

# PROGRAMS OF INSTRUCTION

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## THE DOCTOR OF LAW (J.D.) DEGREE

The regular curriculum in the Law School is a three-year (nine-quarter) program leading to the degree of Doctor of Law (J.D.). The program is open to candidates who have received a bachelor's degree from an approved college before beginning their study in the Law School.

The entering class for the J.D. program is limited to approximately 195 students. All students begin the program during the Autumn Quarter in September. The calendar for the academic year is located on the last page of these Announcements.

## DUAL DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

The Law School participates with several other areas of the University in established dual degree programs. These programs have specific admission requirements and candidates are able to count course work in each area toward the academic requirements in the other area, thus reducing the time and expense involved in earning both degrees. Although the Law School does not have formal dual degree programs with most areas of the University, candidates who wish to earn the J.D. in the Law School and a Master's degree or Ph.D. concurrently in another area of the University have found that there are several ways to facilitate and expedite such a dual course of study.

The Law School has established dual degree programs with the Booth School of Business (both M.B.A. and Ph.D. degrees), the Harris School of Public Policy Studies (M.P.P.), and the Divinity School (M.Div.). In addition, Law School students have or are currently pursuing dual Masters' degrees in Computer Science, International Relations, and Linguistics. Students pursuing dual J.D. and Masters' degrees may, with the approval of the Law School Dean of Students, count up to 12 credits of coursework outside the Law School toward the J.D. degree and towards the quarterly residency requirement. Per the American Bar Association, no coursework completed prior to matriculation at the Law School may be counted toward the J.D. degree. The admission and degree requirements for these programs are available from the Law School Admissions Office.

Although there currently are no formal dual J.D./Ph.D. degree programs with other areas of the University (with the exception of the J.D./Ph.D. in Business), candidates who wish to concurrently pursue the J.D. in the Law School and a Ph.D. in another area of the University have been able to facilitate and expedite a dual course of study.

Students who are enrolled in concurrent J.D. and Ph.D. programs at the University of Chicago can count up to 25 credits earned outside the Law School towards their J.D. degrees. This credit is only awarded for: (1) graduate coursework undertaken in a Ph.D. program at the University of Chicago; (2) only for coursework undertaken after a student has matriculated at the Law School; and (3) only for coursework approved by the Deputy Dean in consultation with the Dean of Students. Students permitted to count up to 25 credits toward their J.D. degrees also must pay tuition to the Law School for six quarters and be in residence at the Law School for six quarters. Students who have not advanced to candidacy in their Ph.D. program by the time they receive their J.D. may apply no more than 12 credits earned outside the Law School towards their J.D. degrees, must pay tuition at the Law School for at least eight quarters, and must be in residence at the Law School for nine quarters. In the event a student's Ph.D. program does not have a formal "advanced to candidacy" status, the equivalent is that the student has finished all the required coursework and is primarily engaged in the writing of the dissertation. Students in J.D./Ph.D. programs who began their law studies at the Law School need to complete at least 80 credits of coursework at the Law School to obtain their J.D.s. These 80 credits may be earned during two years of intensive study at the Law School. Of these 80 credits, a minimum of 30 must be designated as meeting the Law School's core credit requirement. All J.D./Ph.D. students who transferred to the Law School from another school must discuss their specific graduation requirements with the Dean of Students and the Deputy Dean upon matriculation.

J.D./Ph.D. students planning to apply for admission to a bar should research the current rules of the state bar to which they are hoping to be admitted to determine whether their jurisdiction has any additional curricular requirements. In addition, any student wishing to pursue a J.D./Ph.D. must keep in mind that American Bar Association rules require all J.D. degrees to be completed within 84 months of a student's matriculation to law school.

The Law School is flexible in giving students leaves of absence so that they may register full-time in other areas of the University, so long as such a leave will not prevent the student from finishing the J.D. within the ABA's 84-month time limit.

In addition, the Law School has joined several other professional schools on campus (Booth, SSA, and Public Policy) and offers law students an opportunity to earn a Certificate in Health Administration and Policy (GPHAP) while simultaneously obtaining a J.D.

## THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Law School offers five graduate degrees:

1. Master of Laws (LL.M.),
2. Master of Comparative Law (M.Comp.L.),
3. Master of Legal Studies (M.L.S.),
4. Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.S.D.),
5. Doctor of Comparative Law (D.Comp.L.).

## MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) / MASTER OF COMPARATIVE LAW (M.COMP.L.)

Both programs are limited to students who have met at least one of the following requirements:

1. obtained a J.D. degree from an A.B.A. approved law school in the United States,
2. completed the academic legal education in a foreign country required to take the bar examination in that country,
3. be qualified to practice law (admitted to the bar) in a foreign country, or
4. completed the basic four year undergraduate law study in a Japanese university.

Both programs require full-time attendance at the Law School for one academic year (three consecutive academic quarters). Students may begin these programs only in the Autumn Quarter.

Unlike a number of other law schools, the University of Chicago does not offer a specialized LL.M. degree with a large number of graduate courses in a particular field such as taxation or securities regulation. The LL.M. degree is awarded to students who have successfully completed 27 course hours (generally nine courses) over three quarters while maintaining a grade point average of 170. With the exception of an optional writing course and a Contracts course, there are no courses in the curriculum just for LL.M. students; LL.M. students will have all of their classes with students in the J.D. program. The M.Comp.L. degree may be awarded at the student's discretion if the same requirements are fulfilled.

Each year the Law School receives approximately 1000 applications for about 75 positions in the LL.M. program. In recent years virtually all of the students admitted to the LL.M. program have been graduates of foreign law schools. This is a reflection not of a bias in favor of foreign law school graduates but rather a judgment by the Graduate Studies Committee that the Law School's small size and lack of graduate programs specializing in specific substantive areas make it unsuitable for most American law school graduates thinking of a second degree. Exceptions may be made for American law graduates whose research interests strongly correlate with those of a member of the faculty, and for whom graduate studies at this law school seem to be particularly appropriate.

Admission decisions for the LL.M. program are based primarily on two factors: 1) the ability of the applicant to flourish in a demanding academic program as evidenced by the prior academic and professional record; and 2) the extent to which the applicant's background and research interests coincide with available academic resources for the academic year for which he or she will be in residence. It is, therefore, particularly important for the application to be accompanied by a detailed statement of the candidate's academic interests and career plans.

The University requires that all applicants must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) within two years of the date of their application. A minimum total score of 104 overall on the new version of the TOEFL is required. Minimum required scores on the IELTS are an overall score of 7 and sub scores of 7 each. Applicants will not be offered admission if their TOEFL or IELTS scores do not meet these minimum standards. Most admitted LL.M. applicants will have substantially higher scores.

The above English language tests will not be necessary if the applicant studied law in full-time status for at least one academic year prior to the due date of the application, within five years of the date of application, in the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, or English medium universities in Canada or South Africa. Applicants whose native language is not English but whose legal education at the university level was conducted entirely in English in one of the following countries: India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Hong Kong, or Singapore, will not need to submit a TOEFL or IELTS score if they submit with their application a statement from an official at their university verifying that English was the only medium of instruction.

#### MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES (M.L.S.)

This one-year degree program is designed for Ph.D. students who wish to improve their knowledge of law without completing a full three-year degree. The goal of the M.L.S. program is to help Ph.D. candidates better understand the legal issues relevant to their research and to improve their research through interdisciplinary training. Graduates of the program will either become academics in their Ph.D. discipline or in law. Admissions decisions are based in part on the availability of Law School faculty for mentoring admitted students.

#### DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE (J.S.D.) / DOCTOR OF COMPARATIVE LAW (D.COMP.L.)

Both programs are limited to students who have earned a J.D. degree or an LL.M. degree from an A.B.A. approved law school in the United States.

Both programs require full-time attendance at the Law School for two academic years (six academic quarters) and the completion of a dissertation that is accepted by the Graduate Studies Committee. Candidates must complete their dissertations within five years of beginning the program.

In a typical year about 30 candidates apply to the J.S.D. program for two or three positions. In order to qualify for admission to this program, students must ordinarily have maintained at least a 178 average during their LL.M. year at the University of Chicago or a comparable performance at the prior U.S. law school attended. Applicants must propose one or more Chicago faculty members to supervise a dissertation, and must submit a dissertation proposal that in the opinion of the Graduate Studies Committee promises to result in a creditable contribution to legal scholarship. Candidates for admission must not contact Law School faculty members prior to their admission to the program.

## PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS, SPECIAL PROGRAMS, AND CENTERS

### PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS

The Law School publishes six professional journals. *The University of Chicago Law Review*, *The University of Chicago Legal Forum*, and *The Chicago Journal of International Law* are student-edited. For more information on these journals, see the section on Student Activities and Organizations, below.

*The Supreme Court Review* is an annual volume devoted to professional and interdisciplinary criticism and analysis of the work of the United States Supreme Court. *The Journal of Law and Economics* publishes research on a broad range of topics, including the economic analysis of regulation and the behavior of regulated firms, the political economy of legislation and the legislative processes, law and finance, corporate finance and governance, and industrial organization. *The Journal of Legal Studies* is a journal of interdisciplinary academic research into law and legal institutions. It emphasizes social science approaches, especially those of economics, political science, and psychology, but it also publishes the work of historians, philosophers, and others who are interested in legal theory.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND CENTERS

The **Coase-Sandor Institute for Law and Economics** promotes one of the many interdisciplinary traditions that have thrived at the Law School, law and economics. Economics provides analytical and econometric tools, as well as theoretical frameworks, for studying how legal rules and institutions affect the way people behave. The application of economics to the analysis of legal problems has become an important part of a lawyer's education in the United States, and the Law School has been the center of teaching and research on the application of the theories and methods of economics to legal questions for over 50 years. As home to many seminal figures in the field, the Law School has dominated the discipline for over 50 years. Law and economics scholars, including Nobelists Ronald Coase and Gary Becker have taught at the Law School, along with other pioneers of the field including Richard Epstein, William Landes, and Richard Posner, who continue to be active in the program. A new generation of law and economics faculty continues

to bring law and economics to the forefront of legal scholarship with cutting edge empirical and theoretical research agendas. Program faculty teach and write in many areas of the law where law and economics has long been influential, including copyright and patent law, bankruptcy, commercial law, corporations, antitrust, international trade, and civil procedure. And, current faculty research has extended the powerful tools of law and economics to diverse areas of the law and public policy including health care reform, bank regulation, taxation, environmental law, international law, housing law, product liability, consumer law, election law, and criminal law. The Institute offers a range of courses and seminars to interested students, including the Law and Economics Workshop which meets throughout the academic year. No other law school provides comparable opportunities for study and research in this field. Under the auspices of the Institute, the Law School and the Department of Economics offer a joint degree program leading to the J.D. and Ph.D. degrees. The Institute influences research and thinking in the American academy as it oversees the editorial direction of the discipline's two premier peer-reviewed journals, *Journal of Law and Economics*, and *Journal of Legal Studies*. In addition, the Institute sponsors several interdisciplinary conferences annually to enhance collaborations between legal scholars and economists on a variety of topics. Every summer, the Institute offers faculty at non-US law schools the opportunity to study law and economics at Chicago in the Summer Institute in Law and Economics. It also conducts annual international training conferences to broaden the impact of Chicago Law and Economics on legal scholarship and education, and on legal systems worldwide. Professor Omri Ben-Shahar, renowned consumer law scholar, is the faculty director of the Coase-Sandor Institute.

The **Doctoroff Business Leadership Program** is an innovative, certificate-granting program that provides law students with the training they will need to thrive in today's increasingly complex business environment. The Program focuses on preparing law students to advise, lead, and create business enterprises large and small through rigorous training in entity formation, business combinations, capital structure and finance, business strategy, negotiation, and marketing.

A select group of business-oriented students who apply to the program during the Law School application process are chosen to become part of the Doctoroff Business Leadership Program.

Key requirements for the certificate program include:

- Completion of a core business curriculum during second and third years taught by leading Chicago Booth faculty at the Law School.
- Participation in a mentorship program. Each student is matched with a business mentor to provide guidance and counseling during the student's three years at the Law School.

- Completion of a summer business internship between first and second years. The Law School works with students to identify and obtain challenging business internship opportunities in their field of interest.
- Participation in enrichment activities and programs that provide students with the opportunity to learn from eminent business leaders and experts across a variety of industries.

Each year, one admitted Doctoroff student is selected as the Zubrow Scholar and awarded a full-tuition scholarship to the Law School.

To learn more about the program and how to apply, please visit [www.law.uchicago.edu/doctoroffbusinessleadership](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/doctoroffbusinessleadership).

The Law School also enjoys an affiliation with the **Center for Comparative Constitutionalism**, coordinated by Professor Martha C. Nussbaum. Established in 2002, this Center's work focuses on the relationship between constitutional law and the concerns of marginalized or subordinated people and groups.

The **Center for Law, Philosophy, and Human Values**, established in 2008, sponsors speakers and conferences to support and encourage the reflective, critical and philosophical study of human values, with a particular emphasis on the conceptual, historical, and empirical foundations of the normative systems—moral, political, and legal—in which human beings live. The Center's mission encompasses not only the traditional concerns of moral, political, and legal theory—in Anglophone, European and non-Western traditions—but also the history of thought about ethical, political, and legal questions as these bear on contemporary questions. Traditional problems of conceptual analysis and normative justification are supplemented by attention to empirical results in the human sciences as these bear on the nature and viability of various forms of normative ordering. Professor Brian Leiter directs the Center.

The Law School's **Program in Legal History** encourages research and study in this field. In addition to courses devoted to the subject, the Law School sponsors the Maurice and Muriel Fulton Lecture, which invites a prominent legal historian to speak each year. Periodical workshops, held jointly with the Department of History, bring together faculty and students to discuss a scholarly paper on a topic of legal history. The Program is directed by Professors R.H. Helmholz, Alison LaCroix, and Laura Weinrib.



# PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

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## CURRICULAR AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

### THE J.D. PROGRAM

Completion of the J.D. degree from the Law School requires all J.D. students to be in residence, full-time, for nine quarters, in each of which they must successfully complete (pass and receive credit toward their JD degree) no fewer than nine credit hours per quarter. J.D. students must complete a minimum of 105 credit hours, including a professional responsibility class. All J.D. students must complete eight credits in courses that qualify as experiential learning to meet American Bar Association standards. After completing the first year, all J.D. students also must complete 40 credits in non-clinical Law classes or “core” classes.<sup>1</sup> Core classes are designated each quarter in the online course schedule at [registrar.uchicago.edu/classes](http://registrar.uchicago.edu/classes).<sup>2</sup> Credits earned through participation in journals and the Hinton Moot Court Competition count towards the 40 core credit requirement.

Every J.D. student must complete at least two writing projects beyond the work required in the first-year Legal Research and Writing and Lawyering courses. At least one of these writing projects must be a “substantial research paper (SRP).” An SRP is (1) a careful, extensive treatment of a particular topic; (2) certified by a member of the tenured or tenure-track faculty at the Law School, or Visiting Faculty, Emeriti, faculty members holding the title of “Clinical Professor of Law”, Professors from Practice, Senior Lecturers at the Law School, and tenured University of Chicago faculty with permanent offices at the Law School (but excluding Bigelow and other Fellows as well as Lecturers in Law), who are in full-time residence at the Law School and the instructor for the course or independent research for which the paper was written; (3) submitted by a student who has taken advantage of one or more opportunities to respond to suggestions and criticism in

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<sup>1</sup> Students who transfer into the J.D. degree program from the Law School’s LL.M. program must complete 20 core credits. Students who earn simultaneous J.D./Ph.D. degrees from the Law School must complete 30 core credits.

<sup>2</sup> Faculty members defined as core for purposes of this requirement are permanent faculty at the University of Chicago Law School, Visiting Faculty, Emeriti, members of the Clinical faculty, Professors from Practice, Senior Lecturers at the Law School, tenured University of Chicago professors with permanent offices in the Law School, and Booth faculty teaching in the Doctoroff program. Bigelow and other Fellows, as well as Lecturers in Law, are excluded.

producing the paper; (4) not largely derivative of work undertaken for another academic degree, for a summer job, or in some other environment outside the Law School; and (5) not written as part of a class that satisfies another ABA requirement (e.g., professional responsibility, experiential learning, etc.). A publishable comment or note written for a student journal will satisfy the SRP requirement if it is (a) nominated for this purpose by the editor-in-chief of the journal; and (b) approved by the Faculty Supervisor prior to the authoring student's final term of study at the Law School.

SRPs are typically 20-30 pages in length, but revisions and opportunities to rework arguments and writing are more important than length. Faculty members certifying such projects must approve the paper topic and agree to supervise the project prior to the student's undertaking substantial research and writing. SRP credit will not be given for response or reaction papers (that is, where significant legal research is not required), although a faculty member may certify a project that combines reaction papers into a larger paper that reflects faculty-supervised revisions and substantial research. Similarly, if substantial research and supervision by a faculty member (as described in (2) above) are elements of a writing project that produces a brief or a model statute, that too may qualify as an SRP. Work undertaken in the form of independent research, supervised by a faculty member in full-time residence at the Law School, may, of course, also satisfy the SRP requirement.

A student's second, or other, writing project (WP) can, but need not, be of the SRP form. It can be (a) a paper, series of papers, brief or other substantial writing prepared as part of a course or a seminar supervised by a faculty member or a Lecturer in Law so long as the instructor's expertise and guidance inform the writing process; or (b) a comment or note prepared for one of the student-edited journals; or (c) an SRP; but (d) a WP cannot be written as part of a class that satisfies another ABA requirement (e.g., professional responsibility, experiential learning, etc.). Again, work submitted in satisfaction of either of the two writing requirements may not largely be derivative of work undertaken in pursuit of another academic degree, as part of a summer job or other environment outside the Law School.

Students are strongly encouraged to complete at least one of their required writing projects by the end of their second year. They are strongly encouraged to begin the SRP in a quarter that is not the final quarter of study.

Independent Research gives students the opportunity to work closely with a faculty member on a topic of mutual interest, usually with the goal of the student producing a major or substantial research paper. Independent research may be supervised by a member of the tenured or tenure track faculty at the Law School, or Visiting Faculty, Emeriti, faculty members holding the title of "Clinical Professor of Law", Professors from Practice, Senior Lecturers at the Law School, and tenured

University of Chicago faculty with permanent offices at the Law School (but excluding Bigelow and other Fellows and Lecturers in Law) who are in full-time residence at the Law School. Visiting faculty may supervise independent research if they are willing to do so and if they are available to work with students until the independent research is completed, which in many cases will be after their visit has ended. Students who would like to work with a lecturer on an independent research project must submit a request to the Rules and Petitions Committee (via the Dean of Students) for advance permission to do so. Additionally, students may only take four independent research credits with the same professor and are limited to six independent study credits total during their time at the Law School.

### THE LL.M. PROGRAM

LL.M. students must be in full-time residence (nine credit hours per quarter) for three quarters, with no fewer than six Law School credit hours per quarter. LL.M. students must complete and pass 27 credit hours of coursework. Please note, however, that LL.M. students must earn a minimum of 30 credits from the Law School to sit for the New York bar exam. Students who have passed a state bar exam in the United States prior to matriculating in the J.D. program at the Law School may be exempt from certain required classes. Such decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis by the Dean of Students and Deputy Dean depending upon other legal coursework completed at other institutions.

### THE M.L.S. PROGRAM

To earn a Master of Legal Studies (M.L.S.) degree, candidates must successfully complete and pass 27 credit hours of coursework in the Law School. The Law School requires all M.L.S. students to be in full-time residence for three quarters of no fewer than nine credit hours per quarter, with no fewer than six Law School credit hours per quarter. Non-law coursework will not be counted toward the 27 credit hour requirement.

### THE J.S.D. AND D.COMP.L. PROGRAM

In order to earn the J.S.D. degree, a candidate must produce a dissertation that makes a creditable contribution to legal scholarship. The dissertation must be supervised by at least two members of the faculty and must be completed within five years of the candidate's first registration in the J.S.D. Program.

A J.S.D. candidate must spend at least two years (six academic quarters) in residence at the Law School while working on the dissertation. Residence requires living in Chicago.

## REGISTRATION

The Law School course registration process is fully described and governed by the online registration instructions, which are updated quarterly. Please see

[www.law.uchicago.edu/students/registration](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/registration) for the most up-to-date registration instructions.

Initial registration takes place several weeks prior to the start of each academic quarter. Students are notified of the availability of online class schedules and registration procedures via email. The registration process for each quarter consists of several periods: initial bidding for limited enrollment offerings and registration for non-limited enrollment offerings, continuing registration, online add/drop, late add/drop (a paper based process), and the withdrawal-only period (students abandoning a class after the last day to drop receive a grade of “W” if they drop the class up to the last day of classes or a failing grade after the last day of classes). Students must refer to the online academic calendar for specific dates for each quarter ([www.law.uchicago.edu/students/academiccalendar](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/academiccalendar)). Deadlines are strictly enforced.

First-year students are assigned to sections and registered by the Registrar for all classes except their spring quarter elective. Second- and third-year students and LL.M. students register themselves for classes using a web-based registration system.

Students may bid for a maximum of five classes per quarter, and must rank them in order of preference, but the maximum number of credits in which a student can be registered via the bidding process is 14; the actual number is typically lower due to pre-registration into continuing classes, clinics, independent research projects, etc.

## COURSE REGISTRATION RESTRICTIONS

Pursuant to ABA requirements, students may not register for two classes if there is a time conflict with any portion of any of the time slots (including pre-scheduled make-up time slots) or if travel time between classes would make the student late for the second class.

### *Similar Classes*

Certain courses will cover substantially similar material. Accordingly, students may not receive credit for both classes.<sup>3</sup> Examples of such overlapping classes include the following (this is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of such classes):

- Constitutional Law I and Constitutional Law for LL.M.s
- International Law and Public International Law
- Trial Advocacy and Intensive Trial Practice Workshop

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<sup>3</sup> Please note that students are not permitted to take classes at the Law School that substantially overlap in content with courses previously taken at another ABA-accredited law school.

- The same course taught by different professors (or the same professor), e.g., Corporate Finance at the Law School and at Booth.

It is impossible to list all of the potentially similar classes in other divisions or departments of the University. Students who note similarities in the course descriptions should contact the Office of the Registrar to determine whether both classes may be taken. These requests will be reviewed by the Dean of Students. Students ultimately are responsible for avoiding overlapping classes.

### *Petitions*

For actions outside the usual procedures, petitions are available online at [www.law.uchicago.edu/students/academics/petitions](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/academics/petitions). Petitions are required to do the following:

- Audit a Law Class
- Reallocate Journal Credits
- Register for an Independent Research
- Register for a Law School Class as a Non-Law Student
- Reschedule an Exam
- Take a Non-Law School Course for Credit
- Writing Requirement Petition

### *Other Registration Restrictions*

Students may not register for classes beyond their first quarter if they:

- Have registration restrictions placed by any office of the University (such as the Bursar's Office, the Financial Aid Office, etc.);
- Have not satisfied the State of Illinois immunization requirements; or
- Have not furnished the Office of the Registrar with an official transcript of their undergraduate work or graduate work done before matriculation at the Law School. The transcript(s) must be sent directly from the other institution(s) to the Law School Office of the Registrar and must bear the degree earned.
- Additional restrictions pertaining to specific quarters/classes/students are listed online at [www.law.uchicago.edu/students/registration](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/registration).

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Consistent with ABA standards, regular class attendance is required as a condition for receiving course credit. The Faculty Rules and Petitions Committee has articulated ABA Standard 308(a) concerning student attendance as follows:

1. Regular class attendance is required as a condition of receiving credit for Law School classes. Each instructor may supplement this general attendance requirement by announcing a more specific attendance requirement for a particular class. It is the obligation of each student to conform to these requirements.
2. An instructor who observes a student to be in violation of the attendance requirement shall so advise the Dean of Students, who shall promptly notify the student that s/he is in violation of the Law School's requirement. If a student's attendance remains unsatisfactory in that class or is at any time thereafter in violation of the general attendance requirement in any other class, the Rules and Petitions Committee may deny the student credit in the class(es), may add a memo to the student's file, may withdraw the student's privilege of membership in the Law School, or may take any other appropriate action.
3. No student shall:
  - be employed more than 19.5 hours per week while classes are in session;
  - maintain a primary residence outside the Chicago metropolitan area while classes are in session; or
  - maintain a primary residence outside the Chicago metropolitan area while classes are in session; or
  - fail to sign a seating chart within one week of enrollment in any class (first class for limited enroll classes).

Upon finding a student in violation of any of these requirements, the faculty member or the Rules and Petitions Committee may deny the student credit in the class, may withdraw the student's privilege of membership in the Law School, may add a memo to the student's file, or may take any other appropriate action.

Faculty members are increasingly strict in interpreting what constitutes "regular" attendance. In addition, many state bar licensing boards ask whether an applicant has ever been warned about problems with lateness or absenteeism. Students have been dropped from class rosters and denied credit in classes. If a problem is noted by a faculty member it will be reported to the appropriate licensing agency.

Each spring and summer, the Law School makes a tentative determination about which classes<sup>4</sup> will be offered in the following year and who will teach them. Suggestions for new class offerings should be brought to the attention of the Registrar. To facilitate students' ability to plan their classes for the year, the Law School makes every effort to set the course schedule for the entire academic year prior to the beginning of the autumn quarter. Students should take note, however, that the class schedule is subject to change at any point throughout the year, and classes may be added, dropped, or their times adjusted to reflect changes in faculty availability, student enrollment, or other institutional constraints. The Law School will of course try to mitigate these changes as much as possible, while also providing notification of changes as early as is feasible.

## J.D. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### *The First Year*

Students in the first year take a prescribed program covering five principal branches of the law—contracts, torts, property, criminal law, and civil procedure. In addition to providing a general foundation of legal knowledge, the program is intended to cultivate legal reasoning skills and to foster an understanding of the development of the law through judicial decisions and statutory interpretation. Instruction in the first year primarily centers on class discussion of judicial decisions (known as the “case method”). In addition to the traditional first-year offerings, all first year students take a course unique to the Law School called Elements of the Law. Elements considers legal issues and their relationships to other fields of thought such as philosophy, economics, and political theory.

All students complete the first year legal research and writing and experiential learning program under the supervision of one of the six Bigelow Teaching Fellows. The Joseph Henry Beale Prize is awarded to a student in each section of the first year legal research and writing and experiential learning program whose work is judged to be most worthy of special recognition. Another prize (its name changes to reflect the name of the law firm sponsoring the award) is awarded to a student in each section whose spring quarter brief is judged to be most outstanding and deserving of recognition.

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<sup>4</sup> Each year, the Law School has a broad array of offerings. For purposes of these Announcements, “classes” refers to all of the Law School’s offerings with a classroom component and includes courses and seminars. “Courses” refers to Law School’s offerings with a classroom component that are not seminars.

### *The Second and Third Years*

Classes after the first year are all elective. Prior to graduation, however, all J.D. students must complete classes that meet requirements set by the Law School and the American Bar Association. Additionally, students must complete two writing requirements, which are described in more detail elsewhere in this document

Students have freedom to tailor their programs to their own interests and needs, although all students are expected to design programs that will provide them with a strong foundation in the standard subject areas of the law. Students also should find some area or areas to pursue in special depth and breadth, either because of particular career inclinations or for the intellectual value of doing so. Students are advised against excessive specialization, however, as lawyers are not expected to be specialists when they graduate from law school, and it is impossible to foresee future career changes and challenges. The freedom of the elective policy places responsibility on students to develop a coherent program that provides a sound general background and meets individual interests and objectives. Some specific considerations are set forth below in the section on Selecting Classes.

Students also are encouraged to consult with the Deputy Dean, the Dean of Students, members of the faculty, Career Services staff, or the Registrar for additional guidance on their programs.

The curriculum at the Law School changes from year to year as faculty members are encouraged to experiment with new course offerings. In addition, classes available in a given year are determined in part by the composition of the faculty and the availability of visitors and lecturers. As a result, the curriculum may vary substantially from year to year. Accordingly, students are encouraged to take classes when they are offered rather than risk missing out on a class.

While there can be no assurance that a class offered one year will be offered the following year, a core group of courses is typically offered each year, including: Administrative Law, Antitrust, Bankruptcy and Reorganization: The Federal Bankruptcy Code, Business Organizations/Business Associations/Corporation Law, Constitutional Law I, Constitutional Law II, Constitutional Law III, Copyright, Criminal Procedure I: The Investigative Process, Federal Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Federal Courts, Securities Regulation, Introductory Income Taxation, Labor Law, classes in Law and Economics, Legal Profession, Public International Law, Secured Transactions, and Corporate Tax I and II.

## SELECTING CLASSES<sup>5</sup>

### *Selecting Second Year Classes*

Although no specific courses are required during the second year, certain courses are considered foundational and are commonly taken by a large number of students in the second rather than the third year. These courses include: Administrative Law, Business Organizations/Business Associations/Corporation Law, Constitutional Law I, Evidence, and Introductory Income Taxation.

In planning a program, students should consider some courses to be predicates for more advanced work in the same general field. In the field of business law, for example, a second-year student should consider taking Business Associations/Business Organizations/Corporation Law and Corporate Tax I, which provide a basis for advanced work in the third year in such courses as Bankruptcy and Reorganizations, Business Strategy and Securities Regulation. Administrative Law most often has been taken as a second-year course, since it is a survey of general principles in the field and thus forms a background for understanding the operation of administrative agencies and procedures in a variety of special subject areas, such as labor law, securities regulation, taxation, public utility regulation, the communications industry, etc. Students who plan to take Trial Advocacy or to work intensively in a Clinic program typically take Evidence, and possibly a course on criminal procedure, in the second year.

It is important that students strike a sensible balance in structuring their program between traditional courses such as Business Associations/Business Organizations/Corporation Law, Constitutional Law, Evidence and Tax on the one hand, and seminars, workshops, and more specialized courses such as Contract Drafting & Review and Fairness in Law & Economics, on the other. Students should try to divide their traditional classes between the second and third years to maintain this sense of balance. In addition, students are strongly encouraged to fulfill one of their writing requirements before the end of the second year.

### *Selecting Third Year Classes*

The third year provides an opportunity for students to round out their knowledge of basic subject areas and to take courses in fields of special interest. It should also have distinct intellectual objectives, including:

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<sup>5</sup> In order to ensure compliance with federal regulations as well as avoid issues with financial aid, students are strongly encouraged to take at least one exam class per quarter.

1. taking advanced classes in a field in which students have acquired some foundation in the second year;
2. taking classes that cut across subjects previously studied and emphasize the application of legal principles to concrete problems as they come to the lawyer in practice; and
3. interdisciplinary studies that help give students a broad and critical appreciation of legal institutions and their development.

## PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING COURSE REQUIREMENT

Before graduation, all J.D. students must successfully complete at least eight total credits in classes designated as fulfilling the experiential learning requirement set by the Accreditation Committee of the American Bar Association.

For a list of classes that will satisfy the experiential learning requirement scheduled to be offered during the 2018-19 academic year, students should consult [my.Uchicago.edu](http://my.Uchicago.edu) or the Office of the Registrar. Please note that a course used to satisfy the professional responsibility requirement or either writing requirement cannot also be used to satisfy the skills or experiential learning requirement.

### CLINICAL PROGRAMS

Second- and third-year students obtain practical training through the Law School's clinical and experiential programs, in which students represent clients and engage in other lawyering roles under the supervision of full-time clinical teachers, faculty, and practicing attorneys. The Law School's clinical and experiential programs give students an opportunity to learn litigation, legislative advocacy, and transactional skills. Students learn through classroom instruction, simulation, and representation of clients under the close supervision of the clinical teachers and attorneys. The program is intended to join the academic study of law with experience in interviewing clients, investigating facts, developing strategies, conducting negotiations, dealing with adverse parties, drafting legislation and lobbying legislators, drafting contracts, and participating in court proceedings.

The clinical programs operate through seven distinct, autonomous units that function as separate 'law firms' with their own faculty and support staff:

- (1) EDWIN F. MANDEL LEGAL AID CLINIC, which includes the following practice areas:
  - Abrams Environmental Law Clinic
  - Civil Rights Clinic: Police Accountability
  - Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project Clinic

- Employment Law Clinic
- Federal Criminal Justice Clinic
- Housing Initiative Transactional Clinic
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Mental Health Advocacy Clinic

(2) INNOVATION CLINIC

(3) KIRKLAND & ELLIS CORPORATE LAB CLINIC

(4) JENNER & BLOCK SUPREME COURT & APPELLATE ADVOCACY CLINIC

(5) INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE CLINIC ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(6) EXONERATION PROJECT CLINIC

(7) YOUNG CENTER IMMIGRANT CHILD ADVOCACY CLINIC

In addition, there are two clinics, separate from the units listed above, in which students work on behalf of clients in a supervised field placement at an outside agency and take a companion seminar at the Law School. These are the Poverty and Housing Law Clinic and the Prosecution and Defense Clinic.

The following rules apply to all courses in the clinical program:

- No more than sixteen credits shall be awarded for clinical work.
- The maximum number of credits students may earn for a given clinic shall be nine, except for clinics that only run for two quarters, in which students may earn up to seven credits. (Currently, these are the Poverty and Housing Law Clinic and the Prosecution and Defense Clinic.) An Independent Research project (499) may not be used to evade applicable maximums or other rules regarding clinic participation. Students may enroll in no more than 14 total credits with the Director of Corporate Lab Programs and any other instructor who teaches in the Kirkland & Ellis Corporate Lab Clinic, including no more than 9 credits in the Kirkland & Ellis Corporate Lab Clinic itself. All credits taken during the 2L and 3L years with any instructor who teaches in the Kirkland & Ellis Corporate Lab Clinic count toward this 14 credit limit.
- Students may enroll in a clinic for no more than three credits in any one quarter, with the following exception: a clinic that mandates two quarters of enrollment, and does not permit more than two quarters of enrollment, may offer one three-credit quarter and one four-credit quarter. Currently, these are the Poverty and Housing Law Clinic and the Prosecution and Defense Clinic.
- Students are awarded one credit for work averaging four hours per week per quarter, subject to the applicable maximums set forth above. Students

are expected to keep a record of the time they spend in practical work done in conjunction with the clinic. Within the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic only, students may enroll in two Mandel clinical projects simultaneously with written permission of the relevant clinical supervisors. No other simultaneous enrollments in multiple clinics are permitted. Subject to the rules on simultaneous clinic enrollments, students may enroll in more than one clinic during their time at the Law School. If there is more demand for a clinic than supply in any given year, a student who has not yet had a clinical opportunity shall receive preference over a student who has already participated in one clinic and seeks to enroll in a different one.

- The authority to confirm enrollment in a clinic is vested in the respective clinical supervisor(s) who ensure(s) that students have completed all the necessary pre-requisites, met all relevant enrollment criteria (such as language skills), and are otherwise qualified to participate in the program. Expectations regarding the duration of the student's involvement with the clinic and total credits per quarter must be arranged with the clinical supervisor prior to enrollment.
- Students must bid or register for clinics in which they wish to participate only once (please see the quarterly registration instructions online for details on how to bid or register for specific clinics). The registration system allocates to each enrollment the default minimum credits for the quarter; adjustments based on actual work performed are reported by the clinical supervisors at the conclusion of each quarter to the Office of the Registrar. Students continuing participation in a clinic (as indicated by the clinical supervisor at the conclusion of each quarter participation) are automatically registered for the next quarter by the Office of the Registrar
- With the exception of the Kirkland & Ellis Corporate Lab Clinic, grades for clinical work are posted once, for all quarters of involvement, at the conclusion of the student's involvement with the clinic, and students receive the same grade for all quarters. For the Kirkland & Ellis Corporate Lab Clinic, grades are posted each quarter, and students may receive different grades for each quarter.
- Each clinic has a seminar component that students may be required to take during their participation in the clinic. Please check the schedule for meeting days/times, as students may not register for other offerings that meet contemporaneously.
- Students who work in a clinic over the summer are treated as returning clinic students in the autumn quarter and may continue with their clinic work during the following academic year. These students are automatically pre-registered by the Office of the Registrar (as indicated by the respective clinical supervisor) and therefore do not need to bid nor register themselves for the same clinic for the following autumn quarter.

Students should keep in mind that they need to be enrolled in and earn at least nine credit hours per quarter to be considered full-time, and students must earn at least 105 credits to graduate. If the student is counting on a clinic to meet these minimums, the student must be sure to earn enough hours in the clinic, or the student may face serious consequences. Any student intending to earn clinical credits in a given quarter above the default minimum credits for a clinic—whether to meet the nine credit hour full-time requirement or the 105 credits to graduate requirement—should provide the Registrar with written confirmation from their clinical supervisor that sufficient clinical work will be available to that student to meet the necessary hours requirement.

Please see the online registration materials for the latest information concerning specific quarters, days, times, credits, and other relevant information. Additional information for specific clinical and/or experiential learning programs is available online at [www.law.uchicago.edu/clinics](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/clinics).

### THE EDWIN F. MANDEL LEGAL AID CLINIC

The mission of the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic is to teach students effective advocacy skills, professional ethics, and the effect of legal institutions on the poor; to examine and apply legal theory while serving as advocates for people typically denied access to justice; and to reform legal education and the legal system to be more responsive to the interests of the poor. The Mandel Clinic renders assistance to indigent clients. Students assume responsibility, under the guidance of the full-time clinical faculty, for all aspects of the work. The program is intended to complement and enrich the theoretical study of law with experience in interviewing clients, investigating facts, dealing with adverse parties, working with government agencies, negotiating on behalf of clients, drafting legislation, drafting contracts, and participating in court and administrative proceedings. In addition, the Clinic seeks to acquaint students with the problems of professional responsibility and with the special issues of low-income clients and other disadvantaged groups. Students are encouraged to identify legal remedies for recurrent problems through new legislation, improvements in government services and benefits, assisting community-based groups and bar associations in their reform efforts, test cases, and other types of law reform litigation.

Under Illinois Supreme Court Rules, students who have completed 50 percent of the credits needed for graduation are authorized to appear on behalf of clients in the state trial courts and administrative agencies. Students may also represent clients in the Illinois Appellate Court, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Participation in the Mandel Clinic is limited to students enrolled in one of the clinical courses associated with each of the clinic projects. Currently the Mandel Clinic has the following clinics: the Abrams Environmental Law Clinic; the Civil Rights Clinic: Police Accountability; the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project Clinic; the Employment Law Clinic; the Federal Criminal Justice Clinic; the Housing Initiative Transactional Clinic; the International Human Rights Clinic; and the Mental Health Advocacy Clinic. Student experiences may vary by project.

### INNOVATION CLINIC

The Innovation Clinic provides legal services for start-up ventures that are in residence at the Incubator Program at the University's Polsky Exchange. Students will represent start-ups and early-stage companies in a broad range of matters encountered by entrepreneurs in the technology and innovation sector. These include entity formation, licensing, intellectual property and licensing of intellectual property, terms of use, privacy, financings, employment agreements, stock options and employee equity, taxation, governance and founders agreements, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements, preparing for future financing and venture capital transactions, human resources, and sales and procurement agreements. Students will also participate in and present at workshops on legal topics attended by Polsky Exchange entrepreneurs.

### KIRKLAND & ELLIS CORPORATE LAB CLINIC

This transactional clinic provides students with a forum for working closely with legal teams at various major companies in the following sectors (subject to change): technology, consulting, telecommunications, and emerging businesses. This clinic aims to teach practical legal skills and knowledge both by having students work on actual projects and through classroom instruction and discussion. In addition, students will have the opportunity to hear from, and interface with, seasoned practitioners from leading law firms. This class mirrors a real-world work experience: Students will receive hands-on substantive and "client"-development experience and will be expected to manage and meet expectations (e.g., deadlines) while exercising a high level of professionalism. As a result, this class is likely to involve a significant time commitment (with a substantial amount of work to be completed outside of class), and students will get out of the Lab what they put into it. Student grades will be based upon participation in the classroom, appropriate attention to "client" service, collaborative efforts within a team environment, and quality of work product.

### JENNER & BLOCK SUPREME COURT AND APPELLATE CLINIC

The Jenner & Block Supreme Court and Appellate Clinic represents parties and amici curiae in cases before the United States Supreme Court and other appellate courts. Students participate in the researching and drafting of merits briefs, amicus briefs, and cert petitions, conduct research on cases that may be suitable to bring to the Court, and help prepare and participate in moots of oral arguments. The clinic

is supervised by clinical faculty, by Professor David Strauss, and by members of the Appellate and Supreme Court Practice group at Jenner & Block. Although the clinic's focus is the U.S. Supreme Court, the clinic may also handle cases at the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and the Illinois Supreme Court.

#### THE INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE CLINIC ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship, or IJ Clinic, is a public interest organization devoted principally to expanding economic liberties. It provides a range of legal services, especially those for start-up businesses, to local entrepreneurs in economically disadvantaged communities. Counsel from the IJ Clinic supervise second- and third-year law students as they work with entrepreneurs in such areas as business formation; license and permit application; contract and lease creation; landlord, supplier, and lender negotiation; basic tax and regulatory compliance; and other legal activities involving business transactions.

#### THE EXONERATION PROJECT CLINIC

The Exoneration Project Clinic represents clients who have been convicted of crimes of which they are innocent. The clinic assists clients in asserting their claims of actual innocence in state and federal court. Student participants are involved in all aspects of post-conviction litigation, including selecting cases, uncovering and developing new evidence of our clients' innocence, and filing and litigating post-conviction petitions, habeas petitions, clemency petitions, and motions for forensic testing. The goals of the Exoneration Project Clinic are not only to correct individual injustices that have resulted in the conviction of innocent persons, but also to shed light on more widespread problems in the criminal justice system. The Clinic also seeks to encourage more interest among the bar for representing clients in need of post-conviction assistance.

#### YOUNG CENTER IMMIGRANT CHILD ADVOCACY CLINIC

The Young Center Immigrant Child Advocacy Clinic provides guardians ad litem (Child Advocates) for unaccompanied immigrant children who are in federal custody at the International Children's Center as well as non-detained unaccompanied children residing with sponsors in the Chicago area. Services provided by law students enrolled in the Clinic include: accompanying the children to Immigration Court, Cook County Juvenile Court, meetings with United States government officials, and meetings with consular officials from children's countries of origin; legal research to support children's claims for relief from removal in cooperation with attorney(s) representing children in Immigration Court, before the Board of Immigration Appeals and the Seventh Circuit; meeting with the children at least once a week and identifying eligibility for relief from removal, including asylum and special visas for victims of trafficking, abuse, and abandonment; identifying and representing the children's best interests;

investigation regarding children's presence in the United States, including reasons for departure from country of origin, journey, and time in the United States preceding apprehension, if any; researching conditions in children's countries of origin (e.g., political and economic conditions); developing written recommendations regarding children's best interests; writing advocacy briefs and advocating on children's behalf with the Office of Refugee Resettlement, Department of Homeland Security, and Executive Office for Immigration Review in whatever context is necessary (e.g. least restrictive placement, family reunification, access to services, access to legal representation).

### POVERTY AND HOUSING LAW CLINIC

This clinic, conducted over two sequential quarters, exposes students to the practice of poverty law work by giving them the opportunity to work on housing related cases at the Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF), which provides free legal services to indigent clients in civil matters. Students spend at least twelve hours per week in LAF's Housing Practice Group or in LAF's Consumer Practice Group (which handles bankruptcies and foreclosure defense). Students may appear with tenants at administrative grievance hearings, represent defendants in eviction or foreclosure actions, file suit to enjoin landlords from performing lock-outs or refusing to make necessary repairs, participate in ongoing federal litigation, advocate on behalf of tenant groups, comment on proposed federal housing regulations, and file bankruptcy petitions on behalf of subsidized-housing residents who are trying to preserve their tenancies. All students will be expected to interview clients, prepare written discovery, and draft motions. Students with 711 licenses may appear in court at status hearings, conduct depositions, argue contested motions, negotiate with opposing counsel, and participate in bench or jury trials. In addition to working at LAFMC, students will attend a weekly two-hour class at which they will learn about poverty law, public housing, the Section 8 tenant-based and project-based rental assistance programs, the landlord-tenant relationship, eviction actions, jury trial practice, housing discrimination, foreclosure defense, and the extensive and often misunderstood connection between criminal law and subsidized housing.

### PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE CLINIC

The Prosecution and Defense Clinic is offered every other year, and will not be offered during 2018-19. The Prosecution and Defense Clinic provides students with an opportunity to learn about the criminal justice system through:

1. a two-quarter seminar taught by a former Assistant United States Attorney and a former Federal Defender; and,
2. a clinical placement in either a prosecutor's office or public defender's office.

The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the legal procedures and issues which arise in a typical criminal case as well as ethical and other social justice issues (such as race and poverty) routinely considered by all criminal justice attorneys and courts. The clinic provides students with a unique combination of substantive criminal law and procedure, ethics, trial practice (through participation in courtroom exercises built around a single federal criminal case), and hands-on experience through a clinical placement. Each student in the clinic is responsible for securing a field placement and participating in a pre-screened externship program with a federal or state prosecutor or defender office for the winter and spring quarters (January through May). Examples include the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois, the State's Attorney's Office (in any northern Illinois county), the State's Office of the Attorney General, the Federal Defender Program for the Northern District of Illinois and the Public Defender's office (in any northern Illinois county). Each field placement will be formally supervised by coordinators within each program's office, and the faculty instructors will monitor the student's substantive work and performance in conjunction with the field placements. In the clinical placements, students may be expected to research substantive criminal law issues, draft affirmative and responsive pleadings and memos, interview witnesses and clients, assist lawyers with court hearings and where permitted (and with an appropriate 711 license), appear in court under the supervision of practicing attorneys.

## COURSE POLICIES

### LIMITED ENROLLMENT CLASSES

During the initial bidding and registration period of each quarter, students bid online for "limited enrollment classes." Limited enrollment ("biddable") seminars and courses will be designated by the Office of the Registrar each quarter. Generally, seminars are capped at 20 students. In some seminars, enrollment is limited to a smaller number. All seminars are considered "limited enrollment classes." The deadline to drop limited enrollment classes without a "W" is typically the Friday of the first week of classes. Please refer to the Academic Calendar for the exact deadlines each quarter.

### CORE FACULTY REQUIREMENT

After completing the first year, all J.D. students must complete 40 credits in non-clinical Law classes or "core" classes.<sup>6</sup> Core classes are designated each quarter in

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<sup>6</sup> Students who transfer into the J.D. degree program from the Law School's LL.M. program must complete 20 core credits. Students who earn simultaneous J.D./Ph.D. degrees from the Law School must complete 30 core credits.

the online course schedule at <http://registrar.uchicago.edu/classes>.<sup>7</sup> Credits earned through participation in journals and the Hinton Moot Court Competition count towards the 40 core credit requirement. Please note, however, that first year elective courses taken during the first year do not count towards the 40 core credit requirement; courses designated as first year electives taken after the first year, however, count towards the 40 core credit requirement.

## BIDDING

During the initial bidding and registration period of each quarter, students bid online for certain offerings, including all seminars. Students may bid for up to five offerings per quarter and must rank them in order of preference. **The maximum number of credits in which a student can be registered via the bidding process is 14; the actual number is typically lower due to pre-registration into continuing classes, clinics, independent research projects, etc.** Generally, 2Ls, 3Ls, and LL.Ms are on equal footing for purposes of registration. Please note, however, that faculty may choose to alter the priority system for their particular class based on the particular nature of the class.

## WAITLISTED/CLOSED CLASSES

Students must attend the first meeting of a seminar or a course with a waitlist in order to stay enrolled in the class. A student who is on the waitlist and wishes to register for the class must attend the first class as well. In many cases, the professor is able to accommodate the students on the waitlist who attend the first class. **A student who wishes to drop a limited enrollment class (whether a seminar or a course that was included in the bidding process) must do so by the date and time specified by the Office of the Registrar.** (See Academic Calendar for each quarter's deadline). Please note that many faculty will drop students who do not attend the first class, regardless of whether or not the class has a waitlist.

It is the student's responsibility to make sure classes are dropped by the appropriate deadline. Students should not rely on faculty to drop them from classes, nor should they assume that by not attending the first meeting they have been dropped from a class. Students can view their class schedule at [my.uchicago.edu](http://my.uchicago.edu).

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<sup>7</sup> Faculty members defined as core for purposes of this requirement are permanent faculty at the University of Chicago Law School, Visiting Faculty, Emeriti, members of the Clinical faculty, Professors from Practice, Senior Lecturers at the Law School, tenured University of Chicago professors with permanent offices in the Law School, and Booth faculty teaching in the Doctoroff program. Bigelow and other Fellows, as well as Lecturers in Law, are excluded.

## GREENBERG SEMINARS

Greenberg Seminars, open only to Law School students, are designed to afford students the opportunity to engage in informal discussions with Law School faculty members on a range of topics. The groups, normally limited to twelve students, meet in a faculty member's home five or more times over one or more quarters, and students must write and submit a short paper consistent with the faculty member's requirements. Topics and participating faculty are announced prior to the autumn quarter registration period. Participating students earn one credit, which is by default allocated to the first quarter in which the seminar meets. Students may reallocate the credit to any other quarter in which the specific Greenberg seminar meets. To do so they must contact the Office of the Registrar within the applicable add/drop period. Attendance at all sessions is required to earn the credit. Second-year students may only take one Greenberg Seminar during their second year, and priority is given to third-year students who have not previously participated in a Greenberg Seminar and who are not currently registered in another Greenberg Seminar. Students may bid for more than one Greenberg but will initially only be enrolled in one. Greenberg Seminars are graded Pass/Fail.

## AUDITING LAW CLASSES

Permission to audit a Law class gives an auditor the opportunity to sit through a Law School class, but auditors may not hand in papers or participate in evaluations of the instructor or class. An auditor does not receive Law School or University credit for the class, nor is the class recorded on a transcript. Instructors may deny any request to audit a class.

Students enrolled at the University of Chicago may audit law classes with permission of the instructor. Students are required to obtain the signature of the instructor on the auditing petition available online at: <https://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/academics/petitions>. Students are not permitted to audit more than one Law class per quarter.

Individuals not currently enrolled at the University of Chicago are prohibited from auditing law classes unless they have been invited by the instructor and have submitted a completed auditing petition.

Please note that all petitions to audit Law School classes are subject to review by the Deputy Dean and/or the Dean of Students.

## CLASSES OUTSIDE THE LAW SCHOOL

During their second and third years, J.D. students may take up to four classes (for a total of twelve credits, not more than 6 credits per quarter) outside the Law School for credit toward their J.D. degree and quarterly residency requirement, subject to the following conditions: (1) the courses must bear a relation to their future legal practice or to the study of law in general; (2) the course must be graduate level, although exceptions are occasionally made for undergraduate

foreign languages that students have not previously studied or that students test into; (3) with the exception of Booth School of Business classes, students must petition through the Office of the Registrar (see [www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse)) and receive permission **before** enrolling in any class outside the Law School; (4) students may take no more than six credits outside the Law School during any given quarter; (5) **students taking classes outside the Law School during their final quarter of study must explain the Law School's grading deadlines to the faculty member and the faculty member must agree, in writing, to provide a final grade or a provisional pass (if taking a class at Booth) by the University deadline for submission of grades for graduating students;** (6) the class may not have substantial overlap with any class taken at the Law School; and (7) classes at other law schools or universities may not be substituted. Satisfaction of these seven conditions is determined by the Dean of Students and the Office of the Registrar.

Classes offered by other units/departments within the University that are cross-listed with the Law School do not count against the 12-credit limit, and law students do not need to petition to register in those classes. Law students registered in cross-listed classes must register for such classes using the LAWS-prefixed course number and also must receive a numerical grade (e.g., law students may not register to take cross-listed classes for a letter grade nor Pass/Fail).

Determinations about the appropriateness of a particular class for a particular student's course of study should not be interpreted as universal approval of the class for all students in a given year or in subsequent years.

Students may take classes in other departments on either a graded or pass/fail basis. Students and the instructor in the class will establish the conditions of the grade. **If the graded option is selected, a letter grade will be recorded on the Law School transcript but will not be included in the calculation of grade point averages.**

LL.M. students may take non-Law School classes with an approved petition, but the credits for courses taken outside of the Law School will not count towards the 27 credits required to graduate with the LL.M. degree. LL.M. students must take and pass no fewer than six Law School credit hours per quarter. Please note, however, that LL.M. students applying to the New York bar must complete 30 credits. In addition to the 27 credit hours LL.M. students must earn at the Law School, the New York bar permits LL.M. students to take up to three additional credits in "other courses related to legal training" in another school at the University of Chicago. For further information regarding New York bar requirements for LL.M. students, please consult with the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs.

Please follow these steps to register for a class outside of the Law School in any unit/department of the University but Booth:

1. Go to my.UChicago and click on the Class Search link.
2. Choose a department from the list, set the course level to “graduate” and click the SEARCH button.
3. Review the list of classes offered by the department and select a graduate level class that you would like to take.
4. Email the instructor of the class in which you seek to enroll. In some cases you will need the professor’s approval to register, and you should establish with the professor whether you will be taking the class Pass/Fail or for a letter grade.
5. Complete the online petition to take a non-Law School class for credit. The petition is available on the Law School website at: [www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse).
6. **Petitions may be submitted through the end of the first week of class. Petitions submitted thereafter will not be considered.**
7. After your petition is submitted, you will receive either an approval or denial from the Office of the Registrar via email.
8. If the petition is approved, the Assistant Registrar will enroll you and notify you once that process is complete.

The process and procedures for Law School students to take a class at Booth are established and implemented by Booth. If you are interested in taking a class at Booth, please follow the instructions detailed [on](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse/booth) the Law School website at [www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse/booth](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/petitions/nonlawcourse/booth). Please also review the Booth website at [www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/taking-courses-at-booth](http://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/taking-courses-at-booth). Credits for Booth classes count toward the twelve credit limit and the maximum of six credits of non-Law School classes per quarter.

As soon as the Booth registration is completed (during the first week of Booth classes), students will receive an email confirmation of their registration status. If students decide not to take the Booth class for which they registered, students must immediately notify Booth and the Law School Registrar (in no case later than the end of the third week of classes). Booth registration, course attendance, and grading are governed by all applicable Booth rules.

Booth registration information for non-Booth students, including links to course information, syllabi, exam schedules, and deadlines, is available at:

- <https://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/taking-courses-at-booth/law-school-students>
- <https://www.chicagobooth.edu/programs/taking-courses-at-booth/seat-availability>

Booth requires that students taking a Booth course who would like to elect Pass/Fail grading must complete the *Pass/Fail Request* form in the Booth Dean of Students' Office (typically by the Friday of the fourth week of the quarter). After this deadline, no changes can be made to a Pass/Fail request. If you intend to take a Booth course Pass/Fail, make certain that it is permitted, as some professors do not allow the Pass/Fail option.

For additional information on taking classes across the Midway, please visit [www.law.uchicago.edu/students/acrossthemidway](http://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/acrossthemidway).

## ADDING/DROPPING COURSES

For classes not governed by the rules applicable to limited enrollment courses, students must complete all adds or drops to their class schedule by the end of the Instructor Approval Add/Drop period for each quarter specified in the Academic Calendar. After the Instructor Approval Add/Drop period ends, there can be no changes in a student's enrollment except in extraordinary circumstances. A student who demonstrates extraordinary circumstances and obtains permission from the Dean of Students to drop a class after the deadline will receive a "W" (up to the last day of classes) or a failing grade (after the last day of classes) on his/her transcript for that course. Permission to drop a class after the deadline will not be granted (even with a "W") if:

1. the class was included in the bidding process and oversubscribed at the time of registration;
2. the student has received 50% or more of the final grade;
3. the instructor objects to the drop;
4. the student will have less than nine credits for the quarter;
5. the student has taken the final exam; or
6. the request fails to meet the aforementioned "extraordinary circumstances" condition. Failure to read and follow the directions for adding or dropping a course or to take note of the applicable deadline is not considered an extraordinary circumstance.

Additions after the first week require the permission of the professor. In light of ABA requirements concerning class attendance, faculty generally do not allow students to add a course after the first week.

These rules also apply to mini-courses and multi-quarter courses, unless explicitly contravened in the course description.

## GRADING POLICIES

The grading scale at the Law School is as follows:

180-186 A

174-179 B

168-173 C

160-167 D

155-159 F

Law School grades are recorded as numerical grades for all LAWS-prefixed offerings, unless otherwise explicitly noted in the offering's description. The median grade in all courses and all seminars in which students are graded primarily on the basis of an examination must be 177. The median grade in all paper seminars, clinics, and simulation classes must be no lower than 177 and no higher than 179. Courses in which all students write papers, as well as courses and seminars in which students have the option to write a paper or sit for an examination, must have a median of 177 or 178. All classes designated as first year electives must have a 177 median, regardless of the basis for grading in those classes. The median grade in first year Legal Research and Writing and Lawyering classes must be 178. The Law School may permit minor deviations from these mandatory medians for classes with very low enrollments when the instructor certifies that the students' performance was unusually strong or weak relative to students' performance in the same class during prior years.

In the absence of any contrary statement, it is understood that a student's grade in a course will be based entirely upon the written examination or paper in the class. Professors may choose to add a class participation component to the grade.

Honors are awarded to J.D. students at graduation based on final cumulative grade point averages as follows:

182 and above Highest Honors

180.5 and above High Honors

179 and above Honors

Note: The Law School does not round grade point averages. Thus, a student who graduates with a grade point average of 180.499 will receive Honors, and only students receiving a grade point average of exactly 180.500 or higher will receive High Honors, and so on.

The Law School does not rank students. Students must not provide estimates of their class rank on resumes, in job interviews, or in any other context. A key on the

back of the transcript provides information about the rolling percentage of students graduating with honors.

Membership in the national Order of the Coif organization is awarded pursuant to terms set by the national organization. Students are eligible for nomination for Order of the Coif upon graduation if they have earned at least 79 of the 105 credits needed for graduation in graded courses. From that pool of eligible students, the top 10% at graduation is nominated for membership in Order of the Coif.

A grade of 160 or above is required for credit in a course. A student who fails a class will be contacted by the Dean of Students. A student who receives two failing final grades in any one academic year or three failing final grades during his or her period of residence at the Law School will not have maintained satisfactory academic standing. Additionally, J.D. students must attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 168 at the conclusion of each academic year to maintain satisfactory academic standing. Maintenance of satisfactory academic standing is a prerequisite to continuing study in the Law School as well as to graduating from the Law School.

The LL.M. and M.L.S. degrees are awarded to students who have successfully completed 27 course hours over three quarters and who have earned a minimum grade point average of 170.

#### KIRKLAND & ELLIS SCHOLARS

In recognition of a very generous gift to the Law School's Centennial Capital Campaign, the Law School designates outstanding students as Kirkland & Ellis Scholars. Beginning with the Class of 2009, students with grades in the top 5% of the class are so designated at the end of their 1st year or 2nd year of study. Additional students will be added to this group during the 3rd year of study so that by graduation, 10% of the class will have been designated Kirkland & Ellis Scholars. Once a student receives the designation, it is not removed.

