



MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW at ANDOVER

Spring 2025

PROFESSIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Professor Paula Colby-Clements pcolby@msslw.edu

The Professional Career Development course is a one credit course designed to give you an early start on the process of career planning and development. The process involves thoughtful self-assessment, career exploration (fields of practice and non-traditional avenues for those with a Juris Doctor Degree), planning and follow-through with preliminary employment strategies. The philosophy of this course is to have you develop an ongoing systemic approach aimed toward establishing a fulfilling work life when you complete law school. Engaging in this ongoing process should be challenging, interesting, and enjoyable. This will be accomplished by engaging in meaningful reflection on the process of professional formation, by considering individual values, strengths, and interests, examining the culture and expectations of the legal profession, and developing key tools and strategies necessary to pursue and succeed in employment.

Monday January 6th (6PM-10PM)

Career Planning, Self-Assessment, and Career Exploration

Tuesday January 7th (6PM – 10PM)

Class Speaker: Matthew Fogelman, Mass Association of Trial Attorneys

Developing Your Professional Resume and Targeting Your Resume & Preparing Cover Letters and other Professional Communications

Wednesday January 8th (6PM – 10PM)

Preparing for and conducting your Employment and Internship Interviews

Thursday January 9th (6PM – 10PM)

Class Speaker: Heidi Alexander, Director, Massachusetts SJC Standing Committee on Lawyer Well-Being

Creating your Network, Influencing your Network, and Professional Portfolio

Useful Links:

[Practice Management & Professionalism - Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers | MA](#)

[Lawyer Assistance Resources | Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers MA](#)

[Create a good LinkedIn profile | LinkedIn Help](#)

[Legal Jobs - Boston Bar Association](#)

[Jobs and Internships at the Attorney General's Office | Mass.gov](#)

[Jobs with the Court System | Mass.gov](#)

No textbook is required for this course. All resources that are used will be on line resources.