Legislative Practice courses - For students interested in the Legislative field Drake offers a variety of classes, including a six-course track to obtain a legislative practice Certificate. The courses and the timing for taking them is as follows.

Legislation (233) a two credit-course is offered only in the Fall, and it serves as a pre-requisite for 3 other legislative offerings. Students interested in obtaining the certificate must take it in the fall of the 2nd year, but the class can be taken as a 3rd year elective.

Legislative Internship (235) is a two-credit class offered in the Spring. In this class students are paired with a member of the Iowa General Assembly and spend approximately 10 hours as week for ten weeks interning with the Iowa legislature.

Legislative Practice (52) is a two-credit class offered in the fall semester and it can only be taken by 3rd year students who have completed the first two legislation courses. This class provides practical training on bill drafting and legislative strategy.

Legislative Practice Internship (299) is a two-credit course offered in the Spring semester, which can only be taken by 3rd students who have completed the previous three classes. In this class students are assigned to an agency or organization with matters before the legislature. Students assist in the lobbying activities of the organization under supervision by other staff.

In addition to these four Legislative courses two other classes are required to obtain the Certificate – State and Local Government (284) and Administrative Law (266). These can be taken in the 2nd or 3rd year as offered.

Food and Agricultural Law courses

For students interested in Agricultural law Drake offers an array of courses, including the option to obtain a certificate in Food and Agricultural Law. The courses can be taken by any student in the 2nd or 3rd year, and have no prerequisites. Those interested in obtaining the Certificate should visit with Professor Hamilton to discuss the internship and writing requirements for the certificate, as well as electives. The Agricultural Law courses and their schedule is as follows:

Introduction to Agricultural Law (221) is a three-credit course offered in alternating fall semesters (it will be offered in 2011 and 2013). It does not have a prerequisite.

Food and the Law (230) is a three-credit course offered in alternating fall semesters (it will be offered in 2012). It does not have a prerequisite.

Environmental Regulation of Agriculture, is a three-credit writing seminar offered each Spring. It can be taken by either 2nd or 3rd year students though is typical taken in the last semester. It does not have a prerequisite.
In addition to these regularly scheduled classes Drake also offers other agricultural law class opportunities. For example, each summer three one-credit one-week courses are offered in July as part of the Summer Agricultural Law Institute. These can used as electives for the Certificate or to substitute for a required classes, with approval. In the summer of 2011 the Center will offer classes on: Civil Rights Litigation and the USDA, Social Responsibility in the Food Sector, and America’s New Farmers – Policy Opportunities.

There are other courses students interested in Agricultural Law often take as electives, including: Land Use, Secured Transactions, Wind Law, Legislation, Environmental Law, and various tax classes.