

**Cynthia R. Lea**  
Visiting Lecturer  
Schedler Honors College  
University of Central Arkansas  
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### **Academic Interests**

Civil rights, history and law; Native American history; disability law; employment law; immigration law; women and law; alternate dispute resolution; LGBTQ+ history and law; service learning.

### **Education**

J.D., University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bill Bowen School of Law, 1999  
Mental Health Legal Clinic and Mediation Legal Clinic, 1998 - 1999

B.S.E. in History, University of Central Arkansas, 1995  
Minor: Honors Interdisciplinary Arts

### **Academic Honors**

Selected to compete in the National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition, Spring 1999  
Awarded Top Paper in Juvenile Law, Fall 1998  
Quarterfinalist Bowen School of Law Intramural Moot Court Competition, Fall 1997  
Member of Alpha Chi, 1994  
Member of Phi Alpha Theta, 1994

### **Administrative Experience**

**Interim Program Coordinator**, Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas, 2014 - present

- Select and train 20+ Honors Ambassadors to help with recruitment and selection of incoming honors scholars
- Serve as Faculty Advisor for the Honors Council, the elected student governance of the Honors Center Society
- Select the Honors Freshmen Mentors (upperclassmen chosen to mentor for the incoming Freshmen through academic and co-curricular programming) and serve as Faculty Advisor
- Coordinate with the Honors Co-Curricular Committee, Honors Administration, and Honors Council to write grant proposals for SGA funding, secure private funding, venue, speakers, and publicity for Honors Challenge Week, a week long lecture series

- Evaluate the recommendation letters of all incoming student applications
- Coordinate the selection process of the incoming honors scholars
  - Secure the venue for interview days, assign interview groups of potential scholars with interviewers, design programs for the interview activities, coordinate the Ambassadors participation for lunch and tours, coordinate with the Dean of Students, Financial Aid, Housing and Residence Life, Registrar, Academic Advising, Orientation, Public Safety
- Partner with Farris Residence Coordinator to facilitate the work of the Honors Resident Assistants and Honors Freshmen Mentors to develop residence life programming for Honors students
- Communicate through weekly announcements to students through OrgSync and Facebook about Honors events
- Serve as one of two evaluators for all Travel Abroad Grant (TAG) and Undergraduate Research Grant (URGE) applications
- Design and coordinate Honors Freshmen Mentor training with Housing and Residence Life, Counseling, and the Honors College Administration.
- Orchestrate engagement activities
  - \*Fall Retreat Weekend: secure the venue for the retreat, work with Honors Core I faculty to design the schedule for the retreat, communicate with Freshmen about food and transportation needs, coordinate with the Mentor staff for activities during the retreat.
  - \*Sophomore lectures: communicate expectations for the lecture with sophomores, recruit alumni to facilitate the lectures and discussion.
  - \*Senior Commencement Banquet: secure the venue for the retreat, communicate with seniors about dietary needs and guest lists, coordinate the meal, photographer, and program.

## **Teaching**

Visiting Lecturer, Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas, 2013 - present

Instructor, Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas, 2010 - 2012

Adjunct Faculty, University College, University of Central Arkansas, 2012 - 2013

Visiting Assistant Professor, Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas, 2007 - 2010

Adjunct Faculty, Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas, 2005 - 2006

Research Assistant to Professor Michael Beard, Director of UALR School of Law library, refining and responding to first year law students' research assignments, August 1998 - May 1999

## **Undergraduate Courses Taught**

Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas

Core I: The Search for Self, (freshmen) team taught with other core faculty

Core II: The Search for Community (freshmen)

Core III: They Spit On Me In My Homeland, (sophomore) taught with Philip Melton

Core III: Rainbow Rights (sophomore)

Core IV: The Art of Negotiation (sophomore)

Junior Seminar: First Amendment and Religion (junior) taught with Philip Melton

Junior Seminar: Women and Law (junior)

Junior Seminar: Supreme Justice (junior)

Junior Seminar: Voices of Peace, (junior) taught with Rick Scott

Oxford Tutorial (Research methods, junior)

Senior Seminar: Social Justice (senior)

Thesis (Writing, senior)

University College, University of Central Arkansas

University Studies (freshmen)

Transitional Reading (freshmen)

## **Honors Thesis Advisor**

2012 Megan Danielson, *Minimizing Trauma: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Child Welfare through Child Advocacy Centers*

2012 Austin Hall, *Homosexuality in Cinema: The Hero or the Villain?*

2012 Lynn Nguyen, *Vietnam: Gender Inequalities and Its Reflection in Health Care for Women*

2010 Kathleen Howell, *Finding Their Voice: Implementing Voice and Communication Therapy in the Transgender Community*

2009 Sean Oakley, Sean, *Is Gayness Next to Godliness?: Exploring the Intersections of Queer Identity and Spirituality*

2009 Jenny Temple, *A Generation's Silence: The Struggle to Discover My Family Tree*

## **Committee Service/Service in the Department**

Faculty Advisor for the Honors Council, 2014 - present

Faculty Advisor for Honors Freshmen Mentors, 2008-2012, 2014 - present

Faculty Advisor for Honors Peer Counselors, 2015 - present

Chair Honors College Co-Curricular Committee, 2015 - present

Search Committee for Assistant Professor 2012

Honors College Co-Curricular Committee, 2010 - 2012

Rohweder Scholarship Award Committee, 2009

## **Professional Memberships and Licensure**

License to practice law, Arkansas, August 1999 - present

Certified mediator, 2013 - present

Member of the Arkansas Bar Association, 1999 - present

Member of the Alternate Dispute Resolution Section of the Arkansas Bar Association

Member of the Family Law Section of the Arkansas Bar Association

## **Presentations**

Lea, C. (2015). "Rainbow Rights: The Diversity of the Search." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Corbitt, D., Lea, C. (2015). "Creating Community in Honors." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Smith, P. J., Thompson, Allen, Lea, C. (2015) "Campus Partnerships to Meet Student Mental Health Needs." Partners for Student Success Annual Meeting, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Corbitt, D., Smith, P. J. & Lea, C. (2014). "Honors Students and the Superman Complex: Dealing with Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Honors Communities." Roundtable at the National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado.

Smith, P. J. & Lea, C. (2009). "Student Engagement: Bringing Global Community to an Honors Village." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

## **Lectures and Training**

Design and implementation of selection and training of the Honors Peer Counseling program, 2015 - present

Design and implementation of weeklong training for the Freshmen Mentors, 2009 - 2012, 2014 - present

Sexual Harassment Policy at UCA, for all Living and Learning Communities training, 2008