

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ON LAWYERING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

The purpose of the Certificate Program on Lawyering in the Public Interest is to educate selected law students on the role of a lawyer in a democratic society and give them the skills needed to act in the public interest as a legal professional in their careers. Participants will complete 16 hours of interactive course instruction and at the end receive a certificate from the Rule of Law Institute and the Center for Advancing Legal Skills from the Catholic University of Lublin. The Course will be held in English. The course fee is sponsored by a grant from the US Embassy in Poland.

Law Students in their third, fourth or fifth year of studies and law graduates who have graduated no longer than 2 years ago will be eligible to apply. Students must have good English understanding and communication skills.

MODULE 1: Understanding the role of the legal professional in a democratic society. 4 class hours.

Do lawyers have a special role to play in a democratic society? Does being a lawyer carry responsibility beyond that of other professions? What special ethical rules govern a lawyer's behavior in a modern democratic society? How do we understand the role of a legal professional in our complicated world?

MODULE 2: Civil Society and the Rule of Law. 4 class hours.

Civil Society is considered to be an essential element of a democratic state. Is this true? What is the meaning of the rule of law as applied to modern governments and what role does the non-governmental community play in this process. Is the work of lawyers essential to the health of civil society?

MODULE 3: Legal Skills for the Public Interest Lawyer. 6 class hours.

An effective lawyer acting in the public interest needs certain key skills. Among these are the skills of critical thinking, problem solving, effective public written and oral advocacy and creativity.

MODULE 4: Opportunities for Legal Work in the Public Interest. 2 class hours.

What does it mean to work in the public interest? What kinds of jobs in Government and non-governmental organizations are available for lawyers to work in the public interest? How do you prepare for a career in the Public interest?

Application Deadline: March 24th, 2021

Practical workshops will be held in Lublin and scheduled on Saturdays:
March 27th and April 10th, 2021.

Link to the application form: <https://forms.gle/gbbetU3gZp4nsYbP8>

Project is funded in part by a grant from the United States Embassy in Poland

