
The Gold Coast Community Legal Centre has created a working relationship with Griffith University.

The Centre aims to make a positive impact on the up and coming legal profession by providing opportunities for law students and graduates to be able to practical experience within a legal environment.

Griffith University approached the Gold Coast Community Legal Centre in 2015 in hope of allowing this relationship to be formed.

Over time, the relationship has grown and programs were created and put in place and are successfully achieving the desired outcome as students are gaining experience in a community legal centre and learning the values of working within the community.

Griffith University has one formal clinic running out of the Centre: Griffith University Law Elective Clinic: 5238LAW Community Lawyering Clinic.

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY LAW ELECTIVE CLINIC: 5238LAW COMMUNITY LAWYERING CLINIC

Griffith University law students have the opportunity to enrol in a subject which places them in our Centre for the duration of a trimester (12 weeks).

The Gold Coast Community Legal Centre has created a clinic with Griffith University where twice a year, students are formally placed in the Centre to gain experience within a community legal centre environment.

This program commenced in 2015 and runs two times a year; in Trimester 1 (February - May) and Trimester 2 (July - September).

About the subject:

The subject offered by Griffith University aims to provide students with an insight into what it is like to work in a community legal centre. The subject places students immediately in the Centre to gain experience in the practical side of working within the legal profession as a community lawyer.

Students are required to undertake assessment activities as per the Clinic Course Profile and are supervised by a staff solicitor of the Centre for the duration of the Clinic. This supervisor inducts and orientates students prior to their placement, as well as acts as a supervisor and mentor during the Clinic, and marking assessment and providing feedback to students on their overall grade received.

Placement activities:

Students spend 12 days at the Centre, one day a week for the duration of the Semester. Students participate in many activities including, but not limited to:

- sitting in on reception, answering phones, making legal appointments and giving general community referrals;

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- sitting in on appointments between a solicitor and client;
 - conducting client in-takes for solicitors prior to an appointment;
 - completing file notes on appointments observed;
 - drafting forms or letters with clients under the supervision of the solicitor;
 - undertaking research for solicitors who have ongoing casework;
 - attending functions, conferences or events with a solicitor if any such opportunity arises on a day the student is placed;
 - any other task the supervising solicitor deems appropriate.

Further information:

If you are a Griffith University law student and are interested in finding out more about this subject and participating in this formal placement, please contact the Griffith Law School at Griffith University for further information.

We would like to acknowledge that Griffith University kindly sponsors this partnership with the Gold Coast Community Legal Centre