**Thomas Jefferson School of Law**

**CENTER FOR LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The Center for Law and Social Justice provides students interested in practicing or studying in areas relating to social justice with programs and opportunities designed to develop these students’ understanding of issues in relating to law and social justice, and to enhance their ability to pursue career in this area upon graduation from law school.

The Program has adopted a set of learning outcomes consistent with this mission, aiming to achieve each of these outcomes with each enrolled student. These outcomes inform the Program’s director and faculty in their assessment of students as they progress through the Program. They also guide the director in their evaluation and development of the Program.

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Knowledge of Substantive Law Relevant to Social Justice.
   1. *Outcome*. Students will understand the substantive doctrine and theory of law in at least one area relating to social justice, including issues relating to racial justice, gender equality, LGBTQ rights, civil rights, environmental justice, economic inequality, and other areas relating to social justice and law. Students will be able to identify legal rules, concepts, and theories arising in at least one of these areas, and to effectively apply the substantive law to factual situations. They will also have an understanding of policy issues in this field.
   2. *How Achieved*. Students will study this doctrine and theory in required and elective courses offered in the J.D. program. In order to achieve this outcome, the Certificate Program requires Students to complete at least twelve units of study in these areas in elective upper-level courses with a 2.7 average GPA as a condition for completion of the Program.
2. Development of Practical Skills Relevant to Law and Social Justice.
   1. *Outcome*. Students will be introduced to and develop practical skills relevant to practice in areas relating to social justice, including legal analysis, research, drafting, policy analysis, activism and cause lawyering, and problem solving. They will also learn how to incorporate social justice elements into other areas of law practice.
   2. *How Achieved*. Students will study this doctrine and theory through a series of elective courses offered annually in the J.D. program.
3. Understanding of Important Issues in Law and Social Justice.
   1. *Outcome*. Students will come to understand and be able to discuss and analyze important issues relating to law and social justice. They will be able provide effective research and analysis in writing.
   2. *How achieved*. In order to achieve this outcome, the Certificate Program requires the completion of an upper-level writing project. This substantial writing requirement paper must be submitted to the Center Director to determine whether it satisfies the requirement.