Applications for The Dean’s Legal Research and Writing Fellows Program CML 3174
Three Credits: Fall Term 2023 or Winter Term 2024
(Can Satisfy the Major Paper Requirement)
Applications Due June 2, 2023

The Dean’s Research and Writing Fellows Program is a unique and challenging opportunity open to high achieving upper-year students with strong writing skills and demonstrated leadership abilities. Successful applicants must have excellent research and communication skills, superior academic achievement, and an enthusiasm for working together to accomplish team goals.

Students accepted into the program work in teams with a lawyer-mentor on an advanced research problem and receive intensive writing instruction from Professor Melanie Mallet. Students will learn new research skills and produce high quality written work that showcases their writing skills. They will also lead small tutorial sessions of the first-year course, Legal Foundations (CML 1101).

Students spend class time working on advanced research and writing modules. Students will complete a series of short, evaluated assignments that track the progress of their research and that demonstrate their writing skills. The majority of students’ marks will be based on their (individually submitted) final research memos or papers, assessed on the basis of the research undertaken, the quality of writing, and the coherence of the work as a whole. Final evaluation will also incorporate substantive feedback from mentors.

Students also spend class time preparing to lead legal research tutorials and mentor first-year students.

Accepted students will register for either Fall or Winter term and complete their research and writing in that term. Note that accepted students assist in the first-year course, CML 1101, in both the Fall and Winter terms, regardless of the term in which they are registered to receive course credit. Therefore, all accepted students must also be available for a 1:00-2:30 p.m. course slot on Wednesdays for both Fall and Winter terms.

Because students mentor first-year students and represent the law school to the external legal community, they must demonstrate a high level of commitment and dedication to all aspects of the program.

This course is by application only and is not listed under the on-line registration website. Professor Mallet will notify successful applicants before formal course registration begins. For scheduling and mentoring purposes, students accepted into CML 3174 will have priority registration for upper-year courses, with the exception of January term registration.

The Common Law Student Centre will register accepted students into the course and will arrange for the students to submit their other course requests for the year prior to the official registration period.

TO APPLY: Please submit, as one PDF file, the following information to Professor Melanie Mallet (mmallet@uottawa.ca) by June 2, 2023:
1. Cover Letter with contact information
2. Curriculum vitae
3. Legal Writing Sample of approximately five pages. The sample can be extracted from a larger work as long as the sample is coherent.
4. Contact information for References: In your cover letter or c.v., please include the names and phone numbers of two law school professors. Your references do not need to provide letters.
5. Law School Transcript: Informal transcripts are acceptable.

Short-listed applicants may be interviewed via Zoom.

If you have questions, please contact Professor Mallet (mmallet@uottawa.ca)