SINGAPORE : A new elective course will allow senior law students at the National University of Singapore to work on real cases.

Under the clinical legal education programme, or CLE, third and fourth year law students will work with clinical instructors on files involving clients from the Legal Aid Bureau (LAB).

Students will assist in everything from taking statements from clients to preparing affidavits, doing research and assisting in preparation for court.

They will also attend court on the matters that they have assisted in, and see for themselves how their efforts pay off for the clients.

Law Faculty Dean, Professor Tan Cheng Han, said one benefit of the programme is that it facilitates the contextualisation of the law.

It also promotes hands-on learning and inculcates pro bono spirit in the students.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the NUS Faculty of Law and the Legal Aid Bureau to facilitate the setting up of the programme.

- CNA/al