ACCREDITATION

Texas A&M University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, [404] 679-4501) to award degrees at the bachelors’, masters’, doctoral, and professional levels. Texas A&M University School of Law is accredited by the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association (321 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610 [800] 285-2221). The School of Law is also a member of the Association of American Law Schools (1201 Connecticut Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 [202] 296-8851).

MISSION STATEMENT

Texas A&M University is dedicated to the discovery, development, communication and application of knowledge in a wide range of academic and professional fields. Its mission of providing the highest quality undergraduate and graduate programs is inseparable from its mission of developing new understandings through research and creativity. Students are prepared to assume roles of leadership, responsibility and service to society. Texas A&M assumes as its historic trust the maintenance of freedom of inquiry and an intellectual environment nurturing the human mind and spirit. It welcomes and seeks to serve persons of all racial, ethnic and geographic groups, women and men alike, as it addresses the needs of an increasingly diverse population and a global economy. In the twenty-first century, Texas A&M University seeks to assume a place of preeminence among public universities while respecting its history and traditions.

Texas A&M University School of Law was founded upon the mission to provide excellence in legal education, emphasizing service to our diverse student body, our profession, and our community. The law school continues to pursue this mission of excellence through outstanding teaching and scholarship, the development of innovative academic programs, a commitment to public service, and promoting the highest ethical standards in the practice of law. At Texas A&M, students will find a law school committed to providing a strong theoretical foundation and the practical skills necessary to traverse the dynamic legal landscape of the 21st century.

PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLICATION

This publication provides information about the academic programs of Texas A&M University School of Law to students, prospective students, faculty and staff. Included is information concerning admissions, academic standards, services available to students, academic offerings and a list of the administrative officers and faculty of the law school. While every effort has been made to make this publication as complete and accurate as possible, changes may occur at any time in requirements, deadlines, fees, curricula, and courses listed.

Students should refer to the Howdy website for course offerings in any given semester. For administrative reasons, because of insufficient enrollment or because of limited resources, any given course might not be offered in the announced semester.

This publication was prepared in advance of its effective date; therefore, the course descriptions may vary from actual course content. The provisions of this publication do not constitute a contract, express or implied, between any applicant, student, faculty or staff member of Texas A&M School of Law, Texas A&M University or The Texas A&M University System. This publication is for informational purposes only. The university reserves the right to change or alter any statement herein without prior notice. This publication should not be interpreted to allow a student who begins his or her education under these established programs and policies to continue the program under the provisions herein.
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</tr>
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<td>August 19-21</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
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<td>August 24</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
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<td>August 28</td>
<td>Last day to add a course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>Timely postmark deadline with the Texas Board of Law Examiners for the February Bar examination</td>
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<td>September 4</td>
<td>Last day to elect pass/fail option</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course without a transcript notation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Timely deadline for first-year students to file a Declaration of Intent to Study Law with the Texas Board of Law Examiners</td>
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<td>November 2-6</td>
<td>Priority Registration for Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course with a transcript notation</td>
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<td>November 26-27</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>Make-up day for November 26 and 27 classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4-16</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACADEMIC CALENDAR

WINTER 2016

December 16, 2015
Last day to drop or add a class
January 4
Classes begin
January 5
Last day to elect pass/fail option
January 9
Last day of classes

SPRING 2016

January 6
Graduation application open in Howdy for all students planning to graduate in May 2016
January 11
Classes Begin
January 15
Last day to add a course
January 18
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR HOLIDAY
January 22
Last day to elect pass/fail option
January 27
Last day to drop a course without a transcript notation
January 30
Timely postmark deadline with the Texas Board of Law Examiners for the July Bar examination

February 19
Last day to apply for May degree without a late fee
February 29-March 4
Priority Registration for Summer 2016
March 14-18
SPRING BREAK
March 25
No classes
March 28
Last day to drop a course with a transcript notation
March 28-April 1
Priority Registration for Fall 2016
April 25
Last day of classes
April 26
Make-up day for March 25 classes
May 2-12
Final Exams
May 3
Last day to apply for May degree
May 13
Hooding and Commencement

SUMMER 2016

May 18
Graduation application open in Howdy for all students planning to graduate in Summer 2016
May 23
Classes Begin
May 26
Last day to add a course
May 27
Last day to elect pass/fail option
May 30
MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY
May 31
Last day to drop a course without a transcript notation
June 27
Last day to drop a course with a transcript notation
July 4
INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY
July 8
Last day of classes
July 11
Last day to apply for degrees awarded Summer 2015 without a late fee
July 12-14
Final Exams
July 19
Degree Conferral Date
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Texas A&M University seeks to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding its students with disabilities. No student shall be denied access to or participation in the services, programs, and activities of the University solely on the basis of his/her disability. To accomplish this goal, the University shall provide, upon request, reasonable accommodations for students who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

It is the responsibility of the student to provide information which verifies that the student’s condition meets the definition of a disability as defined by applicable laws (i.e., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008). Federal Law requires that requests for services for student with disabilities be considered on an individual, case-by-case basis.

If a student with a disability requires accommodations, the student must present relevant, verifiable, professional documentation or assessment reports, confirming the existence of the disability, to the assistant dean of student affairs. Petitions for accommodations should be made to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs by November 1 of the fall semester, April 1 of the spring semester, and at registration for the summer and winter sessions. Each petition should be accompanied by evidence of the medical condition and evidence of the accommodation given, if any, in past educational settings or examinations. Particular weight is given to the accommodation allowed for taking the LSAT. The student whose request for accommodations is granted is responsible for making appropriate arrangements with the Office of Student Affairs each semester.

Sources of information used for determining a disability and/or accommodations may include a student’s self-report, direct observation and interaction with the student, and/or documentation from qualified evaluators or professionals. Students should complete the Request for Exam Accommodations Form, which provides students an opportunity to describe their disability and accommodations they are hoping to receive. Students may supplement the Request for Exam Accommodations Form with an additional narrative by providing a letter that further describes their disability and/or accommodations they are requesting. Students may consider including information about their experiences related to their disability, barriers faced, and/or previous accommodations (effective or ineffective).

Disability related documentation should provide information on the functional impact of the disability so that effective accommodations can be identified. Criteria for the source, scope and content of documentation differs by disability type. Documentation may include assessments, reports, and/or letters from qualified evaluators, professionals, or institutions. Common sources of documentation are health care providers, psychologists, diagnosticians, and/or information from a previous school (e.g., accommodation agreements/letters, 504, IEP, or ARD documents).

Suggested Documentation Elements:
1. Typed on letterhead, dated, and signed by a qualified professional.
2. Diagnostic Statement with any related diagnostic methodology (diagnostic criteria and/or procedures).
3. Functional limitations or symptoms. (Limitations inform which accommodations are appropriate.)
4. Severity and/or expected progression.
5. Current medication(s) and any related side-effects.
6. Current and/or past accommodations.
7. Any recommended accommodations.
UNIVERSITY STATEMENT ON HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

Texas A&M University is committed to providing an educational and work climate that is conducive to the personal and professional development of each individual. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, Texas A&M encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality, diversity, pluralism and the uniqueness of the individual within our State, nation and world. The University also strives to protect the rights and privileges, and to enhance the self-esteem of all its members. Faculty, staff and students should be aware that any form of harassment and any form of illegal discrimination against any individual is inconsistent with the values and ideals of the University community. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units. Students should contact the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at (817) 212-4020, faculty members should contact the Office of the Dean of Faculties and Associate Provost at (979) 845-4274, and staff should contact the Assistant Dean of Finance & Operations at (817) 212-4082.
THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

With a curriculum that combines classroom instruction with experiential learning, Texas A&M University School of Law delivers a comprehensive legal education that emphasizes the development of strategic, analytical and practical lawyering skills.

Practical experiential learning programs and rigorous course requirements that include specialized drafting and legal writing classes ensure our students are marketable to employers and make an impact immediately after completing their studies.

ADMISSION

J.D. APPLICANTS

The Law School enrolls first-year full-time and part-time students in the fall of each academic year. Applicants for admission are required to have a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university prior to enrollment. Applicants are also required to take the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), which is administered four times a year throughout the country.

In addition to considering academic achievements and aptitude, the admissions committee will endeavor, on the basis of the applicant's education and other experiences, to determine the professional promise of each applicant. Accordingly, the admissions committee evaluates all factors relevant to an applicant's potential to be successful in meeting the academic standards of the juris doctor program as well as potential for success on the bar examination and in other professional endeavors. Traditional criteria, such as undergraduate academic achievement and aptitude as reflected in LSAT performance, are used in the admission evaluation process. Significantly, the admissions committee also considers evidence of substantial achievement in various endeavors such as prior employment, professional experience, graduate study, public and community service, and other factors. Cultural, geographic, and experiential diversity of the student body is also an important consideration. Admission information and applications procedures are available at the Law School or its admission website.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students who have satisfactorily completed at least one year of law studies at an ABA accredited law school may apply for admission as advanced students. Information about admission and the transferring of credits from another ABA approved law school is available on the law school admission website.

VISITING STUDENTS

Students in good standing at another law school may apply for admission as a visiting student. Students may visit for any semester or an entire academic year. The application procedures for visiting students may be found on the admissions website.

J.D. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The curriculum consists of lockstep courses (required courses that must be taken in a prescribed sequence), advanced required courses, core curriculum electives, and general curriculum electives. In addition to providing a solid grounding in the basics of the law, the school's curriculum offers many opportunities for students to take courses in a variety of specialized areas.

The juris doctor degree is conferred on students who:

1. Satisfactorily complete 90 semester hours
2. Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.33
3. Complete all lockstep and advanced required courses
4. Complete an upper-level rigorous writing requirement
5. Complete at least 3 credit hours in one or more oral skills courses
6. Complete a 30-hour pro bono requirement
7. Complete all graduation requirements within 72 months of the date the student matriculated at the law school

FULL-TIME DAY DIVISION

The full-time day division program is a three-year course of study consisting of 14-week fall and spring semesters. A seven-week summer session with a limited course schedule is offered. During the first
year, students register for 14 semester hours in the fall and 15 semester hours in the spring. After the first year, full-time students are required to take between 13 and 16 credits each semester and may take up to 8 credits in the summer session and 1 credit in the winter session. Some weekend classes are also offered.

Classes are scheduled Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m., and they vary in length from one to two hours. Employment for full-time students is limited to no more than 20 hours per week.

PART-TIME DAY DIVISION

The part-time day division program is generally a four-year course of study consisting of 14-week fall and spring semesters. Part-time students may also choose from a limited course schedule during the seven-week summer session. During the first year, students register for 11 semester hours in the fall and 11 semester hours in the spring. After the first year, a part-time day student is required to take between 8 and 12 credits per semester, including required lockstep courses, and may take up to 6 credits in the summer session and 1 credit in the winter session. Some weekend classes are also offered.

Classes are scheduled Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m., and they vary in length from one to two hours.

PART-TIME EVENING DIVISION

The part-time evening division program offers working professionals and others a flexible program in which they can take advantage of a four-year course of study consisting of 14-week fall and spring semesters. A seven-week summer session with a limited course schedule is offered. During the first year, students register for 11 semester hours in the fall and 11 semester hours in the spring. After the first year, a part-time evening student is required to take between 8 and 12 credits per semester, including required lockstep courses, and may take up to 6 credits in the summer session and 1 credit in the winter session. Some weekend classes are also offered.

Evening classes are scheduled Monday through Thursday, with an occasional course offered on a Friday. Classes vary in length from one to two hours and are scheduled between 6:00 and 10:00 p.m.

LOCKSTEP COURSES

All entering students must complete the following required lockstep courses. For the prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for each division, see Academic Standards, page 12.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Procedure</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Law</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Analysis, Research &amp; Writing I</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Analysis, Research &amp; Writing II</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation &amp; Regulation</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torts</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADVANCED REQUIRED COURSES

In addition to the required lockstep courses, all students must successfully complete these courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Associations I*</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Procedure</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Analysis, Research &amp; Writing III</td>
<td>2 or 3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Responsibility**</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills &amp; Estates</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* or Business Associations, a four-credit course offered prior to fall 2013
** 2 credit hours for students taking the course before fall 2013

ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAM

Texas A&M University School of Law is committed to providing students with the support necessary to achieve academic success. The Academic Support Program is designed to help all students reach their full academic potential, while providing extra assistance to students who need more guidance as they adjust to law school life.

Successful students put in many hours of efficient work outside of class to prepare for the rigors of classroom discussions and the demands of law school final exams. Academic support helps students transition into this new learning environment and increases their chances of succeeding academically. In particular, the academic support program offers various opportunities for student success, including weekly 1L academic support groups led by
successful upper-level TA’s; first-year practice exams with individual feedback; seminars, panels, review sessions, and workshops; academic resources and advising; peer tutors; and bar exam preparation advice, resources, and mentoring. Overall, it is the program’s mission to provide the necessary early and proactive, as well as ongoing, assistance to students to successfully complete law school, pass the bar exam, and enhance their performance in the profession.

EQUAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

In keeping with its mission to provide excellence in legal education and emphasizing service to its diverse student body, the legal profession, and its community, the law school requires each student to perform 30 hours of law-related pro bono service through the Equal Justice Program. Students must complete the pro bono requirement by November 1st (Fall semester) and April 1st (Spring semester) in the semester in which they graduate. The program’s purpose is twofold. First, it ensures that students will have the opportunity to practice lawyering skills in a real-world setting before graduation. Second, it imparts to our students the value that Texas A&M places on giving back to the community.

CONCENTRATIONS

The law school currently offers concentrations in the areas of Intellectual Property, Estate Planning, Family law, Dispute Resolution, and Business law. A concentration is a specialized course of study analogous, in some ways, to a major in college. Each program requires a minimum grade point average in at least 16 hours of qualifying upper-level courses. Additional information about the law school’s concentrations is available from Student Services and will be included in the registration materials each semester or session.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

The law school provides students with clinical opportunities in which students can gain valuable experience in representing clients, mediating disputes, or acting as prosecutors under attorney supervision. These clinics are vital to the law school’s commitment to public service and professional ethics.

The Family Law and Benefits Clinic is a real, functioning law office, operated by law students and faculty supervisors. Enrolled law students represent real clients in real court in family law and Social Security disability matters. Through this clinic, students are eligible for a third-year bar card, which is a limited license to practice law under supervision granted by the State Bar of Texas.

The Center for Law and Intellectual Property has two clinics that offer students hands-on experience. The Intellectual Property and Technology Clinic provides free legal services relating to trademark and patent issues. This clinic was also chosen to participate in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s Law School Clinic Certification Program. Students interact directly with the USPTO and its examiners on behalf of the clients under the supervision of faculty supervising attorneys. In the Entrepreneurship Clinic, students help clients with limited resources start, organize, and develop a business.

The law school’s new Wills & Estates Clinic gives students the opportunity to assist low-income senior citizens with completion of their simple estate plans. Under the supervision of attorney-professors, students interview clients and draft wills, powers of attorney, and other estate planning documents.

The law school offers several clinics in the increasingly important area of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), including a general Mediation Clinic and two specialized ADR clinics. The Employment Mediation Clinic gives students the opportunity to co-mediate workplace disputes at the Federal Aviation Administration or other agencies. Students may also mediate family law disputes through the Family Law Mediation Clinic.

In the field of criminal law, the law school has partnered with the Tarrant County District Attorney’s Office to create an innovative opportunity for a select group of law students to assist in the prosecution of criminal cases in the local courts. The Criminal Prosecution Clinic educates and trains students in the law, ethics, and skills involved in state criminal prosecutions and exposes students to the duties and responsibilities of criminal prosecutors as both advocates and ministers of justice. In the Innocence Clinic, law students investigate claims of actual innocence on behalf of Texas inmates. Students gain valuable experience by reviewing court documents and transcripts, examining new evidence, and locating and re-interviewing witnesses. Students work under the direct supervision of an Innocence Project of Texas staff attorney.

EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The externship program enables students to work with practicing attorneys for academic credit and provides supervision for practice in trial and appellate
courts, federal and state government entities, and public interest organizations. Students perform legal tasks and apply academic studies to real cases, gaining valuable insight into the operation of legal institutions. Students gain significant legal experience in areas such as researching, drafting, interviewing, counseling clients, negotiating, and trial practice. Externships are unpaid positions that require prescreening.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS COURSES

The law school has developed new and innovative programs to provide experiential learning opportunities essential to students’ success in law practice. We have practicum and skills-based courses that engage students in the supervised practical application of theory. Many of our classroom professors incorporate skills training in their courses. The law school also has numerous opportunities for externships and internships where students gain valuable real-world experience.

To emphasize the importance of professional skills training, the law school requires all students to successfully complete an advanced practical legal writing course in an area of law that interests them. Through these courses, students gain valuable experience in drafting documents in practice areas such as contracts, family law, real estate, estate planning and administration, intellectual property, general practice, appellate advocacy, and litigation. In addition, students are required to complete at least 3 credit hours in courses that feature training in oral communication skills in client interviewing and counseling; witness interviewing; deposition practice; motion practice; trial and appellate advocacy; and negotiation mediation, or arbitration.

The law school has a week long skills-based winter term, with courses featuring intensive training in motion practice, depositions, civil and criminal courtroom evidence, and labor negotiations. Other areas may be added each year. Hands-on skills courses are also offered during the summer session.

ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

Over the past ten years, the law school has demonstrated consistent advocacy success at the national, regional and state levels. The advocacy program consists of three disciplines: appellate advocacy (moot court), trial advocacy (mock trial), and dispute resolution (mediation, negotiation, and client counseling). The law school fields over thirty advocacy teams each year in national, regional, and state competitions. In 2014-15, the law school advanced teams to the prestigious national finals in all three advocacy disciplines in the same school year.

The school has achieved many top advocacy awards, including three international championships, eleven national championships, and nineteen regional championships.

AUDIT POLICY

Students who are currently enrolled in Texas A&M University School of Law may audit certain elective classes offered by the law school after they have completed their first year (full-time students) or their first two years (part-time students) if the professor approves and space is available in the class. See Academic Standard 3.9 for further information on student auditing.

Auditing of a law school class is not permitted by a person, other than a current student, who has not graduated from an ABA-approved law school. Law school graduates seeking to audit a course must first obtain the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. All audits are subject to space availability in the class and the approval of the professor. The fee for alumni to audit one course is $100; the fee for other law school graduates is $250. The fee will be waived for law graduates 65 years of age or older. An individual may not audit more than one course per semester.

No credit hours are earned when a course is audited. An individual may not audit first-year courses or certain limited enrollment classes. If you wish to audit a class, please fill out the Course Audit Application, obtain the professor’s signature on the audit form, and submit the audit form for approval by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
ACADEMIC STANDARDS

FUNCTION OF THESE STANDARDS

1.1. **Comprehensive Rules and Interstitial Rulemaking.** The function of these academic standards is to provide comprehensive academic rules for the faculty and students of the law school. To the extent the rules fail to provide adequate guidance for administering a particular aspect of the academic program, the Academic Standards Committee may adopt temporary rules, which shall have full force and effect for one semester or until the faculty adopts a permanent standard (whichever occurs earlier). Except as expressly stated herein, the current academic standards are applicable to all students. The academic standards may change at any time during a student’s course of study.

1.2. **Adoption and Amendment.** The academic standards are adopted by majority vote of the faculty and are subject to change. Any amendment requires a majority vote of the faculty.

1.3. **Constructive Notice.** These standards serve as notice to all applicants, students, faculty, and others of rules, regulations, policies, and procedures described herein. This notice exists without regard to whether one has actually taken the opportunity to read the standards; the law school will deal with all interested parties on the assumption that they have informed themselves as to these standards.

1.4. **Availability.** The law school will make efforts to provide reasonable access to these standards to interested people. This access may include availability of the standards at the law library and on the law school website.

1.5. **Student Petitions.** All student petitions to the Academic Standards Committee and all student appeals to the Faculty of Law must be in writing. The petitioner must include 1) an executed Affidavit of Completeness and Accuracy and 2) existing documentation that supports the claims asserted in the petition. For example, if the student’s petition is based in whole or in part on medical claims and medical documentation exists that supports the claims, the student must provide such medical documentation. Neither the Academic Standards Committee (in the case of a student petition) nor the Faculty of Law (in the case of a student appeal from an unfavorable decision made by the Academic Standards Committee) has jurisdiction to consider any student petition or appeal more than one time.

1.6. **Student Appeals.** A student who presents a petition to the Academic Standards Committee on any matter within the committee’s jurisdiction may appeal to the Faculty of Law an unfavorable decision made by the Academic Standards Committee on the student’s petition by notifying the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will forward to the Faculty of Law the student’s original petition to the Academic Standards Committee along with any information newly discovered since the submission of the original petition. The Faculty of Law’s decision on a student’s appeal is final and binding for all purposes.

1.7. **Exhaustion of Remedies.** For standards where the Academic Standards Committee has specified jurisdiction to hear the matter, the student must exhaust his or her remedy at the committee level before appealing to the full faculty. If the Academic Standards Committee does not have specified jurisdiction over the standard, a student may petition the full faculty for a waiver of a standard.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

2.1. **General.** Students are divided into categories by status (full-time or part-time), and, as to students in the lockstep courses, by division (day or evening).

2.2. **Status.**

2.2.1. **Full-time.** A student enrolled in thirteen to sixteen credit hours in a fall or spring semester, or seven or eight hours in a summer session, is considered a full-time student. All full-time students who have not completed lockstep courses must be in the day division. Full-time students must take the bulk of their schedule in the day. No full-time student may work more than twenty hours per week during any week in any semester in which the student is enrolled. The student bears the burden of proving compliance with this work limitation, and the law school, at its sole discretion, may at any time require the student to provide proof of compliance. Any student who cannot prove satisfactorily his or her compliance with the work limitation is considered a part-time student, and the sanctions for exceeding the maximum student load for a part-time student will be imposed for any semester in which the student exceeded the maximum part-time load. Violation of the work limitation is a Code of Conduct violation and is subject to additional sanction under the Code.

2.2.2. **Part-time.** A student enrolled in twelve or fewer credit hours in a fall or spring semester or six or fewer hours in a summer session is considered a part-time student.
2.3. Division.

2.3.1. Day. The day division consists of full-time or part-time students who have not completed their lockstep courses and are attending those courses during the day.

2.3.2. Evening. The evening division consists of part-time students who have not completed their lockstep courses and are attending those courses during the evening.

2.4. Transfer Students. Transfer students may transfer not more than thirty hours of credit. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs determines what courses may be transferred for credit and how much credit is to be transferred. Transfer students may be required to take certain lockstep courses.

CURRICULUM

(For Graduation Requirements, see Standards 12.1-12.7.)

3.1. Lockstep Sequences. The following lockstep sequences apply to students who began their 1L year in or after fall 2011. See Appendix A for the lockstep sequences for students who began their 1L year in fall 2010.

3.1.1. Full-time, Day Division. The prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for full-time day students is:

First semester (fall) courses:
- Criminal Law 4 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I 3 credit hours
- Legislation & Regulation 3 credit hours
- Torts 4 credit hours

Second semester (spring) courses:
- Civil Procedure 4 credit hours
- Contracts 4 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing II 3 credit hours
- Property 4 credit hours

Third semester (fall) courses:
- Constitutional Law 4 credit hours

3.1.2. Part-time, Day Division. The prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for part-time day students is:

First semester (fall) courses:
- Criminal Law 4 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I 3 credit hours
- Torts 4 credit hours

Second semester (spring) courses:
- Contracts 4 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing II 3 credit hours
- Property 4 credit hours

Third semester (fall) courses:
- Constitutional Law 4 credit hours

3.1.3. Part-time, Evening Division. The prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for part-time evening students is:

First semester (fall) courses:
- Criminal Law 4 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I 3 credit hours
- Torts 4 credit hours

Second semester (spring) courses:
- Contracts 4 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing II 3 credit hours
- Property 4 credit hours

Third semester (fall) courses:
- Civil Procedure 4 credit hours
- Legislation & Regulation 3 credit hours

Fourth semester (spring) courses:
- Constitutional Law 4 credit hours

3.1.4. Deviations from Lockstep Sequences. Students may not deviate from the lockstep sequence without approval of the Academic Standards Committee, which is granted only in extraordinary circumstances and only upon such terms and conditions as the Academic Standards Committee deems appropriate.

3.1.5. Failure to Complete a Lockstep Course Successfully. Any student who, for whatever reason and in whatever fashion, does not successfully complete and receive credit for a lockstep course must enroll in that course at the earliest available opportunity. The grade for a repeat of a failed lockstep course is Pass or Fail. The original grade remains on the transcript and is calculated in the cumulative grade point average. Until the student has successfully completed all lockstep courses, his or her registration for courses each semester must be approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

3.2. Upper-level Courses.

3.2.1. Upper-level Required Courses. In addition to completing the lockstep courses, every student, during some semester before graduation, must successfully complete the following advanced required courses: Business Associations I, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, LARW III, Professional Responsibility, and Wills & Estates (formerly Estates & Trusts). If a student fails an advanced required course, the course must be repeated. The grade for a repeat of a failed required course is Pass or Fail. The original grade remains on the transcript and is calculated in the cumulative grade point average.

3.2.2. Failing an Elective Course. A student who fails an upper-level, nonrequired course may, but is not required to, repeat that course. The failing grade as well as any subsequent grade remains on
the transcript and is calculated into the cumulative grade point average.

3.2.3. Nonclassroom Course Limitation. No student may count more than twelve credit hours earned in courses without a regularly scheduled classroom component toward the total number of hours required for graduation.

3.3. Designated Online Courses. A student must have completed 28 credit hours to be eligible to enroll in an online course. No student may count more than 15 credit hours earned in online classes toward the total number of hours required for graduation.

3.4. Rigorous Writing Requirement.

3.4.1. General. Under the supervision of a faculty member, every student must complete one research paper in connection with a seminar, as a member of the Law Review, or as a member of the Journal of Real Property Law. For a seminar, a “research paper” may be, at the option of the instructor, a traditional law review article; the author’s empirical research with analysis; a proposal for law reform with justification and analysis; a legal memorandum, brief, or judicial opinion, addressing a substantial legal issue; or an equivalent project, showing original thought and demonstrating research, writing, and analytical skills. For the Texas A&M Law Review or The Texas A&M Journal of Real Property Law, a “research paper” is a traditional, scholarly article. The research paper must be a minimum of 6,500 words, exclusive of footnotes. The research paper may not have been written for employment. Jointly written research papers do not fulfill this requirement.

3.4.2. Requirement of Multiple Drafts. To comply with the rigorous writing requirement, the student’s final paper must be at least a second draft of his or her work, and as part of the writing process, the faculty member supervising the work must confer individually with the student during the semester or session in which the writing occurs.

3.4.3. Grade Standard to Satisfy Requirement. The student’s final paper must be of sufficient quality to receive a grade of at least a B- (2.67) to receive credit for the rigorous writing requirement.

3.5. Upper-level Oral Skills Requirement. Each student must successfully complete a minimum of three credit hours in one or more upper-level oral communication skills courses approved by the Curriculum Committee as meeting this requirement. Oral communication skills courses include live or simulated client interviewing and counseling; witness interviewing; deposition practice; motion practice; trial or appellate advocacy; negotiation; mediation; or arbitration and require each student to engage in oral skills performances that are assessed by the instructor and constitute a substantial part of each student’s grade for the course. Courses that satisfy the requirement will be identified in the registration materials for each semester and session. (Note: This requirement was previously titled Upper-Level Professional Skills Requirement.)

3.6. Art of Lawyering.

3.6.1. Art of Lawyering. All students in the bottom one-fourth (meaning in the 75th percentile through the 100th percentile) of their class as determined solely on the first two semesters of law school are required to successfully complete the Art of Lawyering course. All students in this category will automatically be enrolled in the course in their third (fall) semester.

3.6.2. Art of Lawyering as Lockstep Course. For any student required to successfully complete the Art of Lawyering course, Art of Lawyering is treated as a lockstep course and is subject to all Standards relating to lockstep courses including Standard 4.3.4 which prohibits the ability to drop a lockstep course and Standard 5.4 which provides the penalty for excessive absences in a lockstep course. Other Standards include Standards 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1.4, 3.1.5, 4.3.4, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5.4, 10.2, and 11.1.

3.7. Preparing for the Bar Exam Course. All students in the bottom one-third (meaning in the 66th percentile through the 100th percentile) of their class are required to successfully complete the Preparing for the Bar Exam course in their final fall semester (for those students taking the February bar exam) or in their final spring semester (for those students taking the July bar exam), absent special permission from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to take the course in an earlier semester. For all students enrolled in this course whether they are required to take the course or not, the credit hours earned in this course will not count against the Pass/Fail credit hour limitation under 8.5.1. Students required to successfully complete this course will not be certified to sit for a bar exam until they have successfully completed the course.

3.8. Independent Study.

3.8.1. General. Independent Study is a one-credit hour program graded on a Pass/Fail basis. To receive credit, the student must spend at least sixty hours during or after the semester in which the student enrolls in Independent Study. The student may satisfy the requirements of Independent Study by researching and writing a paper of at least ten pages in length or reading materials assigned by the sponsoring faculty member. Assigned readings must relate to a particular theme, and the student must produce either a single descriptive paper illustrating a thorough understanding of the subject or a series
of papers summarizing the contents of the assigned reading materials. A student may earn no more than two credit hours through Independent Study.

3.8.2. Supervision. Independent Study must be supervised by a full-time faculty member. The Dean or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may approve Independent Study credit with an adjunct faculty member, but only if a full-time faculty member acts as a co-sponsor for the student and reviews the student's work product.

3.8.3. Faculty Supervisor Consent Required for Registration. Students may not enroll for Independent Study without the consent of a faculty sponsor. Each student who enrolls for Independent Study will be assigned to a section that is specific to the student’s faculty sponsor; thus, a change of faculty sponsor is a change of section and requires compliance with the law school's add/drop policies and procedures.

3.8.4. Topics. Topics for Independent Study must be topics not covered in the regular curriculum. They may include specialized topics not taught in traditional courses or advanced work building on a topic covered in the curriculum; however, a student may not do advanced work through Independent Study without having completed the course or courses upon which the Independent Study will build.

3.9. Audits. Full-time students may not audit classes in the first year. Part-time students may not audit classes in the first or second year. Any other student who is currently enrolled in the School of Law may audit an elective class offered by the law school if space is available, the professor approves, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs approves. A student's participation in the audited class including completion of the course requirements is subject solely to the discretion of the professor. No credit hours are earned when a course is audited. A student may not register for credit for a class that the student previously audited. A student wishing to audit a class must fill out the Course Audit Application, obtain the professor's signature on the audit form, and submit the audit form for approval by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

REGISTRATION

4.1. Normal Registration Times. Registration times for each semester and session are set by the administration.

4.2. Late Registration. A student who fails to register during the normal registration time for a semester will lose any priority in registration.

4.3. Add/Drop Policies.

4.3.1. Adds. Students may add classes during the free add period. For the fall and spring semesters, the 5th day of class is the last day of the free add period. For the summer, the 3rd day of class is the last day of the free add period.

4.3.2. Late Adds. After the free add period, a student may add a course only with the permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

4.3.3. Absences Before Adding a Course. Absences from class before adding the course are counted toward the number of absences from the class.

4.3.4. Drops. A student may not drop any lockstep course. A student may drop Law Clinic only during the first 12 class days of a fall or spring semester and during the first 3 class days of a summer session. A student may drop a nonlockstep course without a notation on the transcript during the first 12 class days of a fall or spring semester and during the first 3 class days of a summer session. Following this deadline, a student may drop a course with a notation of “W” (withdrawal) on the transcript through the 50th class day of a fall or spring semester or the 25th class day of summer session. A student may drop a course after the 50th class day of a fall or spring semester or the 25th class day of a summer session with the permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, which will be granted only in unusual or extenuating circumstances.

Special add/drop policies will apply to courses taken in the winter session, which will be published in the registration materials for each winter session.

4.4. Maximum Course Load.

4.4.1. Full-time Student. A full-time student may not register for more than sixteen credit hours in a fall or spring semester or for more than eight credit hours in a summer session without permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. In accordance with ABA Standards, a full-time student is prohibited from registering for more than 18 credit hours in a fall or spring semester. A full-time student may not register for more than one credit hour in a winter session. This limitation applies to nonclassroom courses as well as to classroom courses.

4.4.2. Part-time Student. A part-time student may not register for more than twelve credit hours in a fall or spring semester or for more than six credit hours in a summer session. A part-time student may not register for more than one credit hour in a winter session. This limitation applies to nonclassroom courses as well as to classroom courses.

4.4.3. Correction of Excessive Course Loads. A student who enrolls for more than the permissible number of hours will be withdrawn from a course or courses until his or her registration complies with
the maximum load requirements. The choice of courses from which the student will be withdrawn is in the sole discretion of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. If the overload is not discovered until after grades have been given for the courses, the Academic Standards Committee may withdraw the student from a sufficient number of courses in that semester or session to bring the course load into compliance. Fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or dishonesty in creating the overload is a violation of the Code of Conduct.

4.4.4. Registration in Nonclassroom Courses. Without advance approval of the Academic Standards Committee, no student may register in any course that has no regularly scheduled classroom component unless the student is also enrolled, in the same semester, in at least one course with a regularly scheduled classroom component.

4.4.5. Minimum Student Load. No student may register for fewer than eight credit hours in a fall or spring semester without permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

ATTENDANCE

5.1. Requirement. Regular and punctual class attendance is required of all students in all courses except a student who is auditing the course. Students are expected to attend regularly scheduled classes as well as make-up classes scheduled during the official make-up times. Official make-up times are noted on the registration materials each semester. Students are expected to adhere to special attendance requirements for some classes, such as Law Clinic and the Preparing for the Bar Exam Course, intensive weekend classes, or condensed format classes. Law Clinic has office attendance requirements in addition to classroom attendance requirements.

5.2. Sanction for Excessive Absences in Nonlockstep Courses Not Containing a Live-Client Component.

5.2.1. Student on Academic Warning or Probation. A student on academic warning or probation whose total absences in a nonlockstep course that does not contain a live-client component exceed fifteen percent of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during official make-up times will be withdrawn from that course, will have a W entered on his or her transcript, and will not receive credit for the course. In extraordinary circumstances, the Academic Standards Committee may grant a student relief from this rule upon such terms and conditions as the committee deems appropriate. This rule does not apply to a student who is auditing the course.

5.2.2. Student Not on Academic Warning or Probation. A student not on academic warning or probation whose total absences in a nonlockstep course that does not contain a live-client component exceed twenty-five percent of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during official make-up times will be withdrawn from that course, will have a W entered on his or her transcript, and will not receive credit for the course. In extraordinary circumstances, the Academic Standards Committee may grant a student relief from this rule upon such terms and conditions as the committee deems appropriate. This rule does not apply to a student who is auditing the course.

5.2.3. Administrative Withdrawal from Law School Due to Excessive Absences in Nonlockstep Courses Not Containing a Live-Client Component. If withdrawal due to excessive absences causes a student’s enrolled hours to drop below eight credit hours in the fall or spring semester, the student will be administratively withdrawn from law school and must petition the Academic Standards Committee for permission to continue in law school.

5.3. Sanction for Excessive Absences in Nonlockstep Courses Containing a Live-Client Component. Because of the ethical obligations owed live clients, courses identified by the administration and/or noted in the registration material as containing a significant live-client component, such as Law Clinic, have the following sanctions for excessive absences.

5.3.1. Student on Academic Warning or Probation. A student on academic warning or probation whose total absences in a nonlockstep course that contains a live-client component exceed fifteen percent of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during official make-up times will be withdrawn from that course, will have an F entered on his or her transcript, and will not receive credit for the course. In extraordinary circumstances, the Academic Standards Committee may grant a student relief from this rule upon such terms and conditions as the committee deems appropriate. This rule does not apply to a student who is auditing the course.

5.3.2. Student Not on Academic Warning or Probation. A student not on academic warning or probation whose total absences in a nonlockstep course that contains a live-client component exceed twenty-five percent of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during official make-up times will be withdrawn from that course, will have an F entered on his or her transcript, and will not receive credit for the course. In extraordinary circumstances, the Academic Standards Committee may grant a student relief from this rule upon such terms and conditions as the committee deems appropriate.
appropriate. This rule does not apply to a student who is auditing the course.

5.3.3. **Administrative Withdrawal from Law School Due to Excessive Absences in Nonlockstep Courses Containing a Live-Client Component.** If withdrawal due to excessive absences causes a student's enrolled hours to drop below eight credit hours in the fall or spring semester, the student will be administratively withdrawn from law school and must petition the Academic Standards Committee for permission to continue in law school.

5.4. **Sanction for Excessive Absences in Lockstep Courses.**

5.4.1. **Student on Academic Warning or Probation.** A student on academic warning or probation whose total absences in a lockstep course exceed fifteen percent of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during official make-up times will be withdrawn from that course, will have a W entered on his or her transcript, and will not receive credit for the course. This withdrawal may not be appealed to the Academic Standards Committee. Withdrawal from a lockstep course violates the prohibition against deviation from the lockstep sequence under 3.1.4, causing the student to be withdrawn from the law school. However, the student may appeal this withdrawal from the law school to the Academic Standards Committee. The committee may permit the student to continue in law school only upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate. Such terms and conditions may include but are not limited to granting a deviation from lockstep to permit the student to remain in the courses for which he or she does not have excessive absences; permitting a full-time student to remain in the courses that will move that student to part-time status; withdrawing the student from all courses, entering a W on his or her transcript for those courses, giving no credit for the courses, and either allowing the student to continue under the terms and conditions set or requiring the student to restart the law school program. This rule does not apply to a student who is auditing the course.

5.4.2. **Student Not on Academic Warning or Probation.** A student not on academic warning or probation whose total absences in a lockstep course exceed twenty-five percent of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during official make-up times will be withdrawn from the courses for which he or she does not have excessive absences; permitting a full-time student to remain in the courses that will move that student to part-time status; withdrawing the student from all courses, entering a W on his or her transcript, giving no credit for the courses, and either allowing the student to continue under the terms and conditions set or requiring the student to restart the law school program. This rule does not apply to a student who is auditing the course.

5.5. **Excessive Absences in Fall and Spring Semester Classes**

5.5.1. **Students on Academic Warning or Probation**

If a class meets:
- 1 time every other week and a student misses more than 1 class, he or she will be withdrawn.
- 1 time every week and a student misses more than 2 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.
- 2 times every week and a student misses more than 4 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.
- 3 times each week and a student misses more than 6 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.

5.5.2. **Students Not on Academic Warning or Probation**

If a class meets:
- 1 time every other week and a student misses more than 1 class, he or she will be withdrawn.
- 1 time every week and a student misses more than 3 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.
- 2 times every week and a student misses more than 7 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.
- 3 times each week and a student misses more than 10 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.
5.6. Excessive Absences in Summer Session Classes

5.6.1. Students on Academic Warning or Probation

If a class meets:
1 time every week and a student misses more than 1 class, he or she will be withdrawn.

If a class meets:
2 times every week and a student misses more than 2 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.

If a class meets:
3 times each week and a student misses more than 3 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.

5.6.2. Students Not on Academic Warning or Probation

If a class meets:
1 time every week and a student misses more than 1 class, he or she will be withdrawn.

If a class meets:
2 times every week and a student misses more than 3 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.

If a class meets:
3 times each week and a student misses more than 5 classes, he or she will be withdrawn.

5.7. Excessive Absences in Winter Session Classes

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will post in the registration materials the number of absences permissible for a winter class.

EXAMINATIONS

6.1. Exam Schedule. All students must take examinations as scheduled, except in the case of an extreme emergency beyond the control of the student or an exam conflict. An exam conflict is defined as (1) more than one exam scheduled for the same exam period, (2) two exams scheduled in consecutive exam periods on the same calendar day, or (3) three exams whose start times are scheduled within one 24-hour period. To reschedule an exam under this rule, the student must submit a written request to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs by November 1 of the fall semester, by April 1 of the spring semester, by the end of the fourth week of the summer session, or by the second class of the winter session. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs determines which exam will be rescheduled and when. The exam will be rescheduled for a time as soon after the originally scheduled exam as practicable.

6.2. Rescheduling Exams. Students who miss a scheduled examination must submit to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs a written statement setting forth the nature of the emergency as soon after the emergency arises as is practicable. The Associate Dean will either approve or disapprove the student’s failure to take the examination at the scheduled time. If the Associate Dean excuses the student’s failure to take the examination at the scheduled time, the Associate Dean will arrange for the student to take the examination under appropriate circumstances. An unapproved failure to take the examination will be recorded as a grade of F (0.00) for the course. Adverse decisions by the Associate Dean regarding a failure to take an examination at the scheduled time may be appealed to the Academic Standards Committee.

6.3. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. Students with medically verifiable disabilities may be provided extra time or other appropriate accommodations for examinations. Petitions for accommodations should be made to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs by November 1 of the fall semester, April 1 of the spring semester, and at registration for the summer and winter sessions. Each petition should be accompanied by evidence of the medical condition and evidence of the accommodation given, if any, in past educational settings or examinations. Particular weight is given to the accommodation allowed for taking the LSAT. The student whose request is granted is responsible for making appropriate arrangements with the Office of Student Services.

6.4. Anonymity.

6.4.1. Confidential Examination Numbers Assigned. Each semester and session all students enrolled at the law school are assigned a number to use instead of their names or Social Security numbers on law school examinations. These examination numbers are confidential.

6.4.2. “Blind” Examination Grading. Students enrolled in classes in which the primary means of evaluation is an examination receive a “blind” examination grade. In those cases, the instructors assign grades to examinations without knowing the name or identity of the test taker. After instructors turn in the “blind” examination grades for their courses, they have the opportunity to match student examination numbers with student names. Sometimes instructors adjust the “blind” examination grades to reflect class participation and other relevant factors in evaluating student work; therefore, the final grade that a student receives in a given course may differ from his or her “blind” examination grade. Instructors are expected to inform students about course evaluation procedures at the beginning of each course.

6.4.3. Retention of Work Upon Which Grades Are Based. The law school will retain examinations and
other written work on which a student’s grade for a course is based for a period of at least one year following completion of the course. Students will be given an opportunity to review, within a reasonable time, written work upon which a grade is based.

### PAPERS AND PROJECTS

7.1. **Anonymity Optional.** In any course that requires papers or projects other than in-class or take-home examinations, the instructor for the course may, but need not, make arrangements for anonymous grading of papers or projects as he or she deems appropriate.

7.2. **Quotation and Citation Rules.** The responsibility for learning the proper rules for quoting material and the forms of citation lies with the individual student. Quotations must be properly placed within quotation marks and must be fully cited. In addition, all paraphrased material must be completely acknowledged. Whenever ideas or facts are derived from a student’s reading and research, the sources must be clearly indicated.

7.3. **Double Dipping.** Occasionally students seek to submit one paper for two or more courses or seminars. In such cases, the paper must be of sufficiently greater scope or depth to warrant such multiple credits. The instructors involved in each instance should discuss appropriate ways to make sure that the submitted work meets this greater burden and each instructor must give his or her prior written approval of the proposed multiple use before multiple credit may be given. This rule applies to all course offerings whether at the law school or elsewhere. A student who submits the same, or substantially the same, work in more than one course without obtaining such prior written approval will be subject to disciplinary action.

7.4. **Own Work Requirement.**

7.4.1. **Identification of Sources.** All work submitted to meet course requirements is expected to be the student’s own work. In the preparation of work submitted to meet course requirements, students should always take great care to distinguish their own ideas and knowledge from information derived from other sources. The term “sources” includes not only published primary and secondary materials, but also information and opinions gained directly from other people.

7.4.2. **Permissible Collaboration.** The amount of collaboration with others that is permitted in the completion of assignments may vary, depending upon the policy set by the instructor for the course. Students must assume that collaboration in the completion of assignments is prohibited unless explicitly permitted by the instructor. Students must acknowledge any collaboration and its extent in all work submitted.

7.4.3. **Resolution of Doubts.** Students who are in any doubt about the preparation of academic work should consult their instructor before it is prepared or submitted. Students who, for whatever reason, submit work that is either not their own or that does not include clear attribution of all sources will be subject to disciplinary action.

### GRADES AND GRADING POLICIES

8.1. **Available Grades.** The grades at the law school are letter grades between A+ (4.01) and F (0.00) or P, W, and I. No other grades exist at the law school. Before fall 2003, the law school employed a numerical grading scale. An explanation of that prior numerical scale appears on the affected students’ transcripts.

8.2. **Interpretation and Uses of Letter Grades.** Each letter grade will have a corresponding numerical value assigned to it for purposes of calculating a student’s grade point average (GPA). The assigned numerical values are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00 [confers no course credit]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.3. **Maximum Allowed Average.** For all lockstep courses and all nonlockstep courses with enrollments of over twenty students, the maximum allowed class GPA is 3.00. For all nonlockstep, nonseminar courses with enrollments of twenty or fewer students and for seminar courses, the maximum allowed class GPA is 3.33. There is no minimum allowed class GPA for any class except the grade of F (0.00). Class GPAs are calculated by rounding to the hundredth place (second decimal place) based on the thousandth place (third decimal place). Examples: A grade average of 2.537 is recorded as 2.54. A grade average of 2.534 is recorded as 2.53. For purposes of this rule, an Incomplete given in a class is not counted toward the maximum class GPA.
8.4. **Interpretations and Uses of Certain Letter Grades.**

I. An instructor may give a student an I in a course without a final examination if an assignment, project, or paper has not been completed provided the student establishes to the instructor’s satisfaction that nonacademic circumstances beyond the student’s control, such as serious illness or injury, death in the immediate family, illness or injury of a dependent family member, or military service, prevent the student’s completion of the work. The student must complete the work for the course within no more than six calendar months from the last day of exams for the applicable semester. Except in extraordinary circumstances as approved by the Academic Standards Committee, the maximum grade given for an I can be no higher than the maximum class GPA for that course. After six months, an unresolved I becomes an F (0.00). At no time does an I confer credit for the course.

W. A W is posted on the transcript whenever a student withdraws from a course after the 12th class day in a fall or spring semester or after the third day of a summer session. Special policies will apply to courses taken in the winter session, which will be published in the registration materials for each winter session. The W confers no credit and is not calculated in the grade point average.

P. A grade of P is given to any student who passes a Pass/Fail course or who successfully completes a repeat of a failed lockstep or required course. This grade confers credit for the course, but it is not calculated in the grade average.

8.5. **Pass/Fail Grading.**

8.5.1. **Pass/Fail Credit Hour Limitation.** No student may count more than twelve credit hours earned in courses graded on a Pass/Fail basis toward the total number of hours required for graduation. No student may earn more than six Pass/Fail credit hours in any one activity (e.g., Law Review, the Journal of Real Property Law, externship, law clinic, etc.).

8.5.2. **Pass/Fail in Retaking Failed Course.** Students who retake a failed course are graded in that course on a Pass/Fail basis. Any credit hours earned on retaking a failed course will not count toward the Pass/Fail twelve-credit-hour limitation.

8.5.3. **Pass/Fail Grading.** Any course in which letter grades are not expected to be given will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Students who pass the course receive a P for the course. Students who fail a Pass/Fail course will receive an F (0.00). A failing grade is calculated as part of the grade point average.

8.5.4. **Pass/Fail Election.** Within the Pass/Fail twelve-credit-hour limitation in 8.5.1, a student may take up to seven credit hours of elective courses on a Pass/Fail basis. A student may not elect to take a lockstep course, a required course, a course taken to satisfy a rigorous writing requirement, a course taken to satisfy the upper-level oral skills requirement, or a course taken to satisfy the requirements for a concentration on a Pass/Fail basis, unless the course is offered only on a Pass/Fail basis. A student must designate the election of the Pass/Fail option no later than the last day of the second week of classes in the fall or spring semester, no later than the last day of the first week of classes in a summer session, and no later than the second class in a winter session. Once the student makes the designation, the election is final and cannot be revoked. To preserve anonymity, a student’s election to take a course on a Pass/Fail basis is not communicated to the instructor by the school administration. It is a violation of the Code of Conduct for a student to reveal the election to the professor.

8.6. **Procedures for Implementing Standards.**

8.6.1. **Submission of Final Grades.** Final grades are to be submitted to the law school registrar, who will check for their compliance with the grading standard. Grades in compliance will be posted and grades not in compliance will be returned to the instructor. A grade is final when it has been posted to the student’s record and may not be changed except with permission of the Academic Standards Committee.

8.6.2. **Petition to the Academic Standards Committee.** An instructor wishing to grant grades for a course with an average above that allowed under the grading standards must petition the Academic Standards Committee in writing.

8.6.3. **Failure to Bring Grades into Compliance.** If an instructor, after a reasonable period of time, fails to bring the grades for a course into compliance with the grading standards or fails to petition for and receive a waiver, the Academic Standards Committee will act in its discretion to bring the grades into compliance.

8.6.4. **Changing Grades.** An instructor or student may petition the Academic Standards Committee for a grade change. The committee freely allows changes in the case of a grade that was incorrectly given as a result of an arithmetical, administrative, or other “mechanical” error. Other changes are permitted only in the most extraordinary circumstances. A request for a grade change must be made within ninety days of the official posting of the grade.
8.7. Dean’s List Honors.

8.7.1. Requirements. To be eligible for the Dean’s List, a student must have completed at least eight credit hours, at least five of which must be graded hours, and must have earned a term grade point average of 3.33 or better. Dean’s List honors are not available for summer or winter sessions.

8.7.2. Dean’s List Notation on Resumé. If a student wishes to list Dean’s List honors on a resumé, a student must specify the semester or semesters for which the honor was awarded.

STUDENT RETENTION

9.1. Student Is on Notice of Own Grades and Grade Point Average. Every student is on notice of the student’s own grades and grade point average as well as these rules for student retention. Any student who, by virtue of these rules, has been dismissed from the law school, but who nevertheless attempts to continue enrollment and attendance in classes, is responsible for tuition and fees charges incurred by the student’s fraudulent attendance at the law school.

9.2. Dismissal.

9.2.1. Dismissal Automatic After Nonrestart Student’s First Semester. At the end of the first semester (fall), a nonrestart student with a grade point average below 1.90 will be dismissed for academic deficiency. Rule 9.5 governs restart and reapplication.

9.2.2. Dismissal Automatic After Restart Student’s First Restart Semester.

9.2.2.1. GPA At Least 2.33 at Dismissal or Withdrawal. If a restart student’s cumulative grade point average was at least 2.33 at the time of dismissal or withdrawal, the restart student will be dismissed for academic deficiency if the student’s grade point average is below 1.90 at the end of the restart semester (fall).

9.2.2.2. GPA Below 2.33 at Dismissal or Withdrawal. If a restart student’s cumulative grade point average was less than 2.33 at the time of dismissal or withdrawal, the restart student will be dismissed for academic deficiency if the student’s grade point average is below 2.33 at the end of the restart semester (fall).

9.2.3. Dismissal Automatic After Two Semesters if Average Is Below 2.33. At any time after two semesters in the law school, any student with a grade point average below 2.33 will be dismissed for academic deficiency.

9.2.4. Automatic Withdrawal. A student dismissed for academic deficiency after two semesters is immediately withdrawn from all classes in which he or she is then enrolled; except that, if a student petitions the Academic Standards Committee for probation or appeals to the faculty an adverse decision of the Academic Standards Committee on a petition for probation, he or she will not be withdrawn unless and until there is an adverse decision by the Academic Standards Committee or a denial of an appeal to the faculty (as the case may be).

9.2.5. Automatic Withdrawal During Summer Session. Notwithstanding section 9.2.4, a student who is enrolled in one or more classes during the summer session will be immediately withdrawn from all classes upon notice that the student’s cumulative grade point average is below 2.33 as of the end of the immediately preceding spring semester; the student will not be permitted to take any examinations or to complete other course assignments during the summer session. No credit will be given for any examinations taken or other course assignments completed during the summer session before receiving notice that the student’s cumulative grade point average is below 2.33 as of the end of the immediately preceding spring semester.

9.3. Academic Warning.

9.3.1. Academic Warning after First Semester. At the end of the first semester (fall), any student with a GPA of at least 1.90 but below 2.33 will automatically be placed on academic warning and must participate as defined by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in Academic Support. A student on academic warning who fails to participate in Academic Support is ineligible for probation under 9.4.1 if the student’s cumulative GPA remains below 2.33 at the end of the second semester (spring).

9.3.2. Academic Warning after Second or Subsequent Semester. At the end of any semester except the first semester, any student with a term GPA below 2.00 but whose cumulative GPA is at least 2.33 will be automatically placed on academic warning for the immediately subsequent semester and must participate as defined by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in Academic Support. A student on academic warning who fails to participate in Academic Support is ineligible for probation under 9.4.1 if the student’s cumulative GPA falls below 2.33 at the end of the semester in which the student is on academic warning.

9.3.3. Attendance Requirement. During the semester in which the student is on academic warning and the immediately subsequent summer session or winter session, the student’s permissible absences in any course may not exceed fifteen percent (as opposed to
twenty-five percent) of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during the official make-up times. This attendance requirement applies to a student who was on academic warning after the first semester even if the student's GPA is 2.33 or above after the second semester grades are posted.

9.4. Probation.

9.4.1. At Discretion of Academic Standards Committee. Students who are dismissed for academic deficiency after two semesters may petition the Academic Standards Committee to be readmitted on probation. The petition must state, in letter form, the following information: 1) an explanation of the perceived reasons for the petitioner's academic dismissal; and 2) an explanation of why the petitioner expects to be able to correct prior academic deficiencies if readmitted on probation. The petitioner has the burden of establishing to the satisfaction of the Academic Standards Committee that there is a significant probability that the petitioner will achieve and thereafter maintain a cumulative grade point average no lower than 2.33 if readmitted on probation.

9.4.2. Effective Date of Probation. If the Academic Standards Committee grants a student's petition for probation or the Faculty of Law grants the student's appeal of the Academic Standards Committee's denial of probation, probation will begin in the fall semester if the student was academically dismissed based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the spring semester or summer session and will begin in the spring semester if the student was academically dismissed based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the fall semester or winter session.

9.4.3. Schedule Approval. A student on probation must have his or her class schedule approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

9.4.4. Student on Probation in the Fall Semester May Not Enroll in Winter Session. A student who has been placed on probation for the fall semester may not enroll in any course in the subsequent winter session.

9.4.5. Student on Probation Reduction of Permissible Absences. During any semester in which a student is on probation, the student's permissible absences in any course may not exceed fifteen percent (as opposed to twenty-five percent) of the regularly scheduled class meetings and make-ups scheduled during the official make-up times.

9.4.6. Additional Terms and Conditions. The Academic Standards Committee may include in a grant of probation any additional terms or conditions the committee deems appropriate.

9.4.7. Resolution of Probation. A student whose average remains below 2.33 after the semester in which he or she was placed on academic probation will be dismissed for academic deficiency, unless the Academic Standards Committee again votes to place the student on probation, but the committee may not under any circumstances grant probation for more than two semesters.

9.5. Restart After Dismissal for Academic Deficiency or Administrative Withdrawal from Law School.

9.5.1. Restart Available in Extraordinary Circumstances. Upon petition from the student, the Academic Standards Committee may allow a student who has been dismissed for academic deficiency or administratively withdrawn from law school to re-enroll as a first-year student and restart the law school program if the committee finds that the student (1) faced extraordinary circumstances that unquestionably interfered with his or her ability to perform at the required level in law school and (2) the extraordinary circumstances no longer exist. Even though a student may have demonstrated extraordinary circumstances that interfered with his or her ability to perform, in no event will a student be allowed to restart without an affirmative showing that the student possesses the capacity to complete law school successfully and be admitted to the bar. A student must petition under the standard within two years of dismissal or withdrawal.

9.5.2. Limitation on Petitions and Restarts. A student may not file more than one petition for restart if the Academic Standards Committee concludes that the student did not face extraordinary circumstances that unquestionably interfered with his or her ability to perform at the required level in law school. The Academic Standards Committee may not under any circumstances grant a student more than one restart. A student who wishes to make a second restart must reapply through the Office of Admissions.

9.5.3. Effect of Past Performance. A student who is permitted to restart will not receive credit for any courses taken before the restart regardless of the grade received in the course. The prior performance will remain on the transcript; however, the transcript will clearly state that the student has restarted and the prior grades will not affect the grade point average.

9.5.4. Reapplication After Dismissal for Academic Deficiency or Administrative Withdrawal. A student who has been dismissed for academic deficiency or who has been administratively withdrawn from law school may seek readmission by submitting an application through the Office of Admissions. If the dismissal or withdrawal occurred less than two years before the application, the student must first petition for, and be denied, a restart under 9.5.1. An application for readmission under this rule may be
submitted no earlier than one year from the date of the denial of the petition for restart under 9.5.1. In addition to all other application requirements, the applicant must submit a letter of standing from all law schools attended, law school transcripts, and at least one letter of recommendation from a law school professor to the Office of Admissions.

9.6. Voluntary Withdrawal. A student who has voluntarily withdrawn from the law school may petition the Academic Standards Committee to restart law school. Such a petition must be submitted within two years of the last date the student was in attendance at the law school. After the two-year period has elapsed, a student who wishes to restart the law school must reapply through the Office of Admissions. The Academic Standards Committee will consider only one petition for restart from any student. A student who wishes to make a second request must reapply through the Office of Admissions.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

10.1. Not Available for Students in the First Semester. A student who has not completed the first semester of the student’s program (regardless of status or division) may not obtain a leave of absence.

10.2. Limited Availability Before Completing Lockstep Courses. A student who has completed the first semester of the student’s program (regardless of status or division) but has not completed the lockstep courses may obtain a leave of absence only with the permission of the Academic Standards Committee. The committee may impose any conditions on that leave, particularly relating to the date of the student’s return and the plan for completing lockstep courses.

10.3. Leaves for Advanced Students. Advanced students (those who have completed the lockstep courses) may obtain one leave of absence of up to one calendar year from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. A second leave of absence, a leave of longer than one year, or an extension to a leave that has been granted may be obtained only from the Academic Standards Committee.

10.4. Standards for Granting Leave. A student’s request for a leave of absence is not to be granted automatically; however, requests based on reasonable grounds, such as hardship arising from family, economics, employment, medical conditions, military service, or the like, are granted liberally.

10.5. Visits to Another ABA Approved Law School. A leave of absence for a visit to another ABA approved law school is handled in the same fashion as any other leave of absence; there typically must be a demonstrable hardship leading to the request to attend another law school. A leave of absence for a visit to another ABA approved law school may be conditioned on the availability of certain courses at the visited school. Under no circumstances will more than thirty credit hours of work be transferred from the visited school (regardless of the length of the leave approved) and no credits will be accepted where the grade earned for the course does not meet or exceed the grade point average required to graduate from the visited school. All transfer credit accepted under this rule will be recorded as a Pass on the law school transcript and will confer credit for the course, but it is not calculated in the grade point average. Transfer credit will be accepted for courses graded Pass/Fail at the visited school so long as the course is one that is typically graded Pass/Fail at that school and will count toward the Pass/Fail credit hour limitation under 8.5.1. Transfer credit for courses graded on a letter or numerical scale at the visited school will not count toward the Pass/Fail credit limitation under 8.5.1.

10.6. Visits for Summer Abroad Programs. A leave of absence for a visit to attend a Summer Abroad program associated with an ABA approved law school will normally be allowed. Under no circumstances will more than eight credit hours of work be transferred back from a Summer Abroad program or programs, regardless of the length of the leave approved or the number of leaves approved. Credits earned in a Summer Abroad program count toward the thirty credit hour maximum allowed for visiting an ABA approved law school under 10.5. No credits will be accepted where the grade earned for the course does not meet or exceed the grade point average required to graduate from the school sponsoring the Summer Abroad program. All transfer credit accepted under this rule will be recorded as a Pass on the law school transcript and will confer credit for the course, but it is not calculated in the grade point average. Transfer credit will be accepted for courses graded Pass/Fail in a Summer Abroad program and will count toward the Pass/Fail credit hour limitation under 8.5.1. Transfer credit for courses graded on a letter or numerical scale in a Summer Abroad program will not count toward the Pass/Fail credit limitation under 8.5.1.

10.7. Sanctions. Failure to comply with the provisions on leaves of absence or with conditions on a leave granted shall be grounds for the Academic Standards Committee to impose any sanction it deems appropriate, including but not limited to refusal to accept transfer credits (regardless of the grade received), probation (with conditions it deems appropriate attached), or dismissal.

10.8. Unauthorized Leave of Absence or Failure to Return from a Leave of Absence. A student who fails to register and attend classes for a fall or
spring semester without obtaining an official leave of absence or who fails to return to school at the conclusion of an official leave of absence will be administratively withdrawn from law school.

**CHANGE OF STATUS, DIVISION OR SEQUENCE**

11.1. Before Completing Lockstep Courses. A change of status or division before completion of lockstep courses shall only be allowed upon the following circumstances:

Change in Part-time Division. A part-time student in either the day or evening division may change to the other division upon approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Full-time Status to Part-time Day or Evening Division. A full-time student may change to either the part-time day or evening division upon approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Part-time Day or Evening Division Student with a Minimum 3.00 GPA. After completing the first year of law school, a part-time student in either the day or evening division with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 may change to full-time status upon the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Part-time Day or Evening Division Student with GPA below 3.00. After completing the first year of law school, a part-time student in either the day or evening division with a cumulative GPA below 3.00 wishing to change to full-time status must petition the Academic Standards Committee. The committee shall grant the petition only upon a finding of compelling circumstances.

11.2. After Completing Lockstep Courses. A change of status after completing lockstep courses is allowed only upon the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs before registration for the semester or session in which the change would be effective. A change from part-time status to full-time status must be accompanied by an affidavit in which the student swears that he or she will not be employed more than twenty hours per week at any week during any semester or session when the student is a full-time student.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

12.1. Required Courses. A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations I; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Legislation & Regulation; Professional Responsibility; Property; Torts; and Wills & Estates. (See Appendix B for required courses for students who began law school before fall 2012.)

12.2. Total Hours. A candidate for graduation must have earned a minimum of ninety credit hours. Credit for the J.D. degree is given only for course work completed after matriculation in the law school or for transfer credit granted for course work completed at another ABA accredited law school.

12.3. Grade Point Average Requirements. A candidate for graduation must have a cumulative grade point average no lower than 2.33. There is no waiver of this standard.

12.4. Time for Completion of Degree. A law student must complete the requirements for the J.D. degree within 72 months.

12.5. Compliance with Curricular Requirements. A candidate for graduation must have complied with all curricular requirements, e.g., course prerequisites, rigorous writing requirement, upper-level oral skills requirement, standards relating to credit hours of Pass/Fail courses, and standards relating to nonclassroom courses. Any credits received in contravention of these curricular requirements will not be counted toward the ninety credit hours required for graduation.

12.6. Equal Justice Requirement. Each student must perform thirty hours of law-related pro bono service through the Equal Justice Program. Students should have completed their pro bono requirement by the end of their next-to-last semester of law school. A student must have all pro bono paperwork evidencing completion of the thirty hours submitted to the registrar within thirty days of the last day of law school exams for the semester in which he or she graduates. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the student graduating in a subsequent semester in which this requirement is complete.

12.7. Graduation Fee. Each student must pay a graduation fee, the amount of which is set by the administration.

12.8. Honors

12.8.1. Summa Cum Laude. Any student who graduates in the top two percent of the graduating class is designated as graduating summa cum laude.

12.8.2. Magna Cum Laude. Any student who does not graduate in the top two percent of the graduating class but who does graduate in the top five percent of the graduating class is designated as graduating magna cum laude.

12.8.3. Cum Laude. Any student who does not graduate in the top five percent of the graduating class but who does graduate in the top ten percent
of the graduating class is designated as graduating cum laude.

APPENDIX A

3.1. Lockstep Sequences. The following lockstep sequences apply to students who began their 1L year in fall 2010.

3.1.1. Full-time, Day Division. The prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for full-time day students is:

First semester (fall) courses:
- Contracts I 3 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I 3 credit hours
- Legislation & Regulation 2 credit hours
- Property I 3 credit hours
- Torts 4 credit hours

Second semester (spring) courses:
- Civil Procedure 4 credit hours
- Contracts II 3 credit hours
- Criminal Law 3 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing II 3 credit hours
- Property II 3 credit hours

Third semester (fall) courses:
- Constitutional Law 4 credit hours

3.1.2. Part-time, Day Division. The prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for part-time day students is:

First semester (fall) courses:
- Contracts I 3 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I 3 credit hours
- Torts 4 credit hours

Second semester (spring) courses:
- Contracts II 3 credit hours
- Criminal Law 3 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing II 3 credit hours

Third semester (fall) courses:
- Constitutional Law 4 credit hours
- Legislation & Regulation 3 credit hours

Fourth semester (spring) courses:
- Civil Procedure 4 credit hours
- Property 4 credit hours

3.1.3. Part-time, Evening Division. The prescribed sequence of lockstep courses for part-time evening students is:

First semester (fall) courses:
- Contracts I 3 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I 3 credit hours
- Torts 4 credit hours

Second semester (spring) courses:
- Contracts II 3 credit hours
- Criminal Law 3 credit hours
- Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing II 3 credit hours

Third semester (fall) courses:
- Civil Procedure 4 credit hours

APPENDIX B

Required Courses for students who began law school before fall 2012:

FULL-TIME BEGAN IN FALL 2011:

12.1. Required Courses. A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Legislation & Regulation; Professional Responsibility; Property; Torts; and Wills & Estates.

PART-TIME BEGAN IN FALL 2011:

12.1. Required Courses. A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Legislation & Regulation; Professional Responsibility; Property; Torts; and Wills & Estates.

FULL-TIME BEGAN IN FALL 2010:

12.1. Required Courses. A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts I & II; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Legislation & Regulation; Professional Responsibility; Property I & II; Torts; and Wills & Estates.

PART-TIME BEGAN IN FALL 2010:

12.1. Required Courses. A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts I & II; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Legislation & Regulation; Professional Responsibility; Property I & II; Torts; and Wills & Estates.

FULL-TIME BEGAN IN FALL 2009:

12.1. Required Courses. A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations; Civil Procedure I & II; Constitutional Law; Contracts I & II; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Professional
Responsibility; Property I & II; Torts; and Wills & Estates.

PART-TIME BEGAN IN FALL 2009:

12.1. **Required Courses.** A candidate for graduation must have received credit in all required courses, namely, Business Associations; Civil Procedure; Constitutional Law; Contracts I & II; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Evidence; Legal Analysis, Research, & Writing I, II & III; Legislation & Regulation; Professional Responsibility; Property I & II; Torts; and Wills & Estates.

**NOTES:**

Business Associations became Business Associations I for the 2013-14 academic year.

Professional Responsibility went from a 2 hour course to a 3 hour course for the 2013-14 academic year.

Civil Procedure I & II became Civil Procedure for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Legislation & Regulation was added for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Estates & Trusts was renamed Wills & Estates for the 2009-2010 academic year.
CREDIT HOUR POLICY

The Law School adheres to the federal and ABA definitions of a credit hour. ABA Standard 310(b) provides:

A “credit hour” is an amount of work that reasonably approximates:

(1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or

(2) at least an equivalent amount of work as required in subparagraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including simulation, field placement, clinical, co-curricular, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

The academic calendar at the Law School consists of a fourteen-week class session and a two-week examination period in both the fall and spring terms. The summer term includes one seven-week class session and a one-week examination period. The winter session is a one-week term with an examination, paper, or project.

CREDIT FOR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

Students are required to complete 90 credit hours to graduate. Each hour of classroom credit is based on at least 50 minutes of direct faculty instruction. For each credit hour of classroom instruction, students shall spend, on average, a minimum of 2 hours (based on a 60-minute hour) on out-of-class work during the semester.

FALL AND SPRING TERMS

A four-credit course will ordinarily meet for 200 minutes each week for 14 weeks, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 8 hours on out-of-class work per week during the semester.

A three-credit course will ordinarily meet for 150 minutes each week, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 6 hours on out-of-class work per week during the semester.

A two-credit course will ordinarily meet for 100 minutes each week, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 4 hours on out-of-class work per week during the semester.

A one-credit course will ordinarily meet for 50 minutes each week, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 2 hours on out-of-class work per week during the semester.

If a class does not meet every week or does not have an examination, an equivalent amount of time will be allocated during the term to direct classroom instruction and student out-of-class work per week.

SUMMER TERM

A four-credit course will ordinarily meet for 400 minutes each week for 7 weeks, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 16 hours on out-of-class work per week during the term.

A three-credit course will ordinarily meet for 300 minutes each week for 7 weeks, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 12 hours on out-of-class work per week during the term.

A two-credit course will ordinarily meet for 200 minutes each week for 7 weeks, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 8 hours on out-of-class work per week during the term.

A one-credit course will ordinarily meet for 100 minutes each week for 7 weeks, followed by an examination period. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 4 hours on out-of-class work per week during the term.

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1 34 C.F.R. § 600.2 (2015), Regulations of the Offices of the Department of Education
2 ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools (2014-2015), Standard 310(b)
3 Id.
If a class does not meet every week or does not have an examination, an equivalent amount of time will be allocated during the term to direct classroom instruction and student out-of-class work per week.

**WINTER SESSION**

A one-credit course will ordinarily meet for 750 minutes during the week. Students are expected to spend, on average, a minimum of 30 hours on out-of-class work during the week or an equivalent number of hours over a longer period of time if a paper or project is due on a date after completion of the winter session class.

**CREDIT FOR CLINICS AND EXTERNSHIPS**

Each Law School clinic and externship placement includes a classroom component. The amount and level of credit awarded in each clinic or externship placement depends on the amount of time allocated to the classroom component and to student clinical and extern work. Depending on the clinic or extern placement, students will spend at least 45-60 hours in out-of-class work during the term for each hour of academic credit earned. Students are responsible for keeping a log of their hours for review by a faculty member at the end of each semester. Academic credit is awarded on a pass/fail basis.

**CREDIT FOR STUDENT-EDITED LAW JOURNALS**

Students members of law journals are eligible to receive one hour of academic credit per semester for performing at least 60 hours of academically-related work, including completion of a note or comment, reading and evaluating journal submissions, or editing articles. Students on the board of editors who are performing editorial functions for the law journals are eligible to receive up to two credits per semester for performing at least 120 hours of academically-related work. Students are responsible for keeping a log of their hours for review by the faculty advisor of the journal at the end of each semester. Academic credit is awarded on a pass/fail basis.

**CREDIT FOR MOOT COURT, MOCK TRIAL, AND ADR COMPETITIONS**

Depending on the competition, students who participate in Mock Trial, Moot Court and ADR competitions are eligible to receive up to two hours academic credit per semester for each 60 hours of academically-related work, including brief writing, appellate advocacy, trial advocacy, negotiation, mediation, or arbitration. Students are responsible for keeping a log of their hours for review by a faculty member at the end of each semester. Academic credit is awarded on a pass/fail basis.

**CREDIT FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

Students who serve as teaching assistants in the Academic Support Program or the Legal Writing Program are eligible to receive one hour of academic credit per semester for performing at least 60 hours of academically-related work, including mentoring students in study skills, time management, exam preparation, legal writing, or other critical academic skills. Students are responsible for keeping a log of their hours for review by a faculty member at the end of each semester. Academic credit is awarded on a pass/fail basis.
Texas A&M University School of Law offers a curriculum designed to provide fundamental knowledge and skills required of the legal advocate, together with specialty courses enabling students to obtain a rich and varied legal education.

Following is a list of courses typically offered at the law school during a three-year period. Some courses are offered only in alternate years, and the curriculum varies slightly from year to year. Lockstep courses (required courses that must be taken in a prescribed sequence) and other required courses are offered every year.

The number of credit hours is listed in parentheses, and the corresponding course number appears on the right. Courses that fulfill the skills requirement have an S appended to the course number. (See Section 3.4 of the Academic Standards for more information.)

**LOCKSTEP COURSES**

**Civil Procedure (4) LAW-7005**
A study of the rules and doctrines that define the process of civil litigation in American courts, with primary emphasis on the U.S. Constitution, the federal judicial code, and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The course may cover topics such as the jurisdiction and competence of courts, conflicts between state and federal law, pleading, discovery, joinder of claims and parties, disposition without trial, trial and post-trial process, appellate review, and the effects of judgment.

**Constitutional Law (4) LAW-7010**
A study of the provisions in the U.S. Constitution governing the form of government and the powers of the federal judiciary, legislature, and executive; the relations between the federal government and the states; the limitations on governmental power over individuals inherent in constitutional provisions relating to due process and equal protection; and the restrictions on private action mandated or permitted by these constitutional provisions.

**Contracts (4) LAW-7017**
A study of the enforceability of promises, the creation of contractual obligations, performance and breach, the impact of the contract on the legal relationships of nonparties, and the examination of contract doctrine in three settings: personal service, sales of goods, and construction contracts.

**Criminal Law (4) LAW-7021**
An inquiry into the sources and goals of criminal law, the concepts of actus reus and mens rea, characteristics of specific offenses, inchoate crimes, accomplice liability, and general defenses.

**Legal Analysis, Research & Writing I (3) LAW-7001**
**Legal Analysis, Research & Writing II (3) LAW-7002**
A study of analysis, research, and writing skills essential to the solution of legal problems and the practice of law. Analytical skills, essential for all of law school and law practice, are covered throughout each course. Students learn the methods of legal research through hands-on library experience. Students will write at least two legal memoranda and a trial brief in the first year.

**Legislation & Regulation (3) LAW-7418**
An introduction to the role of statutes and administrative regulations in the practice of law, including their creation, amendment, and interpretation. Students will explore such topics as the interpretive and lawmaking roles of the three branches of government; statutory interpretation; delegation and administrative agency practice; and regulatory governance. The course is a building block for courses in legislation, administrative law, constitutional law, and a wide range of specialized courses that rely on statutory and regulatory law, including bankruptcy, commercial law, environmental law, intellectual property, securities regulation, and tax law.

**Property (4) LAW-7032**
An introduction to personal property and real property laws, including estates and future interests in land, landlord-tenant problems, and issues relating to private and public land use.

**Torts (4) LAW-7042**
A study of the basic principles of civil liability for harm to persons or property. Topics include intentional torts, negligence, strict liability, defenses, and damages. Additional topics may be included.
ADVANCED REQUIRED COURSES

Business Associations I (3) LAW-7056
This course studies the basic principles of the varying business entities used to conduct ventures for profit. The course will cover fundamental agency principles, partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations. We will study how these business organizations are formed, the powers and responsibilities of their respective partners, members, officers or directors, and their shareholder's rights and liabilities. The course's primary focus will be the corporation and corporate law; including topics such as pre-incorporation issues; the corporate formation process, and corporate capital and financing. Business entity taxation concepts may be covered as well. The course objective is to give students both foundational and practical knowledge of how business organizations work. This includes learning how to make assessment as to which type of business organization is best suited for a particular client's objectives, the legal formalities necessary in forming that business organization, and understanding the rights, duties, and obligations for those affiliated with that organization. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts.

Criminal Procedure (3) LAW-7065
This course considers issues relating to constitutional constraints on the investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Evidence (4) LAW-7080
An examination of the problems of proof, including study of the admission and exclusion of evidence on the basis of relevancy, policy, and protection of the individual or the state; the examination of witnesses; substitutes for evidence; and procedural considerations. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Civil Procedure.

Legal Analysis, Research & Writing III (see below)
Topics vary. Students may fulfill this requirement with any of the listed LARW III classes.

LARW III: Appellate Drafting (2) LAW-7785
This course hones students' analytical and persuasion skills through a focus on appellate brief writing and oral advocacy in the appellate court setting. Students will have numerous smaller writing projects during the course, which will culminate in a large brief-writing project due near the end of the semester. Students will also participate in significant oral argument exercises. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II.

LARW III: Contract Drafting (2) LAW-7780
This hands-on course covers contemporary commercial drafting of contracts, an essential skill for transactional practice that is also useful for litigators. Topics include translation of a client's business deal into contract language; the organizational paradigm for a formal contract; drafting definitions, covenants, representations, and warranties; deconstructing and marking up contracts; transactional and formbook research; and proper use of boilerplate provisions. Students will draft at least two major contracts and will have smaller drafting and research assignments throughout the course. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II and Contracts.

LARW III: Drafting for the General Practitioner (2) LAW-7789
This two-credit practical skills class introduces students to the drafting of legal documents that are common to the general practitioner. The course is designed to provide students with general knowledge of and proficiency with the typical documents lawyers are asked to draft by practicing the drafting techniques common to the various types of legal documents lawyers encounter. The course is based on “small firm” simulations during which students will represent one client in a variety of legal matters including contract drafting, will drafting, negotiation, and settlement of a dispute. In addition to learning new drafting skills, students will hone writing and oral advocacy skills already learned through the production of client letters, lawyer-to-lawyer email communications, and oral settlement negotiations. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II.

LARW III: Estate Administration Drafting (2) LAW-7461
This course is designed to teach students how to open, conduct, and close an administration of a decedent's estate under Texas law. Topics include independent and dependent administrations; probate of the decedent's will; powers, rights, and duties of the personal representative; payment of creditors' claims; and informal probate procedures. This course will provide a practical look at how to represent a client who is serving as the personal representative of a decedent's estate or who is a beneficiary of a decedent's estate. There will be no exam for this course. Students' grades will be based on various drafting projects assigned throughout the semester. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II; (2) Wills & Estates.
LARW III: Estate Planning and Drafting (2) LAW-7779
This course involves working through hypothetical clinical problems, including extensive drafting and working closely with the professor. The problems involve comprehensive planning and drafting of estate planning documents to effectuate the plan. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II; (2) Wills & Estates; and (3) Trusts & Fiduciary Responsibilities (may be taken concurrently).

LARW III: Family Law Drafting (2) LAW-7786
This practice skills course covers drafting documents for family law litigation. All aspects of litigation are covered from pretrial to appeal. Students will draft several substantive documents during the course. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II; (2) Family Law.

LARW III: Litigation Drafting (2) LAW-7782
This practical course deals with drafting litigation documents. Using a state trial court forum and the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, students draft litigation documents that they can expect to prepare in typical litigation cases. Topics covered include conducting client interviews; drafting petitions, answers, and affirmative defenses; propounding written discovery; objecting to and answering written discovery; preparing and arguing motions; and preparing other litigation-related documents. Students will draft a major persuasive motion and will have several smaller drafting and research assignments throughout the course. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II and Civil Procedure.

LARW III: Patent Law Drafting (2) LAW-7781
This skills-based writing course introduces students to the practice of patent prosecution, which is the process of obtaining a patent from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The course follows the process from the initial client interview through the issuance of a patent and through post-issuance filings. Writing assignments include a patentability opinion letter, an original patent application, and a response to an Office Action. Some scientific or technical expertise may be helpful, but is not required. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II; (2) Patent Law.

LARW III: Real Estate Drafting (2) LAW-7783
This practice skills course covers drafting commonly used real estate documents. The focus is on Texas practice, and both personal and commercial transactions are covered. Students will draft several substantive documents during the course. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II and Property.

LARW III: Trademark Practice (2-3) LAW-7784
This skills-based writing course introduces students to the practice of trademark prosecution, which is the process of registering trademarks with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Trademark prosecution is a significant aspect of a legal practice in intellectual property, and this course seeks to develop students’ practical, analytical, and counseling skills in this area through a series of contextualized writing assignments. This is a limited enrollment course. No online registration. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II; (2) Trademark & Unfair Competition (may be taken concurrently).

Professional Responsibility (3) LAW-7091
A study of the rules regulating the practice of law. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Wills & Estates (3) LAW-7076
This course covers the basics of testate and intestate succession, including the following topics: drafting, execution, and construction of attested and holographic wills; testamentary capacity, undue influence, and fraud; revocation of wills; distribution of intestacy; nonprobate transfers of property; and ethical issues that arise during estate planning. There will be a significant focus on Texas law in the coverage of these topics. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Property.

CORE CURRICULUM ELECTIVE COURSES

Administrative Law (2-3) LAW-7113
A study of the legal principles and procedures to which an un-elected bureaucracy must conform to achieve legitimacy. The course reviews the problems inherent in a relatively disunited body of law derived from disparate sources, but concentrates on the Constitution and other federal law as the primary sources of organizing principles for administrative law and procedure. Topics addressed may include the constitutional underpinnings of the federal bureaucracy, judicial review of agency fact finding and legal interpretation, extra-statutory administrative common law, the grounds for dividing administrative actions into adjudication and rule making, the essential components of due process in agency adjudication, and the availability of judicial
review of agency action. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Advanced Torts (3) LAW-7104**
Building on the material covered in Torts, this course examines various topics in the law of torts such as products liability, defamation, invasion of privacy, and business torts, including misrepresentation and interference with contractual relations. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Torts.

**Agency & Partnership (2) LAW-7122**
A study of the common law of principal and agent, and the law of unincorporated business entities, including general and limited partnerships and limited liability companies. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Consumer Law (2) LAW-7195**
A study of the current state of the law as it applies to consumer transactions. Topics include debt collection practices, credit disclosure and regulation, product liability, the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act, the work of the Federal Trade Commission, truth in lending laws, and fair credit laws. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Torts and Contracts.

**Family Law (3) LAW-7301**
A study of legal problems related to the establishment, dissolution, reorganization, and evolving definitions of the family and family-like relationships in America, including premarital arrangements, marriage (formal and informal), divorce, parent-child relationship, division of marital property, spousal and child support, domestic violence within the family, and same-sex unions. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Torts and Contracts.

**Federal Income Taxation (3) LAW-7319**
A study of the basic principles of federal income tax, concentrating upon individual taxpayers, business taxpayers, and investors as taxpayers. Particular emphasis is placed on the use of the Internal Revenue Code and federal tax regulations. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Marital Property (3) LAW-7428**
A study of the property rights of husband and wife under the Texas community property system, including coverage of the law relating to homestead. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program. May be offered as a distance education course. Prerequisite: 28 completed hours.

**Oil & Gas (3) LAW-7444**
A study of oil and gas law with emphasis upon the interests that may be created in oil and gas, the transfer and conveyance of such interests, rights of operators and landowners, provisions in the oil and gas lease, the rights of assignees, and regulations dealing with exploration, production, and conservation. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Property.

**Payment Systems (3) LAW-7454**
This course explores commercial paper, bank deposits, and collections under UCC Articles 3 and 4. Topics covered include negotiability and the rights and obligations of parties to commercial paper, defenses to liability, relationship of banks and customers, check collection, and suretyship. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Torts and Contracts.

**Remedies (3) LAW-7484**
A review of the forms of legal and equitable relief a court is equipped to grant by way of redress to those who have been or may be injured, including alternative choices and the tactical advantages of each. The course may also discuss the scope of judges’ powers of contempt. Prerequisite: 56 completed hours.

**Sales & Leases (2-3) LAW-7556**
A study of the sale and lease of goods and the principal commercial law governing such transactions. Law dealt with in the course includes Articles 2 and 2A of the Uniform Commercial Code as well as the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. Covered topics include sale and lease contract formation, establishment of express and implied contract terms, creation and disclaimer of warranties, risk of loss, and remedies for breach. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts.

**Secured Transactions (3) LAW-7488**
A study of personal and commercial financing by loans and credit sales under agreements creating security interests in the debtors’ personal property (Article 9 of the UCC and relevant provisions of the Bankruptcy Code). Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts and Property.

**Texas Criminal Procedure (3) LAW-7532**
A study of laws regulating Texas’ criminal process, arrest to post-conviction review, emphasizing its unique characteristics. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Criminal Procedure.

**Texas Pretrial Procedure (3) LAW-7540**
A study of Texas law in civil cases pertaining to processes before trial, including jurisdiction, venue,
initiating legal proceedings, obtaining factual information from parties and nonparties, and terminating litigation prior to trial. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Civil Procedure.

Texas Real Property (3) LAW-7533
This course examines Texas real property law through Texas case law and the Texas statutory law. Topics include conveyances of real property (including contracts and deeds), liens, adverse possession, and servitudes (i.e., easements, real covenants, and equitable servitudes). Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Property.

Texas Trials & Appeals (3) LAW-7548
A study of Texas law in civil cases pertaining to trial and appellate procedure concerning the jury, presentation of the case, motions for instructed verdict, the court’s charge, the verdict, trial before the court, post-trial motions and procedures, final and appealable judgments, appellate jurisdiction, perfection of appeal, the courts of appeal, the Supreme Court of Texas, and original proceedings in appellate courts. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Civil Procedure.

Trusts and Fiduciary Responsibilities (2) LAW-7174
A comprehensive study of the law of trusts, including creation, administration, amendment, and termination of trusts; powers, rights and duties of settlors, trustees and beneficiaries; fiduciary duties and liability of trustees; and creditors’ rights. Emphasis is on Texas law. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Property.

GENERAL CURRICULUM ELECTIVE COURSES

Accounting for Lawyers (2) LAW-7108
This course provides students with a fundamental understanding of accounting principles, highlights the importance of accounting issues to the practice of law, and introduces critical techniques of financial analysis, including time value of money, leverage, return metrics, and business valuation. No prior training in finance or accounting is needed. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Adoption Law (2) LAW-7114
This course covers many aspects of adoption law, including consent of birthparents, termination of parental rights, Indian Child Welfare Act, transracial and transcultural adoption, international adoption, access to information, the effects of adoption, and actions for wrongful adoption. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

ADR Survey: Negotiation, Mediation & Arbitration (3)
This course will serve as an introduction to the main three tools of Alternative Dispute Resolution: negotiation, mediation, and arbitration. (Negotiation is when two or more parties work together to achieve a mutually acceptable agreement; mediation is when a neutral third party plays the role of mediator in assisting by asking questions and guiding the conversation of two or more parties as they work together to achieve a mutually acceptable agreement; and arbitration is when a neutral third party takes on the role of judge and decides the outcome of a disputed matter after it is presented to him or her in a setting similar to a court trial.) Through the use of lecture, simulations, and exercises, students will learn both theoretical and practical aspects of all three tools. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Animal Law (2) LAW-7604
This course provides an overview of the changing relationship between society and animals by examining the development of both civil and criminal law as it relates to animals. The course also explores the philosophical issues that drive the law’s evolution and describes the law as an expression of how we share the environment with animals. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Art Law (2-3) LAW-7106 / LAW-7205
This course provides a thorough introduction to the growing area of legal practice known as art law. Students will examine legal and ethical issues relating to the creation, discovery, ownership, transfer, and use of works of visual art, from the ancient to the contemporary. Stakeholders in this field are diverse: they include artists and their subjects, individual and corporate collectors, museums, dealers, auction houses, cultural institutions, treasure hunters, scholars, indigenous groups, sovereign nations, and the general public. Students will examine, discuss, and debate applicable civil and criminal laws and regulations, case law, international treaties and codes of ethics, as well as contracts and other documents used in the practice of art law. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Art of Lawyering (3) LAW-7112
The Art of Lawyering is designed to help students develop and hone the analytic and problem-solving skills that are required for optimal success in law school, the bar exam, and in the practice of law. To enhance their abilities to bring together the law they are learning in a useful manner, students will...
undertake several practical assignments individually and in small groups for which they will receive detailed feedback. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

_Bankruptcy (3) LAW-7145_
A study of the law relating to individual and business liquidations and reorganizations under the Bankruptcy Code. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts and Property.

_Business Associations II (3) LAW-7057_
This course is designed for students who have a particular interest in corporate law and builds upon the basic concepts learned in Business Associations I. This course will focus on the rules and legal principles that govern large corporations and their constituents and is especially recommended to students who are interested in representing public corporations in private practice. Topics to be covered include: mergers and acquisitions, the issuance of corporate debt, executive compensation, the proxy solicitation process, shareholder proposals and other mechanisms of shareholder democracy. The course will also cover indemnification of officers and directors, corporate charitable giving and political speech, and the role of Special Litigation Committees in derivative suits. The course will also address securities law-related issues such as securities fraud, insider trading, and ethical issues in the representation of public corporations. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts; (2) Business Associations I or Business Associations (four credit-hour course offered prior to fall 2013).

_The Business Negotiator (3) LAW-73835_
This course provides students the opportunity to develop and strengthen their negotiation skills mostly in the context of business and transactions work. Through lectures, role-plays, and simulations, students will refine their negotiation strategies and techniques in negotiating deals, contracts, and relationships. While the vast majority of the course will focus on improving student ability to engage in transactions work within the United States, the course will also consider various barriers to deal making in a global context, including culture, ideology, and foreign governments and laws. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

_Children & the Law (2-3) LAW-7153 / LAW-7154_
This course studies the three-sided relationship between children, their parents (or other conservators), and the state. It examines the many complex problems inherent in the questions of when a state should, must, or should not interfere in the parent-child relationship. It tries to define what that relationship includes and looks at the ways that relationship is evolving in the United States today. The course examines the parent-child relationship through the many forms of Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship (SAPCR), which are common to most states today in their statutes/codes. It does not include any questions of tort liability of parents to or for their children. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

_Civil Evidence Workshop (1) LAW-7891S_
This skills practicum focuses on practical subjects related to courtroom evidence. The workshop provides instruction, demonstration, and practice in offering common forms of evidence in civil and criminal trials; common objections and responses to courtroom evidence; depositions, statements, and sworn testimony; and preserving the record and offers of proof. This workshop is open to all students and is recommended for all law students interested in law school mock trial competition or careers in trial advocacy. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Evidence (may be taken concurrently).

_Civil Motion Workshop (1) LAW-7888S_
This class will focus not on civil trials (which are becoming increasingly rare) but on civil motion practice (which is still a very active component of a trial lawyer’s work). Students will be provided with written motions and responses that were filed in actual nonactive lawsuits. Students will then prepare to argue the motions and responses. At each session, students will be called on to argue either the response or the motion, within appropriate time constraints, in front of a sitting district court judge in Tarrant County. Afterwards each student will receive critique and feedback from fellow students and the professor. Students will be exposed, and must quickly understand, the law related to each motion. However, the focus of this course will be on oral argument skills and developing a level of comfort arguing motions in an actual classroom. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Civil Procedure (may be taken concurrently).

_Civil Rights Litigation (3) LAW-7162_
This course provides an overview of federal legislation designed to provide private actions to enforce constitutional rights, including the kinds of relief available and limits on recovery. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Constitutional Law (may be taken concurrently).

_Construction Law (2) LAW-7188_
This course is intended for students interested in acquiring a practice-oriented knowledge of...
construction law, legal relationships and causes of action between owners, contractors, subcontractors, engineers, architects, and their insurers, and construction contracts. The course will emphasize the practical aspects of construction practice, requiring that students adopt the roles of attorneys representing various players in reenactment of real construction dispute cases. Prerequisites: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts.

Copyrights (3) LAW-7203
A study of federal and international laws protecting the innovative endeavors of authors. Topics include the history of copyright law, fair use of copyrighted materials, what can be copyrighted, and the interaction of copyright law with other concepts of unfair competition and intellectual property. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Courthouse Perspectives (1) LAW-7890
This course will provide students with a practical, hands-on study of various courts in the Tarrant County area, including the Court of Appeals, District Courts (civil, criminal, and family), County Courts (civil, criminal, and probate), and Justice of the Peace Courts. Students will learn about the function, jurisdiction, and personnel of each court. Each day will begin with a lecture at the Court of Appeals by Justice McCoy, which will be followed by visits to the various courts. During the various visits, students will be introduced to judges, court coordinators, and court reporters. If possible, students will be allowed to observe proceedings in each court they visit. This course will also stress proper courtroom etiquette and nuts-and-bolts procedural training on topics such as how to actually file a document with a court. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Criminal Procedure Trial Rights (3) LAW-7313
This course deals with constitutionally mandated judicial processes for determining the guilt or innocence of those accused of crime and for selecting an appropriate penalty. Topics may include bail and pretrial detention, the prosecutor's charging decision, pretrial publicity, the defendant's competency to stand trial, jury selection, trial by jury, the defendant's right of confrontation and compulsory process, the right to effective assistance of counsel, sentencing, direct attacks on criminal convictions, and double jeopardy. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Criminal Prosecution Clinic (3) LAW-78635
This clinic will (1) educate and train students on the law, legal ethics, and skills involved in state criminal prosecutions and (2) expose students to the unique duties and responsibilities of criminal prosecutors as both advocates and ministers of justice. Students will complete a biweekly classroom component taught by adjunct professors who work in the Tarrant County district attorney's office. These sessions will cover substantive, procedural, and ethics-related law relevant to the daily work of prosecutors, as well as lawyering skills employed by prosecutors. In addition, students will be required to complete at least 180 hours of supervised fieldwork during the semester in the Tarrant County district attorney's office. Prerequisites: (1) Completion of at least 45 credit hours; (2) Evidence; and (3) either Texas Criminal Procedure or Texas Criminal Law Practicum (may be taken concurrently).

Death Penalty Litigation (3) LAW-7378
“Death is different” according to the United States Supreme Court in Gregg v. Georgia, 428 U.S. 153 (1976). Death penalty litigation is certainly different and more complex than other criminal litigation. This course will examine the trial of death penalty cases, analyzing each phase from pretrial to execution and scrutinizing the roles of judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, jury, and experts. It will also explore the modern death penalty system by studying seminal Supreme Court cases and key Texas cases and statutes. By the end of the course, you should be able to use appropriate legal theories and applicable laws to critically analyze hypothetical problems. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses and Criminal Procedure.

Deposition Skills Workshop (1) LAW-7887S
This course gives students the opportunity to learn the art of deposition practice and the strategy behind taking depositions. Students will learn and practice fundamental depositions skills; rules pertaining to depositions in federal and state court; how to properly notice a deposition; and how to depose parties, fact witnesses, and experts. The course will conclude with a final deposition performance class in which each student will be provided the opportunity to take and defend a deposition. Enrollment limited to 16. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Civil Procedure.

Education Law (2-3) LAW-7227
This course will explore the dynamics of the legal rights, responsibilities and relationships between parents, students, teachers and administrators. It is essential to understand the balance between these rights and the smooth, efficient operation of schools. Topics to be explored include the separation of church and state; the instructional program and the balance between the substantive rights of parents and the compelling interest of the state in educating children, student on-campus First Amendment expression rights, student privacy rights and the application of the Fourth Amendment, rights of students with disabilities, common law
student rights, and teacher certification requirements and contractual issues arising from employment relationships. Prerequisites: One year in law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Constitutional Law (may be taken concurrently).

**Elder Law (2)**  
LAW-7588  
This course presents an overview of the law relating to aging individuals and an older American society, including employment and disability discrimination, retirement, property management, guardianship and protection, health care financing, health care decision-making, housing, and family issues unique to grandparents. When possible, Texas law on particular subjects will also be covered. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Employment Discrimination (3)**  
LAW-7248  
An in-depth examination of the federal law concerning discrimination in employment on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, age, and disability. Topics covered include Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Reconstruction Era Civil Rights Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Employment Law (3)**  
LAW-7260  
A study of the law of employer-employee relations in a nonunion context. Students examine issues such as employment at will, retaliatory discharge, and wage and hour laws. The class introduces students to laws relating to the employment relationship. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Employment Mediation Clinic (2)**  
LAW-78625  
This course provides students who have already received basic mediation training with opportunities to co-mediate workplace disputes that arise at the Federal Aviation Administration or other agencies. Each student will be required to co-mediate three to five disputes, with the assistance of an experienced and trained mediator, during the course of the semester. Before each mediation, students will review available background documents, meet with their co-mediator, and prepare for the mediation. At the conclusion of each mediation, students will draft a memorandum to the file describing the outcome of the mediation. Students will also keep a journal and participate in classroom sessions to reflect on their experiences. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program. Prior academic or professional exposure to mediation and/or employment law is preferred but not required.

**Energy Law (3)**  
LAW-7408  
This course provides an introduction to energy law and regulation in the United States. It focuses on the basic principles of public utility regulation, the division of jurisdiction between federal and state governments, and the key regulatory statutes and case law governing energy resources such as water, coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear and renewable energy. We will analyze the environmental, regulatory, land use, and economic concerns as they relate to each energy source. Finally, this course will provide an introduction to electricity and electric power competition in the United States. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Entertainment Law (2)**  
LAW-7268  
An examination of basic legal concepts that govern transactions in the entertainment industry, including the constitutional protections of entertainment speech, the rights of individuals who restrict it, copyright fundamentals, contract issues peculiar to the field, and prevailing standards and practices of “the Business.” Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts.

**Environmental Law (3)**  
LAW-7277  
A study of various approaches for dealing with adverse environmental effects, including private litigation, regulation, and financial incentives. The course surveys air and water pollution, solid and hazardous waste problems, and the National Environmental Policy Act. Attention is also paid to judicial review of legislative and administrative action, the special problems raised by our federal form of government, and the administrative regulatory process in pollution control. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Property.

**Estate & Gift Tax (2-3)**  
LAW-7283/LAW-7290  
A study of income, gift, estate, and generation-skipping transfer taxes relevant to the estate planning process. Planning and drafting principles for complex estate planning are introduced. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Wills & Estates (may be taken concurrently).

**Ethics for the Criminal Law Practitioner (1-2)**  
LAW-7120  
Students will study the unique ethical and moral dilemmas that arise in the criminal law setting from the perspective of both defense counsel and a prosecutor. The course is intended to help fill the gap between the traditional substantive professional responsibility course and the application of the standards in the practice of criminal law. To accomplish this, the course will take a problem solving approach to the subject. Prerequisites: One
year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Criminal Law.

**Extenship (1-12)**
**LAW-7835 / LAW-7836 / LAW-7837 / LAW-7838 / LAW-7839**
This course is designed to provide students with learning opportunities, through placements in approved legal settings, in which students may 1) increase understanding of the range of skills necessary for effective lawyering; 2) improve abilities to perform lawyering skills (e.g., applying an area of law to an actual case); 3) begin to identify and reflect upon the strengths and weaknesses as a practicing student attorney; 4) develop productive working relationships with supervisors, clients, support staff, and peers; and 5) reflect on placement experiences through journals and class discussions. Placements can be in either courts, public interest organizations, corporate or government offices, or law firms. Students can earn 1, 2 or 3 pass/fail credit hours for every 60, 120 or 180 hours of fieldwork completed, respectively. Students will keep timesheets and journals that must be submitted every two weeks. In addition, students must complete a classroom component the first time they register for an externship. The classroom component consists of in-class meetings and online discussions. Online discussions will consist of students responding to topics posted by the professor and responding to fellow student postings. Some minor outside reading and/or activity may be required. Prerequisite: Approval of professor.

**Family Mediation Clinic (3)**
**LAW-78505**
Students learn mediation skills through lecture and role-play, and attend some classes in the courtrooms of two family judges. Students observe and mediate real family disputes at local mediation centers. An exam and a mediation journal are used in grading this pass/fail course. A family mediation certificate is given on completion of this course and the Mediation Clinic. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Federal Courts (3)**
**LAW-7302**
A study of the constitutional and practical doctrines that define the judicial power of the United States, with particular emphasis on the role of federal courts in the American system of government, including the federal courts' relationship to the other branches of the federal government and their relationship to the separate state systems of government. The course will cover topics such as the constitutional cases and controversies requirement, congressional control of the federal courts, Supreme Court review of state court decisions, the power of the federal courts to create federal law, abstention, suits against state governments, and the enforcement of federal rights.

**First Amendment (3)**
**LAW-7316**
A study of the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment. The course addresses the First Amendment's effect on government attempts to regulate content of speech and to restrict speech by regulating one's method of speaking. Also included is the right of free speech in various physical settings. In addition, the freedoms of assembly and press, free exercise of religion, and the prohibition on governmental establishment of religion will be studied. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Constitutional Law.

**Health Law (3)**
**LAW-7318**
This course focuses on key concepts in health law such as the structure of health care organizations, quality of health care, and liability of health care providers. It also addresses access to health care; financing mechanisms of health care, including Medicare and Medicaid; regulation of health care; and oversight of managed health care. New developments in health care law concerning reproduction, bioethics, and human genetics are also examined. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Torts.

**Immigration Law (2-3)**
**LAW-7332**
This course covers basic immigration statutes, including cases and doctrines that control immigration and naturalization. The course also explores the treatment of undocumented immigrants and those seeking protection from persecution. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Independent Study (1)**
**LAW-7816**
An opportunity for students to do specialized reading or research in an area of interest to the student under a full-time faculty member's supervision. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses.

**Insurance Law (2)**
**LAW-7440**
A study of fundamental legal principles relating to the construction of various types of liability and first-party insurance contracts. Topics include insurance regulation, application for coverage and acceptance of risk, and the rules of construction, bad faith, and insurance litigation strategy. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Torts and Contracts.

**Intellectual Property (3)**
**LAW-7350**
An overview of the basic principles of intellectual property law, including coverage of trademark, patent, and copyright fundamentals. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program. May be offered as a distance education course. Prerequisite: 28 completed hours.
This course examines the legal issues encountered in private international business transactions through international trade, exploitation of intellectual property rights and direct foreign investment. Topics covered generally include the international sale of goods; bills of lading; letters of credit; government regulation of imports and exports; technology transfer and intellectual property protection; cross border taxation; forms of agreements, industrial works contracts, employment laws; forms and regulation of foreign direct investment; international corruption and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. The course will also examine how customary international law, treaties and free trade agreements play a role in these transactions. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts; (2) Business Associations I or Business Associations (four credit-hour course offered prior to fall 2013).

This course presents a study of the international fabric of patent, copyright, and trademark law under both domestic laws and international treaties. Students will examine the foundation of international intellectual property policies underlying medicinal herbs, counterfeit goods, genetic material, and traditional knowledge. The flow of information and content across borders has placed heightened tension on international intellectual property law and has resulted in increased pressure to harmonize diverse legal frameworks. Prerequisite: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Intellectual Property, Copyrights, Patent Law, or Trademark & Unfair Competition Law.

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A study of disputes touching more than one jurisdiction, including selecting the proper forum, discovery, parallel law suits, choice of law, sovereign immunity, the recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments, and arbitration. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

A study of the National Labor Relations Act and its implementation. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

A study of private and public means of controlling land use. Emphasis is placed on the areas of planning and zoning, including the emerging problem of exclusionary land use controls. Further discussion topics include subdivision controls, restrictive deed covenants, eminent domain proceedings, and urban renewal. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

The Law Clinic is both a credit course and a functioning law office, allowing students to practice law while in law school. Students represent indigent clients in court under direct faculty supervision. A classroom component meets twice weekly to study the substantive law, to learn essential practical skills, and to discuss client cases. Prerequisite: Approval of professor.

A review of the professional, ethical, and management requirements for starting and operating a law practice. The course will review the statutory and regulatory aspects of practice, including labor and employment, partnerships and professional corporations, trust and IOLTA accounts, advertising, and solicitations. The course will also review management skills and technology related to time, billing, accounting, docketing, legal research, document preparation, filing, and client development. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.
Legislation (2-3)  LAW-7415 / LAW-7416
A study of the state and federal legislative systems examining (1) the relationship between the legislative, executive, and judicial processes; (2) the philosophies of legislative operations and judicial interpretation; (3) statutory and constitutional issues involved in interpreting and applying legislation; and (4) the principles of drafting legislation. The course includes tracking actual legislative sessions, introduced bills, the activity of a student-selected member of choice in the Texas Legislature, and getting practical experience through conducting a mock session of the Legislature to include committee activity, floor debate, voting, and post-legislative activities by means of four extracurricular volunteer Saturday class meetings. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Mediation Clinic (3)  LAW-78815
This course follows the standards for mediation training promulgated by the Texas Mediation Trainers Roundtable. To pass the course and receive credit, the student must attend the entire 40 hours of classroom training and participate in the role-plays, performing as a mediator and as a disputant. The student must also satisfactorily complete the clinic portion of the training, which consists of mediations or observations at Dispute Resolution Centers and other locations. In addition, students must submit a journal for each case mediated or observed. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

National Security Law (3)  LAW-7437
An examination of an emerging branch of legal inquiry that addresses threats to the autonomy of American nationhood. The sources of this law are not unified, ranging from early landmark cases in the Supreme Court to statutes, executive orders, and “practices.” The basic theme of the course is the counterbalancing of legal protection from genuine threats to our national life and the need to preserve our fundamental rights under the rule of law. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses.

Patent Law (2-3)  LAW-7452
The study of how proprietary interests in technology are protected by patent law, with a focus on issues relating to validity, the nature of the subject matter protected, and enforcement of proprietary rights. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Patent Litigation (2)  LAW-7131
This is a two-credit course covering patent litigation, or the art of protecting patent claims from infringement. The course will give you a sense of how the patent system works and will emphasize the big issues that you are most likely to encounter in practice, whether you become a patent agent, a patent litigator, a business attorney, or just an all purpose country lawyer (yes, you may well come across patent issues in that context in this day and age). The course will also integrate materials from the America Invents Act, the new patent law that will be fully effective as of 2013. Prerequisites: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Post-Conviction Actual Innocence Claims (2)  LAW-7217
This course will teach the law and the practical applications of the law in petitioning the judiciary for relief, based on facts garnered through an initial post-conviction investigation. Students will learn what a post-conviction claim of actual innocence is and how the United States Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals have analyzed and dealt with such claims in both death penalty and nondeath cases. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Criminal Law.

Preparing for the Bar Exam (3)  LAW-7458
This 3-credit hour class is pass/fail, with an exam on the last day of class. Only students who are in their last semester of law school may enroll. The class familiarizes students with the contents of the bar exam and seeks to impart the critical skills and strategies necessary for success on each day of the exam. The class covers selections from several MBE and essay-tested subjects. Students will complete several diagnostic tests that simulate portions of the bar exam and will receive feedback on their performance. Evaluation will be based on homework (the diagnostic tests) and a short exam. The course is not intended as a substitute for a commercial bar review course; students should also take a commercial bar review course.
Pretrial Motion Workshop (1)  LAW-7892S
Students will learn about and draft three pre-trial motions: Motion to Transfer Venue; Motion to Compel Discovery; and Special Appearance 120a. Students will then argue the motions in class. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Civil Procedure (may be taken concurrently).

Public International Law (3)       LAW-7369
An introduction to the key concepts and doctrines of international law, including topics such as the sources and evidence of international law, the bases of international jurisdiction, the law governing the use of force and the protection of human rights, the law of treaties, and state succession. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

Scientific Criminal Evidence Workshop (1)
Students in this class will learn the theory and practice of using scientific evidence in criminal trials. Specific topics to be covered may include the value and use of DNA, mental health, polygraph, and autopsy evidence. Particular attention will be paid to understanding, preparing for, and conducting “Daubert hearings,” which involve challenges to the admissibility of scientific expert testimony. The format of the class will include lecture by the professor and guest speakers, as well as simulations involving students who will be required to assume the roles of both prosecutors and defense lawyers. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Evidence (may be taken concurrently).

Securities Regulation (3)  LAW-7492
A review of federal and state regulation of the public distribution, offer, and sale of corporate securities. The course includes a study of the Securities Act of 1933 and portions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Types of securities and underwriting techniques are surveyed, and the key definitions and exemptions in the statutes are studied. State securities law is also studied with emphasis on the securities registration and anti-fraud aspects of the Texas Securities Act. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Business Associations I or Business Associations (4 credit-hour course offered prior to fall 2013).

Special Topics (1-4)  LAW-7900 / LAW 7900S
Special topics in identified areas of law. May be repeated for credit.

Sports Law (3)  LAW-7500
A thorough look at both the academic (e.g., labor and antitrust) and practical (e.g., contracts and agents) aspects of professional sports and the emerging field of sports law, including rules governing Olympic competition, the NCAA, and other amateur athletics. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Contracts.

Taxation of Business Entities (3)  LAW-7516
A study of the federal income tax treatment of C corporations and pass-through entities such as partnerships, S corporations, and limited liability companies. The course examines on a comparative basis the formation, operation, and sales and liquidation of these entities. Corporate reorganizations and related transactions are also covered. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Federal Income Taxation.

Trademark & Unfair Competition Law (3) LAW-7550
Using the principles of unfair competition law, this course examines the creation, maintenance, and enforcement of trademark rights, as well as related doctrines of rights of publicity, trade dress, trade secrets, and false advertising. It also includes an exploration of public policies and economy underlying trademark law. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program. May be offered as a distance learning course. Prerequisite: 28 completed hours.

Water Law (3)  LAW-7339
This course examines the legal control of water resources, an issue of increasing concern in Texas and the nation. Topics include riparian rights, the water permit system, groundwater issues, water as a regional and shared resource, beneficial uses v. waste, underground conservation districts, and navigability. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Property.

White Collar Crime (3)  LAW-7579
An exploration of the substantive and procedural problems connected with the federal prosecution and defense of white collar crime. The course examines selected federal statutes, including the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO). Topics include mail and wire fraud, securities fraud, money laundering, corporate criminal liability, and grand jury investigations. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Criminal Law.

PRACTICUM COURSES
In order to implement a program that allows students to develop necessary practical lawyering skills, Texas A&M School of Law has developed practicum courses in discrete substantive areas as well as in particular
Many of the lawyering skills identified in the American Bar Association’s “MacCrate Report” will be learned in each practicum—problem solving, legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, factual investigation, communication, counseling, negotiation, litigation and alternative dispute resolution procedures, organization and management of legal work, and recognizing and resolving ethical dilemmas.

**Criminal Procedure Practicum (2)  LAW-7707**
This course enables students to put into practice the concepts first studied in Criminal Procedure. Students will be required to draft motions to suppress and habeas corpus petitions challenging timely topics. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Criminal Procedure.

**Electronic Research Practicum (2)  LAW-7706**
This hands-on course focuses on how to use electronic resources to conduct legal research. Focus will be on Westlaw, LexisNexis, subscription databases, and free legal websites. The goal is to sharpen students' research skills so they will be prepared to research in legal practice. The course will cover database content, search syntax, effective search queries using Boolean operators and/or fields and segments, and cost-effective search strategies. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Guardianship Practicum (1-2)  LAW-7704**
This course is designed to teach students about Texas guardianship law. It will teach how to determine if a guardianship is needed or if there are less restrictive alternatives to a guardianship and what those alternatives entail. Students will learn how to draft applications and orders for a guardianship of the person and/or estate along with all supporting documents. Students will draft inventory, appraisements, list of claims, annual accountings, reports of attorneys or guardians ad litem, and final accountings for guardianships of the estate. The course will provide a practical look at how to represent an applicant for guardianship as well as how to represent the proposed incapacitated person. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Intellectual Property Licensing Practicum (2)  LAW-73415**
This course addresses issues raised by licensing intellectual property, including motivations for licensing, types of agreements used in licensing transactions, provisions commonly used in licensing contracts, etc. Practical scenarios will be addressed and applied in class. Grades are based on class participation and presentations, in-class exercises, role-plays and written assignments. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program; (2) Intellectual Property, Copyrights, Trademark & Unfair Competition Law.

**Negotiation Theory & Practice Practicum (3)  LAW-7707S**
This course offers students the opportunity to further develop their negotiation skills. It will focus on simulations and negotiation exercises intended to give students firsthand experience in applying interest-based negotiation techniques. The course examines the skills, constraints, and dynamics of negotiation. Students will also learn a theoretical framework for understanding negotiation practice in a variety of contexts through readings from the fields of law, psychology, business, and communication. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program.

**Texas Criminal Law Practicum (2-3)  LAW-7724 / LAW-7725**
Students function as prosecuting and defense attorneys, taking a hypothetical case from arrest through postconviction remedies. The course may include such topics as legal limits on criminal investigation, the grand jury process, setting bail, negotiating plea bargains, drafting pretrial motions, the discovery process, trial rights and tactics, habeas corpus, and appeals. Prerequisites: (1) One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including Criminal Law; (2) Criminal Procedure.

**Texas Legal Research Practicum (2)  LAW-7776**
This course focuses on advanced legal research methodologies, costs, and strategies within the context of Texas law. It includes coverage of the Texas court system, legislation and legislative history, regulations and regulatory history, agency decisions and websites, treatises, electronic databases, free online resources, court rules, jury instructions, practice materials, and strategies for making sure that your research is thorough. Students complete various assignments, including drafting exercises, using Texas practice materials. A final project is required. Prerequisite: One year of law school in the full-time or part-time program, including LARW I & II.

**Trial Advocacy Practicum (3)  LAW-7775S**
A study of civil and criminal trials, taught through lectures, demonstrations, and simulations. Each trial segment is examined separately, and accompanying exercises are conducted with students acting as attorneys and witnesses. The course culminates in a mock trial at a local courthouse, where students have the opportunity to present an entire case through verdict. Prerequisites: (1) All lockstep courses except...
Constitutional Law; (2) Evidence (may be taken concurrently).

SEMINAR COURSES

**ADR in the Workplace Seminar (2) LAW-7603**
In this seminar, you will study workplace dispute resolution with a focus on the legal status and practical application of Alternative Dispute Resolution in the workplace. It begins with the most familiar alternative to litigation, labor arbitration. It then examines labor arbitration's first cousin, individual employment arbitration. Then the course will shift into a discussion on mediation of employment disputes. Throughout the course, we will also review litigation of employment disputes as a necessary component of the foundation for exploring the pros and cons of using ADR versus litigation. You will have assigned background reading on all these matters and will perform simulations of arbitration and mediation of these disputes. Taking an employment-related course such as Labor Law, Employment Discrimination, or Employment Law is NOT a prerequisite. However, because the course concentrates on employment issues, you should have a strong intellectual interest in workplace dispute resolution and a desire to write about topics related to the course concentration (either a workplace topic or an ADR topic) in completing the rigorous writing requirement. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

**Advanced Issues in Criminal Justice Seminar (2) LAW-7616**
Over ninety percent of the criminal cases in the United States are resolved before going to trial. In this two-credit seminar we will consider the most traditional form of dispute resolution in criminal cases: plea bargaining of criminal cases. The course will also look at emerging trends in the criminal justice system such as restorative justice and therapeutic courts including drug courts. This seminar will also examine issues relating to juvenile justice including alternative proceedings and the theory and policy underlying the treatment of juvenile offenders. Students will gain a basic understanding and critically examine the various forms of criminal case resolution and the underlying policy goals. Prerequisites: (1) All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law; (2) Criminal Procedure.

**Advanced Topics in Intellectual Property Seminar (2) LAW-7628**
This course provides an in-depth exploration and analysis of various issues in intellectual property law through an analysis of some of the seminal cases in IP jurisprudence. In contrast to many law school courses, which enable the study of law through excerpted portions of cases on particular topics, this course will dig beneath the surface and explore the depths of intellectual property theory and policy as they manifest in individual cases throughout history. We will not seek to canvass the area of IP, but rather explore foundational aspects of intellectual property through individual case stories, other primary and secondary resource material, and seminal law review articles. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law; (2) two Intellectual Property courses.

**Bioethics & the Law Seminar (2) LAW-7606**
A seminar that examines the legal, ethical, and policy aspects of current issues in bioethics, including patient autonomy, the right to refuse treatment, euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide, genetics, reproductive technologies, fetal treatment and research, human experimentation, and organ transplantation. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

**Business Law Seminar (2) LAW-7727**
A seminar exploring the various areas of business law, including areas of corporate, commercial, securities, tax, and regulatory law in both domestic and international settings. The seminar is designed to reflect the fact that complex business problems often involve the intersection of several bodies of law. Each student will be required to produce a paper on a topic of his or her choice in any area of business-related law, and will be expected to present the paper to the class and lead a discussion. We will explore the links between papers relating to very diverse areas of the law. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law; (2) Business Associations.
I or Business Associations (four credit-hour course offered prior to fall 2013).

Death Penalty Seminar (2) LAW-7615
A study of the law of capital punishment in an effort to understand the guiding legal principles and parameters of this most severe form of criminal sanction. Specific issues addressed include, among others, narrowing capital punishment to certain crimes and particular types of defendants, the role of race in the death penalty, death qualified juries, and the function of "guided discretion" in the use of the sanction. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Domestic Violence Seminar (2) LAW-7622
This course examines domestic violence in the criminal justice system and in family law. The purpose of this seminar is to expose law students to the issue of domestic violence. The goals of this course will be accomplished through text, class discussions, simulated role-play, guest speakers, videos, student presentations, and a written paper or final submitted by each student. As a requirement of the seminar, each student must observe one domestic violence trial or lengthy hearing. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Gender & the Law Seminar (2) LAW-7636
This course explores the historical, comparative, statutory, and especially constitutional dimensions of law's regulation of sexuality and gender. Students read primarily case law, supplemented with statutory law and articles. Topics to be considered include the critiques and defenses of marriage; the legal and social implications of categories such as bisexuality, intersexuality, and transsexuality; the relationship between feminist, gay and queer politics; and the impact of sexual orientation and gender challenges on the workplace, military policy, family law, and education. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

The Information Society Seminar (2) LAW-7263
This course explores complex interrelationships between technological, economic, cultural, political, and legal influences that shape the information society. As a seminar, this course will satisfy the rigorous writing requirement. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Islamic Middle East Law Seminar (2) LAW-7638
This survey course explores secular and Islamic law that serve as the basis of legal systems in various Middle Eastern nations. Students will be introduced to a critical overview of the history and practice of Islamic law, including the origins of Islamic law, the development of the classical schools of thought, and the nature of pre-modern and legal institutions. This will be done by analyzing the various methodologies that are represented in Islamic legal literature, helping to enable the students to identify modern manifestations of these methodologies in contemporary Muslim discourses. Students will then learn how Islamic law intersects with secular laws in the context of modern family law, finance, and human rights. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Jurisprudence Seminar (2) LAW-7643
An introduction to legal philosophy. The major jurisprudential issues, the definition of law, the concept of justice, the relation of law and morality, and the function of legal analysis will be considered in the light of specific legal theories, including modern American legal philosophies. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Law & Literature Seminar (2) LAW-7650
This seminar examines the nature, practice, and institutions of law as depicted in a variety of literary texts. The course also explores how techniques associated with literary criticism may be applied to selected legal texts. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Law & Psychology Seminar (2) LAW-7655
A study of the intersection between law and psychology, with particular emphasis on the application of forensic psychology in the criminal justice system. Specific issues addressed include, among other topics, the evidentiary standard governing the admissibility of scientific evidence, false confessions, eyewitness testimony, repressed memories, and sex offenders. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Law and Science Seminar (2) LAW-7639
This interdisciplinary seminar will examine the interrelation of the law with science in varying contexts including the courts, legislative and agency action, and societal norms and expectations. It will explore the impact science has on the law and how the law affects scientific research and progress. It will also consider the application of science in legal circumstances as well as the law to various scientific topics. Topics covered in the seminar may include: the role of the public, government, and private sectors in scientific development; the role of courts and the law in managing scientific information; legal and scientific standards and methodologies; risk assessment; scientific misconduct; and environmental regulations. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

National Security Law Seminar (2) LAW-7627
Terrorism affects the lives of all Americans in profound ways. No subject is more dynamic or
interesting. Issues involving our security are at the forefront of public debate as we strive to balance national defense with our ideals of justice and liberty. Understanding these issues is essential to the well-being of our nation. This course will provide the legal and political framework for national security law, war powers, the rapidly evolving topic of counterterrorism, the challenges of the intelligence community, and the protection of state secrets. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses.

Oil, Gas & Natural Resources Seminar (2) LAW-7634
Terrorism affects the lives of all Americans in profound ways. No subject is more dynamic or interesting. Issues involving our security are at the forefront of public debate as we strive to balance national defense with our ideals of justice and liberty. Understanding these issues is essential to the well-being of our nation. This course will provide the legal and political framework for national security law, war powers, the rapidly evolving topic of counterterrorism, the challenges of the intelligence community, and the protection of state secrets. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses.

The Politics of Supreme Court Decision (2) LAW-7641
Making Seminar
This course considers the Supreme Court as a political entity, not merely a court or decision-making body. The students are required to study individual justices, different judicial periods and courts (i.e. the Warren Court, the Burger Court, the Roberts Court) and evaluate how the political nature of decision making affects lawyers and their clients. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses.

Public Health Seminar (2) LAW-7660
This seminar provides an overview of basic principles of public health and its governing law. It examines the legal basis for public health regulation and explores the tensions among public health activities, civil liberties, property rights, and other interests. The course also examines current policy issues, such as immunization, bioterrorism, disease reporting and surveillance, infectious disease control, and tobacco regulation. Students will discuss public health process (measurement, problem definition, strategy, design, implementation, and evaluation) in reference to current issues. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Race & the Law Seminar (2) LAW-7666
This seminar studies the many and various ways in which race and the American legal system interact, from both a historical and contemporary standpoint. Particular emphasis will be placed on the role the law has played in reinforcing slavery, shaping Reconstruction, and influencing the lives of various racial groups. The seminar culminates with an examination of some of the current issues surrounding the legal treatment of race, including reparations and affirmative action. Prerequisite: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Special Topics in Negotiation Seminar (2) LAW-7631
This seminar will explore a series of topics involved in the theories, strategies, and techniques of effective negotiation. Students will submit a research paper that meets the upper-level rigorous writing requirement. In addition to traditional lecture and class discussion, students will engage in simulations and exercises to learn the material. Topics for the research papers may include (but are not limited to): avoiding being exploited, utilizing competitive negotiation moves, increasing collaboration, biases and cognitive illusions, emotions during the negotiation, principles of influence and persuasion, power in negotiation, culture and gender in negotiation, ethical considerations, and critiques of settlement advocacy. Prerequisites: All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law.

Supreme Court Seminar (2) LAW-7675
A seminar in which students act as U.S. Supreme Court members, reading briefs in selected cases presently before the Supreme Court, discussing the cases, and writing opinions deciding the cases. Prerequisites: (1) All lockstep courses; (2) Constitutional Law (may be taken concurrently).

Texas Search & Seizure Seminar (2) LAW-7676
This seminar examines the issues raised in the Fourth Amendment and the Texas Constitution, Article 1 Section 9. Topics include the expectation of privacy, probable cause, search and arrest warrants, warrantless action, the exclusionary rule, Terry stops, and post-9/11 considerations. The seminar includes student participation in a practical application of the law of search and seizure. Prerequisites: (1) All lockstep courses except Constitutional Law; (2) Criminal Procedure (may be taken concurrently).

COMPETITIONS
Students may earn credit for their participation in Mock Trial, Moot Court, and Alternative Dispute Resolution Competitions.

JOURNALS
Students may earn credit for their participation on Law Review and the Journal of Property Law.
At Texas A&M School of Law, we believe that the best legal education combines cutting-edge knowledge of the law with real-world lawyering skills. We have a diverse faculty that includes preeminent scholars, as well as seasoned lawyers who have significant practice experience. Our professors have testified before Congress, helped draft legislation, worked at top law firms and important government agencies, and occupied top positions within the legal profession. That’s why our graduates are well-rounded and prepared to meet the challenges they will face in practice.

**LAW SCHOOL FACULTY**


School of Public Affairs, 1984; A.B., Princeton University, 1981.


MURPHY, JOHN F., Instructional Assoc. Professor, School of Law (2009). J.D. University of Texas School of Law, 1993; B.A., University of Texas, 1989.


PENROSE, MARY MARGARET, Professor, School of Law (2009). LL.M., University of Notre Dame Law School, 1999; J.D., Pepperdine University School of Law, 1993; B.A., University of Texas at Arlington, 1989.


PIERCE, TANYA, Assoc. Professor, School of Law (2007). J.D., University of Texas School of Law, 1996; B.A., University of Texas at Arlington, 1993


RAMBO, LYNNE H., Professor, School of Law (1997). J.D., University of Georgia School of Law, 1987; B.A., Barnard College of Columbia University, 1981.


SHORT, ARIC K., Vice Dean and Professor, School of Law (2004). J.D., University of Texas School of Law, 1996; A.B., Georgetown University, 1993.

SNYDER, FRANKLIN G., Professor, School of Law (2000). LL.M., Temple University School of Law, 1998; J.D., University of Missouri School of Law, 1983; B.A., California State University, Fullerton, 1977.


SPURLOCK II, JOE, Senior Professor, School of Law (1989). L.L.M., University of Virginia School of Law, 1992; J.D., University of Texas School of Law, 1962; B.A., Texas A&M University, 1960.

VISHNUBHAKAT, SAURABH, Assoc. Professor, School of Law (2015). LL.M., University of New Hampshire School of Law, 2010; J.D., University of New Hampshire School of Law, 2010; B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology, 2004

WARREN, GINA S., Assoc. Professor, School of Law (2011). J.D. Rutgers University School of Law, 2004; B.S., University of Arizona, 1996.

YU, PETER, Co-Director of the Center for Law & Intellectual Property and Professor, School of Law (2015). J.D., Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, 1999; B.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1996
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<td>Andrew P. Morriss</td>
<td>Dean and Anthony G. Buzbee</td>
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<td>Aric Short</td>
<td>Vice Dean</td>
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<td>Sonia Jimenez</td>
<td>Assistant to the Dean</td>
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<td>Christina Rodriguez</td>
<td>Executive Assistant to the Vice</td>
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<td>Dean and Assistant Dean of Finance and Operations</td>
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<td><strong>ACADEMIC AFFAIRS</strong></td>
<td>Maxine Harrington</td>
<td>Assoc. Dean for Academic Affairs</td>
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<td>Stephen Alton</td>
<td>Assoc. Dean for Evening Division Programs</td>
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<td>Huyen Pham</td>
<td>Assoc. Dean for Faculty Research &amp; Development</td>
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<td>William Byrnes</td>
<td>Assoc. Dean for Special Projects</td>
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<td>Neil Sobel</td>
<td>Director of the Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program</td>
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<td>Cecily Becker</td>
<td>Director of the Externship Program</td>
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<td>Jennifer Ellis</td>
<td>Director of Advocacy Programs</td>
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<td>Debbie Bauer</td>
<td>Assist. to the Assoc. Dean of Academic Affairs</td>
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<td>Amy Guthrie</td>
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<td>Isabel Zamarripa</td>
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<td><strong>ACADEMIC SUPPORT</strong></td>
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<td>DeShun Harris</td>
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<td><strong>ADMISSIONS</strong></td>
<td>Terence Cook</td>
<td>Assistant Dean of Admissions &amp; Scholarships</td>
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<td>Katherine Sims</td>
<td>Recruitment Coordinator</td>
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<td>Lori Rogde</td>
<td>Senior Admissions Coordinator</td>
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<td>Yolanda Sewell</td>
<td>Operations &amp; Programming Coordinator</td>
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<td><strong>BOOKSTORE</strong></td>
<td>Patricia McGarity</td>
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<td>Terry Austin</td>
<td>Lead Office Assistant</td>
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<td><strong>CAREER SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>Arturo Errisuriz</td>
<td>Assist. Dean of Career Services</td>
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<td>Courtney Key</td>
<td>Assist. Director of Career Services</td>
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<td>Natalia Cashen</td>
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<td><strong>DATA ANALYSIS</strong></td>
<td>Emily Finbow</td>
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<td><strong>DEE J. KELLY LAW LIBRARY</strong></td>
<td>Susan Phillips</td>
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<td>Cataloging Technician</td>
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<td>Cynthia Burress</td>
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<td>Kristen Rowlett</td>
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<td>Wendy Law</td>
<td>Head of Collection Development</td>
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<td>Chanda Chism</td>
<td>Library Assistant</td>
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<td>Joan Stringfellow</td>
<td>Head of Technical &amp; Electronic Services</td>
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<td>Bryan Smith</td>
<td>Public Services Librarian/Weekend Reference</td>
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<td>Karin Strohbeck</td>
<td>Circulation Librarian &amp; Archivist</td>
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<td>Cara Sulsar</td>
<td>Library Specialist I</td>
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<td>Lillian Velez</td>
<td>Acquisition Technician</td>
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<td><strong>DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
<td>Myke Holt</td>
<td>Senior Development Director</td>
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<td>Jennifer Briggs</td>
<td>Development Relations Coordinator</td>
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<td><strong>FACILITIES</strong></td>
<td>Becky Key</td>
<td>Facilities Coordinator</td>
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<td>Matt Pellegrino</td>
<td>Master Maintenance Mechanic</td>
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<td><strong>FINANCIAL AID</strong></td>
<td>Doug Akins</td>
<td>Financial Aid Administrator</td>
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<td><strong>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</strong></td>
<td>Chadwick Ballenger</td>
<td>Senior IT Professional II</td>
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<td>Michael Schoonover</td>
<td>Senior IT Associate</td>
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<td>William Cole</td>
<td>Media Services Associate</td>
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<td>Kirsten Cole</td>
<td>Web Communications Specialist</td>
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<td><strong>FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION</strong></td>
<td>Peg Demers</td>
<td>Assistant Dean</td>
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<td>Sherry Zimmerman</td>
<td>Business Associate III</td>
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<td>Lee Ford</td>
<td>Business Coordinator I and HR Liaison</td>
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<td>Deborah Barnett</td>
<td>Senior Administrative Coordinator — Events</td>
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<td>Rachel Robinson</td>
<td>Business Coordinator I</td>
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<td><strong>PUBLIC RELATIONS/EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS</strong></td>
<td>Rebecca Walden</td>
<td>Director of Public Relations</td>
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<td><strong>REGISTRAR/STUDENT SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>Ruth Smith</td>
<td>Associate Registrar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tammy Hubbard, Records Coordinator
Julie Edwards, Lead Document Imaging Specialist
Gloria Hallan, Senior Office Associate
Doug Thurman, Lead Office Associate

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Rosalind Jeffers, Assist. Dean for Student Affairs
Tyra Kelly, Administrative Coordinator
Shawna Smith, Program Coordinator
EXPENSES

For information about expenses, tuition and fees, student accounts, and the refund policy, visit the Financial Resources section at law.tamu.edu/current-students/financial-aid/tuition.
At Texas A&M School of Law, our staff works diligently to help students obtain the very best financial aid package they are eligible to receive. Packages may include a variety of types of assistance for funding law school education, including scholarships and tuition waivers, loans, veterans benefits, and work study or law school employment. The financial aid website is financialaid.tamu.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Every single student at Texas A&M School of Law is considered for tuition waivers upon admission, with no separate application required. When awarding tuition waivers, our office of admissions considers academic achievement, aptitude for legal study, and potential for success on the bar examination and in other professional endeavors.

If awarded a tuition waiver, it becomes a student's personal responsibility to maintain eligibility under the renewal criteria associated with each specific award. Law school tuition waivers, funded from internal sources, are restricted to tuition and tuition generated fees only.

All tuition waivers and scholarship award offers are based on availability. For additional scholarship information, please contact the admissions office at (817) 212-4040.

EXTERNAL AWARDS

There are numerous external scholarship opportunities and writing competitions offering monetary awards. Law students can access applications for these awards through their Symplicity accounts.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For a limited number of students, university employment is available in the law library, the bookstore, and with various professors as research assistants. These positions are subject to an application and interview process. Students may obtain additional information from the library or Student Services.
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

FAFSA data is used for qualification for all need-based aid and federal aid and is required to establish eligibility for federal loans.

File the FAFSA electronically on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov using your tax return information for the appropriate year. This should be done as soon as possible after January 1.

Please enter our Title IV Institutional Code, 003632, on the FAFSA, so that we may access the results.

- New students must have been offered admission to the law school to be eligible for an offer of aid.
- Continuing students must be registered for classes to be eligible for an offer of aid.

FAFSA results — a Student Aid Report (SAR) — will be made available electronically. Review your SAR for accuracy and further instructions. If corrections are needed, you should be able to make those immediately. Once you authorize Texas A&M University (003632) to receive your information, the financial aid office will receive an Institutional Student Information Record from the Department of Education.

- Priority will be given to students who have the FAFSA results and any additional documents needed to determine their eligibility on a file by April 1.
- Upon receipt of the FAFSA results, we will review each student's financial aid application file and display requests for any needed documents under Incomplete Requirements in the Scholarships & Financial Aid Student Portal.
- Once a file is completed and reviewed, awards will be displayed in the Awards screen in the Portal.

An award notification will be emailed to you with instructions to visit the Howdy Portal at howdy.tamu.edu to view the awards. You must read and follow the accompanying instructions carefully to accept award offers and put aid funds in place.

LOANS

Texas A&M University School of Law participates in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Student Loan programs. You must fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be eligible to receive any type of federal financial assistance toward your law school education.

- First-time borrowers for any federal loan must have completed federally required Loan Entrance Counseling, available at www.studentloans.gov. This must be completed before release of federal loan funds.
- Students may add Texas A&M University to an existing loan entrance counseling record to meet the requirement.
- Loan funds are released at the start of the semester and are deposited directly to your account at your financial institution. You are strongly encouraged to set up direct deposit in the Howdy Portal under My Finances.
- Qualified personnel also are available to answer students’ questions during the new student orientation at the start of fall semester.

THE FEDERAL DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOANS

- Fixed interest loans.
- Repayment can be deferred until six months after completion of the program of study or enrollment drops to less than half time.
- Up to $20,500 per year.
- Standard repayment is 10 years, though borrowers can obtain extended repayment terms up to 25 years if needed and they qualify.
- Eligible for income-driven repayment options.
- May be included in a federal consolidation loan after the student is out of school. Depending on your total debt, the consolidation loan repayment term can be up to 30 years.
- Deferrable during future qualified enrollment after law school.
- If you are eligible to receive a Federal Unsubsidized Loan, we will offer an award for the eligible amount in the Scholarships & Financial Aid section of the Howdy Portal. You should accept any desired amount there. A valid Master Promissory Note (MPN) and loan entrance counseling must be completed at www.studentloans.gov for Texas A&M University.

FEDERAL DIRECT GRADUATE PLUS LOANS

- Fixed interest loans.
- Repayment can be deferred until six months after completion of the program of study or enrollment drops to less than half time.
• Standard repayment is 10 years, though borrowers can obtain extended repayment terms up to 25 years if needed and they qualify.
• Eligible for income-driven repayment options.
• Available for cost of attendance, less other aid.
• Must meet credit criteria. Although a credit score is not used to determine eligibility, you must not have adverse credit as defined in federal regulations. If you do not qualify for credit approval, an endorser may be obtained to achieve approval.
• May be included in a federal consolidation loan after the student is out of school. Depending on your total debt, the consolidation loan repayment term can be up to 30 years.
• Deferrable during future qualified enrollment after law school.
• If you are offered eligibility to borrow through a Federal Graduate PLUS Loan, you will need to obtain a credit approval and complete a Grad PLUS MPN. To accept the Grad PLUS Loan award and borrow funds, visit www.studentloans.gov and select the option to Request a Direct PLUS Loan.
  □ Approval usually is displayed immediately.
  □ If you do not qualify for an immediate approval, you may be approved later, or may be eligible for an approval with a qualified loan endorser.
  □ The MPN should be completed in the same website.

ALTERNATIVE LOAN PROGRAMS

College Access Loan (State loan program for Texas residents)
• Available through the state of Texas to students who have been Texas residents for at least one year before entering school.
• Fixed and variable interest rates are available.
• Repayment begins six months after half-time enrollment cases. Helps pay educational expenses beyond Federal Unsubsidized Loan limits within the university-designated cost of attendance.
• A creditworthy co-signer may be required if the student does not meet credit criteria.
• The current interest rate is 4.5%.

Private Loan Programs
• Available from several private lenders.
• Each lender sets its own guidelines and criteria.
• Based on your creditworthiness.
• Usually limited to the university-designated cost of attendance.
• Repayment is normally deferred while the student is in school.
• May be available for enrollments of less than half time.
• May have a post-enrollment grace period to delay repayment.

We highly encourage students to seek the Federal Direct Loan Programs prior to looking into private programs.

Bar Examination Preparation Loans
The law school is committed to helping graduates become successful members of the legal profession. Because the law school recognizes the importance of proper preparation for the bar examination, it encourages loans for this purpose. More information is available from the Scholarships & Financial Aid Office.
• Private loans available from a variety of lenders to fund post-enrollment activities such as bar review courses, the bar exam, and living expenses during bar exam preparation.
• Based on creditworthiness; each lender may have its own criteria for approval.
• Some lenders may permit or encourage co-signers for approval.
• May have a post-enrollment grace period to delay repayment.

MILITARY VETERANS PROGRAM
Texas A&M University has a distinguished history of providing educational services to individuals preparing to enter our Armed Forces, those currently serving and personnel transitioning to civilian life. Veterans and their dependents may be eligible for both federal and state tuition benefits. More information is available at veterans.tamu.edu.

WORK STUDY
Work study is a federal need based program that may permit a student to earn a portion of their cost of attendance in lieu of borrowing. Eligibility is based
on federal unmet need as evidenced by the FAFSA results, and on availability of a work study position. The law school has a small number of work study positions available. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at the law school for further information.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS STANDARDS

Federal regulations require that students who wish to receive federal financial aid must maintain satisfactory academic progress as established by the institution. Information on the law school’s academic standards is available here.

Satisfactory Academic Progress policies for financial aid can be found at financialaid.tamu.edu under “Professional Students.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on financial aid, contact the Texas A & M School of Law Scholarships & Financial Aid Office at

1515 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 or call (817) 212-4090 or (800) 733-9529 ext. 4090. You can also email dakins@tamu.edu or access our website at https://financialaid.tamu.edu.
Because Texas A&M University School of Law supports and encourages a variety of student activities, you will have numerous opportunities to compete with other students, hone your lawyering skills, socialize, and serve the community. Student organizations provide professional contacts, social activities, and exposure to legal specialties.

**LAW SCHOOL BOOKSTORE**

The law school bookstore is located on the second floor of the law school. In addition to required textbooks, it offers study aids, code books for class and the practitioner, law-related gifts, office supplies, apparel, and snacks.

**ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS**

Texas A&M School of Law follows the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which affords students certain rights with respect to their records. For further information, students should consult the Student Records Policy for Texas A&M University. If you have questions about access to or disclosure of student records, you may contact the Associate Registrar of the Law School.

**PARKING AT THE LAW SCHOOL**

Students who use the law school parking lots must obtain a parking permit annually. You must have a permit for each vehicle you use in the lots.

Parking in the law school parking lots is on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no charge for parking. Parking violators are ticketed by campus security. The fine for each violation is $30. Students may appeal a ticket to the Ticket Appeals Committee in writing within ten (10) days from the date the citation was issued. The sole appeal of a ticket is to the Ticket Appeals Committee. If the citation is upheld by the Appeals Committee and is not paid by the end of the semester during which it was issued, the law school will withhold a student’s registration, transcript, and diploma until the fine is paid.

**CHILDREN IN THE LAW SCHOOL POLICY**

Periodically the law school will offer or sponsor a program allowing children of the appropriate age to attend class with their parents. On these special occasions, minor children are invited to the law school to participate with appropriate parental supervision. Apart from those special occasions, students may bring children to law school classes only on an exceptional and temporary basis and only with the prior approval of the instructor. Texas
A&M School of Law seeks to ensure the safety of all children on the campus and to provide an environment that is conducive to study. Therefore, parents should take caution to ensure that children are supervised at all times.

HOODING & COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

In December and May of each academic year, candidates for the Doctorate of Jurisprudence degree are eligible to participate in the law school’s Hooding and Commencement Ceremony. During the Hooding and Commencement Ceremony, law school and university officials present candidates with their academic hoods and confer the degrees.

STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

The Student Bar Association is the representative body of the students at Texas A&M School of Law, and its purpose is to support and encourage academic excellence and professional growth among students; ensure the attainment and preservation of the rights of the individual student to acquire a quality legal education in a just and reasonable manner; and serve as the vehicle for interaction and communication between the students and the faculty, administration, alumni, and the community.

PUBLICATIONS

Texas A&M Law Review
The Texas A&M Law Review was established to encourage legal scholarship on issues of interest to academicians, practitioners, and law students. Student editors publish the Texas A&M Law Review with faculty cooperation. Participation is limited to those who meet specific academic requirements and those who are selected through a writing competition.

Texas A&M Journal of Property Law
Texas A&M Journal of Property Law is a scholarly publication dedicated to promoting academic discussions of real property law. The organization explores the relationships arising from ownership, possession, and use of real property.

COMPETITIONS

Mock Trial, Moot Court, and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Participation in these competitions gives students an opportunity to develop advocacy skills while competing against students within the law school as well as from other law schools across the nation.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The following student organizations are associated with Texas A&M University School of Law:

American Constitution Society
Asian Pacific Islander Law Student Association
Black Law Student Association
Board of Advocates
Christian Legal Society
Delta Theta Phi
Democratic Society
Family Law Student Association
Federalist Society
Hispanic Law Student Association
Immigration Law Initiative
The Justice Society
Law Fellowship
Law Students for a Sensible Drug Policy
Night Student Association
OUTLaw
Phi Delta Phi
PLAY
Sports & Entertainment Law Society
Texas Aggie Legal Society
Women’s Law Student Association
The Office of Career Services (OCS) at Texas A&M University School of Law provides students and alumni with career development resources beginning in the first year of law school and throughout their careers. Career counselors provide an introduction to the office and its services during the 1L Career Week in October. Students are encouraged to visit the office, access the career resources, and speak with career counselors about their specific goals and job search plans.

**SEMINARS**

The OCS presents skills building and practice specific seminars to help students decide what career paths they want to pursue and teach them how to effectively market themselves to employers. Presented by career services counselors or by guest speakers, seminars provide valuable opportunities for students to learn about various practice areas and the realities of practicing law. These seminars also give students practical career advice, such as how to write cover letters and résumés, how to network effectively, and how to interview.

**PERSONAL COUNSELING**

Career services counselors are available for one-on-one meetings with students to discuss all aspects of their job searches. Counselors can help students determine what practice areas and settings would be the best fit, work with students to develop a job search plan, review cover letters and résumés, and offer students feedback on interviewing skills.

**CAREER RESOURCE LIBRARY**

The OCS subscribes to a number of online job search resources and maintains an up-to-date collection of specialized publications for students and alumni to use in researching potential employers and areas of practice.

**ONLINE JOB BANK**

Our office maintains a list of job openings on Symplicity, our password-protected online job bank, including summer and year-round internships and clerkships for students, and full-time attorney positions for graduates. In addition, the office posts announcements on Symplicity for other opportunities, such as contract positions, research
assistantships, special projects, and nontraditional opportunities. First-year students will receive a username and password for Symplicity in October.

ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS
Texas A&M University School of Law invites private law firms, local, state and federal government agencies, public interest organizations, in-house departments and other potential employers to interview students on campus during the fall and spring semesters. Called OCI, this program is one of the ways students can procure summer positions as well as permanent positions after graduation.

JOB FAIRS
The law school is an active member of several job fair consortia, and students are invited to participate in regional and national job fairs throughout the academic year. Some of the job fairs students have attended include Public Service Career Day in Austin, the Texas in Washington Recruitment Program in Washington, D.C., the Patent Law Interview Program in Chicago, and the Sunbelt Minority Recruitment Program in Dallas.

NETWORKING
Networking is widely recognized as the most effective way to get a legal job. The office of career services encourages students to take advantage of the numerous opportunities to connect with the local legal community. The OCS regularly invites members of the Dallas and Tarrant County bar associations to speak at seminars, and the office encourages students to attend bar association luncheons and networking mixers.

HOURS
The office of career services is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The OCS maintains an “open door” policy. Students may make appointments with career counselors, or may drop in with questions if counselors are available. Evening and weekend appointments can be made upon request.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION
Texas A&M University School of Law provides equal opportunity to all employees, students, applicants for employment or admission, and the public regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Furthermore, we aspire to maintain a work and educational environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. Texas A&M University School of Law will promptly investigate all complaints of discrimination, sexual harassment, and related retaliation in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Employers who use campus facilities or post jobs on the law school job bank must comply with this notice of nondiscrimination. Students may file complaints against an employer who asks discriminatory questions in any program or activity sponsored or conducted at the law school. Employers agree, as a condition of obtaining placement assistance, to abide by the law school’s notice of nondiscrimination.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
If you are interested in learning more about the resources available, please visit our website at law.tamu.edu and select Career Services from the menu options or call (817) 212-4050. You can also email us at aerrisuriz@law.tamu.edu or ckey@law.tamu.edu. The office of career resources is a member of the National Association for Law Placement. All services are provided in a manner that safeguards students’ privacy and that prohibits discriminatory hiring practices by potential employers.
The primary mission of the Dee J. Kelly Law Library is to provide resources and educational support to the faculty, students, and staff of the law school. The Law Library provides a comfortable and supportive setting for individual and group study. Through an extensive collection of legal sources and expert reference assistance, the Law Library prepares students for the research demands of modern law practice.

RESOURCES

The Law Library’s collection includes a wide array of print, microform, and electronic resources. Subscriptions to major online legal and academic research services provide access to information both in the library and also while working remotely. A list of the Law Library’s electronic resources and a searchable catalog of the Law Library’s holdings are available through the law school’s website.

SERVICES

The law librarians provide assistance and instruction in using the Law Library’s resources and maintain an organized and up-to-date collection. When classes are in session, the Law Library is open for extended hours including evenings and weekends. Reference services are available in the library, on the phone, and via email. A full listing of the Law Library’s policies is available through the law school’s website.

DEE J. KELLY LAW LIBRARY

law.tamu.edu/current-students/library/