

PROGRAMS OF INSTRUCTION

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. 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 other areas such as 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.

Dual degree students also must pay tuition at the Law School for eight quarters. In addition, they must be in residence as full-time students at the Law School for nine quarters, in each of which they must earn at least nine credits towards the J.D. degree in either LAWS-prefixed classes or classes that earn credit toward the J.D. degree. The tuition and residency requirement cannot be waived. For each quarter considered in residence at the Law School, a student must be enrolled in at least one LAWS-prefixed class. This requirement cannot be waived. Students in dual

degree programs cannot enroll in more than 14 credits in any quarter in which they are counting credits toward the J.D. degree. This includes credits/units taken in the other department. There are no exceptions to this max credit requirement.

THE THREE YEAR J.D./M.B.A PROGRAM

The three year J.D./M.B.A Program is an accelerated program where students complete both degrees in three years. Similar to other dual degree programs, students must be in residence as full-time students at the Law School for nine quarters, in each of which they must earn at least nine credits towards the J.D. degree in either LAWS-prefixed classes or classes that earn credit toward the J.D. degree. Students in this program may count up to 12 credits of coursework outside the Law School (non LAWS-prefixed classes) toward the J.D. degree and towards the quarterly residency requirement.

In the first year of the program, students are enrolled in Law School classes only and will complete their first-year Law School requirements during that year. In the second year, students enroll in a combination of Booth BUSN-prefixed class and LAWS-prefixed classes. In the second year, students are required to take the LAWS-prefixed Doctoroff classes, designated as such in my.uchicago.edu. Students return to the Law School in the third year to complete their Law School requirements. Students in this program must complete 35 core credit hours.

Students cannot enroll in more than 14 credits in any quarter of residency through the duration of this program, and that includes quarters in which they are enrolled in both BUSN and LAWS prefixed classes (please see the conversion table in the first paragraph of the Dual Degree section). There are no exceptions to this max credit requirement.

J.D./PH.D. PROGRAMS

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. The law school offers five LLM only courses: Writing & Research in the US Legal System, Constitutional Law for LL.Ms, Contracts for LL.Ms, Civil Procedure for LL.Ms, and Introduction to American Law & Legal System. Outside of these specific courses, 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 80 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 they 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. In addition, for the 2021-2022 academic year, we will also accept the TOEFL ITP Special At Home Edition. A minimum total score of 104 overall of the TOEFL is required. Minimum required scores on the IELTS are an overall score of 7.5 and sub scores of 7 each. Most admitted LL.M. applicants will have substantially higher scores.

For those candidates whose native language is not English, but English has been a primary language of communication and schooling for them since childhood; or they were enrolled for at least one academic year in full-time status in a course of study at an accredited English-medium post-secondary institution in one of the following countries or territories within the past ten years: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom, the United States applicants will have the opportunity to indicate this on their application if they do not intend to submit a TOEFL or IELTS.

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 seven professional journals. *The University of Chicago Law Review*, *The University of Chicago Legal Forum*, *The Chicago Journal of International Law*, and *The University of Chicago Business Law Review* 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 **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 **Center on Law and Finance** has two primary objectives. The first is to advance the research and understanding of how law interacts with—and shapes—financial systems. Leveraging the strength of the University in the fields of law, finance, and economics, the Center on Law and Finance takes the next step to be the intellectual leader on tomorrow’s core legal issues in finance—issues across a range that includes distressed investments, negotiated reorganizations, venture capital structuring, investor activism, litigation finance, and valuation disputes. The second objective is to connect our research concretely to the real world. Continuing the Law School’s commitment to the practical application of legal theory, the Center holds events that foster a meaningful dialogue between academics and practitioners. The academy is at its best when it translates scholarly work into useful information for practitioners. At the same time, the best research will be deeply informed by the experience of and insight from practitioners in the field. With the launch of the Center in 2019, we anticipate a yearly schedule of conferences, roundtables, speaker events, and seminars on various topics. These events will be designed to highlight and produce great scholarship at the Law School and to connect our faculty and alumni to each other and to other leaders in these fields.

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 Frank Easterbrook, Richard Epstein, William Landes, and Richard Posner. New generations 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. The faculty teach and write in many areas of the law where law and economics has long been influential, including contract and commercial law, intellectual property law, bankruptcy, corporate law, antitrust, international trade, and civil procedure. 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, banking regulation, taxation, environmental law, international law, housing law, consumer 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. Professor Omri Ben-Shahar, renowned contract law scholar, is the faculty director of the Coase-Sandor Institute.

Created in 2020, the **Constitutional Law Center** will support research and scholarship on longstanding constitutional issues as an integral part of the Law School's scholarly and research mission. The Center also shares the Law School's commitment to free speech and intellectual inquiry that is independent of partisan fashions. The Center will promote rigorous analysis of constitutional issues and then share those ideas more broadly with the general public. The Center will host events, activities, and visitors throughout the coming years.

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.

To learn more about the program and how to apply, please visit www.law.uchicago.edu/doctoroffbusinessleadership.

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 and Alison LaCroix.

