

LORRAINE GAYNOR

*University of Iowa
College of Law
406 Boyd Law Building
Phone: (319) 331-4048
lorraine-gaynor@uiowa.edu*

EDUCATION

The University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa, 2008-2011

J.D., Order of the Coif, May 2011

University of Iowa Campaign for Human Rights, President, 2009-2010

Equal Justice Foundation, Public Interest Auction Co-Chair, 2009-2010

Research Assistant for the Associate Dean of Civic Engagement

Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, 2000-2004

B.A., Spanish, May 2004

La Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Valparaíso, Chile

Fall Semester 2002

EXPERIENCE

University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa, Spring 2024-present

Assistant Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing & Research, Fall 2024-present

Adjunct Instructor of Legal Analysis, Writing & Research, Spring 2024

Classes:

LAWR I and II, Spring 2024-present

- Teach legal analysis, objective and persuasive writing, legal research, and oral advocacy.
- Provide feedback on first and final drafts of students' memos and appellate briefs.
- Conference with students multiple times during the semester about their writing.

Iowa Legal Aid, Iowa City, Iowa, 2013-2024

Senior Staff Attorney

Spring 2019-Summer 2024

Staff Attorney

Fall 2013-Spring 2019

- Represented low-income clients in civil cases involving a variety of areas of law, such as migrant farmworker, employment, housing, and public benefits.
- Represented clients in state and federal court and in administrative proceedings.
- Supervised and trained interns, made community legal presentations, and conducted outreach to farmworkers.

U.S. Attorney General's Honors Program, Chicago, Illinois, Fall 2011-Fall 2013
U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for Immigration Review
Judicial Law Clerk/Attorney Advisor

- Conducted legal research and provided legal analysis for nine immigration judges.
- Wrote draft decisions, orders, and memoranda involving a range of removability and relief issues, including asylum, cancellation of removal, adjustment of status, and VAWA.
- Coordinated the student legal intern program and supervised interns.

Scattergood Friends School, West Branch, Iowa, August 2006-June 2008
Spanish Teacher/Trip Leader

- Prepared lessons and taught classes for Spanish 2, 4, and 5 at this Quaker boarding school.
- Co-led a monthlong service trip to Costa Rica for 12 junior and senior Spanish students.

Iowa City Free Medical Clinic, Iowa City, Iowa, 2005-2006

- Translated and interpreted for Spanish-speaking patients, scheduled appointments, and connected patients to resources at the clinic or elsewhere in the community.

Day Star School, Juticalpa, Honduras, August 2004-June 2005
5th Grade Teacher

- Taught all subjects to a fifth-grade class of 35 students at this bilingual school.

LANGUAGES

Spanish fluency

PRESENTATIONS OR APPEARANCES

- Presented “From Legal Aid Practice to Legal Writing Classroom: In-class exercise ideas” at Central States Legal Writing Conference, Chicago (September 26, 2025).
- Appeared with Andrew Crouse on Iowa Public Radio’s *River to River* program to discuss cases before the U.S. and Iowa Supreme Courts (December 16, 2024); (July 1, 2025).
- Served as a panelist for a webinar entitled “Agricultural Workers and Extreme Heat: OSHA’s Proposed Heat Safety Rule” (November 13, 2024).
- Delivered opening remarks at Pro Bono Society reception (October 21, 2024).

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Iowa Legal Aid

Pro bono attorney with Volunteer Lawyers Project

2025-present

CommUnity Crisis Services

Board member

2024-present