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Discover

Employment law governs the relationship between employers and employees under the common law, the U.S. Constitution, and federal and statutes. Major areas of employment law include employment contracts, employee rights, employment discrimination, wage and hour regulation, labor law and collective bargaining, and employee benefits (ERISA). As a general rule (though there are some exceptions), employment lawyers either represent employers/management or employees/unions. An employment law practice may include some or all of the following: (1) counseling clients about compliance with employment-related statutes and regulations; (2) handling employment disputes and litigation on behalf of employers or employees; (3) representing clients in arbitration and before administrative agencies, (4) drafting employment policies and agreements, including non-solicitation agreements and covenants not to compete; and (5) advising management employers or labor unions in collective bargaining and related processes. A law student might be drawn to an employment law practice if he or she appreciates stories about people, rather than about companies or money. Employment law matters often present interesting fact patterns. A student who wants to use the law to help individuals might find a plaintiff's side employment practice appealing. Students who think they want to litigate but are concerned that "all litigation, all the time" would involve too much negativity and confrontation may be attracted to an employer-side practice. Along with litigating, employer-side employment lawyers provide client-counseling, helping employers establish policies and make decisions meant to prevent legal problems before they arise. Finally, employment law is a good practice area for students who think that they might eventually want to go "in-house" and work inside a corporation.

Learn

Foundational Courses All are strongly recommend and should be taken early in the upper-level years.	Advanced Courses Advanced Coursework that will enhance your substantive knowledge in this pathway.	Writing Courses Coursework to hone your writing skills and develop a portfolio of practicing writing in your field.
Employment Discrimination	Constitutional Tort Litigation	Advanced Legal Writing
General Employment Law	Disability Discrimination	Practice-Ready Writing
Labor Law	Employee Benefits	
	Federal Courts	



	Workers Compensation			

Experiential Courses

Clinics Students who participate in a clinic are exposed to a practice area through the representation of actual clients under faculty supervision. The following clinics are relevant to this career path:	Externships Externships place students in a wide variety of placements where they work directly under the supervision of a practicing attorney. Sample placements in for this career path include:	Additional E-Courses Georgia State College of Law has numerous other experiential opportunities. The following are some additional courses that should be considered for this career path:
Investor Advocacy Clinic Landlord-Tenant Mediation Clinic Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic	Federal Judicial Externship In-House Corporate Externship EEOC – Litigation Unit EEOC – Hearings Unit U.S. Department of Labor U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Attorney General, State of Georgia – Division 5 FAA, Office of Regional Counsel CDC – Office of the General Counsel Georgia Advocacy Office	Advanced Evidence Alternative Dispute Resolution for Advocates Civil Pretrial Litigation Fundamentals of Law Practice Interviewing and Counseling Mediation Advocacy: Law and Practice Negotiation Expert Testimony Using Technology Legal Technology Competencies and Operations

All course descriptions are available online through the COL Bulletin.

Network

Students should seek out connections with practitioners and other students, both within Georgia State and throughout the legal community. Adjunct professors can be an excellent resource both for guidance and employment opportunities. Professional Bar associations also welcome student participation and may offer reduced membership rates for students. Some bar sections and committees look for students to provide research or other assistance.



Professional Organizations

Atlanta Bar Association, Labor and Employment Law Section

State Bar of Georgia, Labor and Employment Law Section

Bleckley Inn of Court

Student organizations

Labor and Employment Law Society

Law Review

Moot Court

Student Trial Lawyers Association