We know very little about the people and institutions that make up the bulk of our civil justice system: state judges and state courts. Our understanding of civil judges and courts is based primarily on federal litigation and the decisions of appellate judges. However, state judges and courts handle 99 percent of all civil cases and local courtrooms are overflowing with pro se litigants. Staggeringly little legal research focuses on state courts, despite their primacy in our civil, economic, and social life. Professors Carpenter and Shanahan have done groundbreaking research on state civil courts and judges and will present their findings at this workshop, and connect their scholarship to practice, clinical teaching, and supervision.

Please call (215) 898-8427 or e-mail clinic@law.upenn.edu with any questions.