

## Are you interested in an upper-year moot experience?

The upper year moots are important experiential learning opportunities: They take students beyond textbooks “into courtrooms and boardrooms”, helping to hone skills such as problem-solving, persuasion, presentation and argument, and written advocacy. Moots are known to offer wonderful small group learning experiences, a chance to build connections and relationships with students and professionals such as practicing lawyers and judges.

This coming year, the College has nine moot teams. Competitions are held in February and March; training tends to be concentrated in the second term but will usually begin in the fall. Our moot coaches are dedicated professionals with rich experience in their fields (you can find information out about them online!). Most moots run as a team of 4 students. If the moot involves travel, then your travel costs are covered by the College.

Each moot counts for 3 credit units (a normal course), and teams are selected through an application/try-out day in early September. Just go ahead and plan your courses as if you are not taking a moot course, but watch for the window to submit your application. We will send around further information about the application process in late August, just before the start of term. If you are selected for a team, you will then be able to drop a second-term course (with the exception of the Jessup, which allows you to choose credit in Term 1 or Term 2).

Unless indicated, none of the moots require prerequisites, but you may feel more prepared if you have foundational courses in the moot’s substantive legal area. Having said that, we encourage second-year students to apply, and usually half of our mooters are 2Ls!

Here is our 2024 line-up of moots:

- ❖ The **Gale Cup Moot** has historically been argued at Toronto or Ottawa. Students argue an appeal of a recent Supreme Court of Canada decision relating to a **criminal law** issue. The Gale team will be coached by Zachary Carter and Thomas Hynes.
- ❖ The **Laskin Memorial Moot** is an **administrative and constitutional law** moot that is hosted by different law schools in Canada every year and deals with administrative law issues. This moot has a bilingual component, and one of the four participants will moot in French. The Laskin team is coached by Audrey Sembalerus.
- ❖ The **Jessup Moot** is an **international advocacy** competition which requires a significant time commitment. Teams will address timely issues of public international law in the context of a legal dispute between nations appearing before the International Court of Justice. Students written and oral advocacy skills will first be tested at the Canadian Division Qualifying Tournament, which is hosted annually by a Canadian Law School in mid-February. The top two teams qualify for the International Rounds, held each spring in Washington D.C. The Jessup is coached by Rochelle Blocka. *It is preferred if you*

*have already taken – or are concurrently taking - International Law and/or Immigration (or have a knowledge of Refugee Law), because of 2024's topic.*

- ❖ The **Western Canada Moot** is a **trial advocacy** moot in which student participants conduct a criminal jury trial. Students will work through issues relating to evidence, criminal procedure, and substantive criminal law while learning and building upon essential advocacy skills for trial lawyers. Shelby Fitzgerald coaches this moot.
- ❖ The **Kawaskimhon Moot** is non-competitive designed to incorporate **Indigenous values** and concepts of dispute resolution. Teams from across Canada prepare written arguments and present their client's positions to their circles, with the goal being to reach a consensus on the issues at stake. This team is coached by Shoshanna Paul. *It is preferred if you have already taken the Negotiation course, and Aboriginal Law.*
- ❖ The **Dispute Resolution Moot** team focuses on **advanced negotiation** and problem-solving skills. Professor Michaela Keet coaches this moot. Members of this team will be divided up to compete in sub-teams at the Canadian National Negotiation Competition or the National Family Law Negotiation Competition, and sometimes the Mediation Advocacy Moot or Client Counseling Moot. *It is preferred if you have already taken Negotiation, or are taking it in Term 1. For the Family Negotiation moot, Family Law I is preferred.*
- ❖ The **Donald G.H. Bowman National Tax Moot** is ordinarily held in Toronto. The moot is designed to promote appellate advocacy and excellence in the fields of **tax law and policy**. Brooke Sittler coaches this moot.
- ❖ Finally, the **Davies Corporate/Securities Law Moot** focuses on written and oral appellate advocacy with reference to current trends in **corporate and securities litigation**. The competition is held in Toronto each year. The coach for this moot is Michael Wright.
- ❖ Finally, the **Willms & Shier Environmental Law Moot's** goal is to promote awareness of the growing role of **environmental issues** in contemporary legal practice and public life, while enhancing law students' written and oral advocacy skills. The Moot is ordinarily held in Toronto, and is coached by Leah Howie. (This moot is run every second year.)

In the meantime, should you have any immediate questions or concerns, please direct them to [law.moots@usask.ca](mailto:law.moots@usask.ca).