

Compliance Policy Clinic

Devising Real-World Solutions, Anticipating the Future

The Compliance Policy Clinic is the first U.S. law school clinic to focus on the rapidly- expanding field of compliance lawyering: working across disciplines to translate **complex, shifting legal requirements** into effective systems that protect highly-regulated institutions from legal liability, reputational damage, and operational risk.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

From environmental law to privacy and information security, from health law to global commerce, and beyond, compliance lawyers work wherever institutions detect and prevent illegal activities internally. The Clinic is designed to develop core skills and capacities that are transferrable across compliance practice contexts and substantive areas of law.

The only Clinic of its kind, the Clinic is a central component of BU Law's Risk Management & Compliance concentration, in which JD students explore the impact of legal and regulatory compliance on business operations, legal norms underlying compliance, and the role of ethics in regulatory and compliance practice

The Clinic is a one-semester, six-credit program, with three credits allocated to fieldwork and three credits to coursework.

We warmly welcome all applicants and remind students that Boston University policy prohibits discrimination against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic

information, military service, pregnancy or pregnancy-related condition, or because of marital, parental, or veteran status, and acts in conformity with all applicable state and federal laws. This policy extends to all BU Law academic programs.

Fieldwork

- Lead the Clinic's work with private-sector, public-sector, and NGO partners and clients across a range of fields and industries.
- Learn to run internal compliance investigations.
- Take on projects on compliance topics with broad social impact.
- Hone skills in research, analysis, writing, fact investigation, interviewing, presentation, counseling, project management, and interprofessional collaboration.

Coursework

In weekly seminars and problem-solving sessions, we practice key lawyering skills and discuss ongoing case and project work. At the same time, we think about the broader impact of and context for the compliance function. We will consider how legal and regulatory systems support – or fail to support –

ethical individual and corporate conduct as well as public policy goals.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Compliance Policy Clinic students have:

- Built and facilitated a multidisciplinary "tabletop exercise" for a Fortune 500 company to assess its responsiveness to sexual harassment and misconduct.
- Collaborated with an NGO to evaluate enforcement on corrupt payments to foreign government officials in forced labor flows.
- Developed an organizational self-assessment and set of best practices for applying compliance approaches to advance workplace racial equity.
- Drafted multiple policies and enterprise-wide codes of conduct for global and national companies.
- Conducted a legal, operational, and reputational risk assessment for a local not-for-profit planning to expand nationwide.
- Evaluated gaps in policies and practices to enable a company to work toward global data privacy certification.

 bu.edu/law/clinics-apply