

LAW, JD

The curriculum is designed to give students a great deal of freedom and flexibility. Apart from a group of core courses, most of which are taught in the first-year, students may select from a large number of courses, seminars and clinical offerings. They may choose to concentrate – to varying degrees – in one or more areas of law or to gain exposure to a broad number of areas. Students should realize, however, that the ability to predict one’s future practice area or areas is not always perfect. Therefore, many students may benefit from taking a relatively wide range of courses.

Despite the freedom to choose that students are given during their second and third years, there are some subjects that probably ought not to be ignored. Included within this category is a course that offers some perspective on the practice of law – such as a jurisprudential or international law offering, or a comparative or legal history offering; business organizations; a course which deals with regulation – such as administrative law or an environmental or labor law offering; and a course which offers some taste of practice; such as a clinical or trial advocacy offering, moot court, or alternate dispute resolution.

William L. Andreen
Clarkson Professor of Law

Admission Requirements

Students applying for the Juris Doctor program at The University of Alabama must register with the LSAC Credential Assemble Service. Students will need to supply Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores, their cumulative undergraduate grade point average, along with your personal statement, resume, and letters of recommendations. A Graduate Record Examination score will be considered in place of a LSAT score.

The Alabama Scholars Admission Program streamlines the application process for students in good standing or graduates from specific Alabama universities and colleges. Students will still apply online through the LSAC website.

Students of The University of Alabama are potentially eligible to apply through the 503 Alternative Admission Program. Criteria for this application are subject to change. Applications must be obtained from Assistant Director of Admissions Katie Grayson at kgrayson@law.ua.edu.

Students considering transferring to The University of Alabama School of Law must complete one year of law school and provide first and second semester grades, a statement explaining why you desire to enroll with advanced standing, a letter of good standing and class rank from your current institution, a Credential Assemble Service report, and other documentation based on individual factors. Transfer students apply online through the LSAC website.

Law Students Classifications

Law students are classified as following:

P1: 0 - 26.999 hours

P2: 27 - 53.999 hours

P3: 54 and above

Degree Requirements

Students are required to earn 90 semester hours of credit for work in the Law School, including all required courses, a seminar course, and six hours of experiential courses. Students also must maintain, in the

judgement of the faculty, a satisfactory record of honorable conduct befitting a prospective member of the legal profession.

Code and Title		Hours
First Year Courses		
LAW 600	Contracts	4
LAW 601	Property	4
LAW 602	Torts	4
LAW 603	Criminal Law	4
LAW 608	Civil Procedure	4
LAW 609	Constitutional Law	4
LAW 610	Legal Research/Writing	2
LAW 648	Legal Research/Writing II	2
LAW 713	Intro to Study of Law	1
LAW 742	Legislation and Regulation	2
Second and Third Year Courses		
LAW 660	Legal Profession	3
One Seminar Course ¹		
Professional or Experiential Courses (consist of clinical courses, externships, and simulation courses (including Trial Advocacy).)		6
Examples Include: LAW 634, LAW 728, LAW 733, LAW 795		
Elective Courses (required to fulfill the 90-hour requirement)		
Students must complete 90 semester hours		

Footnotes

¹ A seminar course allows student to study specialized areas of the law in a highly-interactive small-class environment. All seminars include a substantial writing assignment, adequate to demonstrate the ability of the students to perform in-depth legal research, to engage in legal reasoning, and to express themselves in a clear, concise and persuasive manner. Seminars typically include opportunities for student to make oral presentations, as well as opportunities to revise their written work based on comments from other students and the professor. With the exception of the general requirement of a substantial writing assignment, professors may tailor the requirements of the class to suit their pedagogical objectives and the subject matter of the course.

To be in good standing, a student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.33 and not be on probation for any other reason.

Once a student has matriculated into the JD program they must complete the degree requirement in no less than 24 months and no more than 6 calendar years from the point of matriculation.

Certificate in Governmental Affairs

JD candidates interested in a certificate in Governmental Affairs must complete the following courses:

Code and Title		Hours
Required Courses		
LAW 638	Political & Legis Writing	2
LAW 744	Legislative Drafting	2
Elective Courses		
LAW 684	Antitrust Law	12

LAW 731	Special Topics in Law (Democratic Institutions, Educational Law, Law & Public Policy, Reproductive Rights)	
LAW 702	Environmental Law I	
LAW 696	Health Care Law	
LAW 815	Health Care Liability	
LAW 819	International Human Rights Law	
LAW 655	Immigration Law	
LAW 764	Sp Probs In Constl Law (Immunity Doctrine)	
LAW 715	Judicial Opinion Drafting	
LAW 723	Law And Economics	
LAW 719	Law And Religion	
LAW 710	Public Internatl Law	
LAW 709	Securities Regulation	
LAW 690	Water Law	
LAW 631	Employment Law	
Other Courses as Approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs		
Total Hours		16

International & Comparative Law Certificate

JD candidates interested in a certificate in International & Comparative Law must complete the following courses:

Code and Title	Hours
Required Courses	
Approved Study Abroad Program	
LAW 710	Public Internatl Law 3
LAW 671	Interntl Bus Transacns 3
Elective Courses 10	
LAW 773	Australian And American Law
LAW 655	Immigration Law
LAW 763	Intl Environmental Law Seminar
LAW 819	International Human Rights Law
LAW 761	International Taxation
LAW 666	International Trade Law
LAW 646	The Law of War
LAW 748	Problems Corporate Law
LAW 625	Spec Prob Internatl Law
LAW 837	WMD Law and Policy
Other Courses as Approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs	
Total Hours	16

Public Interest Law Certificate

JD candidates interested in a certificate in Public Interest Law must complete the following courses:

Code and Title	Hours
Required Courses	
LAW 665	Clinical Program (One semester in one Law School clinics) 6
LAW 821	Public Interest Lawyering 2

LAW 769	Poverty Law	2
50 hours of community service		
Elective Courses		12
LAW 795	Externship Program ¹	
LAW 683	Administrative Law	
LAW 838	Adoption Law	
LAW 630	Adv Constitutional Law	
LAW 705	Altern Disput Resolutn	
LAW 635	Children's Rights	
LAW 726	Civil Rights Actions	
LAW 665	Clinical Program ²	
LAW 628	Consumer Protection	
LAW 751	Criminal Procedure: Post-Conviction Proceedings	
LAW 735	Criml Procedure Pretrial	
LAW 790	Crim Procedure Trial	
LAW 792	Special Topic In Education Law	
LAW 721	Employment Discrimination	
LAW 702	Environmental Law I	
LAW 771	Environmental Law II	
LAW 674	Family Law I	
LAW 633	Gender And The Law	
LAW 606	Privacy & Data Security Law	
LAW 655	Immigration Law	
LAW 763	Intl Environmental Law Seminar	
LAW 819	International Human Rights Law	
LAW 791	Juvenile Justice Jurisprudence	
LAW 676	Labor Law	
LAW 723	Law And Economics	
LAW 731	Special Topics in Law (Law & Public Policy)	
LAW 719	Law And Religion	
LAW 843	Lawyers & Social Change Prctcm	
LAW 736	Spec Probs In Evidence	
LAW 779	Mediation Practice And Process	
LAW 834	Mental Health Law	
LAW 710	Public Internatl Law	
LAW 624	Select Prob Criminal Law (Punishment)	
LAW 822	Spanish for Lawyers	
LAW 764	Sp Probs In Constl Law (First Amendment Seminar, First Amendment Survey, and Race and the Law)	
LAW 634	Externship ³	
LAW 631	Employment Law	
Total Hours		22

Footnotes

¹ Limited to Non-Profit and (non-judicial) Government Office placements. Students who believe that a particular judicial externship will relate to the kind of public interest practice the student wishes to pursue may petition the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for approval. No more than a total of five credits of externships may count toward the 12-hour elective requirement for the Certificate.

- ² No more than a total of four hours of clinical work may count toward the 12-hour elective requirement for the Certificate – in addition to the existing requirement that students complete a four-hour clinic to obtain the Certificate.
- ³ Limited to Non-Profit and (non-judicial) Government Office placements. Students who believe that a particular judicial externship will relate to the kind of public interest practice the student wishes to pursue may petition the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for approval. No more than a total of five credits of externships may count toward the 12-hour elective requirement for the Certificate.