

# College of Law Bulletin 2023-2024

Georgia State University

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## **About Us**

“Georgia State University College of Law promotes an innovative, equitable, and inclusive vision of the law through high-quality, accessible education, impactful research, and service to our communities.”

### **Goals & Purpose**

The primary purpose of the College of Law is to establish and maintain an educational program in law leading to the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree. The program is designed for the benefit of students who meet the requirements for graduation by study on a full- or part-time basis, and who, upon the satisfactory completion thereof, will be qualified academically to sit for the bar examination in the U.S. jurisdiction(s) of their choice, and subsequently be admitted to the bar and authorized to practice law in such jurisdiction(s).

Throughout the years, the College of Law has expanded its educational offerings beyond the Juris Doctor degree. This includes the legum magister (“LL.M.”) degree and development of interdisciplinary degree programs with other colleges in the university system.

With respect to interdisciplinary programs, the college offers the following:

- Accelerated B.S. or B.A./J.D. (with the Honors College)
- Dual J.D./M.B.A. (with Robinson College of Business)
- Dual J.D./M.P.A. in accounting (with Robinson College of Business)
- Dual J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. in Health Administration (with Robinson College of Business)
- Dual J.D./M.P.A. in Public Administration (with Andrew Young School of Policy Studies)
- Dual J.D./M.P.P. in Public Policy (with Andrew Young School of Policy Studies)
- Dual J.D./M.P.H. (with the School of Public Health)
- Dual J.D./M.C.R.P. in City and Regional Planning (with Georgia Institute of Technology)
- Dual J.D./M.S.A (Data Analytics with Robinson College of Business)

As noted above, the College of Law also offers a graduate program for lawyers beyond their first professional degree leading to the legum magister (LL.M. or “master of laws”) degree. The college’s bar-track LL.M. program offers a prescribed curriculum qualifying a non-U.S.-trained lawyer to take the bar examination and be authorized to practice law in Georgia (and, where permitted, other jurisdictions in the United States). The college also offers other LL.M. programs for both non-U.S.-trained and U.S.-trained lawyers. Additional information on specific LL.M. concentrations is available in the LL.M. section of this bulletin.

### **Accreditation**

The College of Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools. Georgia State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

### **Location**

The downtown Atlanta location is a core part of the College of Law’s identity and strength. Atlanta is unique in its centrality to federal, state, and local governments. The college enjoys proximity to the state capitol and many city, county, state, and federal governmental offices, including courts, legislatures, and regulatory agencies. The Atlanta community also is home to a large and diverse group

of private law firms and businesses. These institutions provide a wealth of opportunities for our students, both as learning environments and as potential employers after graduation.

## **General Policies**

Georgia State University stipulates that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender, disability, national origin, or veteran status be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by Georgia State University or any of its several departments now in existence or hereafter established.

Furthermore, it is the policy of the College of Law to admit to its classes only those applicants who possess the intellectual capacity, maturity, moral character, and motivation necessary for the successful completion of its course of study leading to the J.D. degree, a dual degree, or an LL.M degree.

### **Professionalism/Honor Code**

Those who study for the practice of law must join with those who practice law and those who teach law to subscribe to the traditional responsibilities of the legal profession, which are:

- the improvement of the law;
- a more effective administration of justice;
- exemplary conduct respecting the personal and property rights of all persons;
- ethical representation of persons served by the legal profession, in particular.

The core of professional responsibility is integrity, both intellectual integrity and integrity in objective conduct.

The antithesis of integrity is dishonesty, half-truths, false and misleading communications, plagiarism, cheating, etc. Conduct on the part of law students that violates standards prescribed for lawyers is considered "pre-professional misconduct." The College of Law operates under an Honor System and an Honor Code, and all students are subject to it from initial enrollment. Its sanctions may extend to exclusion (i.e, permanent or temporary dismissal) from the college, as provided in the Honor Code.

### **University Student Code of Conduct**

In addition to the College of Law's Honor Code, any student attending Georgia State University is governed by the university's [Student Code of Conduct](#).

It is each students' responsibility to familiarize themselves with the [Student Code of Conduct](#). By enrolling at this institution, students agree to comply with all rules and regulations. Ignorance of a policy or regulation will not be considered an excuse for failure to observe it. The university reserves the right to alter the regulations and policies stated its Code of Conduct and Student Handbook through normal channels.

### **Attendance**

Regular and punctual class attendance is required of all students enrolled in any degree program within the College of Law. It is up to each instructor to determine what constitutes "regular and punctual class attendance" in the instructor's class, to monitor attendance, and to impose appropriate sanctions (up to and including involuntary withdrawal from the class, for which a student will receive a WF) for noncompliance with attendance policies. Generally speaking, absence from more than twenty percent of regularly scheduled classes violates the college's attendance and participation policy.

## **Note-Taking**

Note-taking is an invaluable skill for any legal professional, especially lawyers. Recording or videotaping of class sessions is not permitted except by advance permission from the instructor or when reasonably necessary to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities or other extraordinary circumstances. Individuals whose disabilities require that they record or videotape classes, or employ note-takers, should consult with the associate dean for students of the College of Law to secure permission. See "Students with Disabilities," below.

## **Student Organizations**

The College of Law encourages the advancement of the professional and academic goals of its students through student organizations. These organizations are chartered by the college and assisted by an adviser from the full-time faculty. Information on student organizations, including extra and co-curricular organizations, are available on the College of Law's website as well as The Panther Involvement Network.

In addition, law students may participate in the University Student Government Association and other university student organizations that may interest them.

## **Student Records**

All materials submitted to the College of Law become the property of Georgia State University and will be retained or disposed of in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the Georgia Records Act, and other statutes as applicable. For more information concerning university policies in this regard, see [here](#).

A student has the right to review all materials in that student's record with the exception of those covered by a signed waiver of this right. Students should contact the associate dean for students to inspect any STET record relating to that student.

Georgia State University is unable to provide copies of transcripts from other schools, special certifications based upon educational experience from other institutions, or scores from testing agencies. Copies of these materials must be requested directly from the issuing institution or agency.

## **Fees**

### *Fee Payment Deadline Date*

All matriculation, tuition, and mandatory student fees are payable by the last day of the Regular Registration period each semester as published through Georgia State University's Office of Student Financial Services. For additional information regarding matriculation and tuition fees specific to the College of Law, consult the [admissions website](#). Registration is not complete until all fees have been paid. For the most up-to-date information about fee payment options and deadline dates, visit this [website](#).

### *Fee Payment Methods*

The latest information on payment options is available through the Student Financial Services office [website](#). The university reserves the right at any time during the semester to drop any student from classes for failure to pay any fees. Students who continue to attend classes under these conditions will be held liable for the fees due plus any service fees assessed, applicable collection costs, court costs, and possible legal fees. A student dropped for nonpayment may not be eligible to take final exams/assessments, even if they continue to attend classes.

A Student Accounts "Hold" will be placed on the records of any student who has a financial obligation to the university. This student will not be permitted to register for further course work or receive, or

have forwarded to external third parties, transcripts of grades until the obligation is settled.

It is the responsibility of the student to be informed of, and to observe, all regulations and procedures regarding the payment of fees and the entitlement to refunds. In no case will a regulation be waived or an exception granted because a student pleads ignorance of the regulation or asserts that the student was not informed of it by an adviser or other authority. All questions concerning fees and refunds should be directed to Student Financial Services only.

Per university policy, nonwritten or other misinformation is not grounds for a waiver of a regulation. All fees and other charges are subject to change without notice.

### *Mandatory Student Fees*

A mandatory student fee is charged each semester to every student registered for courses to be conducted by Georgia State University. This fee must be paid at the time of registration. The College of Law also may charge a separate fee independent of university fees. The College of Law also may charge a separate fee independent of university fees.

Student activity, athletics, recreation, technology, transportation, and health fees make up the mandatory student fee, which is used to provide cultural, social and athletic programs for the entire student body. In addition, this fee provides financial support for student facilities at the university, guest speakers and lecturers, student publications, and many special events that are available exclusively for the students of Georgia State University. The fee also defrays shuttle costs for transporting students to campus from remote parking facilities where students may park free. The technology fee supports expansion and enhancements of instructional technology and student access to computers. Separate fee charged College of Law students are used for law student activities.

Current matriculation, tuition, and other fee information assessed by the university are available online. Separate fees charged College of Law students are used for law student activities.

### *Special Fees and Charges*

#### Application Fee

Unless otherwise waived by the Office of Admissions, all applicants to the College of Law must submit a \$50 application fee with their application forms before they will be given consideration as prospective students. The application fee is non-refundable and will not apply toward the student's registration or other fees. The Office of Admissions may waive application fees for graduate-level students of the university or other institutions if a student is permitted and is registering for College of Law classes.

#### Class Deposit

To reserve a place in the incoming class, of the College of Law, an applicant, once accepted, must submit a nonrefundable deposit of \$500. This deposit will be applied to the student's matriculation fees at registration.

#### Late Registration Fee

A student who initially registers during any late registration period will be required to pay a \$50 late registration fee, which is nonrefundable.

#### Transcripts

A student who has discharged all obligations to Georgia State University is entitled to receive upon written request to the Office of the Registrar or by following the PAWS online request form for student procedures a transcript of the student's permanent record. There is a 48-hour processing period for transcripts for which a student requests hand delivery at the Registrar's office. Picture identification is



required when requesting such hand-delivered transcripts.

Routine copies of other information in the student's education records, with the exception of transcripts from other institutions and other items excluded from copying by practice or regulation, will be provided upon written request and advance payment of any associated fee. Special certifications based on education records will be provided upon written request, when permissible, and may also require advance payment of an associated fee.

#### Graduation Fee

Every student receiving a degree awarded by the College of Law must pay a graduation fee of \$50. Students can apply for graduation via their PAWS account and pay the graduation fee online. Additional information on graduation can be found in the graduation section of this bulletin.

Revisions of graduation dates after the midpoint of the semester in which graduation is scheduled will result in a reapplication fee of \$50 for a doctoral degree.

#### Other Fees

Georgia State University reserves the right to charge a fee for the use of university property, to levy fines for the improper use of university property, and to take appropriate legal action in connection therewith.

#### Tuition Reimbursement

Students eligible for tuition reimbursement by their employers must submit their tuition reimbursement forms to the Office of the Registrar/Student Services, Room 227, Sparks Hall, accompanied by an addressed, stamped envelope. Forms will be processed and mailed within five workdays if grades are available for the applicable term.

#### Refund of Student Fees

Students formally withdrawing from a class or classes will be subject to the application of the following refund policy for matriculation and tuition fees. Students formally withdrawing from all classes will also be subject to the following refund policy for mandatory student fees.

Students who formally withdraw from a course or the institution prior to the end of the last scheduled registration period, including those who have been excluded subsequent to registration, are entitled to a 100 percent refund of matriculation, tuition, and all fees paid for that period of enrollment.

Additional information regarding the refund schedule based on class attendance is available through the [Student Financial Services Website](#). The date to be used in determining eligibility for a refund will be the date the withdrawal is executed in the Office of the Registrar.

There will be no refund for reducing course loads after the end of the last scheduled registration period.

Refund of elective charges for withdrawing from the institution during the semester may be made on a prorated basis determined by the date of withdrawal.

Placing a stop payment on a check with the institution the check is drawn on does not constitute a formal withdrawal. The student will be held liable for matriculation, tuition, and other fees unless the date of official withdrawal or exclusion from the class or classes at Georgia State University is within the refund schedule; in which case, the student will be held liable for that portion of fees that is not refundable plus the returned check fee and any applicable collection costs.

A student is not entitled to any refund of fees paid if the student:

- Withdraws from the institution after the first 50 percent (in time) of the period of enrollment;

- Reduces his or her course load after the end of the last scheduled registration period;
- Leaves the university when disciplinary action is pending or is expelled due to disciplinary action; or
- Does not withdraw formally from the class or classes in which the student is enrolled.

Refunds for students paying with a credit card will be credited to the credit card account upon withdrawal from classes. Refunds for students paying with cash or check will be in the form of checks payable to the student and mailed to the student's address on file with the Office of the Registrar.

Refunds for withdrawal from classes for students who receive financial aid will be audited to determine amounts to be returned to the financial aid program and any balance due to the student will be processed and mailed as indicated above. Students are responsible for providing and maintaining an accurate and complete mailing address with the Office of the Registrar at all times to ensure proper mailing of refund checks.

### **Financial Assistance**

The College of Law has a limited number of scholarships, assistantships, resident waivers, and loan programs available to qualified students. All students and applicants, once accepted, are considered under the criteria for appropriate scholarships. For the most up-to-date information on financial aid and scholarships for College of Law applicants, consult the following [website](#).

#### *Law and Graduate Assistantships and Tuition Waivers*

##### Nonresident Tuition Waivers

The College of Law offers a limited number of tuition waivers for students who are not residents of Georgia to encourage the enrollment of such nonresident students demonstrating high academic achievement and potential for outstanding success while a student of the college. Both first-year students and existing students who are in good standing are eligible for these nonresident waivers.

##### Law/Graduate Assistants

J.D. students who have completed their first year of law study are eligible to apply for law/graduate assistantships. Assistantship positions, based on the responsibilities associated with the position, maybe labeled as Research, Teaching, or Administrative Assistantships. Students selected for these positions are employed on a per-semester or annual basis and receive a reduction in tuition and a stipend. Law research assistants must meet the minimum cumulative GPA of 2.20 each semester. Graduate/Law assistantships linked to scholarships require a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 each semester. Failure to meet the minimum 2.50 cumulative GPA requirements will result in the loss of the assistantship and the scholarship, if applicable.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The associate dean for students is responsible for ensuring that students with documented disabilities receive the accommodations to which they are entitled. Students who have, or think they may have, disabilities should consult directly with the Access and Accommodations Center (AACE). Once the appropriate evaluations are completed or appropriate documentation is received, AACE will determine which accommodations are warranted considering the evaluation and the student's circumstances. That information must be provided to the associate dean for students for implementation.

If the accommodations relate only to taking exams, the registrar will communicate directly with AACE and arrange for the administration of the exam(s), in accordance with the prescribed accommodations and the college's and professors' policies. If professors' exams are designed in a manner that makes the suggested accommodations inappropriate, that information will be communicated to AACE for guidance

and any amendments/updates to the accommodations granted.

If the accommodations relate to matters other than taking exams (such as note-taking services), the associate dean for students will meet with the student and coordinate accommodations. To the extent that the College of Law has the appropriate facilities, personnel, and expertise to implement the accommodations, it will do so. As to any academic accommodation that the college cannot implement in-house, the Access and Accommodations Center will provide such services. To preserve the College of Law's anonymous grading system, students are discouraged (but not prohibited) from discussing these issues directly with their individual professors.

### **Addressing Student Complaints**

Students seeking to file a formal complaint related to the College of Law's compliance with its policies, university policies, or ABA Standards shall undertake the following:

1. Submit the complaint in writing to the associate dean for academic affairs. The complaint may be made by email, U.S. mail, or personal delivery. The complaint must describe in detail the behavior, program, process, or other matter that is the subject of the complaint and explain how the matter implicates the College of Law's compliance with specific college policies, university policies, or ABA Standard(s).
2. The complaint must be signed and provide the name, email address, and street address of the complaining student for further communication about the complaint.

When the associate dean for academic affairs receives a student complaint, the following procedures will be followed:

The associate dean will acknowledge receipt of the complaint in writing within 10 business days. Acknowledgment may be made by email, U.S. mail, or personal delivery.

1. Within two weeks of acknowledgment of the complaint, the associate dean, or his or her designee, will provide a written response either to the substance of the complaint or informing the student that additional investigation is needed. If further investigation is needed, the student will be provided with information about what steps are being taken to investigate the complaint and an estimated date for the completion of the investigation by the College of Law. The written response to the complaint will specify what steps are being taken to address the complaint.
2. After the student receives the written response to the complaint, a dissatisfied student may appeal the resolution of the complaint to the dean of the College of Law. Any decision made on appeal by the dean shall be final.
3. A copy of the complaint and a summary of the process and resolution of the complaint shall be kept in the office of the associate dean for academic affairs for a period of eight years from the date of final resolution of the complaint.

### **General Appeals Procedure**

Any applicant for admission to the College of Law who is denied admission by the Admissions Committee, or any student enrolled who is aggrieved by a decision of the College of Law concerning suspension or dismissal shall have the right to appeal the decision to the dean.

The appeal shall be based on the record of the appellant as it exists in the dean's office and the written petition of the appellant. The dean may call for the personal appearance of the appellant if the dean considers this may serve some purpose. The dean may give consideration to pertinent facts in the record, or developed extrinsic to the record and revise or modify the challenged decision. Otherwise, the appeal will be considered by the dean solely on the record.

The only grounds for appeal are:

1. The decision is contrary to the facts in the record or against the weight of the evidence.
2. The decision violates federal or state law or federal or state rules or regulations or the rules or regulations of the Board of Regents, or the statutes and bylaws of Georgia State University.
3. The decision does not give effect to published rules or regulations of the College of Law pertinent to the matter.
4. The administration of the rules and regulations of the College of Law did not afford appellant due consideration.
5. The decision is substantially affected by malevolent discrimination against the appellant personally.

The appeal must be in writing and received by the dean within 10 business days after the date of the writing notifying the appellant of the decision. The time for appeal may be extended by the dean for cause beyond the control of the appellant. The appeal may be in written form and may include any information the appellant desires to be considered by the dean. It must, however, specifically indicate one or more of the grounds enumerated above and, with regard thereto, explain, with particularity, the facts, law, rules, regulations, statutes, and bylaws which are challenged and, also with particularity, how, or in what way, the committee did not afford appellant due consideration. It need not repeat facts that are otherwise in the record unless the appellant challenges the correctness of such facts.

The dean will review the record, thus made, and render a decision within fourteen days of the receipt of the appellant's letter. The decision of the dean will be final except as further appellate process may be available at the university level.

### ***Juris Doctor***

#### **Admissions**

The College of Law has a "rolling admissions" policy, meaning that the College generally accepts applications throughout the academic year and makes admission decisions throughout the academic year.

In addition to academic qualifications, factors in an applicant's background that may add diversity to the makeup of the class, and thereby enrich the educational experience of all students at the college, are factors in the admissions process. Such diversity factors include but are not limited to socioeconomic factors, extracurricular activities, work experience, career objectives, geographic origin, and advanced study or degrees in other disciplines.

#### **Accuracy of Information on Students' Applications**

The College of Law's application for all degree programs includes questions about one's personal, academic, and criminal record. An applicant's submission of an application to the College of Law is a certification that the information contained therein is true, accurate, and complete, to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

After an application has been submitted, if any event, change in circumstances, or other development occurs that results in any information in the application being incomplete, inaccurate, or a misrepresentation, the applicant must amend the application as soon as is reasonably possible. In addition, students are obligated by the University Code of Conduct to update their application until the admitted student graduates from the College of Law. Any omission or misrepresentation may result in the invalidation of one's application, revocation of a favorable admissions decision, a letter of reprimand (which, if applicable, must be reported to the bar), report to the LSAC Misconduct and Irregularities Subcommittee, report to bar authorities, or any other action appropriate under the circumstances.

Students applying for the J.D. program are only eligible to start the program in the Fall semester. Admission will be based on the student's academic and other background qualifications, including an evaluation of the following:

1. a recent LSAT/LSDAS report with documentation of Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score and undergraduate transcript;
2. specified letters of recommendation; and
3. a personal statement by the applicant showing reasons why the applicant should be admitted to the study of law at Georgia State.

#### Transfer Students

A student who wishes to transfer from an ABA-approved law school will be considered only after completion of the first year of law study at another ABA-approved law school. A transfer applicant's academic performance and class rank at his or her current school are important factors in the evaluation process. Transfer students must possess credentials comparable to those of the College of Law class to which they seek admission.

A student who has been excluded from another law school and is ineligible for readmission at such school will not be admitted to the College of Law. Each prospective transfer student must provide a letter from the dean, or designee thereof, of the current or previously attended law school stating that the student is in good standing and eligible to return to that law school. The letter shall also include the student's class ranking, if available.

Upon admission, the transfer applicant's transcript will be reviewed by the associate dean for academic affairs. At that time, confirmation of transfer credits will be provided. No credit for advanced standing will be allowed for courses completed at law schools that are not accredited by the American Bar Association. No credit for advanced standing will be allowed for any law school course from another accredited law school for which a grade lower than a C or its equivalent has been given. Only under exceptional circumstances may more than 32 credits be approved for transfer to Georgia State University for a J.D. degree.

To receive the J.D. degree from Georgia State University, a transfer student who is admitted to the College of Law must:

1. satisfy all Georgia State University College of Law degree requirements; and
2. earn within the College of Law at least 58 semester hours of the total 90 semester hours required for graduation.

#### Guest Students

J.D. students in good standing at ABA-accredited law schools may be admitted as guest students to earn credit for transfer back to their degree-granting institution. Guest students must meet the admission standards of the class they seek to enter. Guest students may attend the College of Law for no more than 32 semester hours, not to exceed three semesters (including the summer semester). Second-year students who meet the above criteria may be admitted as guest students, but only under exceptional circumstances.

#### Special Student Status

Graduate students who wish to take an advanced course in the College of Law in support of their academic program in another Georgia State degree program, graduate students at other accredited institutions or those equivalent to the same at foreign institutions, and professionals outside of the legal field may be admitted as special students on a case by case basis, as determined by the associate dean for academic

affairs in consultation with the instructor of the course(s). Any such non-J.D. students subsequently admitted to the College of Law may not be allowed to count toward their home institution's degree program any credits earned while in special student status at the College of Law.

Attorneys who are admitted to the practice of law in Georgia or any other state or country, and remain in good standing therein, may be admitted as special students, but in that capacity may only audit courses at the college with the permission of the associate dean for academic affairs and of the instructor of that course(s). Attorneys subsequently admitted as students in a law degree program at the College of Law may not count toward their College of Law degree any course credit equivalents attributed to them while in special student status.

#### English Proficiency of International Applicants for College of Law Programs

All College of Law classes are taught in English. Proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking English is essential and critical to a College of Law student's success. Applicants are presumed proficient in English if they: (1) are from a country where English is an official language; or (2) earned an undergraduate or graduate degree from a college or university in which instruction is in English.

All College of Law applicants whose native language is not English are required to demonstrate English proficiency by scoring a minimum of 100 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or a minimum of 7.5 on the academic version of the International Language Testing System (IELTS). No other test or certificate-based methods of demonstrating English proficiency will be considered. A video teleconference or in-person interview of the applicant may be required to assess spoken English proficiency.

International applicants for the J.D. program should understand that the College of Law does not employ special grading standards for such students.

#### Orientation

All accepted students are required to attend Orientation preceding the beginning of regular fall semester classes. Other mandatory orientation meetings for first-year or upper-level students may be scheduled as necessary.

#### Curriculum

To satisfy the requirements for the J.D. at the College of Law, a student must complete a minimum of ninety (90) credit hours. Per ABA requirements, a student has 84 months from starting the J.D. curriculum to complete the degree requirements, and ABA requirements do not allow students to complete the J.D. curriculum in less than 24-months.

For those students who entered in the Fall of 2022 or thereafter, there are forty-eight (48) required credit hours, with the remaining forty-two (42) credits as electives.

For those students who entered in the Fall of 2021, there are forty-seven (47) required credit hours, with the remaining forty-three (43) credits as electives.

For those students who entered prior to Fall of 2021, there are forty-six (46) required credit hours, with the remaining forty-four (44) credits as electives. The specific courses and hours are listed at "J.D. Curricular Course of Study" below.

For J.D. students who are entering the College of Law in the Fall of 2020 or thereafter, the maximum number of courses graded on an S/U basis that may be applied toward graduation is eighteen (18) credit hours. Lawyering: Advocacy and co-curricular activities (Law Review, Moot Court, and Mock Trial (STLA)) do not count toward the 18-hour limit. Externships and all other elective courses count toward this limit, unless otherwise specified.

For students who entered the College of Law prior to the Fall of 2020, the maximum number of S/U credit

hours is twelve (12).

The maximum number of study abroad course hours that may be applied toward graduation is twelve (12).

The maximum number of credits for independent research that may be counted toward graduation is two (2).

A student must earn at least 58 semester hours at the College of Law to graduate from the College of Law.

ABA Standard 310 requires law students to work at least 42.5 hours over a 15-week semester to earn one credit hour. Time spent preparing for class and preparing for a final exam (or writing and submitting a final paper) counts toward the 42.5-hour minimum. Based upon the College of Law's fourteen-week semester, law students must spend at least 2.25 hours of preparation time for every 50 minutes of instruction to meet ABA Standard 310 (even without considering exam time). Thus:

- On average, students in a two-credit hour class at the College of Law must spend 4.5 hours preparing for or studying outside of class each week.
- On average, students in a three-credit hour class at the College of Law must spend 6.75 hours preparing for or studying outside of class each week.
- On average, students in a four-credit hour class at the College of Law must spend 9 hours preparing for or studying outside of class each week.

College of Law instructors are responsible for ensuring that their courses meet ABA Standard 310, and instructors must certify to the associate dean for academic affairs at the beginning of each academic year that their courses will meet ABA Standard 310. Reading assignments, quizzes, in-class exercises, and other work outside of the classroom are used by instructors to satisfy ABA Standard 310. Furthermore, most College of Law courses have a cumulative assessment final exam, or paper which ensures that law students have engaged in substantial work outside the classroom throughout the semester. Even for the relatively few courses without a final exam (e.g., Lawyering Foundations, seminars, etc.), quizzes, reading assignments, written work, and other forms of assessment conducted throughout the semester ensure compliance with ABA Standard 310.

For simulation courses, field placements, clinics, co-curricular programs, and similar activities awarded academic credit, an equivalent amount of work is required of law students. Instructors or supervising attorneys leading such activities ensure that participating law students meet or exceed the credit-hour requirements imposed by ABA Standard 310.

Furthermore, under ABA standards, students cannot take more than thirty (30) credit hours in "distance education courses," and no more than ten (10) of those "distance education course" credit hours may be taken in first one-third of a student's program of study toward a J.D. degree. The ABA defines a "distance education course" as a course in which students are separated from all faculty members for more than one-third of the instruction and the instruction involves the use of technology to support regular and substantive interaction between the students and all faculty members, either synchronously or asynchronously.

Accordingly, online synchronous and asynchronous courses taken at the College of Law count toward the above-referenced thirty/ten (30/10) hour limit. Blended courses do not count toward the thirty/ten (30/10) hour limit provided two-thirds of the time spent on faculty instruction takes place in a classroom.

College of Law students are responsible for monitoring the number of their "distance education course" hours counted toward graduation. When a J.D. student submits a graduation application, the law registrar will audit the student's graduation application to ensure that the student has not exceeded the ABA's limitation on "distance education courses." Regardless, the College of Law is not responsible if a student takes more than the allowed "distance education courses" and therefore is not permitted to graduate until additional in-person or blended courses are completed successfully.

Regardless of the ABA limitations above, due to exceptional circumstances during the COVID 19 Pandemic, the ABA granted the College of Law a one-time exemption for any “distance education courses” students took from the spring of 2020 through the spring of 2022. Furthermore, remote participation in a non-distance education course by a student with an academic accommodation provided under law (such as the Americans with Disabilities Act) or under other exceptional circumstances (e.g., temporary absence due to pregnancy or other medical condition) shall not cause the course to count towards the ABA’s distance education credit limit.

#### Non-College of Law Courses

With prior approval of the associate dean for academic affairs, a law student in good standing and not pursuing a dual degree may, after successfully completing all courses in the first-year, full-time equivalent curriculum, apply up to six (6) credit hours of Georgia State University graduate-level, non-law course credit to his or her record at the College of Law. So long as the student earns at least a B (or Satisfactory, if graded on an S/U basis) in the course(s), the credit shall be counted toward the hours required for the J.D. degree. The Non-Law Course Request Application is on the law school registrar’s website.

Such credit will be reported on the student's transcript but will not be considered in computing his or her College of Law grade point average. Courses taken pursuant to this policy will be counted as S/U courses for the purpose of College of Law limits on such courses. In no event may a student receive credit under this rule for any non-law school course taken prior to the student's enrollment in the College of Law, nor may any student use such a course to satisfy the College of Law's upper-level writing requirement.

For a course to be approved under this rule, the associate dean must find that such course: (i) meets the academic standards of the College of Law; (ii) is a graduate-level course; (iii) does not substantially duplicate material covered in any course(s) previously taken by the student, in law school or elsewhere; and (iv) would likely advance the student's legal or other relevant professional training or career goals. The associate dean of academic affairs may require that the student first obtain the permission of the course instructor and/or provide the associate dean with a copy of the course syllabus in support of the request for approval.

#### **General Rules for Both Full-Time and Part-Time J.D. Programs**

##### *Full- and Part-Time Student Status of J.D. Students*

The College of Law offers students the option of either full-time (typically six-semester) or part-time (typically eight-semester) divisions of the J.D. degree program. During the original application process, students are admitted to either the full-time or part-time division.

**Full-time Status:** A full-time student is one enrolled in 12-17 law credit hours per semester. To graduate after the successful completion of six semesters, a full-time student is required to carry on average 15, and no fewer than 12, hours of law course work during each of the third through the sixth semesters. The ABA does not allow for a student to be enrolled at any time in law coursework that exceeds 20 percent of the total credit hours required by that school for graduation. In keeping with this ABA standard, no College of Law student can be enrolled in more than 18 credit hours during a given semester. If a student wishes to take more than 17 credits, a request for overload must be submitted for review and approval of the associate dean for academic affairs. Credit hours taken in another department toward a dual degree do not count toward the 18-law credit hour maximum; however, students nevertheless must submit an overload request for review and approval of the associate dean for academic affairs.

**Part-time Status:** A part-time student is enrolled in 8-11 law credits per semester and is typically



expected to graduate after the completion of eight regular semesters and at least one summer semester. Once during a part-time student's matriculation at the College of Law such student may request permission from the associate dean for academic affairs prior to registration to take more than the standard 11 credits prior to registration without officially changing to full-time student status. If permission is not confirmed prior to registration, a hold or other corrective measure may be placed by the administration on the student's account.

#### *Employment while in the J.D. Program*

During the first year of law school, full-time students are expected to devote substantially all of their working hours to the study of law and are therefore strongly advised not to undertake employment during the first two academic semesters, especially any employment that exceeds 10 hours per week. Students who need to work more hours are encouraged to change to the part-time program.

During the second and third years of law school, full-time students may maintain part-time employment but are strongly advised not to exceed 20 hours per week. Full-time students who are enrolled in a clinic or externship course may not work more than 20 hours per week in that semester without prior approval from the clinic or externship director. Students who need to work more hours are encouraged to change to the part-time program.

#### *Summer Term*

The College of Law offers a summer term. To qualify for financial aid during the summer semester, full- and part-time students must register for at least four credit hours. No student may enroll in more than seven hours of summer course work without the permission of the associate dean for academic affairs. No student may take more than 9 law credit hours during the summer semester.

#### *Transfers Between J.D. Programs*

The following policies apply to College of Law students seeking to transfer between the full and part-time divisions. Following the successful completion of two semesters (excluding summer semesters) and all first-year required courses at the College of Law, full-time J.D. students who wish to transfer from the full-time division to the part-time division must submit a written request and obtain the permission of the associate dean for academic affairs. Following the completion of four semesters (excluding summer semesters), and all full-time, first-year equivalent courses at the College of Law, part-time J.D. students who wish to transfer from the part-time division to the full-time division must submit a written request and obtain the permission of the associate dean for academic affairs. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required at the time of the request to be considered for a change in divisions. A student may change divisions only once during the student's enrollment at the College of Law except as otherwise determined in the discretion of the associate dean for academic affairs.

### **Curriculum**

The curriculum of the College of Law is the same for all students enrolled as candidates for the J.D. degree regardless of whether the student is in the full- or part-time program. The College of Law's curriculum covers a broad range of substantive areas important to effective and responsible participation in the legal profession. In general, the same course offerings will be available whether a student is enrolled in the full- or part-time divisions, but not necessarily during the same semester.

To satisfy the requirements for the J.D., a student must complete a minimum of ninety (90) credit hours. A student has 84 months from starting the J.D. curriculum to complete the degree requirements. For those students who entered in the Fall of 2022 or thereafter, there are forty-eight (48) required credit hours, with the remaining forty-two (42) credits as electives. For those students who entered in the Fall of 2021, there are forty-seven (47) required credit hours, with the remaining forty-three (43) credits as electives. For those students who entered prior to Fall of 2021, there are forty-six (46) required credit

hours, with the remaining forty-four (44) credits as electives.

#### *First-Year Required Courses*

##### *Students Entering Fall of 2023—1L Courses Totaling 32 Credits*

For those students entering the College of Law in Fall 2023 and thereafter, the following first-year courses are required for graduation: Contracts (4 credits); Civil Procedure: The Federal Rules (3 credits); Civil Procedure: Federalism and Constitutional Issues (3 credits); Torts (4 credits); Property (4 credits); Criminal Law (3 credits); Lawyering Foundations I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Research Methods in Law (1 credit); Legislation and Regulation (3 credits); and Profession of Law (1 credit).

##### *Students Entering Fall of 2022—1L Courses Totaling 32 Credits*

For those students who entered the College of Law in Fall 2022, the following first-year courses are required for graduation: Contracts (4 credits); Civil Procedure I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Torts (4 credits); Property (4 credits); Criminal Law (3 credits); Lawyering Foundations I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Research Methods in Law (1 credit); Legislation and Regulation (3 credits); and First-Year Professional Development/Academic Success Program (1 credit).

##### *Students Entering Fall of 2021—1L Courses Totaling 31 Credits*

For those students who entered the College of Law in Fall 2021, the following first-year courses are required for graduation: Contracts (4 credits); Civil Procedure I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Torts (4 credits); Property (4 credits); Criminal Law (3 credits); Lawyering Foundations I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Research Methods in Law (1 credit); Legislation and Regulation (3 credits); and First-Year Professional Development/Academic Success Program (0 credits).

##### *Students Entering Fall of 2020—1L Courses Totaling 30 Credits*

For those students who entered the College of Law in Fall 2020, the following first-year courses are required for graduation: Contracts I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Civil Procedure I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Torts (4 credits); Property (4 credits); Criminal Law (3 credits); Lawyering Foundations I (3 credits) and II (3 credits); Research Methods in Law (1 credit); and First-Year Professional Development/Academic Success Program (0 credits).

#### *Required Upper-Level Courses*

The following upper-level courses totaling sixteen (16) credit hours are required for graduation with a J.D. degree from the College of Law: Constitutional Law I (3 credits); Evidence (4 credits); Professional Responsibility or equivalent (3 credits); and a minimum of six (6) credits of experiential courses comprised of Lawyering Advocacy (3 credits) and one three-credit experiential course elective (3 credits).

The Professional Responsibility requirement may be met by taking Professional Responsibility, The Client Relationship, Transition to Practice, or any other course designated as meeting the Professional Responsibility requirement.

In addition to the required Lawyering Advocacy experiential course noted above, experiential courses include but are not limited to HeLP Legal Services Clinic, Philip C. Cook Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, Capital Defender Clinic, Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic, Mediation Clinic, Immigration Clinic, Externships, Advanced Evidence, Entertainment Law, Licensing of Intellectual Property, Expert Testimony Using Technology, Health Care Transactions Practicum, Alternative Dispute Resolution, The Reflective Lawyer, Interviewing and Counseling, Legal Process Engineering, Street Law, Fundamentals of Law Practice, Criminal Law: Reform and Fieldwork, and Military Law & Veterans Clinic.

Students in the J.D. program also must complete an upper-level writing requirement. The upper-level writing requirement may not be satisfied in a course that the student counts toward the minimum experiential credit requirement. See below for more information.

### *Juror Requirement for Lawyering: Advocacy*

All students enrolled in Lawyering a required course in the first-year curriculum, are required to serve as jurors in the upper-level Lawyering Advocacy trials held in spring. This requirement applies to both part-time and full-time students enrolled in Lawyering Foundations: II.

Students complete jury duty sign-ups online by following the instructions set forth in the Jury Duty Announcement that will be sent out by the Director of Advocacy. Additional details are provided at 1L orientation, and sign-ups will be conducted in March. *Note that many trials occur on weekends in mid-April.*

Failure to complete this requirement will result in an incomplete grade (I) in Lawyering: Foundations II. An incomplete grade in Lawyering: Foundations II leaves a student unranked at the end of the first year and ineligible to try out for law review. The student will only receive the earned grade for Lawyering: Foundations II after rankings are issued.

If a student who fails to serve as a juror does not fulfill the obligation by the spring semester in which they take Lawyering: Advocacy, the student will earn an F in Lawyering: Advocacy and will be required to retake the course.

### *Upper-Level Legal Writing Requirement*

Each candidate, as a requirement for the J.D., must satisfactorily complete one substantial legal writing assignment during their upper-level period of study. Qualifying assignments will require at least 20 double-spaced pages of analytical writing and may consist of a single writing or be comprised of a series of shorter writings on related topics, written in a professional style, requiring substantial research and creative analytical thinking, and developed and revised based on faculty input and comments. Examples of such projects include research papers that reflect thorough primary and secondary research and original analysis and legal briefs and memoranda prepared in the course of a clinic that require substantial legal research to complete. Qualifying assignments must be supervised by a College of Law faculty member and written solely by the student seeking upper-level writing credit. Such assignments should be of a quality and complexity designed to develop and demonstrate the writing skills expected of entry-level legal practitioners. The Writing Requirement Form is on the law school registrar's website.

To satisfy this requirement, the student must earn a grade of at least C+ on the qualifying assignments through one of the following options:

- **Legal Writing Course:** Students may complete the upper-level writing requirement in any two- or three-credit law course, including clinics, which qualify as a legal writing course. To qualify as a legal writing course, at least 50% of the course grade must be based on one or more graded writing assignments. Generally, courses that qualify as legal writing courses will be so designated, in advance, by the associate dean for academic affairs.
- **Independent Research Study:** Students may complete the upper-level writing requirement in a two credit Independent Research Study course. Students must obtain advance approval of the faculty member who is supervising the Independent Research Study and the associate dean for academic affairs by completing and submitting the required form prior to registration.
- **Law Review:** Students may complete the upper-level writing requirement through preparing and submitting a Law Review note, in accordance with Law Review rules and procedures, including faculty supervision.
- **Note:** Moot Court briefs and materials prepared for Moot Court, Mock Trial, student competitions and other such purposes do not satisfy this requirement. Writing assignments prepared for Lawyering: Advocacy also do not satisfy this requirement. In addition, a student may not fulfill the writing requirement using coursework from a course being used by that student to

satisfy the experiential learning requirement.

Upon completion and grading of the writing requirement, students are required to submit the Writing Requirement Form to the law registrar. This form should specify in which course, Law Review, or Independent Research Study for which the writing was completed. The supervising faculty member should list the grade earned on the writing assignment (whether paper, series of papers, or project) – not the grade on the course or clinic overall, if different – and certify by their signature that the student’s completed assignment meets the Writing Requirement as outlined above.

#### *Elective Courses*

Depending upon the date of enrollment as noted above, a student must choose a minimum of forty-two (42) to forty-four (44) hours of electives to complete the J.D. course of study. Electives should be carefully chosen with the consultation of a faculty adviser. Each student will be assigned a faculty adviser in the student's first year. Elective courses are fully described in the Course Descriptions section.

#### *Prerequisites*

Many courses in the curriculum are open only to students who have satisfactorily completed specific, prerequisite courses. For instance, students seeking to enroll in a simulation course, a law clinic, or a field placement must have successfully completed or are in the last semester of completing all first-year or first-year equivalent for part-time students required courses. Accordingly, full-time students are eligible to apply for clinics and field placements in the spring of their 1L year while part-time students are eligible to apply in the spring of their 2L year.

It is important that students consider prerequisites in planning the sequence of their course work. Prerequisites can be waived only with the permission of the instructor and, in some cases, the associate dean for academic affairs.

Students may determine how recently a course has been offered by checking PAWS. For a list of courses currently offered, recently offered, or likely to be offered soon, please see First-Year Required Courses; Second-Year Required Courses; and Elective Courses in the online course catalog and below. In light of student demand, faculty expertise and interest, and the need to prepare graduates for practice, the college may cancel or adjust course times as needed. If that happens, students will be notified as soon as reasonably possible.

The faculty reserves the right to change the nature of any course offering in any fashion that it judges proper at any time, including the right to establish new required courses and to change current required courses to electives.

Per the ABA standards, an individual course cannot fulfill both the experiential course requirement and the upper-level legal writing requirement.

#### *Full-Time J.D. Program*

Course of Study Effective Fall of 2023

Year 1

**Note:** *The first-year course of study outlined for full-time students is mandatory.*

*Fall Semester (15.5 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 5010 - Contracts I. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5060 - Torts I. **4 Credit Hours**

- LAW 5001 - Civil Procedure: The Federal Rules (formerly Civ. Pro. II). **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5070 - Lawyering: Foundations I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5085 – Profession of Law. **.5 Credit Hour**
- LAW 5030 - Research Methods in Law. **1 Credit Hours**

*Spring Semester (16.5 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 5080 - Legislation and Regulation **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5050 - Property. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5000 - Civil Procedure: Federalism and Constitutional Issues. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5071 - Lawyering: Foundations II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5020 - Criminal Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5085 – Profession of Law. **.5 Credit Hour**

Year 2

**Note:** *Professional Responsibility or other courses meeting this requirement should be taken before or concurrently with Lawyering Advocacy.*

*Fall Semester (Typically 14-16 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 6000 - Constitutional Law I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6010 - Evidence.\* **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6020 - Professional Responsibility or equivalent. **3 Credit Hours**
- Electives - **4-6 Credit Hours**

*Spring Semester (Typically 15 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 6030E - Lawyering: Advocacy. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6020 - Professional Responsibility or equivalent (if not taken previously). **3 Credit Hours**
- Electives – **9-12 Credit Hours**

Year 3

*Fall Semester (Typically 13-15 Credit Hours)*

- Electives – **13-15 Credit Hours\*\***

*Spring Semester (Typically 13-15 Credit Hours)*

- Electives – **13-15 Credit Hours\*\***

Total: 90 Credit Hours

Contracts is a prerequisite for Professional Responsibility (or its equivalent) and Constitutional Law I. Both Torts and Civil Procedure: Federalism and Constitutional Issues are prerequisites for Evidence.

\*Unless provided otherwise herein, or with permission of the associate dean for academic affairs, students are required to take Evidence and Lawyering: Advocacy in the same academic year. Students must take Professional Responsibility (or another course designated as one which meets the Professional Responsibility requirement) before Lawyering: Advocacy or concurrently therewith.

\*\*In addition to Lawyering: Advocacy, students must successfully complete at least one elective, three-credit experiential course plus the upper-level writing requirement to graduate.

**Note:** *Except as otherwise contemplated above or waived by the instructor, courses that full-time students are required to take in their first year are prerequisites to all elective courses.*

#### *Part-Time J.D. Program*

#### Course of Study Effective Fall of 2023

About twenty-five percent of the College of Law's students are enrolled part-time so they can balance their studies with full-time jobs, families, and other commitments. Part-time students can elect to take classes during the day, evening, or a combination of both. There is a possibility that the J.D. may be earned in four years with enrollment during at least one summer semester, although some students choose to complete the program in four and one-half years.

All programs and resources are available to both part-time and full-time J.D. students, including moot court, Law Review, and trial litigation programs.

**Note:** *The first two years course of study outlined for part-time students is mandatory. Successful completion of the first two years course of study is required before part-time students are eligible to transfer to the full-time program.*

#### Year 1

##### *Fall Semester (11.5 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 5010 – Contracts. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5001 - Civil Procedure: The Federal Rules (formerly Civ. Pro. II). **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5070 - Lawyering: Foundations I. **3 Credit Hours**
- Research Methods in Law **1 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5085 – Profession of Law. **.5 Credit Hour**

##### *Spring Semester (10.5 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 5000 - Civil Procedure: Federalism and Constitutional Issues. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5050 - Property. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5071 - Lawyering: Foundations II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5085 – Profession of Law. **.5 Credit Hour**

##### *Optional Summer Semester (Typically 4-6 Credit Hours)*

- Electives **4-6 Credit Hours**

Year 2

*Fall Semester (Typically 10-11 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 6000 - Constitutional Law I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5060 – Torts. **4 Credit Hours**
- Electives - **3-4 Credit Hours**

*Spring Semester (Typically 9-11 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 5080 - Legislation and Regulation **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5020 - Criminal Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- Electives - **3-5 Credit Hours**

*Optional Summer Semester (Typically 4-6 Credit Hours)*

- Electives - **4-6 Credit Hours**

Year 3

*Fall Semester (Typically 10-11 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 6010 - Evidence.\* **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6020 - Professional Responsibility or equivalent. **3 Credit Hours**
- Electives. **3-4 Credit Hours**

*Spring Semester (Typically 10-11 Credit Hours)*

- LAW 6030E - Lawyering: Advocacy. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6020 - Professional Responsibility or equivalent (if not taken previously). **3 Credit Hours**
- Electives - **4-8 Credit Hours**

*Optional Summer Semester (Typically 4-6 Credit Hours)*

- Electives - **4-6 Credit Hours**

Year 4

*Fall Semester (Typically 9-11 Credit Hours)*

- Electives – **9-11 Credit Hours\*\***

*Spring Semester (Typically 9-11 Credit Hours)*

- Electives – **9-11 Credit Hours\*\***

Total: 90 Credit Hours

Contracts is a prerequisite for Professional Responsibility (or its equivalent) and Constitutional Law I. Both Torts and Civil Procedure: Federalism and Constitutional Issues are prerequisites for Evidence.

\*Unless provided otherwise herein, or with permission of the associate dean for academic affairs, students are required to take Evidence and Lawyering: Advocacy in the same academic year. Students must take Professional Responsibility (or another course designated as one which meets the Professional Responsibility requirement) before or concurrently with Lawyering: Advocacy.

\*\*In addition to Lawyering: Advocacy, students must successfully complete at least one elective, three-credit experiential course plus the upper-level writing requirement to graduate.

**Note:** *Except as otherwise contemplated above or waived by the instructor, courses that part-time students are required to take in their first and second years are prerequisites to all elective courses.*



## Certificates

Within the J.D. degree, students can pursue a certificate, reflecting a concentration of study, in seven different areas:

- Advocacy Certificate
- Entertainment, Sports & Media Law Certificate
- Environmental & Land Use Law Certificate
- Health Law Certificate
- Intellectual Property Law Certificate
- Legal Analytics & Innovation Certificate
- Public Interest Law & Policy

Each of the certificate programs:

1. Provides integrated legal learning by reinforcing basic legal concepts through the specific area of study and while also developing core legal competencies that enable students to transfer knowledge and skills to other areas of law.
2. Affords focused faculty advisement and curriculum guidance by assignment to an adviser with knowledge of the content area.
3. Offers opportunities for interdisciplinary study and collaboration.
4. Confers a positive marker of basic knowledge of the field to pursue such work in the job market.

Grades: Except as expressly provided otherwise below, a minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for all courses taken in satisfaction of the embedded certificate requirements.

### *Advocacy Certificate*

The Certificate of Advocacy program emphasizes the development of the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for effective advocacy and client representation. The program consists of a variety of specialized doctrinal and experiential courses providing students with the knowledge and ability to apply a range of advocacy skills in various settings and to have an understanding of the many facets of advocacy. A student who receives the Certificate in Advocacy will learn the fundamental principles and skills of effective advocacy and be prepared for a career in litigation.

#### Certificate Requirements

Skills Training (Minimum of 10 Credit Hours)

*Choice of at least 4 of the following:*

- LAW 7031 - Advanced Criminal Litigation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7033 - Advanced Criminal Prosecution **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7036E - Advanced Evidence. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7045 - Advanced Issues in Trial Advocacy Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7049 - Advanced Strategies in Legal Argument. **3 Credit Hours**

- LAW 7060 - Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution (ADR). **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7062 - Mediation: Law and Practice. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7183 - Domestic Litigation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7419E - Civil Pre-Trial Litigation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7236 - Georgia Practice and Procedure. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW/Graduate-Level XXXX – Such other law courses or university graduate-level courses (the latter not to exceed six credit hours) as may be pre-approved by the Certificate Director.

Experiential (Minimum of 9 Credit Hours)

Choice of at least 4 of the following:

- LAW 7801E - Business Arbitration Practicum. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7094E - Bankruptcy Assistance and Practice Program I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6050E - Capital Defenders Clinic I. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6051E - Capital Defenders Clinic II. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6090E - HeLP Legal Services Clinic I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6091E - HeLP Legal Services Clinic II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7600E - Tax Law Clinic: Tax Court I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7601E - Tax Law Clinic: Tax Court II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6092E - Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic I **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6093E - Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7075 - Appellate Advocacy I. **1 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7076 - Appellate Advocacy II. **1 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7487 - Trial Advocacy I. **1 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7488 - Trial Advocacy II. **1 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7280 - International Moot Court. **1 Credit Hours**
- College of Law-sanctioned Mock Trial Competition
- Externship with Public Defender's, District Attorney's, or Solicitor's Office
- Such other Externship as may be approved by Certificate Director
- LAW/Graduate-Level XXXX – Such other law courses or university graduate-level courses (the latter not to exceed six credit hours) as may be pre-approved by the Certificate Director.

Writing Requirement

Students must complete a substantial writing project (2-3 credit hours), which may also be used to satisfy the College of Law's writing requirement.

Extracurricular Activity

Students are encouraged to participate in advocacy extracurricular activities such as workshops and

training sessions hosted at the College of Law or State Bar of Georgia, participate in additional client-focused projects, work with affiliated faculty as a GRA, and pursue summer internship placements as they become available.

#### Grades

A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for all courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate requirements. A minimum grade of 3.0 is required for the writing requirement.

Total: Minimum of 19 Credit Hours

#### *Entertainment, Sports & Media Law Certificate*

The Entertainment, Sports, and Media Certificate program cultivates the development of knowledge and skills necessary for practice in the areas of entertainment, sports, and media, an area of rapid growth in Georgia. Core courses, electives and various skills development/experiential opportunities enrich our students' understanding of the many facets of a legal career in these specialized industries.

#### Certificate Requirements

##### Required Courses (12 Credit Hours)

- LAW 7079 - Arts and Entertainment Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7473 - Sports Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7390 - Mass Communications Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7158 - Copyrights. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

##### Elective Courses (Minimum of 6 Credit Hours)

- LAW 7478 - Trademarks and Unfair Competition. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7083 Hip Hop and the Law (3 credits)
- LAW 7417 - Patent Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7065 - Antitrust Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7631 - Contract Drafting and Risk Analysis. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7269 - Licensing of Intellectual Property. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7116 - Constitutional Tort Litigation. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7082 - Copyright & Music Publishing. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7672E - Sneaker Law **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW/Graduate-Level XXXX – Such other law courses or university graduate-level courses (not to exceed three credit hours) as may be pre-approved by the Certificate Director.

#### Cross Registration

With prior approval of the Certificate Director, cross-registration in the College of Arts and Science (limited to one of the following):

- COMM 6040 - History of News Media

- COMM 6070/8060 - Seminar in Communication Law
- COMM 6090 - Communications Ethics
- COMM 6430/8430 - Media Industries

Skills Development Training/Experiential

Choice of 1 of the following:

- Entertainment Law Perspective Workshop: Legal Life of. . . (Series) **2 - 3 Credit Hours**
- Sports Law Simulation Course **2 - 3 Credit Hours**
  - Journey of Amateur Athlete to Professional Sports
  - How to Represent a Sports Franchise/League
  - NCAA Practices and Procedures
  - Negotiate & Draft Mock Sponsorship Agreement
  - Mock Player Salary Negotiation/Arbitration
  - Stadium Development
- Externship with Sports Organization, Law Firm with Entertainment, Sports or Media Practice, Music Organization, Media Organization, Movie Studios, Georgia State University Creative Media Industries Institute (CMII), or Georgia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts
- Independent Research in Entertainment, Sports, or Media area of interest **1 - 2 Credit Hours**

Writing Requirement

Students must complete a substantial writing project on an Entertainment, Sports, or Media law topic, which may also be used to satisfy the College of Law's writing requirement. Students also may complete an Independent Research in an Entertainment, Sports, or Media (1 - 2 credit hours) area of interest to meet the writing requirement.

Extracurricular Activity

Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities with entities such as local or national Entertainment, Sports, and/or Media Bar Associations; Georgia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts; Creative Media Industries Institute; Georgia State University-sponsored events involving Entertainment, Sports and Media; and other affiliated groups and events. Students are also encouraged to participate with affiliated faculty as a GRA and to pursue summer internship placements within the field as they become available.

Total: Minimum of 18 Credit Hours

### *Environmental & Land Use Law Certificate*

As the world's population continues to congregate in massive urban networks, demand will rise for services such as water, sewer, electricity, waste disposal, transportation, and social services - while pollution, conservation, and climate change remain pressing challenges. The Environmental & Land Use Law certificate develops students' knowledge and skills to work on the cross- functional teams necessary to address these complex challenges that cities will face, which cannot be solved by one type of professional working in isolation.

## Certificate Requirements

### Required Courses (11 Credit Hours)

- LAW 7010 - Administrative Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7200 - Environmental Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7320 - Land Use Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7494 - Urban Fellows Program. **2 Credit Hours**

### Elective Courses (9 Credit Hours)

Additional courses in Environmental and Land Use Law may also qualify as certificate elective credits. Students signed up for the Environmental and Land Use Law Certificate are encouraged to discuss such courses with their faculty advisers.

- LAW 7203 - Natural Resources and Water Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7204 - Urban Environmental Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7238 - Hazardous Waste. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7242 - Advanced Land Use Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7244 - Public Health Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7273 - International Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7277 - International Human Rights. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7355 - Law and Emerging Technologies. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7363 - History of the Common Law in England and America. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7375 - Legislation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7385 - State and Local Government Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7397 - International Perspective on Urban Law and Policy. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7435 - Real Estate Transactions. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7500 - Water Rights. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7656 - Law, Environmental Sustainability and Development. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

### Externships (if offered)

- EPA
- Federal Highway Administration
- Office of the Attorney General, State of GA
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- The Coca-Cola Company, Legal Division
- U.S. Department of the Interior - Office of the Regional Solicitor
- Atlanta Legal Aid Society
- Georgia Legal Service Program, Dalton Office - Rural Externship Program

- Curiosity Lab at Peachtree Corners
- Landlord Tenant
- Lawyers for Equal Justice
- City of Atlanta
- Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia
- Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Regional Counsel
- Forward Air Corporation
- The Home Depot, Legal Department
- Georgia Heirs Property Law Center

The externship list here is not comprehensive. Students may also propose an externship site. For a current listing of all approved externship sites see the Georgia State Law Georgia State Law Externships webpage.

#### Graduate Electives in Other Colleges and Departments

Because the practice of environmental and land use law is interdisciplinary and cross-professional, students pursuing this certificate program may enroll in up to six credits of appropriate graduate courses offered by other departments at Georgia State University or by Georgia Tech's School of City and Regional Planning. Approval from course instructors may be required.

#### *Appropriate Graduate Courses Regularly Offered within Georgia State University*

- Advanced Seminar in Inclusive Urbanism (URB 9010)
- Global Urban Trajectories (URB 8020)
- Housing Markets and Housing Policy (PMAP 8361)
- The Interdisciplinary City (URB 8097)
- Urban Economic Resilience (URB 8097)
- Urban Environments (URB 8660)
- Urban Environmental Sustainability (URB 8097)
- Urban Theory and Praxis (URB 8010)

#### Appropriate Graduate Courses Regularly Offered by Georgia Tech's School of City and Regional Planning

- Economic Analysis for Planning (CP 6031)
- Environmental Planning Impact Assessment (CP 6214)
- Government and Housing Markets (CP 6630)
- Introduction to Land Use Planning (CP 6112)
- Introduction to Transportation Planning (CP 6311)
- Negotiation, Facilitation and Conflict Resolution (CP 6760)
- Policy Tools for Environmental Management (CP 6223)
- Urban Development Policy (CP 6452)
- Water Resources Planning (CP 6241)

## Writing Requirement

Urban Fellows Program - Students must participate in the Urban Fellows seminar series. A paper must be written on an urban, environmental, or land use law topic, and presented to other Urban Fellows. The paper must satisfy the College of Law's writing requirement.

## Pro Bono Hours

Students must complete ten hours of pro bono work/community service to receive the certificate.

## Grades

There is no minimum grade point average required in the environmental and land use classes (both required and electives) to graduate with the certificate.

Total: 20 Credit Hours

## *Health Law Certificate*

Health law is a complex and rapidly changing field, encompassing a wide range of laws and policies. The health law program at Georgia State University College of Law offers courses in health care business, public health, bioethics, health equity, health technology and global health. The health law certificate program prepares J.D. students for successful careers in law practice, research, and policy setting. .

## Certificate Requirements

### Required Courses

- LAW 7010 - Administrative Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7101 - Corporations. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7239 - Health Law: Quality and Access. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7240 - Health Law: Financing and Delivery. **2 to 4 Credit Hours**

### Elective Courses

Choice of Health Law Course from either Public Health Law focus or Bioethics focus:

**Note:** Additional courses may be approved by the Deputy Director of the Center for Law, Health & Society.

### Bioethics

- LAW 7099 - Bioethics and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7098 - Biotechnology Law, Policy and Ethics. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7454 - Forensic Medicine. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7253 - Human Subjects Research. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7249 - Genetics and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

### Public Health Law

- LAW 7244 - Public Health Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7243 - HIV/AIDS and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7341 - Law and Mental Health. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

- LAW 7234 - Food and Drug Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7251 - Law and Social Welfare. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7331 - Law and Health Equity. **3 Credit Hours**

#### Experiential Learning

Choice of one qualifying experiential learning course, clinic, or externship from either the health law curriculum or J.D. curriculum (in addition to Lawyering Advocacy). Examples include:

- LAW 6090E - HeLP Legal Services Clinic I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6091E - HeLP Legal Services Clinic II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6092E - Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic I **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6093E - Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7247E - Health Legislation and Advocacy I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7248E - Health Legislation and Advocacy II. **3 Credit Hours**
- Externship in Health Law **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7600E - Tax Law Clinic: Tax Court I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7601E - Tax Law Clinic: Tax Court II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7291E - Interviewing and Counseling. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7062E - Mediation Advocacy: Law and Practice **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7414E - Negotiation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7060E - Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution (ADR). **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7510 - Wills, Trusts and Estates I. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7800E - Health Care Transactions and Regulatory Practicum. **3 Credit Hours**

#### Writing Requirement

Students must complete a substantial writing project on a health law topic, supervised by a health law faculty member, that satisfies the College of Law writing requirement would satisfy this certificate requirement, subject to the certificate's minimum grade requirement.

#### Extracurricular Activity

Students must complete fifteen hours or five events such as participation in pro bono service, attendance at conferences or speakers on health law topics, participation in a health law competition, leadership in the Student Health Law Association, etc.

#### Grades

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for all courses satisfying certificate requirements. If a student does not earn a passing grade in a required health law certificate course, the course must be taken again. Both the failing grade from the first attempt and the passing grade from the second attempt will be calculated in the GPA for the certificate, and the student must still meet the minimum GPA of 3.00. If a student does not earn a passing grade in an elective or experiential learning course taken toward the certificate requirements, the student may take a different course that satisfies that requirement instead, and the higher grade will be counted toward the certificate GPA. If a student takes more than



one course that meets a certificate requirement, then the student can utilize the highest eligible grade when computing the GPA.

A minimum grade of 3.00 is also required for the writing requirement.

Honors will be awarded for a GPA of 3.60 or higher in all health law courses taken for the certificate or as additional electives.

Total: 19-22 Credit Hours

### *Intellectual Property Law Certificate*

The Intellectual Property Law certificate program fosters the knowledge, skills, and values that the contemporary intellectual property lawyer needs in the rapidly changing and challenging environment of intellectual property. Using the intellectual property law field as a lens, students will learn how to apply foundational legal concepts in diverse intellectual property settings, including litigation, transactional work, and prosecution. This program will expose students to the foundations of intellectual property law and ensure familiarity with key concepts, laws, policies, institutions, skills, and values in the intellectual property field.

#### Certificate Requirements

##### Required Courses

- LAW 7010 - Administrative Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- or*
- LAW 7101 - Corporations. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7158 - Copyrights. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7417 - Patent Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7478 - Trademarks and Unfair Competition. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

##### Elective Courses

*Choice of three courses from the electives course list:*

- LAW 7065 - Antitrust Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7079 - Arts and Entertainment Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7098 - Biotechnology Law, Policy and Ethics. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7137 - Cyber and Privacy Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7234 - Food and Drug Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7269 - Licensing of Intellectual Property. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7271 - Advanced Intellectual Property Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7390 - Mass Communications Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7416 - Patent Drafting and Prosecution. **1 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7473 - Sports Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- International Intellectual Property
- Summer externship in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (formerly Summer Program in Washington D.C.)

## Graduate-Level Elective Courses in Other Colleges and Departments

Because the practice of IP law is interdisciplinary by nature, students pursuing a certificate may satisfy a program requirement of up to three credit hours of the three courses of electives by enrolling in IP-related graduate courses offered by other Georgia State departments. Examples of appropriate graduate courses include:

- IB 8080 - Legal Aspects of International Business
- IB 8180 - Doing Business in Emerging Markets
- EMBA 8205 - Regulatory Environment of Business

## Extracurricular Activity

In addition to the above coursework requirements, students would need to participate in and complete the college's Intellectual Property Law Society's Intellectual Property Student Mentoring Program.

## Grades

To earn a Certificate in Intellectual Property Law, a minimum average GPA of 3.00 is required for all courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate requirements. If a student takes more than the minimum number of elective courses needed to fulfill the certificate requirements, then the student can utilize the highest grades in other intellectual property courses when computing the GPA.

## Honors

Honors shall be awarded to students earning a GPA of 3.60 or higher in intellectual property courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate program.

## *Legal Analytics & Innovation Certificate*

The emerging field of legal analytics uses computing power to analyze text from legal documents, treating words more like numerical data. Computer algorithms, combined with the knowledge of data scientists and lawyers, can provide insights about what happened in the past and what may happen in the future. Demand for those who are familiar with the tools of legal analytics is high.

The Legal Analytics Certificate is a methods certificate, designed to provide additional training for students to bring their research and reasoning skills to bear in an array of areas.

## Certificate Requirements

### Required Courses

Students take 5-6 credits of required legal analytics courses:

- LAW 7674 - Legal Analytics I **3 Credit Hours**

### *Legal Analytics Capstone Experience*

As part of the required Capstone Experience, legal analytics students will integrate the diverse materials from their required and elective coursework to produce applied work or research in legal analytics. The Capstone Experience may be satisfied via a faculty-supervised independent study (capped at 2 credits) or by participation in the Applied Legal Analytics Lab (3 credits). The independent study Capstone Experience may satisfy the Legal Analytics writing requirement.

- LAW 7676E - Applied Legal Analytics Lab. **3 Credit Hours**
- or
- Independent Study of a Legal Analytics topic under faculty supervision **2 Credit Hours**

#### *Workshop Series*

Students must complete one approved non-credit workshop series:

- Currently, the only approved workshop series is the Georgia State University Library Research Data Services "Data Certified" certificate. The workshop series provides courses on a variety of data-related topics, such as R, Python, Data Visualization, and similar.
- The RDS workshop courses are free to take, and students receive the Data Certified micro-credential upon successful completion. Students must take five 2-hour workshops in either the summer/fall or the spring semesters to satisfy the requirement.
- LAII workshop series (currently under development)

#### *Elective Courses*

Students will choose from a variety of approved electives to complete the 16 certificate hours. Some courses are two credits and some are three.

- LAW 7139 - eDiscovery. **1 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7353 - Information Privacy Law **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7354 - Technology Law and Ethics **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7629 - LAW 7629 **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7333 - Law Practice Technology. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7135 - Cybersecurity Law and Policy **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7366 - Legal Innovation. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7356 - Legal Technological Competency and Operations **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7065 - Antitrust Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

#### *RCB MSDA Courses*

(upon approval depending on background)

- MSA 8010 - Data Programming for Analytics
- MSA 8040 - Data Management for Analytics

#### *Additional Courses*

(upon approval)

- We will work with students to treat additional seminars or upper-level classes as Certificate electives if there is significant overlap.

## Writing Requirement

Students must complete a substantial writing project on a Legal Analytics & Innovation topic, which may also be used to satisfy the College of Law's writing requirement.

## Extracurricular Activity

Students are encouraged to participate in legal analytics extracurricular activities such as: workshops and boot camp training sessions hosted at the College of Law or Robinson College of Business, participate in additional client-focused data projects ("sprints"), work with affiliated faculty as a Graduate Assistant and/or pursue internship placements as they become available.

## Grades

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required across all courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate requirements, including the writing requirement. Honors will be awarded for achievement of a GPA of 3.60 or higher in all Legal Analytics & Innovation courses taken for the certificate.

Total: 16 Credit Hours

## *Public Interest Law & Policy Certificate*

The Certificate in Public Interest Law and Policy prepares Georgia State Law students to serve traditionally underserved populations. The certificate program allows students to focus on a particular substantive area or to generally explore concepts and practice skills central to public interest and pro bono work. Experiential courses and pro bono volunteer opportunities put theory into practice. With faculty guidance and connections to practitioners, students build a foundation for a career serving the public interest.

## Certificate Requirements

### Required Courses

#### Foundations

- LAW 7117 - Constitutional Law II: Individual Liberties. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7010 - Administrative Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- or*
- LAW 7225 - Federal Courts. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

### Underrepresented Communities

Choose  
one:

- LAW 7006E - Access to Justice: Law Reform. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7180 - Disability Discrimination. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7245 - Immigration Law and Practice. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7251 - Law and Social Welfare. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7252 - Human Rights and Children. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

- LAW 7283 - International Human Rights Seminar: Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7330 - Law and the Elderly. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7434 - Racial Justice Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7433 - Race, Ethnicity, and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7471 - Sexual Identity and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7495 - Refugee and Asylum Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7515 - Women and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7507 - Rights of People in Prison. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

#### Skills Development Training/Experiential

Choice of 1 of the following:

- LAW 6040E - Landlord-Tenant Mediation Clinic I. **1 to 4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6041E - Landlord-Tenant Mediation Clinic II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6050E - Capital Defenders Clinic I. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6090E - HeLP Legal Services Clinic I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6091E - HeLP Legal Services Clinic II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6092E - Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic I **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6093E - Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7094E - Bankruptcy Assistance and Practice Program I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7247E - Health Legislation and Advocacy I. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7248E - Health Legislation and Advocacy II. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7336E - Fundamentals of Law Practice. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7600E - Tax Law Clinic: Tax Court I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7601E - Tax Law Clinic: Tax Court II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7607E - Immigration Clinic I. **6 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7608E - Immigration Clinic II. **4 to 6 Credit Hours**
- Externship with a public interest law and policy organization (to be approved through the externship program)

#### Elective Courses

Choose 2 courses:

- LAW 7025 - Wrongful Convictions. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7031 - Advanced Criminal Litigation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7113A - Capital Punishment Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7116 - Constitutional Tort Litigation. **3 Credit Hours**

- LAW 7145 - Constitutional Law: Survey of the First Amendment. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7151 - Constitutional Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7155 - Consumer Protection. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7165 - Criminal Procedure: Investigations. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7167 - Criminal Procedure: Adjudication. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7169 - Criminal Appellate Practicum. **4 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7172 - Philosophy of Criminal Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7173 - Criminal Law in the Supreme Court. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7174 - Criminal Regulation of Vice **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7180 - Disability Discrimination. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7183 - Domestic Litigation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7184 - Domestic Violence Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7186 - Education Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7190 - Seminar in Education Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7193 - General Employment Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7195 - Employment Discrimination Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7199 - The Law of Democracy. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7200 - Environmental Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7201 - International Environmental Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7203 - Natural Resources and Water Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7204 - Urban Environmental Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7216 - Family Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7220 - Family Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7243 - HIV/AIDS and the Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7244 - Public Health Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7256 - Independent Research. **1 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7261 - Global Perspectives on Children & The Law. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7274 - International Criminal Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7277 - International Human Rights. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7278 - International Human Rights Seminar - Immigration. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7282 - International Human Rights: Practical Applications Seminar. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7289 - International Law and U.S. Foreign Relations. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7293 - Seminar On Judicial Power. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7300 - Juvenile Justice. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7306 - Juvenile Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

- LAW 7315 - Labor Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7328 - Law and Business of Immigration. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7331 - Law and Health Equity. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7341 - Law and Mental Health. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7357 - The Law of Social Enterprise. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7375 - Legislation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7380 - Legislative Drafting Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7385 - State and Local Government Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7411 - Nonprofit Organizations **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7468 - Sentencing. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7507 - Rights of People in Prison. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7521 - Workers Compensation. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7664 - International and Comparative Equality Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- Other College of Law courses or courses in other Georgia State University departments, subject to approval by your faculty adviser and the Faculty Director and Assistant Director of the Center for Access to Justice.
- Courses listed under another category (e.g. underrepresented communities or experiential) but not used to fulfill that requirement may also be counted as an elective.
- LAW 7006E - Access to Justice: Law Reform. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

#### Writing Requirement

Students must complete a substantial writing project on a public interest law and policy topic, which may also be used to satisfy the College of Law's writing requirement. Written projects for Moot Court or writing competitions DO NOT satisfy the certificate writing requirement unless they otherwise meet the College of Law writing requirement. The writing project must be pre-approved by the student's faculty adviser and the faculty member who will supervise the project (if different). For substantial writing projects completed in courses or independent study credits not listed above, students should coordinate in advance with their certificate faculty adviser to ensure that the project will meet the writing requirement for this program.

#### Extracurricular Activity

Students must participate in 40 hours of approved pro bono work through the student-run Pro Bono Program and report these activities on the report form. Pro bono legal work done outside the student-run Pro Bono Program is eligible, subject to approval.

Coursework (including externships) and summer internship hours may not be counted.

Donating money to a cause or organization will NOT be counted as an approved extracurricular activity.

#### Grades

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for all courses taken in satisfaction of the certificate requirements. A minimum grade of 3.00 is required for the writing requirement. If students take more than the minimum number of courses needed to fulfill certificate requirements, the Deputy Director will use the

highest grades in courses that fulfill the certificate requirements when calculating GPA for the certificate. If a course includes both a S/U and graded component, the graded component will be counted. For example, externships taken S/U can fulfill the lawyering-skills requirement and will not be included in GPA calculation, but the grade in the one-hour externship course will be counted. If a student takes multiple courses that may count for a single requirement, the highest grade fulfilling that requirement will be counted for GPA purposes.

If a student does not pass Constitutional Law II: Individual Liberties, they must take it again to earn the certificate. Both the failing grade from the first attempt and the passing grade from the second attempt will be calculated in the GPA for the certificate, and the student must still meet the minimum GPA of 3.00. If a student fails another course taken toward other certificate requirements, they may take a different course that satisfies that component instead, and the passing grade will be counted towards the certificate GPA.

Honors will be awarded for achievement of a GPA of 3.60 or higher in all public interest law and policy courses taken for the certificate and any additional public interest law and policy electives taken above and beyond the requirements. If a student does not pass a course taken toward the certificate and retakes the course, both the failing grade from the first attempt and the passing grade from the second attempt will be calculated in the GPA, and they must still maintain a 3.60 to receive honors in the certificate program.

## **Dual Degrees**

The College of Law offers several options for students to earn degrees that complement their legal education. To pursue a dual degree, students must be accepted by both colleges and satisfy the curriculum requirements for both programs. Credit hours earned in one degree program may be used to satisfy some of the elective course requirements of the other degree program, enabling students to earn both degrees in a shorter time than would be possible pursuing both degrees separately. Regardless, law students must complete at least seventy-eight (78) credit hours within the College of Law to earn the J.D. degree unless otherwise expressly provided by the specific terms and conditions of a dual degree described in this bulletin. Interested applicants should contact the appropriate colleges for application procedures and materials.

### *Law, Bachelor/J.D.*

Through the Bachelor/J.D. Accelerated Degree Program with the Honors College, a small number of highly talented and qualified students will have the opportunity to complete a bachelor of arts, a bachelor of science, bachelor of social work or a bachelor of business administration and a J.D. at Georgia State University in six years rather than seven.

### *Law and Health Administration (J.D./M.S.H.A.) or Law and Business Administration and Health Administration, J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A.*

The College of Law and the Institute of Health Administration in Robinson College of Business offer two dual degree programs leading to the Juris Doctor degree (J.D.) and either (1) a Master of Science in Health Administration degree (M.S.H.A.), or (2) an M.B.A./M.H.A. (Master of Business Administration and Master of Health Administration).

The J.D./M.S.H.A. and J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. are courses of study which allow selected previously approved course work earned in one degree program to satisfy some of the elective course requirements of the other degree program. This enables a student to complete the requirements for both or all three degrees in a shorter time than required to complete each of the degrees separately.



Students who have already earned a J.D. and an M.S.H.A. degree or M.B.A./M.H.A. degree at Georgia State University or at another institution are not eligible for the dual program.

The following regulations apply to students who are accepted to the J.D. and M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A., programs and are enrolled in the dual degree program as opposed to being enrolled in each degree program separately:

#### Application

Applicants to the J.D./M.S.H.A. or J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. dual degree programs must meet the entrance requirements and follow the application procedures of both the College of Law and the Robinson College of Business. Applicants must be accepted by both colleges. Admission into one program does not presume admission to the other. To be in the J.D./M.S.H.A. or J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. dual degree programs, students must be admitted to both programs before completing either program.

Applicants must take the LSAT to apply to the College of Law. Robinson College of Business will accept the LSAT in lieu of the GRE or GMAT for students already accepted into the J.D. program.

Students who are accepted to both the J.D. and M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. programs and wish to be enrolled in the dual degree program are responsible for providing written notification of their intentions to each college.

#### Degree Requirements

Students must satisfy the curriculum requirements for both the J.D. and M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. degrees.

#### J.D. Requirements

The requirements for the J.D. are described above in the College of Law Bulletin.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.S.H.A. or J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. dual degree programs, the College of Law will permit up to 12 credit hours of 8000-level M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. courses with grades of B (3.0) or better to be credited toward elective hours required for the J.D.

#### M.S.H.A. Requirements

The requirements for the M.S.H.A. are described in the Robinson College of Business graduate course catalog.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.S.H.A. dual degree program, Robinson College of Business will accept 12 semester hours of relevant health law elective courses from the J.D. program with grades of B (3.0) or better to be credited toward the 12 semester hours of concentration/electives for the M.S.H.A.

In addition, 3 credit hours will be given for LAW 7239 Health Law: Quality and Access or LAW 7240 Health Law: Finance and Delivery with a grade of B (3.0) or better in place of HA 8450 Legal Environment of Health Care.

#### M.B.A./M.H.A. Requirements

The requirements for the M.B.A./M.H.A. are described in the Robinson College of Business graduate course catalog.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.B.A./M.H.A. dual degree program, the Robinson College of Business will accept 3 credit hours for LAW 7239 Health Law: Quality and Access or LAW 7240 Health Law: Finance and Delivery with a grade of B (3.0) or better in place of HA 8450 Legal Environment of Health Care. The Robinson College of Business will also accept 3 hours of approved health law experiential learning course, clinic or externship in place of the required HA residency course HA 8810.

## Enrollment Sequencing and Time Limits

After students have been admitted to both the J.D. and M.B.A./M.H.A. or M.S.H.A. programs and have declared intent to be enrolled in the dual degree program, they must, at the first opportunity, complete 30 semester hours of required courses in the J.D. program. After completion of these 30 hours, enrollment in the courses of either college or enrollment in both colleges concurrently is permitted.

## Grading and Scholastic Discipline

Students enrolled in either of the dual degree programs must meet the academic regulations of each college, including those related to the minimum GPA and scholastic discipline. The computation of the GPA in each college is based only on courses taken in that college.

## Graduation

Prior to graduation, students completing the dual degree program are responsible for confirming with both colleges that the degree requirements for each program have been satisfied. Students must complete the graduation application for each degree.

No credit hours of J.D. coursework will be applied toward the M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. degree requirements until the completion of J.D. degree requirements. No credit hours of M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. coursework will be applied toward the J.D. degree requirements until the completion of M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. degree requirements. A simultaneous awarding of degrees will satisfy this requirement.

The requirements for the M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. degree must be completed within five years of the initial semester of enrollment in the M.S.H.A. or M.B.A./M.H.A. program. The J.D. degree must be completed within seven years of the initial semester of enrollment in the J.D. program.

## *Law and Business Administration, J.D./M.B.A.*

The College of Law and the J. Mack Robinson College of Business offer a dual degree program leading to the Juris Doctor (J.D.) and master of business administration (M.B.A.) degrees.

The J.D./M.B.A. is a course of study which allows selected previously approved course work earned in one degree program to satisfy some of the elective course requirements of the other degree program. This enables a student to complete the requirements for both degrees in a shorter time than would be required to complete both degrees separately. Students who have already earned a J.D. degree or an M.B.A. degree at Georgia State University or at another institution are not eligible for the dual program.

The following regulations apply to students accepted to both the J.D. and M.B.A. programs and are enrolled in the dual degree program as opposed to being enrolled in each degree program separately.

## Application

Applicants to the J.D./M.B.A. dual degree program must meet the entrance requirements and follow the application procedures of both the College of Law and the Robinson College of Business. Applicants must be accepted by both colleges. Admission into one program does not presume admission to the other. To be in the J.D./M.B.A. dual degree program, students must be admitted to both programs before completing either program.

Applicants must take the LSAT to apply to the College of Law. The Robinson College of Business will accept the LSAT in lieu of the GRE or GMAT for students already accepted into the J.D. program.

Students who are accepted to both the J.D. and M.B.A. programs and wish to be enrolled in the dual

degree program are responsible for providing written notification of their intentions to each college.

## Requirements

Students must satisfy the curriculum requirements for both the J.D. and M.B.A. degrees.

### J.D. Degree Requirements

As stated above in the College of Law Course Bulletin, a law student must earn 90 semester hours of credit to qualify for the J.D. degree. For students enrolled in the dual degree program, the College of Law will permit up to 12 semester hours of 8000-level M.B.A. courses with grades of B or better to be credited toward elective hours required for the J.D.

### M.B.A. Degree Requirements

The requirements for the M.B.A. are described in the Robinson College of Business graduate course catalog. For students enrolled in the dual degree program, the Robinson College of Business will accept 12 credit hours from the J.D. program with grades of B or better to be credited toward the 12 credit hours of electives for the general business concentration in the M.B.A. program.

Students who earn fewer than 12 credit hours of grades of B or higher in the J.D. program will receive a reduced number of hours of credit toward the general business concentration in the M.B.A. program. Such students must compensate for this shortage of courses eligible for elective credit by taking additional courses in either college and earning minimum grades of B.

Choice of these courses must be approved in advance by the Robinson College of Business Office of Graduate Student Services.

In addition, completion of the first-year curriculum of the J.D. program in good academic standing will satisfy the M.B.A. requirement MBA 8030 Legal Environment: Ethics and Corporate Governance. For students who drop out of the J.D. program before completing the first-year curriculum or do not complete it in good standing, determination of credit for MBA 8030 will be decided by normal transfer-of-credit procedures, which are explained in the Robinson College of Business catalog.

### Enrollment Sequencing and Time Limits

After students have been admitted to both the J.D. and M.B.A. programs and have declared intent to be enrolled in the dual degree program, they must, at the first opportunity, complete 30 semester hours of required courses in the J.D. program. After completion of these 30 hours, enrollment in the courses of either college or enrollment in both colleges concurrently is permitted.

The Robinson School of Business may require dual degree students to take prerequisite, foundational or introductory courses prior to beginning M.B.A. coursework.

### Grading and Scholastic Discipline

Students enrolled in the dual degree program must meet the academic regulations of each college, including those related to the minimum GPA and scholastic discipline. The computation of the GPA in each college is based only on courses taken in that college.

### Graduation

Prior to graduation, students completing the dual degree program are responsible for confirming with both colleges that the degree requirements for each program have been satisfied. Students must complete the graduate application for each degree.

No credit hours of J.D. coursework will be applied toward the M.B.A. degree requirements until the

completion of J.D. degree requirements. No M.B.A. credit toward the J.D. degree is awarded until the M.B.A. degree program has been completed. A simultaneous awarding of degrees will satisfy this requirement.

The requirements for the M.B.A. degree must be completed within eight years of the initial semester of enrollment in the M.B.A. program. The J.D. degree must be completed within seven years of the initial semester of enrollment in the J.D. program.

#### *Law and City and Regional Planning, J.D./M.C.R.P. (with Georgia Institute of Technology)*

The Juris Doctor and Master of City and Regional Planning dual degree program is offered by the College of Law and the School of City and Regional Planning in the College of Design at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

#### Application

Applicants to the J.D./M.C.R.P. dual degree program must meet the entrance requirements and follow the application procedures of both the College of Law and the School of City and Regional Planning at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Applicants must be accepted by both colleges. Admission into one program does not presume admission to the other.

Applicants must take the LSAT to apply to the College of Law. The School of City and Regional Planning requires the GRE to apply to the M.C.R.P. program. The LSAT is not accepted in lieu of the GRE for students already accepted into the J.D. program and applying to the M.C.R.P. program.

Students interested in pursuing the dual degree program may apply for admission into the College of Law and the School of City and Regional Planning simultaneously but they are not required to do so. Current J.D. students must apply for the dual degree and M.C.R.P. admission before the beginning of their third year of law school. Current M.C.R.P. students must apply for the dual degree and J.D. admission before their second year of M.C.R.P. study.

#### Degree Requirements

Students must satisfy the curriculum requirements for both the J.D. and M.C.R.P. degrees.

#### J.D. Requirements

The requirements for the J.D. are described in the College of Law catalog.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.C.R.P. dual degree program, the College of Law will permit 12 semester hours of approved M.C.R.P. courses with a grade of B or better to be credited toward the requirements for the J.D.

#### M.C.R.P. Requirements

The requirements for the M.C.R.P. are described in the School of City and Regional Planning catalog.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.C.R.P. dual degree program, the School of City and Regional Planning will accept as course credit a maximum of 21 semester hours from approved law courses in the J.D. program. Students may use 6 of these law hours toward satisfying their M.C.R.P. specialization requirement and apply the balance toward their electives. Students must earn a grade of 80 (which is the equivalent of a B) or better to receive M.C.R.P. credit for their law course work. If a student receives a grade of less than 80 for a required law course that will be used toward the M.C.R.P. degree, the student may petition the Program Director for this requirement to be waived.

#### Enrollment Sequencing and Time Limits

After students have been admitted to both the M.C.R.P. and the J.D. programs and have declared intent

to be enrolled in the dual degree program, they must, at the first opportunity, complete the first 30 hours of required courses in the J.D. program as outlined in this Bulletin. After the first 30 required semester hours of law are complete, enrollment in either college or both concurrently is permitted. The J.D. must be completed within seven years of initial enrollment in the J.D. program.

### Graduation

Prior to graduation, students completing the dual degree program are responsible for confirming with both colleges that the degree requirements for each program have been satisfied.

Neither the J.D. nor the M.C.R.P. degree will be awarded until completion of the requirements of both degree programs.

No credit hours of J.D. coursework will be applied toward the M.C.R.P. degree requirements until the completion of J.D. degree requirements. No credit hours of M.C.R.P. course work will be applied toward the J.D. degree requirements until the completion of M.C.R.P. degree requirements. A simultaneous awarding of degrees will satisfy this requirement.

### *Law and Data Science and Analytics, J.D./M.S.*

#### Degree Requirements

The College of Law and J. Mack Robinson College of Business offer a dual degree program that allows students to simultaneously pursue advanced course work in law and analytics (the J.D./M.S.D.A. Program). The combined programs allow students to develop skills and knowledge through the latest in data science methodologies to answer legal questions and problems. Full-time students may satisfy all requirements for both a J.D. and an M.S. in Data Science and Analytics in as little as three and a half years, as opposed to the five years that would be required if the two degrees were pursued separately. This option is for individuals with a strong math background and would require summer school courses.

#### M.S. Requirements

For the M.S., the Robinson College of Business requires all candidates to complete 30 credit hours of business coursework. There are 21 required credit hours in the M.S.D.A. program. In addition, there are nine elective credit hours. Students can choose three elective courses from the following list or additional electives with approval:

- MSA 8770 - Text Analytics
- MSA 8500 - Image Analytics
- MSA 8650 - Image and Text Analytics with Deep Neural Networks
- FI 8460 - Introduction to FinTech

#### J.D. Requirements

The College of Law requires all J.D. candidates to complete 90 credit hours of law courses (42 of which are required courses and 48 of which are elective courses). For those students in the J.D./M.S.D.A. program, the nine elective credits hours from the M.S.D.A program will count towards the 90 credits needed for the J.D. program. Thus, a student enrolled in the J.D./M.S. program will be able to complete the requirements for both degrees by completing 30 credit hours in Robinson College of Business and 81 credit hours in the College of Law.

#### Enrollment Sequencing and Time Limits

Candidates interested in the dual degree program must satisfy the admissions requirements and be

admitted to each college separately. Applicants should contact the Office of Admissions of each school for application information. The LSAT must be taken for admission to the College of Law. The GMAT admission requirement at the Robinson College of Business will be waived for students who have already taken the LSAT and are enrolled in the College of Law. Program students who start at the College of Law must complete their first 30 credits of law school before taking M.S.D.A. courses. Program students who start in the M.S.D.A. program must declare their intent to do the dual-degree program before completing 21 credits in the M.S.D.A. program. Degree requirements for both programs must be completed within seven years of the student's initial semester of enrollment in the J.D. program.

#### Graduation

Students must satisfy the degree requirements of each school and should consult with advisers in each school for the precise graduation requirements for each degree and for information about the course offerings.

#### *Law and Professional Accountancy, J.D./M.P.A.*

The College of Law and J. Mack Robinson College of Business offers a dual degree program that allows students simultaneously to pursue advanced course work in law and professional accountancy (the J.D./M.P.A. Program). Full-time students are able to satisfy all requirements for both a J.D. and a masters of professional accountancy (M.P.A.) in as little as four years, or eight semesters, as opposed to the five years, or 10 semesters, that would be required if the two degrees were pursued separately.

#### Degree Requirements

##### M.P.A. Requirements

The requirements for the M.P.A. are described in section 7190 of the Robinson College of Business graduate course catalog.

For students enrolled in the dual degree program, the Robinson College of Business will accept 24 credit hours of law courses toward the required 24 credit hours of general business coursework. In addition, the J. Mack Robinson College of Business will allow 12 semester hours of law courses to be credited toward the 30 credit hours of 8000 level M.P.A. courses, as follows: nine credit hours of law courses applied toward the nine credit hours of elective M.P.A. courses and a three-credit-hour tax law course applied toward the required course ACCT 8120.

The School of Accountancy requires strict adherence to the prerequisites listed for each of its courses (see the Course Descriptions chapter of the graduate course catalog). Students enrolled in accounting or taxation courses without having completed the stated prerequisites with minimum grades of C will be required to withdraw from the course. Students should contact the School of Accountancy before registration if there are questions about course prerequisites.

##### J.D. Requirements

The College of Law requires all J.D. candidates to complete 90 credit hours of law courses (42 of which are required courses and 48 of which are elective courses). Students enrolled in the J.D./M.P.A. program are permitted to apply 24 credit hours of law courses toward the required 24 credit hours of general business coursework. In addition, Robinson College of Business will allow 12 semester hours of law courses to be credited toward the 30 credit hours of 8000 level required M.P.A. courses, as follows: nine credit hours of law courses applied toward the nine credit hours of elective MPA courses, and a three-credit-hour tax law course applied toward the required course ACCT 8120. Reciprocally, the College of Law will allow 12 credit hours of 8000- level M.P.A. courses in which students earn a grade of

B or higher to be credited toward the requirements of the J.D. program.

Thus, a student enrolled in the J.D./M.P.A. program will be able to complete the requirements for both degrees by completing 45 credit hours in Robinson College of Business and 78 credit hours in the College of Law.

#### Enrollment Sequencing and Time Limits

Candidates interested in the dual degree program must satisfy the admissions requirements and be admitted to each college separately. Applicants should contact the Office of Admissions of each school for application information. Students must take the GMAT for admission to Robinson College of Business and the LSAT for admission to the College of Law. After students have been admitted to both programs and have declared their intent to enter the joint program, they must, at their first opportunity, complete the first 30 credit hours of required courses in the J.D. program. After the first 30 required credit hours of law are complete, enrollment in either college or both concurrently is permitted. Degree requirements for both programs must be complete within eight years of the student's initial semester of enrollment in the joint program. The J.D. must be completed within seven years of the student's initial enrollment in the J.D. program.

#### Graduation

Students must satisfy the degree requirements of each school and should consult with advisers in each school for the precise graduation requirements for each degree and for information about course offerings.

#### *Law and Public Administration, J.D./M.P.A.*

For students enrolled in the dual degree program, the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies will allow 14 semester hours of law courses with a grade of B or better to be counted as electives in the M.P.A. program. Reciprocally, the College of Law will permit approved 8000-level M.P.A. courses with grades of B or better to be credited toward 14 hours of the J.D. No credit hours for M.P.A. courses will be applied to the J.D. until the M.P.A. is awarded. Students can satisfy this requirement by completing both degrees simultaneously or by completing all degree requirements for the M.P.A. degree first. Similarly, no credit hours for M.P.A. courses will be applied toward the J.D. requirement until the J.D. is awarded. Students can satisfy this requirement by completing the requirements for the J.D. first. A law student must earn 90 semester hours of credit to qualify for the J.D.

After students have been admitted to both the M.P.A. and J.D. programs and have declared their intent to enter the program, they must, at first opportunity, complete the first 30 hours of required courses in the J.D. program as outlined in this Bulletin. After completion of these 30 hours of J.D. courses, enrollment in courses of either college or enrollment in both colleges concurrently is permitted. The requirements for the M.P.A. must be completed within eight years of the initial semester of enrollment in the M.P.A. program. The J.D. must be completed with seven years of the initial semester of enrollment in the J.D. program.

An M.P.A. student should consult with the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies regarding any courses that may be required to complete prior to commencing 8000-level courses. If the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies does require any such courses, the College of Law recommends that students planning on part-time law study complete those courses prior to taking their first law courses.

#### *Law and Public Health, J.D./M.P.H.*

The College of Law and the School of Public Health offer a dual degree program leading to the Juris Doctor

degree (J.D.) and Master of Public Health degree (M.P.H) with a concentration in Health Management and Policy (HMGP).

The J.D./M.P.H. is a course of study which allows selected previously approved course work earned in one degree program to satisfy some of the elective course requirements of the other degree program. This enables a student to complete the requirements for both degrees in a shorter time than required to complete each of the degrees separately. Students who have already earned a J.D. and an M.P.H. degree at Georgia State University or at another institution are not eligible for the dual program.

The following regulations apply to students who are accepted to the J.D. and M.P.H. programs and are enrolled in the dual degree program as opposed to being enrolled in each degree program separately:

#### Application

Applicants to the J.D./M.P.H. dual degree program must meet the entrance requirements and follow the application procedures of both the College of Law and the School of Public Health. Applicants must be accepted by both colleges. Admission into one program does not presume admission to the other. To be in the J.D./M.P.H. dual degree program, students must be admitted to both programs before completing either program.

Applicants must take the LSAT to apply to the College of Law. The School of Public Health will accept the LSAT in lieu of the GRE for students already accepted into the J.D. program.

Students who are accepted to both the J.D. and M.P.H. program and wish to be enrolled in the dual degree program are responsible for providing written notification of their intentions to each college.

#### Degree Requirements

Students must satisfy the curriculum requirements for both the J.D. and M.P.H. degrees.

#### J.D. Requirements

The requirements for the J.D. are described in the College of Law catalog.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.P.H. dual degree program, the College of Law will permit up to 12 semester hours of 8000- level M.P.H. courses with grades of B (3.0) or better to be credited toward elective hours required for the J.D.

#### M.P.H. Requirements

The core requirements for the M.P.H. are described in the School of Public Health catalog.

Students enrolled in the J.D./M.P.H. dual degree program are deemed to have selected the concentration in Health Management and Policy (HMGP). The requirements for this concentration are also described in the School of Public Health catalog.

For students enrolled in the J.D./M.P.H. dual degree program, the School of Public Health will accept 12 semester hours of relevant health law elective courses from the J.D. program with grades of B (3.0) or better to be credited toward the 12 semester hours of Health Management and Policy concentration requirements for the M.P.H. Of these, 3 credit hours must be LAW 7240 Health Law: Finance and Delivery in lieu of PHPB 8250 Health Economics and Policy and 3 credit hours must be LAW 7244 Public Health Law.

In addition, 3-6 credit hours of an approved health law experiential learning course, clinic or externship may be accepted in place of 2 credit hours of PHPB 7960 Applied Practice Experience.



## Enrollment Sequencing and Time Limits

Students interested in pursuing a J.D./M.P.H. must be admitted into and enroll in both degree programs prior to completion of 30 credit hours of M.P.H. coursework and 60 hours of J.D. coursework in order to qualify for the dual degree program.

After students have been admitted to both the J.D. and M.P.H. program and have declared intent to be enrolled in the dual degree program, they must, at the first opportunity, complete 30 semester hours of required courses in the J.D. program. After completion of these 30 hours, enrollment in the courses of either college or enrollment in both colleges concurrently is permitted.

Students must complete all five M.P.H. core courses, LAW 7240 Health Law: Finance and Delivery and LAW 7244 Public Health Law before beginning the applied practice experience or experiential course, clinic, or externship. If an experiential course, clinic, or externship course is taken prior to completing these required core courses, it will not count for the PHPB 7960 applied practice experience requirement.

## Grading and Scholastic Discipline

Students enrolled in either of the dual degree programs must meet the academic regulations of each college, including those related to the minimum GPA and scholastic discipline. The computation of the GPA in each college is based only on courses taken in that college.

## Graduation

Prior to graduation, students completing the dual degree program are responsible for confirming with both colleges that the degree requirements for each program have been satisfied. Students must complete the graduation application for each degree.

No credit hours of J.D. coursework will be applied toward the M.P.H. degree requirements until the completion of J.D. degree requirements. No credit hours of M.P.H. course work will be applied toward the J.D. degree requirements until the completion of M.P.H. degree requirements. A simultaneous awarding of degrees will satisfy this requirement.

The requirements for the M.P.H. degree must be completed within five years of the initial semester of enrollment in the M.P.H. program. The J.D. degree must be completed within seven years of the initial semester of enrollment in the J.D. program.

## Final Exams

The time period for final examinations each semester is set forth in the College of Law's academic calendar, which is available prior to the start of each semester. The College of Law does not follow the university's academic calendar with respect to final examinations. The course-by-course schedule for final examinations during the final exam period will be published as soon as practical after the beginning of each semester. Regardless, students should not plan to be away from campus for any reason until after the last day of the final exam period as published in the College of Law's academic calendar.

Like bar exams, and except as noted below, law school exams are not rescheduled or deferred for any reason other than unforeseeable, unavoidable circumstances. Law school exams will not be rescheduled or deferred for personal, non-emergency reasons including, but not limited to, work inconvenience, weddings, vacations, etc.

Examinations are rescheduled in only two circumstances:

1. When a student has two or more examinations scheduled to begin during a 24-hour period. The start times of the exam are the time considered for conflicts (e.g., a 6 p.m. exam followed by a 1 p.m. exam the next day presents a conflict; a 6 p.m. exam followed by another 6 p.m. exam the next day does not); and
2. When verifiable extraordinary, unavoidable, and unforeseen circumstances (e.g., serious health problems of a student or an immediate family member) intervene. Personal travel, work schedules, family or community events are not grounds for rescheduling a final exam.

Overlapping deadlines for papers or projects do not present a justification for rescheduling examinations. Take-home examinations for multiple days are not considered in determining the existence of conflicts. Failure to take an exam (or approved make-up exam) at the scheduled time, without the prior approval of the associate dean for academic affairs, constitutes failure to complete the work in the course. The attending student will receive an F, unless the student experienced an unpredictable and unavoidable emergency, which, in the judgment of the associate dean for academic affairs, justifies the failure to appear in a timely manner. In such an event, the associate dean for academic affairs may require the student to produce documentation verifying the existence of such an emergency.

Students who wish to request a rescheduling of an exam must submit a written request to the College of Law Registrar's Office using the form published on the Law Registrar's website. Whenever circumstances permit an exam to be rescheduled (for example, 24-hour conflicts), requests should be submitted no later than two weeks after the exam schedule is released, but in no event earlier than two weeks prior to the beginning of the final examination period. If the request is predicated on an emergency, arising immediately prior to or during the examination period, students should still submit the above referenced form. If that is impractical, student should contact the associate dean for academic affairs. Students should never seek permission from a faculty member to reschedule an exam. If an exam is rescheduled, communication with a faculty member can compromise anonymity. Rescheduled examinations may be moved to a date earlier than the originally scheduled date.

Depending upon the course and the discretion of the instructor, in-class examinations may be administered by proctors, rather than the instructors of the courses being examined, to preserve student anonymity. Proctors start each in-class exam and ensure that all examinations are properly administered and end on time. Proctors are instructed to contact the registrar or other appropriate personnel to resolve any problems with an examination. They are also provided with each instructor's contact information and may contact them in the event of a substantive problem with the examination. Students must take examinations in the room assigned and may not bring any materials into the room other than those specifically permitted by the instructor, the exam instructions, or as approved through the academic accommodations process. If a student is permitted to reschedule a proctored exam, the rescheduled exam will also be proctored unless otherwise noted.

Depending upon the course and the discretion of the instructor, examinations may be graded anonymously by the use of individually assigned exam numbers. Students may access their examination numbers via the Law Registrar's website, or they may obtain their numbers in person after presenting a valid photo ID to the registrar. The College of Law's final exam website also contains instructions for students to retrieve assigned exam numbers. To preserve anonymity, students may not disclose their anonymous exam numbers. Anonymous grading of midterm exams, seminar papers, or projects which require consultation between a student and a faculty member may not be possible. All matters involving the taking of examinations are governed by the College of Law's Honor Code.

### *Failure to Complete an Examination*

A student who receives an examination is expected to finish it during the period for which it is scheduled. Students who do not complete examinations will be graded on the material submitted during the scheduled examination time period unless an exception based on exigent circumstances is granted by the associate dean for academic affairs. Such exceptions will be extremely rare and will be granted only if the student has notified the proctor of the examination of the inability to complete the exam and can establish the reason for such inability to the satisfaction of the associate dean of academic affairs.

### *Laptop Option for Final Examinations*

Generally, and subject to the discretion of the instructor, College of Law final examinations are administered via each student's laptop computer. In this regard, each student is responsible for ensuring that the student's computer is in good working order. In addition, the use of a designated software program that inhibits the accessing of another part of the hard-drive or the internet during the examination may be required. The required software will be provided to students during these sessions by the College of Law. If a student does not install the designated software properly and timely, or if the student's computer will not function properly with said software installed, alternate arrangements will be made possibly requiring the student to handwrite his or her examination.

The College of Law staff or faculty may assist in the installation of software; however, it is the primary responsibility of the student to ensure that their computer and the requisite software are both functioning at the time of the exam.

### **Grading**

Final grades in each course of the College of Law will be in letter form, on an A+ to F scale with grade point values (used to calculate grade point averages and class ranks) as delineated below:

A+ 4.3

A 4.0

A- 3.7

B+ 3.3

B 3.0

B- 2.7

C+ 2.3

C 2.0

C- 1.7

D 1.0

F 0.0

Note: There are no pluses or minuses in the D range.

Other marks may be used in appropriate circumstances, such as:

S	Satisfactory
U	Unsatisfactory
I	Incomplete
IP	In Progress
W	Withdrawn without prejudice
WF	Withdrawn Failing

A grade of D or better is required to receive any credit in the course. A grade of F is a failing grade. Students may only repeat required courses in which they have received an F or a U.

Required courses must all be passed with at least a D (1.00), except the upper-level legal writing requirement, which must be met with at least a C+ (2.30), and Lawyering: Advocacy, which must be met with a Satisfactory (S) grade.

A student who receives an F or Unsatisfactory in a required course must repeat the course in the next semester in which it is offered. If the next offering of the course is in the summer semester, the student may delay repeating the course until the next succeeding offering, with the permission of the associate dean for academic affairs. The college will attempt to assign the student to an instructor other than the one from whom the student initially took the course, but the student must repeat the course in accordance with the above policy, even if assigning a different professor is not feasible.

A student may only repeat the course for credit at the College of Law. In no event may a student repeat a required course more than once. If a student receives an F or Unsatisfactory grade the second time they take a required course, the student shall be automatically dismissed from the College of Law, regardless of the student's cumulative grade average. A student who fails and repeats a required course will receive a separate grade for that course that shall be included in the computation of the student's overall grade average. The prior grade in the course will not be expunged from the student's record and also will be included in the computation of that student's overall grade average.

#### Course Grading

All required courses, except Lawyering: Advocacy (LAW 6030), must have a class mean (i.e., average) between 2.90 and 3.10 exclusive of failing grades. For non-seminar elective courses with 20 or more students, the faculty strongly recommends that the class mean fall between 3.00 and 3.20. For non-seminar elective courses with fewer than 20 students, the faculty strongly recommends a maximum class mean of 3.50. Courses that are specifically listed as seminars are exempt from the grading standards. In determining class means, instructors disregard grades of students in the course who are not pursuing their J.D. (such as LL.M. students).

#### *Incomplete (I):*

The grade of "I" (Incomplete) may be given to a student who for nonacademic reasons beyond their control is unable to meet the full requirements of a course. In order to qualify for an "I," a student must:

1. have completed most of the major assignments of the course (generally all but one) and
2. be passing the course (aside from the assignments not completed) in the judgment of the instructor.

A student may request an "I" when a student has a nonacademic reason for not completing one or more of the assignments for a course (including examinations). It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor in person or in writing of the reason. The grade of "I" is awarded at the discretion of the instructor and is not the prerogative of the student. Conditions to be met for removing an "I" are established by the instructor.

#### *Deadlines for Removal of "I"*

The period of time for removing an "I" is established by the instructor, subject only to the maximum time limits set by the university. The university requires that the grade of "I" be removed by the end of the second academic term after the "I" is assigned (whether or not the student was enrolled during these two terms.) The Office of the Registrar will assign a grade of "F" at the end of the second academic term unless the Office of the Registrar receives a final grade (for S/U grading, a U will be assigned). No student may graduate with an incomplete grade.

#### *Grade Changes*

No final grade submitted to the College of Law Registrar may be changed, except for a grade change to correct a clerical or computational (mathematical) error, or pursuant to a grade appeal decided in the student's favor in accordance with the standards for "Appeal of Course Grade" below.

#### *Appeal of Course Grade*

A grade appeal is available only for review of claims that the grade was based on arbitrary or capricious grounds. There shall be no appeal to challenge the merits of a faculty member's evaluation of the student's performance.

The process of appealing a course grade is as follows:

1. A student must first review the situation with the instructor who assigned the grade. This review must take place within 30 calendar days of the date the grades are posted.
2. If the question is not resolved with the instructor, the student may appeal in writing to the associate dean for academic affairs, who shall appoint an ad hoc three-person faculty committee to hear the appeal. The student's written appeal must be received by the associate dean for academic affairs no later than 14 calendar days after the date of review with the instructor. The appeal must describe how the instructor's grading is alleged to have violated the standards set forth in the policy above. A copy of the appeal will be provided to the faculty member whose grade is appealed.
3. The faculty appeal committee may decide the matter solely upon consideration of the facts alleged in the student's written appeal or may consider other relevant information. The decision of the faculty appeal committee will be conveyed to the student and the faculty member whose grade is the subject of appeal in writing no later than 14 calendar days after the conclusion of its deliberations.
4. If the student wishes to challenge the decision of the faculty appeal committee, the student may appeal in writing directly to the dean. The written appeal must be received within 14 calendar days of the date of the writing conveying to the student the decision of the faculty appeal committee. As with the appeal to the faculty committee, the dean's review shall be limited to the grounds for appeal stated above. The dean will render a decision in writing within 14 days of receipt of the student's written appeal. The decision of the dean shall be final except as further appellate process may be available at the university level.

### **Academic Good Standing**

To be in good standing, for all purposes including transfer status, a full- or part-time student must, on the basis of all course work completed, have a cumulative average of at least 2.20, which is the minimum cumulative grade point average required for graduation.

### **Probation/Exclusion**

When a student's cumulative average falls below 2.20, the student shall be placed on probation and permitted a maximum of two semesters (excluding summers) in which to raise the cumulative average to the required 2.20. A student who does not raise the cumulative average to the required 2.20 by the end of two probationary semesters shall be automatically excluded from the college, without right of appeal. As described in more detail below, a student may be automatically excluded without being on probation. Summer semesters will not be counted when calculating the number of probationary semesters permitted or used.

If any semester's grades are not available to determine the good standing of a student at the time of registration for the following semester, the student may register for the new semester. But when the completed semester's grades are determined and published, resulting in the student (i) no longer being in academic good standing or (ii) being excluded pursuant to the above policies, the student may complete the semester but any grades that may have been earned in the current semester may not alter the student's standing resulting from the prior semester's grades, and appropriate action will be taken thereon.

If the student raises the cumulative average to a 2.20 but in a later semester the cumulative average again falls below 2.20 and the student has previously been on probation for two semesters, the student will be excluded from the college. If, however, the student has previously been on probation for only one semester, the student will be permitted one additional semester to raise the cumulative average to the required 2.20.

A student will not be placed on probation before the completion of the first year (first two semesters, full- or part-time) of law school. A student who does not have a cumulative average of at least 2.00 at the conclusion of the student's first year (first two semesters, full- or part-time) of law school or any year thereafter will automatically be excluded from the college.

Excluded students may not apply for admission until at least two years after exclusion. An excluded student is then eligible to apply for admission as an entering student, in competition with all other candidates for admission to the first-year class. If admitted, the previously excluded student starts anew, with no academic credit for prior coursework. Nonetheless, university policy requires that all grades earned at Georgia State University remain on a student's transcript, both before and after the exclusion.

There is no College of Law appeals process for academic exclusions. Additionally, information about any appeal must follow the university guidelines regarding academic appeals.

Course work completed for the purposes of this requirement means courses taken at the College of Law in which the student has received a final grade of between A+ and F inclusive, including grades of S, U and WF.

### **Rankings**

During their law school career, J.D. students may receive up to three rankings, according to the following schedule. Each spring, the College of Law will announce three rankings: a Final Ranking (of graduates); a Second Interim Ranking (roughly, of students who have completed their second year

required courses and are between 33-89 credits); and a First Interim Ranking (of students who have completed the first-year required courses and have a minimum of 32 credits, if they are full-time). Part-time and full-time student may be ranked separately. If part-time students are ranked, they must have completed the required first year courses in their program and have a minimum of 22 credits. Depending on their graduation timeline, a student might receive an additional ranking.

For the Final Ranking, all students who, in the last academic year, have completed all requirements for graduation will be ranked on the basis of their overall grade point average. Transfer students will be included only in the Final Ranking.

For the Second Interim Ranking, all students who, in the last year, have received a final grade in at least one course other than first-year full-time required courses, and who have received a final grade in all first-year full-time required courses, will be ranked on the basis of their overall grade average.

Any student with an outstanding grade of Incomplete (I) in any required course will not be ranked.

In addition, during the Spring 2020 semester, the faculty approved special ranking policies for those students enrolled during that specific semester. In May 2020, the College of Law Faculty decided Spring 2020 grades will be taken into account for purposes of overall cumulative GPA but will not be taken into account for any class ranking purposes in this or any subsequent semester. This decision was due to the mandatory grade mean change also implemented for Spring 2020 to deal with the initial COVID pandemic outbreak.

**Note:** Interim rankings may also be released after fall semesters.

### **Transfers/Withdrawals/Reentry and Grading in Sequential Courses**

A student enrolled under an instructor in a sequential course (e.g., Lawyering Foundations I and II) is required to continue enrollment under such instructor until the sequence is completed. Transfer will be allowed to another section involving another instructor only in exceptional circumstances and subject to the prior permission of the associate dean for academic affairs and the instructors involved.

A student who withdraws during the sequence of a course will be permitted to reenter that course only in sequence with the same instructor unless the associate dean for academic affairs and the instructor, determine that material changes will be made in the course which will make it inappropriate for a previously enrolled student to reenter the course except at its beginning. A student will be permitted to withdraw only once from a sequential course.

### *Interruption & Resumption of Studies*

After completing the first thirty-two hours of the full-time program (excluding summer courses) or the first thirty-three hours of the part-time program (excluding summer courses), a J.D. student may interrupt his or her law studies and, if in good standing, reenter in any subsequent semester. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, in exceptional circumstances the associate dean for academic affairs may grant permission for a student to interrupt the student's studies prior to completion of the first thirty-two (for full-time students) or thirty-three (for part-time students) hours, subject to any conditions and limitations that the associate dean may determine appropriate.

A student subject to probation who withdraws during the course of the academic year may only be readmitted on probation by permission of the associate dean for academic affairs.

A student who is absent from the College of Law for two or more consecutive semesters (not including summer semesters), other than as a result of an academic suspension or with the express permission of the associate dean for academic affairs, must apply to the Admissions Committee, and meet all admissions, curricular, and graduation requirements in effect at the time accepted for reentry.

A full-time student enrolled in first-year required courses, and a part-time student enrolled in first- or second-year required courses, who withdraws during the sequence of such courses will not be permitted to resume his or her course of study except in sequence. This may result in a year's delay in the student's course of studies and typical graduation date. No student may take more than seven consecutive years (84 consecutive months) to complete the J.D. program.

#### *Withdrawal from Classes*

A student who wishes to withdraw from a class prior to the midpoint in the semester may do so without permission via PAWS, unless the class is a required course. Withdrawal from a required course requires the prior permission of the associate dean for academic affairs. For any withdrawals prior to the midpoint in the semester, the student will receive a W for that course provided the withdrawal occurs before the midpoint.

A student who wishes to withdraw from all classes prior to the midpoint of any semester must receive permission from the associate dean for academic affairs. When withdrawal is approved, a W will be recorded in all courses for which the student is registered. Failure to obtain prior approval may result in a WF in all courses.

A student who wishes to withdraw after the midpoint of any semester will receive a WF. A student wishing to withdraw from any or all classes after the midpoint must request permission from the associate dean for academic affairs.

Where the cause of withdrawal is a nonacademic emergency necessitating withdrawal from all classes, the student must petition the university dean of students, and follow the procedures outlined by that office. If the university dean of students determines that the circumstances warrant a finding of nonacademic hardship the student will receive a W in all courses for which the student is registered.

#### *Resumption of Studies*

Resumption of studies for those students who have previously withdrawn is governed by the following policies and the decision of the Admissions Committee.

A student who withdraws prior to the midpoint of the semester or is granted a nonacademic hardship withdrawal during the first year of full-time law study or the first two years of part-time law study may reenter the college in good standing the next succeeding fall semester as a matter of right, or a later semester or year by permission of the Admissions Committee.

Except as otherwise determined by the associate dean for academic affairs pursuant to the policies stated above under "Interruption & Resumption of Studies, a student who withdraws during the first year of full-time study or the first two years of part-time study but who is not granted a nonacademic hardship withdrawal through the university must follow the application process for new students to be re-admitted to the College of Law.

A student who withdraws from the College of Law leaving one or more IP (In Progress) outstanding in sequential courses is, on their reentry to the college, subject to whatever grading and scheduling arrangements the relevant instructors and associate dean for academic affairs deem appropriate for completion of the sequential course or courses.

All above provisions applicable to J.D. students are subject to the seven-year (84 month) J.D. program completion rule. A student admitted to the College of Law but who, before initial enrollment in courses at the college, decides to postpone legal studies must reapply for admission to any succeeding class.

#### **Student Practice Rule**



Students in the J.D. program can apply to be admitted and registered with the Georgia Office of Bar Admissions under the Georgia Student Practice Rule. The College of Law will only register those students who meet the minimum standards provided in the rules, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.30, and meet one of the two criteria below:

1. student has completed all first-year required courses (Law 5000-level courses) and is working for credit in our clinics, Externship Program, or classes in which students represent clients with faculty supervision; or
2. student is taking, or has already passed, Evidence, Professional Responsibility (or its equivalent) and Lawyering: Advocacy and is working on behalf of units of government and persons unable to afford legal services in a pro bono capacity in compliance with Rules 91-95 of the Georgia Supreme Court.

Furthermore, in order to work with a government prosecutorial office, a student must have completed two-thirds of their law school education (60 credits) with a 2.30 GPA.

Any registration issued in accordance with the rules and these policies may be terminated in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 94.

The College of Law will not register a student with the Georgia Office of Bar Admissions for purposes of working in private practice under the supervision of an attorney.

Registration with the Georgia Office of Bar Admissions is handled through the office of the associate dean for academic affairs or via the instructor for the course in which the student is enrolled.

## ***Master of Laws***

### **Admissions**

The College of Law's application for all degree programs includes questions about one's personal, academic, and criminal record. Submission of an application to the College of Law is a certification that the information contained therein is true and complete, to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

If anything occurs that makes any applicant's responses on his or her application incomplete or inaccurate, the applicant must amend the application as soon as is reasonably possible. In addition, students are obligated by the University Code of Conduct to update their application until the admitted student graduates from the College of Law. Any omission or misrepresentation may result in the invalidation of one's application, revocation of a favorable admissions decision, a letter of reprimand (which, if applicable, must be reported to the bar), report to the LSAC Misconduct and Irregularities Subcommittee, report to bar authorities, or any other action appropriate under the circumstances.

Admission to the LL.M. degree program is based on the following criteria:

1. Prior education. Admission is limited to those with a law degree. Preference is given to those with superior academic attainment as evidenced by their grade point average (GPA), the strength of the institution granting their degree, and the academic rigor of their individual program of instruction.
2. Interest in pursuing an advanced degree in law. In considering an applicant's admission to the program, appropriate weight is given to the congruence between curricular interests of the applicant and the academic resources of Georgia State College of Law.
3. Diversity. Georgia State College of Law seeks a diverse student body in the program to serve the larger policy objective of training domestic and foreign lawyers, as well as to foster

recruitment of a diverse lawyer/student population. Admission may, therefore, be based partially on an applicant's country of origin or the country from which their legal education was obtained.

### *Special English Proficiency Note for International Applicants for the LL.M. Program*

All College of Law classes are taught in English, so proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking English is essential. Applicants may be presumed proficient in English if they: (1) are from a country where English is an official language, or (2) earned an undergraduate or graduate degree from a college or university in which instruction is in English.

LL.M. students take some of their classes with J.D. students and are expected to participate in class discussions and ask and answer questions. Students also must be able to answer written examination questions and prepare other required assignments.

All College of Law applicants whose native language is not English are required to demonstrate English proficiency by scoring a minimum of 100 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or a minimum of 7.5 on the academic version of the International Language Testing System (IELTS). No other test or certificate-based methods of demonstrating English proficiency will be considered. A video teleconference or in-person interview of the applicant may be required to assess English proficiency.

For more information, applicants should refer to the TOEFL website (<https://www.ets.org/toefl>) or IELTS website (<https://www.ielts.org/en-us>).

International applicants also will need to provide documentation of their visa and financial status prior to admission.

### *Orientation*

All students accepted for admission to begin study as an LL.M. student are required to attend Orientation preceding the beginning of regular fall semester classes. During Orientation, LL.M. students will be introduced to the unique aspects and requirements of their program, as well as the demands of classes they will take with J.D. students. The purpose of Orientation is to introduce students to the study of law in a U.S. law school and help them make the transition into a law school program that may differ in significant respects from the program through which they earned their first professional law degree.

All LL.M. students must also attend the Professionalism portion of Orientation. During this part, LL.M. students are introduced to the Honor Code and are required to take an oath to abide thereby. Students also will be required to complete, and submit to the associate dean for students, a Disclosure Affirmation, the purpose of which is to ensure that all information in students' applications is accurate and complete. A student's obligation to update such information continues until they graduate from the College of Law.

### **General Information**

The LL.M. (Master of Laws) degree is offered to students who have already earned a professional law degree. The different types of LL.M. programs students may pursue depends upon:

1. whether the student's original law degree was earned in the United States (domestic) or abroad (foreign), and
2. the particular field of study the student wishes to emphasize.

The College of Law offers an in-residence program with multiple concentrations for foreign-trained lawyers and a similar program for U.S.-trained lawyers. Students may pursue the LL.M. on a full or part-time basis.

A student's concentration is recorded on the student's transcript. In no event may a student earn more than one LL.M. degree from the College of Law.

Students may not transfer from the LL.M. program to the J.D. program or apply any credits earned while an LL.M. student to the J.D. program.

A student must successfully complete a minimum of 26 credit hours to earn an LL.M. degree and a minimum of 36 credit hours to earn a dual-concentration LL.M. degree.

### **Foreign-Trained Lawyers—Required Courses for All Concentrations**

All foreign-trained lawyers, regardless of their concentration(s), must take and pass the following four courses: (i) Introduction to U.S. Law; (ii) Lawyering Skills for LL.M. Students, (iii) Research Methods in Law; and (iv) Legal Writing and Analysis for LL.M. Students. In extraordinary circumstances, one or more of these requirements may be waived by the associate dean for academic affairs in consultation with the director of the LL.M. program.

A foreign-trained lawyer may pursue the following concentrations:

#### *Foreign Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Bar Track)*

The concentration for foreign-trained lawyers desiring to sit for the Georgia bar exam (the "bar-track") is a twenty-six-credit hour program that follows a curriculum prescribed by the Supreme Court of Georgia. The bar-track concentration is suitable for a foreign-trained lawyer who is "authorized to practice law" in a non-U.S. jurisdiction, and who otherwise meets the fitness requirements of the Supreme Court of Georgia Office of Bar Admissions. LL.M. students successfully completing the College of Law's bar-track program of study may sit for the Georgia bar exam;

#### Course of Study (Bar Track)

##### Required Courses

- LAW 5000 - Civil Procedure: Federalism and Constitutional Issues. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 5001 - Civil Procedure: The Federal Rules. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6000 - Constitutional Law I. **3 Credit Hours**
- or*
- LAW 7117 - Constitutional Law II: Individual Liberties. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 9003 - Evidence - LL.M. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 9000 - Introduction to U.S. Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 9004 - Lawyering Skills for LL.M. Students. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 9001 - Legal Writing and Analysis for LL.M. Students. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 9006 - LL.M. Research Methods in Law. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 6020 - Professional Responsibility. **3 Credit Hours**

##### Additional Requirements

- For eligibility to sit for the Georgia bar exam, the LL.M. degree must be completed in 36 months.

#### *Foreign Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Environmental and Land Use Law Track)*

##### Course of Study

In addition to the required courses noted above, the following additional courses are required for the

#### Environmental & Land Use Law Track:

- LAW 7494 - Urban Fellows Program. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7320 - Land Use Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7200 - Environmental Law. **3 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Seven (7) environmental/land use elective credits

*Foreign Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (General Studies Track)*

#### Course of Study

In addition to the required courses noted above, 15 general law elective credits selected with the approval of the dean for academic affairs are required.

*Foreign Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Health Law Track)*

In addition to the required courses noted above, the following additional courses are required for the Health Law Track:

#### Required Courses

- LAW 7239 - Health Law: Quality and Access. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7240 - Health Law: Financing and Delivery. **4 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Eight (8) health elective credits

*Foreign Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Intellectual Property Track)*

In addition to the required courses noted above, the following additional courses are required for the Intellectual Property Track:

#### Required Courses

- LAW 7158 - Copyrights. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7417 - Patent Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7478 - Trademarks and Unfair Competition. **3 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Six (6) IP elective credits

*Foreign Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Legal Analytics and Innovation Track)*

In addition to the required courses noted above, the following additional courses are required for the Legal Analytics and Innovation Track:

#### Required Courses

- LAW 7674 - Legal Analytics I **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7675E - Legal Analytics II **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7676E - Applied Legal Analytics Lab. **3 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Six (6) legal analytics credits

### *Dual Concentrations*

In addition, a foreign-trained lawyer may pursue a dual concentration LL.M. which requires successful completion of thirty-six credit hours. An LL.M. student pursuing a dual concentration must meet the requirements for each concentration.

Foreign-trained lawyers are eligible to take the bar track plus one of the following concentrations: general studies, health law, environmental and land use law, intellectual property, and legal analytics and innovation. Foreign-trained lawyers enrolled in the bar track plus dual concentration LL.M. program must successfully complete the twenty-six credit hours required for the bar-track LL.M. plus an additional ten credit hours of study (including additional required courses, if any) pertaining to the student's selected concentration in addition to the bar track.

Foreign-trained lawyers also may opt for two non-bar-track concentrations, selecting two concentrations from the following: general studies, health law, environmental and land use law, intellectual property, and legal analytics and innovation. Foreign-trained lawyers taking two non-bar-track concentrations are required to take the course required of all foreign-trained lawyers plus twelve to thirteen credit hours in each of the two selected concentration areas. Students interested in pursuing a dual concentration must consult with the Director of the LL.M. program at the beginning of their studies at the College of Law.

### **U.S. Trained Lawyers**

All U.S.-trained lawyers enrolled in the LL.M. program must complete a substantial writing project. The writing project must be in their field of interest and may be pursued in conjunction with an elective or an independent research project supervised by a faculty member and approved by their faculty adviser. Such project must meet the College of Law's established writing requirement standards, being of publishable quality.

### *Concentrations*

U.S.-trained lawyers pursuing the general studies concentration may take any electives, as approved by the associate dean for academic affairs, to fulfill the student's required twenty-six credit hours for attainment of the LL.M. degree.

U.S.-trained lawyers pursuing an LL.M. in one of the other four concentration areas must complete twenty-six credit hours of required concentration courses, concentration electives, and general law electives as specified below.

A U.S.-trained lawyer may pursue the following concentrations:

#### *U.S. Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Environmental and Land Use Concentration)*

#### Required Courses

- LAW 7200 - Environmental Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7320 - Land Use Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7494 - Urban Fellows Program. **2 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7397 - International Perspective on Urban Law and Policy. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7242 - Advanced Land Use Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7204 - Urban Environmental Law Seminar. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Nine (9) environmental/land use elective credits or general law elective credits selected with the approval of the dean for academic affairs. The courses included below are highly recommended and would count towards the nine elective credits.
- LAW 7010 - Administrative Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- Urban Issues in Environmental Law Seminar. **3 Credit Hours**
- Advanced Property Seminar. **2 Credit Hours**
- International Perspectives on Urban Law and Policy. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

#### Additional Requirement

- Course work must include a substantial writing project in the student's field of interest.

#### *U.S. Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (General Studies Concentration)*

#### Elective Courses

Twenty-six general law elective credits selected with the approval of the dean for academic affairs are required.

#### *U.S. Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Health Law Concentration)*

#### Required Courses

- LAW 7239 - Health Law: Quality and Access. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7240 - Health Law: Financing and Delivery. **4 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Twelve (12) health law elective credits
- Seven (7) general law elective credits selected with the approval of the dean for academic affairs. The courses included below are highly recommended and would count towards the seven general law elective credits.
- LAW 7010 - Administrative Law. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7101 - Corporations. **2 to 3 Credit Hours**

#### Additional Requirement

- Course work must include a substantial writing project in the student's field of interest.

#### *U.S. Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Intellectual Property Concentration)*

#### Required Courses

- LAW 7158 - Copyrights. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7417 - Patent Law. **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7478 - Trademarks and Unfair Competition. **3 Credit Hours**

#### Elective Courses

- Nine (9) IP elective credits
- Eight (8) general law elective credits selected with the approval of the dean for academic affairs

#### Additional Requirement

- Course work must include a substantial writing project in the student's field of interest.

*U.S. Trained Lawyers, LL.M. (Legal Analytics and Innovation Concentration)*

Required Courses

- LAW 7674 - Legal Analytics I **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7675E - Legal Analytics II **3 Credit Hours**
- LAW 7676E - Applied Legal Analytics Lab. **3 Credit Hours**

Elective Courses

- Ten (10) legal analytics elective credits
- Seven (7) general law elective credits selected with the approval of the dean for academic affairs

Additional Requirement

- Course work must include a substantial writing project in the student's field of interest.

Important Note for U.S.-Trained Lawyers in the LL.M. Program: If any of the above-listed required courses were satisfied during a student's previous attainment of a J.D. degree, the course may not be taken within the College of Law and must be replaced with a concentration or general law elective approved by the associate dean for academic affairs.

*Dual Concentrations*

U.S.-trained lawyers also may pursue a dual concentration LL.M. which requires successful completion of thirty-six required credit hours. The dual concentration LL.M. for U.S.-trained lawyers requires eighteen credit hours (including concentration-required courses) in each of two concentration areas selected from (1) general studies, (2) health law, (3) environmental and land use law, (4) intellectual property, and (5) legal analytics and innovation. Dual concentration students must also complete a substantial writing project under the supervision of a faculty member with expertise on the chosen topic at the intersection of the two concentration areas.

Students interested in pursuing a dual concentration must consult with the Director of the LL.M. program at the beginning of their studies at the College of Law.

**Final Exams, Grading Policies, and Grade Appeals**

Except as noted below, the final exam, grading, and grade appeal policies applicable to J.D. students apply to LL.M. students. See above for more information.

*Course Grading*

Grades for LL.M. students are determined independently from those compiled for J.D. students, even when they are enrolled in the same class. LL.M. students will not be included in the J.D. grading medians calculated for individual classes.

An LL.M. student must receive a grade of at least a C- to receive credit for a course. An LL.M. student must repeat any required course(s) in which the student receives a grade of less than a C-. When an LL.M. student repeats a required course, as described herein, the student's transcript shall reflect both the original and the subsequent grade. Both grades will be used in calculating the student's grade point average. In no event may an LL.M. student take a required course more than twice.

**Academic Good Standing and Probation/Exclusion**

For all students enrolled in the LL.M. program, to be in good standing, for all purposes including transfer status, a student must, on the basis of all course work completed, have a cumulative average of at least

2.20 each semester, which is the minimum cumulative average required for graduation.

Any LL.M. student whose cumulative grade point average at the end of fall semester places them in jeopardy of being excluded under this policy will be so notified by the associate dean for academic affairs. Any student whose cumulative grade point average is below 2.00 at the end of the spring semester, or who fails a required course more than once, will be automatically excluded from the College of Law, without right of appeal.

Excluded LL.M. students may not apply for admission until at least two years after exclusion. An excluded LL.M. student is then eligible to apply for admission as an entering student, in competition with all other candidates for admission to the LL.M. program. If admitted, the previously excluded student starts anew, with no academic credit for prior coursework. Nonetheless, university policy requires that all grades earned at Georgia State University remain on a student's transcript, both before and after the exclusion.

### **Rankings**

Graduating LL.M. students will receive cumulative grade point averages but will not be ranked.

### **Graduation for J.D. and LL.M. Students**

All students enrolled in the College of Law must file a graduation application by the deadline date set by the university and the Law Registrar's office. Both the completed application and the graduation application fee must be submitted by the deadline.

A degree will be awarded only to a student who meets the university academic requirements and the standards of performance of the College of Law. Generally, the College of Law sponsors only one commencement ceremony during the academic year – in May following the spring semester; however, if a sufficient number of students will complete the requirements for graduation at the end of the fall semester, the College of Law may decide to sponsor a fall graduation ceremony in December for those students. Students who intend to graduate in the summer (August) may participate in the spring (May) graduation ceremony immediately preceding their intended summer graduation or wait until the immediately succeeding fall or spring graduation ceremony. In the absence of a December graduation ceremony, fall graduates may participate in the spring graduation ceremony (May) of the following year.

### **Honors**

Graduation with honors will be granted to candidates for the J.D. and LL.M. degrees achieving high academic work in all courses attempted at the College of Law. The specific award will be based on the following:

1. *Cum laude* for candidates achieving a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.40;
2. *Magna cum laude* for candidates achieving a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.60; and
3. *Summa cum laude* for candidates achieving a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.80.

### **Pro Bono Service**

To encourage and support students who provide pro bono and/or public service, the College of Law has adopted the Pro Bono and Public Service Recognition Program. Recognition of students performing substantial pro bono and/or public service will occur during each graduation ceremony.

#### *How Pro Bono and Public Service Will Be Recognized*

Students who complete 50 hours or more of pro bono and/or public service during law school graduate with "pro bono and public service distinction." There are three levels of recognition:

- Distinction is awarded to students who report between 50 and 99 hours of service;



- High Distinction is awarded to students who report between 100 and 149 hours of service;
- Highest Distinction is awarded to students who report 150 or more hours of service.

#### What Counts as Pro Bono Service:

Pro bono service consists of law-related service students render in the public interest and for the public good without receiving compensation or earning academic credit. Work qualifying as pro bono includes activities that meet the following general criteria:

- Law-related;
- Not for credit or compensation;
- Supervised by a licensed attorney or law faculty member, except:
  - Law-related work done for a member of Congress or local government;
  - Translation work done for law-related volunteering;
- On behalf of one or more of the following:
  - Individuals, groups, or causes that are either under-represented in the legal system or that benefit the public;
  - A nonprofit organization, government agency, public interest law firm, or private law firm providing pro bono legal services;
  - A charitable, governmental, not-for-profit, or educational organization that works to improve the law, the legal system, or the legal profession, including courts and legislatures;
- Or training for work that meets the above criteria.

#### What is Public Service:

Public service consists of non-law-related service students render in the public interest and for the public good without receiving compensation or earning academic credit. Work qualifying as public service includes activities that are not law-related, but that is performed without compensation or academic credit and is performed for or on behalf of one or more of the following:

- Organizations with a principal purpose promoting the interests of low-income individuals or communities;
- Individuals, groups, or organizations seeking to secure or protect civil rights, civil liberties, or public rights;
- Charitable groups or organizations;
- Community groups or organizations; or
- Classes in any K-12 program.

Volunteer work on behalf of a candidate for office or under the auspices of a political party does not qualify for pro bono or public service recognition under this program.

#### **Additional Recognition of Students**

Every year, the College of Law hosts an Annual Honors Day to recognize the academic, leadership, and service accomplishments of current students. Additional information is available from the associate dean for students.

#### ***Bar Examination***

Various states have their own requirements for admission to practice law. Some of these require registration with their official bar admission agency prior to or shortly after admission to law school in order to indicate the intention to apply for and take the bar examination in that state upon graduation from law school.

Students who have definite preferences for out-of-state employment after graduation are advised to obtain from the appropriate authority in the state in which practice is contemplated precise information concerning such requirements.

Students intending to take the bar examination and to practice in Georgia should refer to the Georgia Office of Bar Admissions for information on the application requirements, fees, and deadlines.

Office of Bar Admissions  
P.O. Box 38466  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
Telephone: 404-656-3490

For further information about requirements for admission for other jurisdictions, contact the American Bar Association.

### **Courses Offered and Descriptions**

The courses offered by the College of Law and course descriptions, including prerequisites and co-requisites, are found on the college's website here: <https://catalogs.gsu.edu/index.php?catoid=9>.