



About The Emory Moot Court Society

The Emory Moot Court Society is a student-run organization comprised of approximately 38 3L members, approximately 38 2L members, and a faculty advisor. Membership in the Society is determined exclusively through a tryout process involving brief writing and oral arguments. The majority of the tryout process occurs during the spring semester 1L Intra-School Competition. Before finalizing our Society membership list, however, we also hold an annual Transfer Competition in July and August.

Please note that transfer students required to take spring semester Introduction to Legal Advocacy are not eligible to join the society. Questions about pre-requisite eligibility can be e-mailed to our faculty advisor, Professor Romig at jromig@emory.edu.

Special Teams

Each year, society members participate on “Special Teams” consisting of two 2Ls and two 3Ls per team (with the exception of the National Moot Court Competition Teams, which are comprised exclusively of 3Ls). All 2L members compete on a special team during the spring semester of their 2L year, and all 3L members coach a 2L special team during the spring semester of their 3L year. All of our special teams attend different, nationally ranked competitions. In 2019-2020, we anticipate attending the following competitions:

- American Bar Association Moot Court Competition (Regional Competition: TBA; National Competition: Chicago, IL)
- Cardozo/BMI Entertainment and Communications Law Competition (New York, NY)
- Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition (Miami, FL and New York, NY)
- Evan A. Evans Constitutional Law Competition (Madison, WI)
- Georgia Intrastate Moot Court Competition (annually hosted by a Georgia law school)
- Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition (Brooklyn, NY)
- Jessup International Moot Court Competition (Regional Competition: New Orleans, LA; International Competition: Washington, D.C.)
- Kaufman Securities Moot Court Competition (New York, NY)
- NYU Immigration Law Moot Court Competition (New York, NY)
- Robert F. Wagner Labor and Employment Moot Court Competition (New York, NY)
- Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition (Regional Competition: Atlanta, GA; National Competition: Washington D.C.)
- Siegenthaler-Sutherland National First Amendment Moot Court Competition (Washington, D.C.)
- Tulane Mardi Gras Sports Law Moot Court Competition (New Orleans, LA)
- Williams Institute Moot Court Competition for Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law (Los Angeles, CA)

Society Expectations for 2L Members

The Moot Court Society has high expectations for all of its members and requires active participation during both the fall and spring semesters. In the fall, 2L members are expected to

spend several hours analyzing prior years' winning briefs, and hone general forensic skills in preparation for their respective competitions. In the spring, 2L members are expected to spend a number of weeks researching and writing their special team brief and a minimum of ten hours per week practicing oral argument in the months leading up to their special team competition. In exchange for meeting these expectations, Society Members earn two pass/fail academic credits in the spring semester. Other societal expectations include:

- Helping with Emory Law's Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition (CRAL) during the fall semester– i.e., bailiffing, greeting judges and competitors, helping with the judge's reception, helping with the formal luncheon, etc.
- Attending the Final Round of CRAL
- Attending ALL Moot Court Society Meetings – about one per month
- Benching a National Competition Team at least twice
- Helping with the spring 1L Intra-School Competition – i.e., grading briefs and benching oral argument rounds

Special Teams Selection

In early fall, all 2L society members participate in the Special Teams Competition to be placed on a special team. The Special Teams Competition problem will be the same problem as the one used in fall Transfer Student Competition, and will require a 10 – 15 page brief, as well both an “on-brief” and an “off-brief” oral argument. Each 2L society member will be judged by at least one 3L member of every Special Team, and will be considered holistically based on general writing, argument, and presentation styles. Based on the results of this competition, 2L members are strategically placed on teams where the Society believes they can be most successful. More information about the Special Teams Competition will be presented at a “Special Teams Informational” meeting during the first week of school.

Transfer Student Tryout Information and Timeline

Transfer student competitors will be ranked based on the average of scores from (1) a 10-15 page appellate brief and (2) a 10-minute “on-brief” oral argument. Each brief will be graded blindly by at least three 3L members. Oral argument rounds will also be judged exclusively by 3L members.

The transfer competition will take place before the fall semester begins. The brief problem will be released, along with side and issue assignments (i.e., petitioner or respondent) to all transfer students in mid to late July. Competitors will have approximately two weeks to write their briefs, and oral arguments will be scheduled during the first two weeks of August. More information regarding dates and official rules will be administered to all transfer students during the summer.

If you have been admitted to Emory as a transfer and know you would like to try out – or if you have any additional questions – please email Moot Court Society Director-in-Chief Jacob Weiss at jacob.michael.weiss@emory.edu

Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you in August!

