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**Discover**

Family law includes several types of practices and touches on a variety of legal areas. Many attorneys' practices focus on domestic relations law, consisting primarily of matters related to marriage, divorce and child custody. Some attorneys have a child-focused practice that involves, for example, working primarily on abuse and neglect cases and/or serving as guardians ad litem in child custody, abuse and neglect and other child-related cases, while others work for the state doing child support enforcement. Yet others may focus their practice on family-building (via adoption and/or assisted reproductive technologies) or international and transnational aspects of family law (e.g., intercountry adoption, abduction and return cases, and family immigration matters). In any of these areas, a lawyer likely will be involved in all manner of practice, including counseling, pretrial work, trials, mediation, negotiations, and transactional work. Students interested in doing any of these areas of work and in learning how the law affects families, individual lives and intimate relationships would want to explore pursuing a family law practice.

**Learn**

<i>These courses provide a good introduction to the family law field.</i>	<i>These elective courses are relevant for students interested in a particular area of the family law field.</i>	<i>To hone your writing skills and to qualify for the College of Law's writing requirement, see information below.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Law</li> <li>• Juvenile Law</li> <li>• Domestic Litigation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wills, Trusts and Estates</li> <li>• Basic Federal Taxation</li> <li>• Constitutional Law II</li> <li>• Estate Planning seminar</li> <li>• Basic Bankruptcy;</li> <li>• Alternative Dispute Resolution</li> <li>• Law and the Elderly</li> <li>• Education Law</li> <li>• Human Rights &amp; Children</li> <li>• Global Perspectives on Children and the Law</li> </ul>	<p>You should consult with a family law faculty member to learn how to propose a substantial writing project on a family law topic, as part of one of the foregoing electives or as independent research supervised by a faculty member.</p>

<p><b>Clinics</b>  <i>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:</i></p>	<p><b>Externships</b>  <i>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:</i></p>	<p><b>Additional E-Courses</b>  <i>Georgia State College of Law has numerous other experiential opportunities. The following are some additional courses that should be considered for this career path:</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fundamentals of Law Practice (<i>significant domestic violence focus</i>)</li> <li>• HeLP Clinic</li> <li>• Tax Clinic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation-Domestic Violence;</li> <li>• Truancy Intervention Project;</li> <li>• Judge Green (Cobb)</li> <li>• Judge Glanville (Fulton Family Division)</li> <li>• All Ga. Supreme Court Justices</li> <li>• Atlanta Legal Aid Society</li> <li>• Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman</li> <li>• Georgia Advocacy Office</li> <li>• Ga. Dep’t of Public Health</li> <li>• Ga. Attorney General</li> <li>• Weltner Inn of Court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interviewing and Counseling</li> <li>• Alternative Dispute Resolution for Advocates</li> <li>• Mediation Advocacy: Law and Practice</li> <li>• Negotiation</li> </ul>

All course descriptions are available online through the [COL Bulletin](#).

### Networking

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, or may have student writing competitions.



**Professional Organizations**

[American Bar Association – Section of Family Law](#)

[State Bar of Georgia Family Law Section](#)

[Atlanta Bar Association Family Law Section](#)

**Student organizations**

Family Law Society

Law Students for Reproductive Justice

Mindfulness Law Society

OUTlaw

Public Interest Law Association

Parents Attending Law School (PALS)