

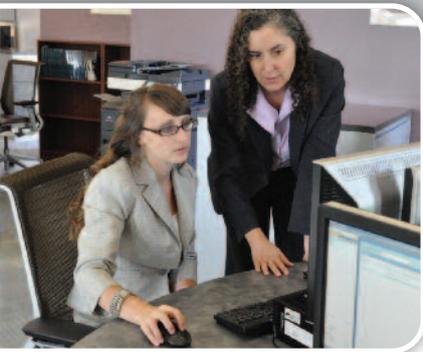
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO  
SCHOOL OF LAW  
Clinical Program

Pioneering. Inclusive. Required.



THE UNIVERSITY of  
NEW MEXICO

SCHOOL of LAW



# THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

## PIONEERING. INCLUSIVE. REQUIRED.

At the University of New Mexico School of Law, collaborative clinical teaching methods link the classroom and the community to the practice of law. In our Clinical Program, students gain real-world experience while our clinical faculty continue to expand and enhance the program that helped to pioneer clinical legal education.

“We train law students how to practice law. Guided by an energetic group of tenured and tenure-track faculty, our students represent real people. They gain a first-hand, critical understanding of the responsibility of lawyering and the privilege of serving.”

—Professor April Land,  
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

**9<sup>th</sup>**  
Clinical Training  
US News & World Report,  
2014

**43** Years of a required, collaborative  
Clinical Program



**100** Percent of students required to  
participate in the clinical experience



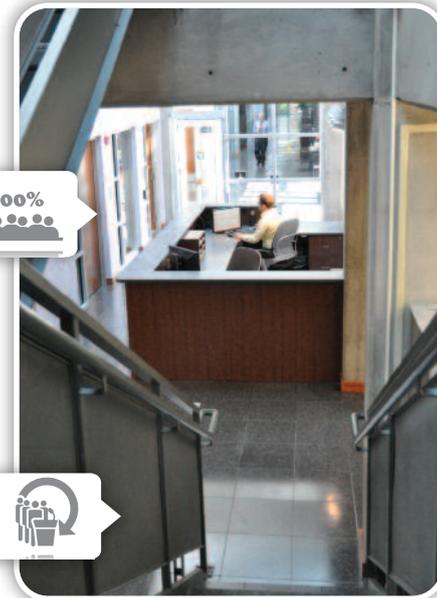
**8:1** Student-to-faculty ratio  
in the Clinical Program



**9** Core clinical  
faculty



**5** Of a highly unified faculty, number of traditional  
course faculty regularly rotating into the clinic



# THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

## Pioneering

The University of New Mexico was one of the first law schools in the country to create a mandatory clinic where students earn law school credit for representing real clients with supervision by tenured and tenure-track faculty. UNM also pioneered the use of technology in the clinical program with the development and use of an automated case management system. Constantly expanding and evolving, our clinical program continues to be recognized as a national leader.

### What Sets Us Apart:

The “Largest Law Firm in New Mexico”  
—given our total number of individuals providing legal services

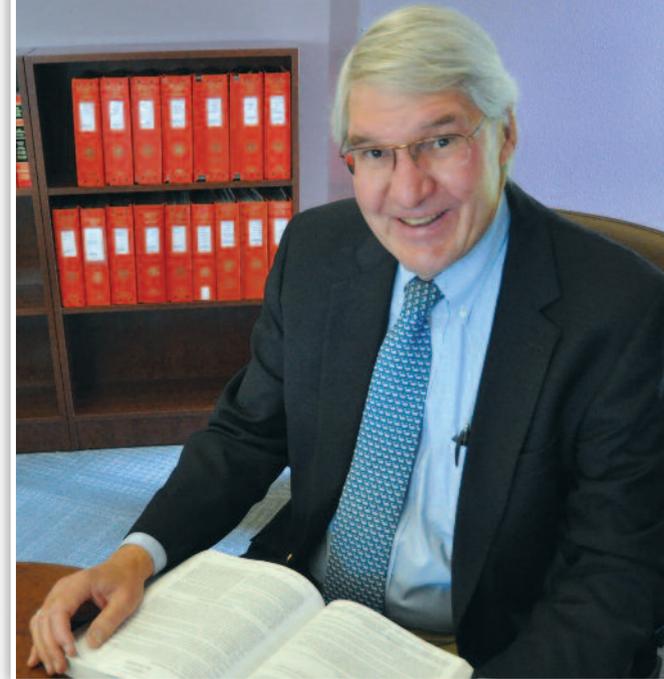
Our Record of National Distinction  
—consistently a *US News & World Report* top program

Steadfast Internal Program Support  
—from our full Faculty and Deans

Vigorous External Collaborations  
—with our Courts and the Bar

“The pioneering vision for a dynamic, evolving clinic continues and is now reflected in our collaborative, multidisciplinary approach and state-of-the-art clinical classrooms.”

—Professor J. Michael Norwood,  
*Emeritus Professor of Law, Director of  
Clinical Programs 1983–1992*



“Most law students come to law school for one reason—they want to get a full time job as a lawyer. I’m proud to say that here at UNM, we far exceed the national average in placing our students in full time jobs requiring bar passage. Experiential learning opportunities are a huge part of this success.”



—Max Minzner,  
*Associate Dean for Academic  
Affairs & Professor of Law  
Karelitz Chair in Evidence & Procedure*

## THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

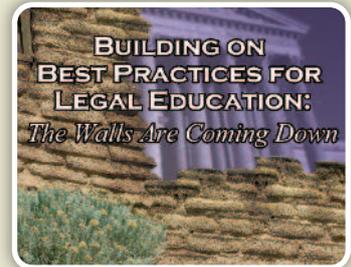
### Inclusive

Our clinic focuses on inclusion. All students have the opportunity for a clinical experience with core clinical faculty and the traditional course faculty who rotate into the clinic. We collaborate with the Courts, the Bar, New Mexico communities, and legal educators nationwide.

Last fall, the School of Law hosted an invitation-only two day conference supported by the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) on implementing best practices for legal education.

**Keynote speaker:** Roy Stuckey,  
*Best Practices for Legal Education:  
A Vision and a Road Map*

**Facilitators:** Antoinette Sedillo Lopez,  
*Dickason Professor of Law,*  
University of New Mexico  
School of Law, and  
Deborah Maranville, *Director  
of Experiential Learning,*  
University of Washington,  
editors of the forth-  
coming book *Building on  
Best Practices for Legal  
Education: The Walls are  
Coming Down.*



Mark Holm



“From its inception, the Southwest Indian Law Clinic has utilized a community lawyering approach in its work. This approach helps students prepare for the practice of Indian Law where the individual and the community are integrally intertwined.”

—Christine Zuni Cruz,  
*Dickason Professor of Law, Associate Dean  
for the Indian Law Program and a founder of  
the Southwest Indian Law Clinic*

# THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

## Required

We shape more lawyers through service than any other institution in the state.

Our law students are on the front lines of public service, representing real clients while receiving six credits for the mandatory clinic program. Our students have appeared in Metropolitan Court, District Courts, Tribal Courts, the New Mexico Court of Appeals, and the New Mexico Supreme Court as part of their clinical training.

We shape competent, confident lawyers.

Working in multidisciplinary teams in the clinics, our students enhance their analytical skills and develop problem-solving and counseling skills. Students enjoy individualized and expert training from seasoned faculty and acquire a tested first-hand familiarity with the legal system in advance of their graduation.

**Professor Alfred D. Mathewson**, *Business and Tax Law Clinic, Henry Weihofen Chair in Law and Director, UNM Africana Studies Program*

**Professor Nathalie Martin**, *Business and Tax (Economic Development) Clinic, Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Frederick M. Hart Chair in Consumer and Clinical Law*



Mark Holm

“Through the Medical Legal Alliance, our law students are able to integrate into healthcare settings right in the communities where many of our clients live.”

—**Yael Cannon**,  
*Assistant Professor of Law*



Mark Holm



“For over four decades, the University of New Mexico School of Law has had a mandatory clinical program. We continue to expand experiential learning opportunities across the law school curriculum and are moving toward creating a truly integrative model of legal education.”

—**Aliza Organick**,  
*Professor of Law*  
*UNM Teaching Fellow*

## THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

### Medical-Legal Alliance

The Community Lawyering Clinic provides outreach legal services in partnership with local community service providers, including non-legal disciplines. Through the Medical-Legal Alliance (MLA), the clinic has entered into a strategic alliance, one of the nation’s first, with the Pediatrics and Family Medicine Departments of the UNM Health Sciences Center.

MLAC law students conduct intakes onsite at UNM health clinics in a low-income neighborhood of Albuquerque. Students train healthcare providers to identify and better address legal issues that affect their patients and provide direct legal representation in and out of court to children, caregivers, and families to address issues such as housing, education, domestic violence, and immigration status.

Students represent clients in Family Court, Children’s Court (juvenile delinquency), and other venues as necessary.

Read more about this life-changing work at  
<http://lawschool.unm.edu/clinic/clinic-sections/community>

# THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

## Clinical Sections

### Southwest Indian Law

Students represent individual clients and/or tribal groups or Indian communities and learn how to approach legal solutions premised on tribal sovereignty, cultural rights, and more.

### Business and Tax

Students provide legal services to businesses and individuals in areas such as estate planning, dispute resolution, taxation, financial crises, and working with the IRS.

### Law Practice

In an experiential learning rotation typical of a general law practice, students represent clients in a variety of both civil and criminal cases.

### Community Lawyering

Students work closely with physicians, social workers, community planners, community activists, and nonprofits at various sites across Albuquerque.



Some UNM  
School of Law  
Clinical Program  
faculty and  
students



“The clinic, its staff, and supervising attorneys take their time to carefully explain legal issues, as well as the ins and outs of the court systems. I believe this method of 'learning-through-practice' makes better, more capable attorneys.”

— **Honor Keeler,**  
*Class of 2010*

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**9<sup>th</sup>**  
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*US News & World Report,*  
**2014**

Photos: UNM Law Media Center  
unless otherwise indicated.

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