.)

- a. Cover Page/Title Page
- b. Copyright page
- c. Committee Page
- d. Abstract page: Abstracts are limited to no more than 200 words for the Master=s theses, and 350 words for the Ph.D. dissertation.
- e. Table of Contents
- f. Chapter 1: Preface or Introduction. (The chair of the advisory committee determines if the published article adequately meets the criteria for a Preface or Introduction.)
- g. Chapter 2: Literature Review. (The chair of the advisory committee determines if the published article adequately meets the criteria for an academic literature review. A literature review identifies scholarly books, scholarly articles and judicial opinions relevant to the subject under study; analyzes the issues raised in the article in terms of published writings; and demonstrates the student's familiarity with applicable bibliography. If the prospectus and early research for the thesis have been done with care, the literature review will not be difficult to complete.)
- h. Chapter 3: Methodology. (The chair of the advisory committee determines if the student's methodology has been set forth adequately in the published article).
- i. Chapter 4: Text of the published or accepted article. (The style of the article--citation style, grammar, usage and other editing details--will

conform to the guidelines set by the law review or academic journal in which the article is published.)

- j. **Chapter 5: Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations.** (The scope depends upon the extent to which these elements are included in the published article. The JSP and UNR Graduate School require the student to state recommendations for future research and public policy changes even if the published article does not address them.)
- k. **Bibliography and Table of Cases.** (The "modified article" must contain a separate list of sources at the end of the document. The sources must be alphabetized within each category (books, articles, court cases). The Bibliography should conform to the guidelines set forth by the journal/law review to which the article is being submitted to: ABA or APA style, or the pattern set forth in A Uniform System of Citation (Harvard), except that book citations must also state the name of the publisher.)

(3) **Type Style and Other Matters**

The modified article must be typed and submitted to the JS Program Officer, in the format described under "Academic Thesis," below. Paper, typeface, margins, spacing, pagination, tables and appendices, photographs, colored material, charts, maps and oversize material should be managed exactly as defined in that section.

(4) **Oral Examination**

Master=s students who present a published article and modified article in lieu of an academic thesis do not take an oral examination. This requirement is met before the student submits the article to a law review or refereed academic journal as the committee meets, perhaps by conference call, to examine the student on the paper and any other relevant matters.

(5) **Submitting the Approved Modified Article**

As soon as the modified article has been approved by the advisory committee, acting through its chair, the student submits the approved document to the JS Program Officer, meeting the deadlines and submission requirements detailed in GRADUATING FROM THE JSP below.

(b) **Publication of Dissertation**

Dissertations involve much more effort than master=s theses, and should result in a more substantial product at the end of the process. The typical dissertation might result in the publication of a book or several academic or law review articles. However, because of the importance placed on the dissertation process itself, the JSP will not be allowing publication in lieu of a dissertation as an option. A formal dissertation will be required, submitted to the University in a normal manner, with the expectation that the dissertation will then be turned into scholarly publications of one form or another. The student should do some publications singularly, with other publications perhaps being done in conjunction with the dissertation advisor or members of the advisory committee who have invested considerable time in the dissertation research effort. All publications from the dissertation

should, in a footnote to the title, acknowledge the Judicial Studies Program as the source of the research being reported.

(c) **Academic Thesis and Dissertation**

JSP students who choose a formal thesis option for the master=s or who do a Ph.D. dissertation must prepare the document in accordance with UNR Graduate School guidelines. As noted above, students must submit a proposed **final draft of the thesis or dissertation to the committee at least eight weeks before an anticipated oral examination.** Advisory committee members should return the proposed final draft within two weeks of receiving it. Students then make further corrections as necessary, resubmitting the proposed final draft to the committee two weeks before the date of the oral examination (see Oral Examination requirements below).

The academic thesis or dissertation must include the following items (see appendix for examples):

- a. Cover Page/Title Page
- b. Copyright Page
- c. Committee Page
- d. Abstract Page: Abstracts are limited to no more than 200 words for the Master=s thesis, and 350 words for the Ph.D. dissertation.
- e. Table of Contents
- f. Chapter I: Preface or Introduction
- g. Chapter II: Literature Review
- h. Chapter III: Methodology
- i. Chapter IV: A series of chapters reporting the results and interpretation of thesis study. The number of chapters in the body of the thesis will be dictated by the study itself.
- j. Final Chapter: Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations
- k. Bibliography and Table of Cases. (The "modified article" must contain a separate list of sources at the end of the document. The sources must be alphabetized within each category (books, articles, court cases). The Bibliography should conform to the style guidelines set forth by the ABA, APA, or the pattern set forth in A Uniform System of Citation (Harvard), except that book citations must also state the name of the publisher.)

(d) **Academic Thesis and Dissertation Format and Other Requirements (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!)**

Students should prepare the final document according the following standards (*these standards also apply to the "modified article@ for the master=s degree*):

- a. **Paper:** The final copies of the approved thesis (3) must be on white paper, 8 1/2 by 11 inches, at least 20 pound weight and 25% rag content. Final copies do not have to be originals. Photocopies are acceptable as long as the image is clear and sharp. Students must not use erasable bond. In addition to the copies of the approved thesis, 4 additional copies of the title page and abstract, on proper paper, are needed.
- b. **Type:** Type size should not be smaller than 12 pitch elite. Script and italic typefaces are not acceptable except where absolutely necessary: example, Latin. Regardless of type style, the characters must be dark and clear, and the strike must be even. Students may not use white-out on final documents.
- c. **Margins:** Margins should be 1 1/2 inches on the left of the page, 1 inch on top and right of the page, and 1 1/4 inches at the bottom.
- d. **Spacing:** All text should be double-spaced, with the exception of captions, footnotes, long quotes, bibliographic entries of more than one line, and materials in tables and appendices.
- e. **Title Page:** The acceptable format of title and copyright pages appears in the appendix.
- f. **Pagination:** The copyright page, signature page, acknowledgment page (if included), abstract page, and table of contents page follow the title page. These pages should be numbered consecutively in lower case Roman numerals, beginning with the copyright page as i, and proceeding in order, ii, iii, iv.... After the table of contents has been completely numbered, students should begin to use Arabic numerals, starting with 1 and proceeding in the normal order. All numbers should be placed in the upper right-hand corner of pages, 1/2 inch from the top of the paper and 1 inch from its right hand edge. Each page should be numbered, including appendices. Do not underline or place a period after numbers. Supplemental pages, numbered 10a or 44b, for example, are not acceptable. Students must verify that all pages appear in all copies of the thesis before submitting the document.
- g. **Tables and Appendices:** Tables and appendices are part of the document and must follow the document with continuing page numbers and in the same format as the document.
- h. **Photographs:** Pictorial material may be mounted on thesis paper using

white glue, Scotch Spray-Mount or dry mount. Rubber cement is not acceptable. Photographs may also be printed on 8 1/2 by 11 inch document weight photographic paper. Captions are to appear on the same page as the photograph(s). Captions may not appear on facing pages.

- i. **Colored Forms:** Photocopies made from forms printed on colored paper, especially blue, do not produce a clear image and do not microfilm well. If such a form appears in the text or appendices of a thesis, the student must submit an original for microfilming.
  
- j. **Maps or Oversized Material:** Maps or oversize material should not be presented on Mylar, are not to exceed dimensions of 32 by 48 inches, and should not be presented rolled or flat. Fold-out pages are acceptable if they maintain standard margins and are submitted flat. The student's name must appear on each copy. An additional set of oversized maps should be submitted to accompany a microfilmed copy because they are difficult to read on microfilm when they are reduced.
  
- k. **Color Charts, Photographs, Graphs:** Microfilm presents black and white copy. If a thesis must retain the color of charts, photographs or graphs, the student should submit an additional copy of such colored material to be kept with the microfilm copy of the thesis in the University Archives. If photographs are submitted unmounted, the page where they appear in the text should be marked on the back in number 2 pencil.

(e) **Final Oral Examination**

At the discretion of the student's advisory committee, JSP students who take the academic thesis option may be required to take an oral examination at the end of the thesis process. Students should submit a corrected final draft of the thesis to all advisory committee members at least two weeks before the oral examination, copies on which committee members can write. Please do not send advisory committee members copies you intend to submit to the UNR Graduate School. The final oral defense for the master=s degree can take place by conference telephone call, if necessary.

Ph.D. candidates must present a seminar and defend their dissertation in a more formal setting, which shall be considered their oral exam. The Adefense@ shall include a full explanation of their research problem, methods, and findings, as well as a discussion of the practical implications of their work. JS Program Officer can assist in coordinating any conference call or oral examinations, but the student must bear the cost of any conference, telephone, or video conference call.

When the oral examination is complete and the advisory committee has approved the student for graduation, the student submits the approved thesis or dissertation to the JSP Director, James Richardson. GRADUATING FROM THE JSP below details the steps and timelines to be followed.

**TUITION, FEES, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND HOUSING**

Students pay tuition and fees directly to the educational institute offering the desired course and according to the tuition and fee policy of each. (Note: Fees are subject to change.)

**UNR Fees:**

The University of Nevada, Reno tuition is payable on a per course basis payable before or on the first day of class. UNR tuition includes health service, student union and recreation building use fees, but does not include course materials, room, or board. Students make checks payable to "Board of Regents" and send them to JS Program Officer. Fees for the thesis course are payable at the time the student submits the prospectus for approval. Fees for the dissertation are payable at the time the student registers for them. (Dissertation students should plan to take some dissertation credits each year of enrollment in the program, up t a total of 24 credits.) If a student withdraws from a course after payment has been received, funds will be held and applied toward future course participation.

In 2010 students submit a \$60 fee with their application to the JSP, a \$66 fee with their application for graduation, and other graduation fees as outlined under GRADUATING FROM THE JSP.

**Cancellations and Refunds:** JSP students may withdraw from the program at any time, but no refunds of UNR fees will be given.

**NJC Fees:**

NJC tuition is payable on a per course basis. Tuition for NJC courses includes the cost of course materials. The conference fee includes welcome reception, daily lunches, and award presentation dinners on Thursday evenings. Fees do not include room and board. Adjustment may be arranged with the NJC Finance Office for students unable to attend Thursday evening functions because they are attending JSP classes.

JSP students who have previously taken NJC courses which qualify for JS credit, and who successfully pass retroactive credit examinations for those courses, do not pay additional tuition.

**NCJFCJ Fees:**

NCJFCJ charges JSP students the same tuition and fees as it charges other participants in its programs.

NCJFCJ fees include coffee, lunches, special meal activities, and services. There is no additional charge for course materials. Fees do not include room and board.

**Accommodations:**

Judges are expected to make their own lodging arrangements for times they will be attending classes in Reno. Harrah=s Hotel and Casino and the Eldorado Hotel and Casino are two off campus facilities that are reasonably close. To make reservations at Harrah=s contact JoAnne Chadwick at 775-788-3043, and for the Eldorado Hotel Casino call 775-786-5700 and use executine number DS900.

## Scholarships:

The JSP, through UNR and NJC, occasionally receives scholarship funds. When scholarships are available, upon application, a student may be eligible to receive a partial or full tuition-only scholarship for participation in JSP courses.

Criteria for award of scholarship include progress to date in pursuit of a JSP degree and the amount of state and local funds available to the student to support study in the JSP. The JSP encourages students to seek local, state, and regional funding before applying for assistance from the JSP.

Contact JS Program Officer, UNR, and the Registrar, NJC, for information on availability of scholarship funds and application procedures for at their respective institutes.

The State Justice Institute also has scholarships available. Visit their website ([www.sji.gov](http://www.sji.gov)) for scholarship rules and regulations, application, and deadlines.

## GRADUATING FROM THE JUDICIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

All students in the JSP complete a series of tasks as part of the graduation process. These tasks vary slightly depending upon the thesis option or dissertation chosen.

### (a) Filing the Advanced Degree Application for Graduation

All JSP students file a form entitled "Advanced Degree Application for Graduation". *Deadlines set for each semester or term must be met in a timely manner.* December graduation requires the application be submitted the semester they intend to graduate. For May (spring) graduation the deadline is March 1. For August (summer) graduation the deadline is June 1. For December (fall) graduation the deadline is October 1.

Students planning to graduate **MUST** meet deadlines for submitting this form. **DEADLINES CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** JSP students who apply for graduation and then do not finish as planned must reapply and pay another application fee.

### (b) Filing Final Copies of the Thesis or Dissertation and Accompanying Materials

**TWO CALENDAR WEEKS** before the close of the University of Nevada, Reno semester or term, the JSP student who intends to graduate must submit to the JS Program Officer, **THREE SIGNED, UNBOUND FINAL COPIES** of the **APPROVED THESIS or DISSERTATION**. **ALL** students must meet this requirement, whether they have written an academic thesis, modified article or dissertation (those wishing to submit their dissertation (dissertation only) electronically, must receive permission for JSP before doing so). JS Program Officer will check all theses and dissertations for format and writing issues, as well as margins, clarity of copy, pagination, and the completion of all required forms. Theses and dissertations will be sent to the University Archives, UNR Getchell Library, for binding and microfilming. One copy will be deposited in the UNR Getchell Library, one copy in the JSP office, and one copy in the library of the student's college of affiliation (NJC or NCJFCJ).

The Application for Admission to Candidacy Notice of Completion form must accompany the final copies of the approved thesis or dissertation. This form must be signed by all committee members indicating their approval of the final thesis or dissertation.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE WRITTEN MODIFIED ARTICLES for their master=s degree must also submit EIGHT (8) REPRINT COPIES of the article as accepted and printed in an ABA approved law review or approved academic journal to the JS Program Officer. These will be distributed to the student's file, The National Judicial College Library, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Library, the JSP file, and members of the student's advisory committee.

Additional materials MUST accompany the submitted thesis, modified article or dissertation:

- a. A \$105.00 binding fee, made payable to "Board of Regents" (check before sending fee as it is subject to change).
- b. Microfilm Agreement Form. Students are required to complete an agreement with ProQuest/University Microfilms, Inc. This agreement authorizes ProQuest/University Microfilms, Inc., to microfilm the thesis or dissertation and sell the microfilm copy. In addition, upon the student=s request, PQ/UMI will file a copyright on their behalf. The student should simply indicate this desire on the form and submit a cashier's check for the proper amount and made payable to ProQuest.
- c. Four additional copies of the thesis or dissertation title page and abstract.
- d. Notice of Completion form signed by all committee members.
- e. Final Approval form signed by committee chair.

### Filing the Registration of Copyright Form

All JSP students should know that, under the 1976 Copyright Act, a work of original authorship is protected by copyright from the time the work is created in a fixed form. Registration with the Library of Congress Copyright Office is not a condition of copyright protection itself, but copyright registration is usually a prerequisite to an infringement suit. When submitting the completed Microfilm Agreement Form you have the option of allowing ProQuest/University Microfilms, Inc. to file a copyright on your behalf.

### **COPYRIGHTING THESIS/DISSERTATION WORK**

Copyright protection covers original works of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression, now known or later developed, for which they can be perceived, reproduced, or otherwise communicated, either directly or with the aid of a machine or device. It is not necessary to do anything to obtain a copyright on a work and assert exclusive rights of ownership. As soon as an original work can be tangibly communicated, it is copyrighted. The term of copyright protection as of January 1, 1978, is the life of the author plus fifty years. If the work is anonymous or a work for hire, the term is seventy-five years from publication or one hundred years from creation. At the end of the term, the work falls into the public domain. Others may use copyrighted materials with the permission of the

author or owner of the copyrighted materials, or be using these materials under the "Fair Use" doctrine. The fair use of copyrighted materials is permissible for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), and scholarship, or research, which are not considered to be copyright infringement. The courts have generally determined that commercial uses are not permissible uses under the fair use doctrine. Since March 1, 1989, no notice is required on copyrighted works. A work is copyrighted as soon as it is fixed in any tangible medium of expression. In addition, current law does not require registration of the work with the Copyright office. However registering a work does provide certain advantages including establishing a public record of the copyright claim, securing the right to file an infringement suit, establishing prima facie evidence of the validity of the copyright, and making available a broader range of remedies in infringement suits.

As a practical matter students should, in a footnote to the title of any work that is circulated, state that the work is copyrighted. Reasonable care should be exercised when presenting preliminary results at professional meetings or other forums. Copies of preliminary work should not be circulated, and any drafts released should state explicitly that the work is copyrighted and not to be used or quoted without permission.

#### **STEPS TO COMPLETING THE JUDICIAL STUDIES PROGRAM: A CHECKLIST AND GUIDE**

1. Submit an admission application and processing fee, together with supporting materials, to the JSP office.
2. Complete at least 12 weeks of resident instruction for the masters degree on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. For Ph.D. students plan an additional 12 weeks for the doctoral degree.
3. With the guidance of the JSP Director or Program Officer, plan coursework, form an advisory committee, and begin to consider thesis or dissertation topics.
4. Complete required and elective courses totaling 32 credits for the master=s degree and 73 for the doctoral degree, choosing courses according to the offerings available, including thesis or dissertation.
5. Complete UNR coursework with a grade point average of at least 3.0.
6. Complete the thesis or dissertation requirement, following detailed directions provided in this handbook, including human subjects review, where appropriate.
7. Submit all required forms and fees in a timely manner.
8. Complete all work in the JSP within six (6) years for the master=s degree, an additional eight (8) years beyond the Master's for the doctoral degree from the date of formal acceptance as a student in the program.

#### **OBTAINING A SECOND MASTER=S DEGREE**

If a graduate of the master=s program would like to re-enroll to received the alternate master=s degree, the graduate must reapply to the program (transcripts from initial matriculation will carry over), complete all required and elective courses for that degree, complete another thesis, and two additional UNR courses.

### **GIFT POLICY**

Although there is no written cannon of ethics concerning gifts from students to faculty and staff of the JS program, reasonableness would suggest that significant gifts by individual students or classes should be precluded.

### **THE JS DEGREE CURRICULUM: A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF MAJORS, COURSES AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **The Trial Court Judge Major**

The Trial Court Judge Major (for Administrative Law Judges also) offers the JS student a broad choice of elective courses and thesis topics related to service as a trial court judge. Required courses ground the knowledge, skills and attitudes of students in substantive understanding of the law, preparing students for specialized courses. Specialized courses develop specific, advanced topics in depth, permitting judges to reflect upon, critically examine, and evaluate prevailing practices and theories.

#### **The Juvenile and Family Court Judge Major**

The Juvenile and Family Court Judge Major entertains specific objectives and training goals for its students. NCJFCJ courses train judges in sensitivity--sensitivity to the needs and attributes of children, and by extension, to families in crisis. NCJFCJ offers judges an explicit and self-conscious value system as it presents the substance of family law, teaching judges methods of using the law to improve the lives of children and families. NCJFCJ programs presume that children who come before juvenile courts represent families in crisis and families which have already experienced trauma. NCJFCJ courses enable judges to avoid retraumatizing or revictimizing children, by training students to understand the role of the judge "parens patriae" - the judge as parent for the child, and by extension, the family.

#### **Required Coursework For All Majors**

**JS 610 GENERAL JURISDICTION (NJC) 4 CREDITS OR JS 611 SPECIAL COURT JURISDICTION: ADVANCED (NJC) 4 credits**

JS 610 or 611 is a two-week overview of judicial process, substantive law, procedural law, judicial skills, and trial techniques. It addresses in-court and out-of-court duties and responsibilities over felony trials and unlimited civil cases, the needs of special court judges who sit on felony and civil cases. It grounds advanced work in knowledge of criminal law; 1st, 4th, 5th, and 6th Amendment issues; trial process; evidence; impaneling and management of juries; judicial stress and coping skills; problems in handling the media; and, judicial ethics.

**JS 612 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW: FAIR HEARING 4 credits (ALJ's ONLY)**

JS 612 is a two week comprehensive foundational course in administrative law adjudication including hearing practices, handling of witnesses, decision writing, and case management.

**JS 615 JUDICIAL WRITING (NJC) 2 CREDITS**

JS 615 teaches principles of clear, precise, concise, and complete prose. Using a carefully designed series of exercises and writing assignments, the course also teaches principles of coherence, cohesion, and argument. It identifies changes in style and their effects on argument, assess credibility in existing decisions, and assess themselves as readers and revisers of received language.

**JS 710 HISTORY AND THEORY OF JURISPRUDENCE (UNR) 3 CREDITS**

JS 710 is an intensive reading course which considers the law from philosophical, historical, and social perspectives. It challenges students to rethink critical issues in jurisprudence, legal history, courts, and the administration of justice, punishment, culture and society. Taught intensively over a four week period each summer by four distinguished professors from Boalt Hall Law School (University of California at Berkeley).

**JS 797 THESIS, 6 CREDITS (UNR)**

**Additional Required Coursework for Juvenile and Family Court Judge Majors Only**

**JS 660 CORE COLLEGE, 2 CREDITS (NCJFCJ)**

JS 660 is a comprehensive introduction to problems in juvenile and family law. An overview of social and legal issues associated with juvenile and family courts, and considers in detail the role of the judge in juvenile and family court, judicial authority and responsibility, the victim in juvenile court, probation services, the proper use of psychiatric and psychological testimony in juvenile proceedings, and medical aspects of child abuse and neglect. Addresses the need for judicial review, courtroom safety and judicial safety, judicial ethics, judicial immunity, judicial stress, and strategies for handling the media.

**Group 1 Electives - Trial Court Majors (NJC courses).**

**JS 613 CRIMINAL EVIDENCE, 2 CREDITS**

JS 613 hones evidentiary skills. Analyzes how rules of evidence, emphasizing federal rules, are applied to criminal trials. Provides some historical perspective starting with common law.

**JS 617 ADVANCED EVIDENCE, 2 CREDITS**

JS 617 studies identification and analysis of common evidentiary problems faced by general jurisdiction courts in civil cases.

**JS 618 DECISION MAKING PROCESS, 2 CREDITS**

JS 618 identifies the ingredients of the decision making process and acquaints judges with the psychological, sociological, and philosophical aspects of dispute resolution.

**JS 619 ETHICAL ISSUES IN LAW: A NOVEL APPROACH, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 619 discusses and analyzes the ethical behavior and justice at the point in which law, literature, and life experience intersect.**

**JS 621 LOGIC AND OPINION WRITING, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 621 is an in-depth examination of the underlying principles of logical reasoning and the application of these principles to judicial opinion writing.**

**JS 622 SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE AND EXPERT TESTIMONY, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 622 is an overview of the use of medical evidence in the courtroom: Nature of scientific evidence, expert testimony, pathology, toxicology, child abuse, and technological innovations.**

**JS 623 HANDLING CAPITAL CASES, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 623 studies techniques for instituting and maintaining high-quality court management of capital cases; addresses the demands and judicial responsibilities unique to capital cases.**

**JS 624 ENHANCING JUDICIAL BENCH SKILLS, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 624 emphasizes the essential management and communication skills needed to effectively oversee the courtroom.**

**JS 625 DISPUTE RESOLUTION SKILLS, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 625 explores the strengths, weaknesses, and potential uses of alternative dispute resolution methods, including arbitration, mediation, summary trials, and summary jury trials.**

**JS 626 ADVANCED JUDICIAL WRITING, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 626 extend writing duties skills developed in JS 615 by working intensively on own writing projects in classroom and with private tutors.**

**JS 627 EFFECTIVE CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 627 teaches techniques for processing cases in an expeditious manner while being responsive to legal requirements.**

**JS 628 PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 628 analyzes substance abuse issues in the criminal justice system including treatment, plea bargains, penalties, mental illness and referrals.**

**JS 629 MANAGING THE COMPLEX CASE, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 629 emphasize the judges role in controlling and managing complex cases from first filing through discovery, pretrial conferences, trial, finding of facts and conclusion of law and opinion, while exploring high-tech shortcuts.**

**JS 632 CONDUCTING THE TRIAL, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 632 discusses the practical innovative techniques and styles that affect the daily role of the judge before, during and post-trial.**

**JS 633 EVIDENCE IN A COURTROOM SETTING, 2 CREDITS**

**JS 633 is a practical presentation and consideration of evidence in the courtroom using the Federal Rules of Evidence and applicable state rules.**

**JS 634 CURRENT ISSUES IN FAMILY LAW, 2 CREDITS**

JS 634 discusses daily decisions concerning custody issues, child support enforcement issues, evidentiary issues in child abuse/neglect, financial considerations as part of the curriculum.

**JS 636 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, 2 CREDITS**

JS 636 examines pre-trial and trial issues in domestic violence cases; explores cutting edge issues; TROs and contempt powers, child sexual abuse issues, methods of accountability, and sentencing.

**JS 638 PROBATE COURT, 2 CREDITS**

JS 638 studies the cutting edge issue in probate court; elder abuse; guidelines for care and dying, adult guardianship medication, ethics, case flow management and national probate standards.

**JS 642 TODAY=S JUSTICE, 2 CREDITS**

JS 642 reviews landmark documents, statutes, and cases which have formed fundamental U.S. rights, such as trial by jury, due process, equal protection, and judicial review.

**JS 644 WHEN JUSTICE FAILS, 2 CREDITS**

JS 644 analysis of threats to the independence of the judiciary, with World War II war crimes and related contemporary issues used as examples.

**JS 645 SEARCH, SEIZURE AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, 2 CREDITS**

JS 645 analyzes what constitutes search/seizure; when it is within the Fourth Amendment; admissibility; issues in voluntary search consent; “plain view”; and, current legal standings.

**JS 649 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW: ADVANCES, 2 CREDITS (ALJ’s only)**

JS 649 is an in-depth analysis of judicial writing methods, pre-trial strategies, judicial bench skills, management strategies and recent developments in administrative law.

**JS 690 TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE JURISPRUDENCE (ADVANCED SEMINAR IN ANGLO-AMERICAN JURISPRUDENCE), 2-3 CREDITS**

JS 690 offers an opportunity to study common law heritage and foundations from which the American legal system evolved, historical and current perspectives.

**Group I Elective Courses Juvenile and Family Court Majors (NCJFCJ courses).**

**JS 661 FAMILY LAW AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS (CRUCIAL ISSUES IN FAMILY LAW), 2 CREDITS**

JS 661 is an overview of new trends in family law, considering judicial and statutory trends in the areas of child custody, family violence, and domestic relations proceedings.

**JS 662 EVIDENTIARY PROBLEMS IN THE JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT, 2 CREDITS**

JS 662 examines current evidentiary issues and concerns arising in juvenile and family courts.

**JS 664 CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT INSTITUTE, 2 CREDITS**

JS 664 studies judicial philosophy and skills necessary for handling child abuse and neglect cases; comprehensive approach to improving court practices; judicial decision making under the

**Adoption and Safe Families Act.**

**JS 690 TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE JURISPRUDENCE (ADVANCED SEMINAR IN ANGLO-AMERICAN JURISPRUDENCE), 2-3 CREDITS**

JS 690 offers an opportunity to study common law heritage and foundations from which the American legal system evolved, historical and current perspectives.

**Group II Elective Courses All Majors (UNR courses).**

**JS 715 JUSTICE, LAW, AND LITERATURE, 3 CREDITS**

JS 715 is an inquiry into ethical perspectives of judicial and legal experience through study and discussion of literary primary texts, including novels, plays, poems and intellectual prose.

**JS 718 SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH METHODS FOR JUDGES, 3 CREDITS**

JS 718 reviews major method designs and statistical techniques, with a focus on applications suitable for judicial management, policy development, evaluation research, and critiquing scientific research.

**JS 720 COMPARATIVE LAW, (3 CREDITS)**

JS 720 compares historical and current rules of law and procedures in a variety of legal systems to discern general principles of law and procedure, procedural differences, in all systems.

**JS 725 MEDIA AND THE COURTS, (3 CREDITS)**

JS 725 explores the interaction of media and the courts, including threats to justice by media coverage, includes examination of the tension between the First and Sixth Amendments.

**JS 730 LAW AND ECONOMICS (3 CREDITS)**

JS 730 introduces and examines economic implications and objectives of legal institutions and legal rule making; including common law, public regulations of the market and legal procedures.

**JS 735 LAW AND THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, 3 CREDITS**

JS 735 Assess social and historical context of law, major roles and processes in legal institutions; including major focus on the use of scientific research in actual cases.

**JS 740 MEDICAL/LLEGAL ISSUES, 3 CREDITS**

JS 740 analysis of selected issues, combining scientific, medical and case law perspectives. Topics include medical malpractice, informed consent, parent' rights, birth, AIDS and drug addiction.

**JS 745 PUBLIC POLICY IN THE COURTS, 3 CREDITS**

JS 745 examines the theories and practices of American policy-making, the etiology and structure of this process, and applies this understanding to selected policy areas.

**JS 750 CRIMINOLOGY: CAUSATION, ENFORCEMENT, RESPONSIBILITY, 3 CREDITS**

JS 750 focuses on major issues in understating of and policies affecting crime, its control, and the system of criminal justice, including limits of individual responsibility of crime.

**JS 760 LANGUAGE AND JUDICIAL PROCESS, 3 CREDITS**

JS 760 studies theories of legal language in contemporary criticism, philosophy of actions, sociology of law, psychology of discourse, and structure of English and their uses in judicial practice.

**JS 765 SCIENCE IN LAW, 3 CREDITS**

JS 765 explores the philosophical historical foundation of science in law, considering scientific methodology, research and statistics, and law, context and ethics.

**JS 770 GAMING AND THE LAW, 3 CREDITS**

JS 770 overview of regulations, laws and legal environments, historical context, public policy, administrative agencies, legislation and judicial decisions and analysis.

**JS 797 THESIS, 6 CREDITS**

**JS 899 GRADUATE ADVISEMENT, 1-4 CREDITS**

JS 899 provides continued faculty consultation and advisement while working on thesis.

**Additional UNR courses for Ph.D. ONLY**

**JS 775 INDEPENDENT STUDY, 1-3 CREDITS (UNR)**

Supervised extended research in an area of students choice, subject to approval of the JS Director.

**JS 780 SPECIAL TOPICS, 1-3 CREDITS (UNR)**

Supervised research on a special topic pertaining to students court or jurisdiction, subject to approval of JS Director.

**JS 795 - COMPREHENSIVE EXAM, 1 CREDIT (UNR)**

**JS 799 DISSERTATION, 24 CREDITS (UNR)**

For work on dissertation. Should be taken over the course of student's time in program.

**JS 899 GRADUATE ADVISEMENT, 1-4 CREDITS**

JS 899 provides continued faculty consultation and advisement while working on dissertation.

# Judicial Studies Dissertation and Thesis List

## Dissertation

Blake, Archie (2008) "Realistic Drug Court Implementation for Rural Areas: Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Multi-Jurisdictional Model for Program Delivery", (non-published dissertation, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Domitrovich, Stephanie (2006) "The Factors Effecting the Appointment of Experts by State Trial Judges: An Exploratory Study", (non-published dissertation, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

McNeil, Christopher B. (2008) "Perceptions of Fairness in Agency Adjudications: Applying Line and Tyler's Theories of Procedural Justice to State Executive-Branch Adjudications", (non-published dissertation, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Mitrovich, Paul (2009) "Analysis of Ohio's Living Will Statute and Beyond", (non-published dissertation, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

## Thesis

Alonso, Alfonso (2009) ""Best Practices"" for Drug Courts", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library.)

Anderson, David A. (1998) "Summary Contempt Power in the Military: Refine or Repeal", Military Law Review 160, pp.158-222, June 1999.

Ash, Don R. (2000) "Bridge Over Troubled Water: Changing the Custody Law in Tennessee", The University of Memphis Law Review 27, No. 4, pp. 769-841, Summer, 1997.

Berry, Janet J. (1997) "Life After Death - Preservation of the Immortal Seed", Tulane Law Review, 72, No. 1, pp. 231-256, 1997.

Bertness, Janette (2008) "Rhode Island Nurse Practitioners: Are they Legally Practicing Medicine without a License?", Roger Williams University Law Review, 14, No. 2, pp. 215-297, Spring 2009.

Blake, Archie E. (1996) "Daubert and Reality: A Survey of Nevada Judges", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Boharic, Robert V. (1995) "Regulating Eloquence: Time Limitations on Closing Arguments in Civil and Criminal Jury Trials", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Briggs, William L. (1990) "Can Private Adoption Procedures be as Structured as Agency Adoption Procedures Without Destroying the Unique Service They provide to Waiting Parents?" Family Law Journal, 1990.

Bromley, Rebecca (1995) "Jury Leniency in Drinking and Driving Cases - Has it Changed? 1958 versus 1993", Law and Psychology Review 20, pp. 27-55, Spring 1996.

Budzinski, Walter (2009) "A Case Study of the Coast Guard Administrative Law Judge Program", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

- Buchele, James P. (1988) "Justifying Real Property Tax Exemptions in Kansas", Washburn Law Journal 27, No. 252, pp. 252-297, November 1988.
- Carle, Curtis W. (1995) "The Politics of Change in Implementing a New Court System", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).
- Cicero, June H. (1989) "Piercing the Socratic Veil: Adding an Active Learning Alternative in Legal Education", William Mitchell Law Review 15, No. 4, pp. 1011-1024, 1989.
- Clark, Joseph T. (1993) "The "Community Standard" in the Trial of Obscenity Cases - A Mandate for Empirical Evidence in Search of the Truth", Ohio Northern University Law Review, 20, No. 1, pp 13-56, 1993.
- Clark, Thomas C. (1997) "Impact of Nineteenth Century Missouri Courts upon Emerging Industry: Chambers of Commerce or Chambers of Justice?", Missouri Law Review 63, No. 1, pp. 52-114, Winter 1998.
- Cohen, Gene D. (1998) "Comparing the Investigating Grand Jury with the French System of Criminal Investigations: A Judge's Perspective and Commentary", Temple International and Comparative Law Journal 13, No. 1, pp. 87-105, 1999.
- \*Cole, Tijani R. (2001) "The Courts and the Media - Benchbook", New England Law Review 35, No. 4, pgs. 855-907, Summer 2001.
- Colquitt, Joseph A. (1989) "Judicial Use of Social Science Evidence at Trial", Arizona Law Review 30, No. 4, pp. 51-84, 1999.
- Connolly, John S. (2001) "A Dose of Social Science: Support for the Use of Summary Jury Trials as a Form of Alternative Dispute Resolution", William Mitchell Law Review 25, No. 4, pp. 1420-1460, 1999.
- Crebbin, Anthony M. (2000) "The Vertical Perspective": How the Literature of Short Stories Intersects the Plane of Law", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).
- Crehan, Matthew J. (1996) "Seating the Blind Juror: Is it a Judicial Dilemma?", Judicature 81, No. 3, pp. 104-110, November-December 1997.
- Cullen, David P. (1992) "Indigent Defense Comparison of Ad Hoc and Contract Defense in Five Semi-Rural Jurisdictions", Oklahoma City University Law Review 17, No. 2, pp. 311-375, Summer 1992.
- Daugherty, Jay A. (1995) "The Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan: A Dinosaur on the Edge of Extinction or a Survivor in a Changing Socio-Legal Environment", Missouri Law Review 33, No. 2, pp. 315-343, Spring 1997.
- Davis, Warren (2005) "Should Georgia's Arrest Law Authorize Issuing Field Citation to More Non-Traffic Misdemeanor Offenders?", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).
- Daye, Courtney D. (2007) "An Analysis of the Sex Distribution of Jurors in Sexual Offenses Cases in Jamaica to Determine if this Factor have any Effect on Their Verdict", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).
- Deese, James W. (1990) "Courtroom Use of Scientific Evidence and Expert Witnesses, with Recommendations for Improved Procedures for Use of Expert Witnesses and Scientific Evidence", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).
- Deja, Daniel R. (1999) "The Required Submission of an ADR Joint Settlement Plan in Civil Cases in the Berrien County Michigan Trial Court: An Evaluation of its Effect on Case Disposition Time", Ohio State Journal on Dispute

Resolution 15, Issue 1, pp. 173-206, Fall 1999.

Diase-Coffelt, Soraya (2001) "The United States Virgin Islands at the Judicial Crossroads: Is it Time for a Supreme Court of the United States Virgin Islands?", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Domitrovich, Stephanie (1993) "Jury Sources Lists and the Community Need to Perceive Racial Balance on the Jury: The Genesis for Triggering Batson Concerns", Duquesne Law Review 33, No. 1, pp. 39-103, Fall 1994.

\*Domitrovich, Stephanie (1998) "Utilizing an Effective Economic Approach to Family Court: A Statutory Proposal for a Unified Family Court in Pennsylvania", Duquesne Law Review 37, No. 1, pp. 1-66, Fall 1998.

Donohue, Michael E. (1987) "Another Door Closed: Rape Trauma Syndrome", Gonzaga Law Review 23, No. 1, pp. 1-35, 1987/88.

Doucet, Randy (2004) "Tribal Judicial Systems and Tribal Economic Development: Developments in Three Tribal Judicial Systems", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Dowd, Matthew J. (2008) "Have Sentencing Guidelines Eliminate Sentence Disparity in Kansas?", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Drain, Gershwin A. (1991) "Mistaken Proportionality: A Look at This Country's Most Severe Narcotics Penalty for First Offenders", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Dreyer, David J. (2006) "Culture, Structure, and Pro Bono Practices", (non-published thesis, available through the University of Nevada, Reno Library).

Dywan, Jeffery J. (2003) "An Evaluation of the Effect of Court-Ordered Mediation and Proactive Case Management on the Pace of Civil Tort Litigation in Lake County, Indiana", Journal of Dispute Resolution 2003, No. 1, pp. 239-254, May 2003.

Fagg, Russell C. (1999) "Montana Offer of Judgment Rule: Let's Provide Bonafide Settlement Incentives", Montana Law Review 60, No. 1, pp. 40-66, Winter 1999.

Fennelly, John E. (1992) "Inevitable Discovery, the Exclusionary Rule and Military Due Process", Military Law Review 23, pp. 109-146, 1992.

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