

LAW (JD)

As a lawyer, you will face a unique set of challenges every day, from negotiating complex agreements to successfully arguing motions in court. That's why DePaul University College of Law offers you theoretical instruction as well as creative approaches to professional skills training. Whether in the classroom or in the field, DePaul's comprehensive curriculum prepares you to succeed.

Program Requirements	Semester Hours
Core Requirements	44
Elective Requirements	42
Total hours required	86

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Solve legal problems by applying foundational knowledge of civil procedure, constitutional law, contracts, criminal law, property law, and torts.
- Solve legal problems by applying foundational knowledge of the rules regulating the legal profession.
- Identify and apply relevant legal authority.
- Communicate clearly in speech and writing.
- Demonstrate the fundamental professional lawyering skills for competent and ethical participation as a member of the legal profession.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of cross-cultural competence in the legal profession and the obligation of lawyers to promote a justice system that provides equal access and eliminates bias and all forms of invidious discrimination, including racism, in the law.

Degree Requirements

Law School Full-Time Day and Evening Program Options

The College of Law has both a full-time day and an evening program option. At the end of their first year, students may change from the evening program to full-time day or vice versa by filing a program change request form with the Office of Student Affairs. The form is available on the College of Law website under Registration. Students may only change their status once while they are enrolled in law school.

Students are advised that a program change may affect their financial aid. For financial aid information, they should see a financial aid counselor in the Office of Financial Aid on the 9th floor of the DePaul Center.

Note that, after JD Day students complete their first-year required courses and after JD Evening students complete their first three semesters of required courses, students may take day or evening courses, regardless of the student's program.

Credit Hour Requirements

Graduation with a JD requires that the student complete 86 credit hours. Under the College of Law's semester system, one credit hour is granted for 50 minutes of classroom or direct faculty instructional time per week, multiplied by 15, and at least 120 minutes of additional out-of-class student work each week, or an equivalent amount of work for other courses and activities, multiplied by 15. The standard course extends

over a fourteen-week semester, followed by a final examination period. Courses or other credit-bearing activities that occur over a different time period must incorporate the same total amount of instructional time and additional assigned work per credit hour as a standard course. At a minimum, students must complete 42.5 hours for 1 unit of credit; 85 hours for 2 units of credit; 127.5 hours for 3 units of credit; and 170 hours for 4 units of credit.

Credit is earned if a student receives an A through a D, or PA grade.

Time to Degree Limitation

JD Day students are expected to complete the degree in three years. JD Evening students are expected to complete the degree in four years. The maximum time to complete the JD program, if a student takes an approved leave of absence, is five years. Students who are unable to complete the degree within this time frame are required to confer with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in the College of Law. Pursuant to the American Bar Association Standards of Accreditation, all JD students must complete their degree no later than 84 months after commencing law study.

Maximum and Minimum Credit Hours

First-year JD Day students take 14-15 credit hours per semester. First-year JD Evening students take 9-11 credit hours per semester.

Upper level JD Day students may register for a maximum of 16 credit hours per semester. After their third semester, JD Evening students may register for a maximum of 12 credit hours per semester.

JD Day students must take a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester except that JD Day graduating seniors in their final semester need only take the number of credit hours necessary for them to graduate. JD Evening students must register for a minimum of 9 credit hours per semester except that graduating seniors need only take the number of credit hours necessary for them to graduate.

No Credit for Course Work Taken Prior to Matriculation in the JD Program

The American Bar Association Standards provide that credit for a JD degree shall only be given for course work taken after the student has matriculated in a law school. A law school may not grant credit toward the JD degree for work taken in a pre-admission program.

Core Required Courses

Course	Title	Semester Hours
LAW 101	APPLIED LEGAL SKILLS *	1
LAW 105	CONTRACTS *	4
LAW 112	LEGAL ANALYSIS RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION I *	2
LAW 115	LEGAL ANALYSIS RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION III	3
LAW 119	LEGAL ANALYSIS RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS II *	3
LAW 120	CIVIL PROCEDURE *	4
LAW 130	PREPARING TO PRACTICE I *	0
LAW 131	PREPARING TO PRACTICE II *	0
LAW 140	CONSTITUTIONAL LAW *	4
LAW 160	PROPERTY *	4
LAW 170	TORT LAW *	4

LAW 481	LEGAL PROFESSION	3
or LAW 252	APPLIED LEGAL ETHICS	
LAW 506	CRIMINAL LAW *	3

* Courses that are counted toward the BA for students in the 3+3 (BA/JD) program. These courses will be completed in the combined final year of the undergraduate degree and first year of the law degree.

Experiential Education Requirement

Students must complete at least six credit hours of experiential education courses from the list of approved courses below. Most, but not all, courses are offered for three credit hours.

Course	Title	Semester Hours
Select at least six credit hours of the following:		6
LAW 121	ADVANCED BRIEF WRITING	
LAW 213	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PRACTICUM	
LAW 246	PATENT & TRADEMARK SEARCHING	
LAW 286	INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW PRACTICUM (Spring Only)	
LAW 287	ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW PRACTICUM (Spring Only)	
LAW 288	INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW FIELD WORK	
LAW 290	ANATOMY OF A DEAL: FROM INCEPTION TO CLOSING	
LAW 312	TRIAL ADVOCACY II	
LAW 319	PROSECUTING & DEFENDING CRIMINAL CASES	
LAW 363	RESTORATIVE JUSTICE	
LAW 369	LITIGATION LAB	
LAW 400	BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS AND DOCUMENTATION	
LAW 419	LITIGATION STRATEGY: PRE-TRIAL, CIVIL	
LAW 429	LEGAL CLINIC I	
LAW 438	MEDIATION	
LAW 450	TRIAL ADVOCACY I	
LAW 453	COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION	
LAW 460	BUSINESS PLANNING	
LAW 469	LITIGATION STRATEGY: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	
LAW 475	NEGOTIATIONS	
LAW 514	LEGAL CLINIC II	
LAW 524	EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM	
LAW 538	NATIONAL TRIAL TEAM	
LAW 555	ADVANCED LEGAL RESEARCH	
LAW 564	EXTERNSHIP SEMINAR	
LAW 566	FIELD CLINIC SEMINAR	
LAW 567	FIELD CLINIC PRACTICE	
LAW 641	PRACTICAL LEGAL RESEARCH	
LAW 712	THE PRACTICE OF HEALTH CARE LAW	
LAW 751	HEALTH LAW MOOT COURT	

Advanced Writing Requirement

Course	Title	Semester Hours
Select one of the following:		
LAW 250	SENIOR RESEARCH SEMINAR	
LAW 227	CHILDREN'S HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW	
LAW 258	WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW	
LAW 379	TAX RESEARCH AND WRITING	
LAW 427	APPELLATE TECHNIQUE	
LAW 428	INDEPENDENT STUDY	
LAW 429	LEGAL CLINIC I (Advanced Criminal Appeals ONLY)	
LAW 455	LEGAL DRAFTING	
LAW 514	LEGAL CLINIC II (Advanced Criminal Appeals ONLY)	
LAW 559	FOREIGN EXCHANGE: MADRID, SPAIN (Master's Thesis)	

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Requirement

JD students matriculating Autumn 2022 or later must complete one course from the list of approved courses below. These courses include substantial engagement with the legal system's relationship with social inequality, racism, and/or other forms of bias; and/or include substantial opportunities for students to learn about and practice skills in cross-cultural competence.

Courses that meet both the Diversity Requirement and the Experiential Education Requirement can be counted for both requirements. Courses that meet both the Diversity Requirement and the Advanced Writing Requirement can be counted for both requirements.

Course	Title	Semester Hours
Select at least one of the following:		2-3
LAW 202	EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION	
LAW 206	SEX, GENDER, AND THE LAW	
LAW 213	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PRACTICUM	
LAW 227	CHILDREN'S HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW	
LAW 232	CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE & THE LAW	
LAW 250	SENIOR RESEARCH SEMINAR (Critical Race Theory; Citizenship; Crimmigration; Feminist Jurisprudence; When Justice Fails; or other approved topic)	
LAW 258	WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW	
LAW 286	INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW PRACTICUM	
LAW 301	SPECIAL TOPICS IN LAW (Trauma-Informed Lawyering; Human Rights in Latin America; Transnational Criminal Law; Reproduction and the Law; or other approved topic)	
LAW 313	JUVENILE JUSTICE	
LAW 321	ADOPTION LAW	

LAW 363	RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
LAW 372	ELECTION LAW
LAW 378	ANTISEMITISM, THE HOLOCAUST, AND THE LAW
LAW 390	POST-CONFLICT JUSTICE
LAW 429	LEGAL CLINIC I (Asylum and Immigration Law; Civil Litigation and Health Law; Civil Rights; Croak Civil; Croak Criminal; Criminal Appeals)
LAW 434	PUBLIC HEALTH LAW
LAW 449	PREDATORY LENDING
LAW 477	FIRST AMENDMENT: FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND RELIGION
LAW 482	INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS I
LAW 487	HOUSING LAW
LAW 498	EDUCATION LAW & POLICY
LAW 501	RACE, RACISM AND UNITED STATES LAW
LAW 502	HATE CRIME LAW
LAW 503	CIVIL RIGHTS
LAW 514	LEGAL CLINIC II (Asylum and Immigration Law; Civil Litigation and Health Law; Civil Rights; Croak Civil; Croak Criminal; Criminal Appeals)
LAW 516	IMMIGRATION LAW AND POLICY
LAW 517	ASYLUM AND REFUGEE LAW AND POLICY
LAW 523	MISSION-BASED LAWYERING: LEGAL PRACTICE IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR
LAW 529	CHILDREN & THE LAW
LAW 546	POVERTY LAW
LAW 561	COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
LAW 567	FIELD CLINIC PRACTICE (Family Law)
LAW 583	STUDY ABROAD: MADRID, SPAIN
LAW 585	STUDY ABROAD: HEREDIA, COSTA RICA
LAW 587	GLOBAL GOVERNANCE DURING TIMES OF CRISIS
LAW 588	STUDY ABROAD: BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
LAW 593	STUDY ABROAD: HAVANA, CUBA
LAW 702	ELDER LAW
LAW 706	HEALTH POLICY AND THE LAW
LAW 709	HEALTH EQUITY AND THE LAW
LAW 716	DISABILITY LAW

Electives

Elective courses are open to all students who meet the prerequisites for the course in question. For information on specializations, see the section on Certificates.

Credit Hour Limitations

Non-Classroom Credit Hours: 12-Credit Limit

A JD student may earn a maximum of 12 credit hours for non-classroom (indirect instruction) courses. Courses that count toward the 12-credit non-classroom limit include the following:

Course	Title	Semester Hours
Limit of 12 credit hours of the following:		12
LAW 114	LEGAL ANALYSIS RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS TEACHING ASSISTANTS	
LAW 204	LAW REVIEW	
LAW 217	JOURNAL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE	
LAW 224	ASP TA	
LAW 236	JOURNAL OF SPORTS LAW AND CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS	
LAW 298	GENERAL TEACHING ASSISTANT	
LAW 303	BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LAW JOURNAL	
LAW 336	JOURNAL OF ART TECHNOLOGY & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY EDITORIAL BOARD	
LAW 411	GUIDED RESEARCH	
LAW 428	INDEPENDENT STUDY	
LAW 436	JOURNAL OF HEALTH CARE LAW EDITORIAL BOARD	
LAW 524	EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM	
LAW 536	NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION	
LAW 537	INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION	
LAW 539	INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION	
LAW 567	FIELD CLINIC PRACTICE	
LAW 961	INTENSIVE FIELD PLACEMENT	
LAW 962	ADVANCED INTENSIVE FIELD PLACEMENT	

Distance Education Credit Limit

JD students may earn a maximum of 28 credit hours toward the JD degree for distance education courses. The College of Law offers both fully online and hybrid courses. A hybrid course is a course in which some, but not all, of the instructional time is online. All fully-online courses, and some hybrid courses, qualify as distance education courses.

- Business Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/business-law-certificate-law-jd/>)
- Criminal Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/criminal-law-certificate-law-jd/>)
- Family Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/family-law-certificate-law-jd/>)
- General Intellectual Property Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/general-intellectual-property-certificate-law-jd/>)
- Health Care Compliance Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/health-care-compliance-certificate-law-jd/>)
- Health Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/health-law-certificate-law-jd/>)
- Information Technology, Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/information-technology-law-certificate-law-jd/>)

- International and Comparative Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/international-comparative-law-certificate-law-jd/>)
- Public Interest Law Certificate, Law (JD) (<https://catalog.depaul.edu/programs/law-jd/public-interest-law-certificate-law-jd/>)

Joint Degree Requirements

The College of Law offers the following joint degree programs:

- JD/MBA (with Kellstadt Graduate School of Business)
- JD/MA in International Studies (with the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences' School of Public Service)
- JD/MNM in Non-profit Management (with the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences' School of Public Service)
- JD/MPA in Public Administration (with the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences' School of Public Service)
- JD/MPP in Public Policy (with the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences' School of Public Service)
- JD/MS in International Public Service (with the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences' School of Public Service)
- JD/MS in Public Service Management (with the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences' School of Public Service)
- JD/MS in Computer Science Technology (with the College of Computing and Digital Media)

Requirements

A joint degree program allows a student to complete two graduate degrees concurrently in less time than it takes to finish each program individually. As a specified number of credit hours apply toward both degrees, students also pay less in overall tuition by combining programs.

Before beginning a joint degree program, both full-time and part-time law students must complete the required first-year curriculum and achieve a minimum grade point average of 3.00 in those courses. Full-time students earn 29 credits the first year, while part-time students must earn at least 29 credits within the first three semesters of the law program.

Traditional JD students must complete 86 credit hours to graduate from the College of Law. However, under a joint degree program, a student earns the JD degree after completing a minimum of 76 credit hours. The College of Law applies up to 10 credits toward the JD degree for work completed in the other graduate degree program. Credit hours are eligible to be applied only after completion of the required first year JD curriculum described above. A joint degree student may not receive credit for courses that create a redundancy in coursework.

For additional requirements, please visit the pages for the corresponding degrees.

Admission

Students seeking a joint degree with a college outside of the College of Law must independently apply and be admitted to the other graduate degree program. Full-time law students typically apply to the other graduate program in the summer prior to their second year of law school. Part-time law students typically apply to the other graduate degree program in the spring semester of their second year.

After admission to the other graduate program, joint degree applicants should submit a copy of the acceptance letter and law school transcript to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs at the College of Law. The transcript and acceptance letter should be accompanied by a cover letter

from the student requesting that the student's classification be changed from Juris Doctor candidate to candidate for the appropriate joint degree. The letter should include the student's full name, student identification number, mailing address, email address and phone number. The joint degree candidate should also schedule a meeting with the appropriate adviser in the other college to which the student has been admitted to discuss the curriculum.

Combined Credits and Expenses

Full-time joint degree students generally complete the program in four years. Part-time applicants generally complete the joint degree program in five years. A student may accelerate the program by taking classes in the summer or by taking more courses during the academic year. By doing so, a student may complete both programs one-half year earlier.

Once enrolled in a joint degree program, students no longer pay the College of Law package tuition; instead, students pay by the credit hour for law classes and classes taken in the other program.

Grading Standards

Joint degree students must meet the grading standards of the College of Law and the respective graduate degree program in order to remain in good standing. Grades are recorded on the transcript under the college in which the courses are taken, and the combined degree is recorded after graduation. Students who are dismissed from either program may be able to continue studies in the other program. Students must satisfy the normal program requirements of the other school to receive the degree; no double counting of credits is permitted after a dismissal from one college.

Leaves of Absence/Withdrawal

Students must receive permission from both colleges to take a leave of absence from the joint degree program or to withdraw from the joint degree program. A leave of absence is granted for a maximum of one year. If a student does not enroll in classes after one year, he or she will be permanently withdrawn from both programs and only may re-enroll by applying to the admission offices of both colleges as a new student.

Graduation

To receive the joint degree, a student must graduate from both schools on the same date, in the same semester/quarter and in the same year. Double counting of credits occurs only after concurrently completion of both programs.

For a December graduation, all requirements must be completed at the end of the fall semester and fall quarter. For a May graduation, all non-law requirements must be completed at the end of the spring quarter and all law requirements at the end of the spring semester. Students who complete non-law requirements in the spring that they expect to graduate may not have their degrees granted in time to be certified for the July bar exam. A student will not be eligible to graduate, cannot be certified for admission to the Bar, and cannot sit for the bar examination until all degree requirements are met.