

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 Brandi Russell at brussell@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.

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	
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	Workplace 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 774	Capital Litigation

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 607	Disability Law
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 756	Family Law II
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 652	Race and the Law
LAW 624	Select Prob Criminal Law (Punishment)
LAW 793	Sentencing
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	Workplace 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.