Law

About the Program

The UC Berkeley School of Law offers a broad, three-year curriculum leading to the Juris Doctor (JD) degree. Berkeley Law educates students not only for the practice of law but also for all the varied roles lawyers perform in modern society. The law school provides an intellectually challenging course of study that imparts the theoretical and practical skills necessary for effective, creative, and responsible legal counseling and advocacy. To this end, Berkeley Law’s curriculum is continually evolving and offers hundreds of courses, including dozens in its top-ranked Intellectual Property, International Law, Social Justice, and Environmental Law programs.

The school is a member of the Association of American Law Schools and is accredited by the American Bar Association. Its graduates are qualified to become applicants for admission to practice in any state of the United States.

Berkeley Law does not require or even recommend a specific pre-law major. To prepare for law school, students should take courses that help them develop written and oral communication skills; increase analytical and problem-solving skills; obtain broad exposure to the humanities and social sciences in order to understand the social context within which legal problems arise; and acquire a general understanding of economics, because many legal problems relate to the economic functioning of society.

In selecting specific courses, consultation with an undergraduate advisor may be desirable. Berkeley Law seeks a student body with a broad set of interests, backgrounds, life experiences, and perspectives.

The school also offers programs, mainly for foreign-educated attorneys, that lead to the degree of Master of Laws (LLM) or the degree of Doctor of the Science of Law (JSD).

General Requirements

1. A minimum of 21 units of Law coursework

2. All students must enroll in courses for two academic year semesters.

3. All program requirements and coursework must be completed within three years of starting the program.

4. All students must take a minimum of 10 units and a maximum of 16 units per semester. Students may submit an Academic Rules Petition to take an overload of 17 units or an underload of 9 units per semester.

5. Students may earn up to four units of credit for non-law/non-classroom coursework subject to the following limitations:
   a. A maximum of two units for participating in a maximum of one independent research and writing project (Law 299);
   b. A maximum of two units for participation in a maximum of one group research and writing project (Law 298);
   c. A maximum of two units for participation in a maximum of one individual research or research assistant project (Law 297);
   d. A maximum of one unit for participation in one journal course (e.g. Law 295.1A, Law 295.1G, Law 295.1J, Law 295.1S etc.);
   e. A maximum of two units for participation in one advocacy competition (e.g. Law 295.3A, Law 295.3J, etc.);
   f. A maximum of four units for graduate-level academic coursework at another U.C. Berkeley program such as Haas Business School or Goldman School of Public Policy as approved by the Dean of Students;
   g. A maximum of four units for participation in a Judicial Externship or Field Placement (e.g. Law 295.6A, Law 295.6J, Law 295.8B, etc.);

6. Students may not count teaching and pedagogy coursework (e.g. Law 300 or Law 375P) toward the degree.

Required Coursework for Foreign-Trained LL.M. Students with a first degree earned outside the U.S. or Canada

1. Complete the 3-unit Fundamentals of U.S. Law class (fall semester)
   a. Law 208.9 Fundamentals of U.S. Law
   b. Course description available at https://www.law.berkeley.edu/php-programs/courses/course_catalog.php

2. Complete the 2-unit Legal Research and Writing class (fall semester)
   a. Law 206.4A Legal Research and Writing for LL.M. Students
   b. Course description available at https://www.law.berkeley.edu/php-programs/courses/course_catalog.php

Required Coursework for U.S. or Canadian-trained Students with a J.D. in Common Law

1. LL.M. Capstone Writing Requirement - Complete a paper of a minimum 15 pages in length in any class or through an independent study (Law 299).
   a. Student must submit an LL.M. Capstone Writing Requirement Fulfillment form to the Registrar’s office prior to the spring semester Add/ Drop Deadline.
   b. LAW classes that may satisfy this requirement include:
      - Law 206.4A Legal Research and Writing for LL.M. Students (2 units)
      - Law 206C Note Publishing Workshop (1 unit)
      - Law 207.5 Advanced Legal Writing (3 units)
      - Law 208.1 Advanced Legal Research: Pathfinder (3 units)
      - Law 208.8 Foundation Seminar in the Sociology of Law (3 units)
      - Law 208I International and Foreign Legal Research (3 units)
      - Law 209.45 Psychology of Diversity and Discrim. in American Law (3 units)
      - Law 209.5 Research Design (3 units)
      - Law 210 Legal Profession (2 units)
      - Law 210.2A Workshop in Law, Philosophy & Political Theory (3 units)
      - Law 210.2B Workshop in Law, Philosophy & Political Theory (3 units)
      - Law 212 Critical Theory and Social Science Method (3 units)
      - Law 212.3 Critical Race Theory (3 units)
      - Law 212.8 Anti-Blackness and the Law (3 units)
- Law 214.2 Law & Classical Social Theory (3 units)
- Law 214.4 Advanced Interdisciplinary Workshop on Law (3 units)
- Law 215.4 Foundations of Moral Philosophy (3 units)
- Law 215.41 Responsibility in Law and Morality (3 units)
- Law 215.5 Foundations of Political Philosophy (3 units)
- Law 217.11 Law and Political Economy (3 units)
- Law 217.12 Law and Economics Foundation Seminar (3 units)
- Law 219.4 Poetic Justice: Dostoevsky, Nabokov and Literature in the Shadow of the Law (3 units)
- Law 219.4T Courts, Lawyers and Justice in Film (3 units)
- Law 219.9 Law and the Greek Classics (1 unit)
- Law 220.5 Constitutional Theory (2 units)
- Law 220A Marijuana Law and Policy (1 unit)
- Law 221.6 Education Law and Policy: Equity, Excellence, and Regulatory Strategies (2-3 units)
- Law 221.74 Movement Lawyering from the Inside Out (1 unit)
- Law 221.74 Movement Lawyering from the Inside Out for 1Ls (1 unit)
- Law 221.75 From Social Movement to Legal Change (1 unit)
- Law 221.8 Statutory Implementation: Agency Policymaking through Regulation (1 unit)
- Law 223.1 Election Law (3 units)
- Law 223.2 Advanced Administrative Law (3 units)
- Law 223.21 Advanced Administrative Law: Trump and Obama Policies in Court (2 units)
- Law 223.8 California Constitutional Law (3 units)
- Law 224.22 Mental Health and the Law (2 units)
- Law 224.23 Public Health Law (3 units)
- Law 224.3 Social Justice Issues in Entertainment and Media Law (3 units)
- Law 225.3 Interpretation in Constitutional and Statutory Law (3 units)
- Law 226.12 Media Law and the First Amendment (1 unit)
- Law 226.2 Foreign Relations Law (3 units)
- Law 226.8 Strategic Constitutional Litigation in Property Rights and Economic Liberty (1 unit)
- Law 230.2 Police Interrogations and Investigations: A Comparative Perspective (2 units)
- Law 231.51 People, Prisons and the Pandemic (2 units)
- Law 232.11 When Technology Meets a Criminal Case (1 unit)
- Law 232.9 Crimmigration (2 units)
- Law 234.1 The School-to-Prison Pipeline (1 unit)
- Law 234.2 Criminal Justice Reform (3 units)
- Law 234.21 Dismantling Mass Incarceration (1 unit)
- Law 234.22 Dismantling the Carceral State (1 unit)
- Law 241.3 Consumer Litigation: The Course of a Case (2 units)
- Law 243 Appellate Advocacy (3 units)
- Law 244.61 Multidistrict Litigation: The New Reality of Class Actions and Mass Torts (1 unit)
- Law 244.8B Mediation Practicum (1 unit)
- Law 245 Negotiations (3 units)
- Law 245.9 International Business Negotiations (3 units)
- Law 246.3 Depositions (3 units)
- Law 247.1 Regulation of Capital Markets and Financial Institutions (3 units)
- Law 247.11 Consumer Financial Regulation (3 units)
- Law 248.2 Bioethics: From Nuremberg to Modern Times (3 units)
- Law 248.62 The Law and Economics of Complexity (1 unit)
- Law 249.4 Financial Management of Non-Profits (1 unit)
- Law 251.21 Business Strategy in the Global Political Economy (2 units)
- Law 251.7 Business in Society (3 units)
- Law 256 Transactional Drafting for LL.M. Students (1 unit)
- Law 256.2 Transactional Drafting (1 unit)
- Law 256.2 Transactional Drafting (1 unit)
- Law 256.3 Understanding and Drafting Business Documents (2 units)
- Law 260.1 sec. 001 Tax Policy and Public Finance (2 units)
- Law 261.17 International Organizations (2-3 units)
- Law 261.21 Foreign Investment Arbitration Seminar (1 unit)
- Law 261.22 International Commercial Arbitration Seminar (1 unit)
- Law 261.73 Self Determination of Peoples in International Law (1 unit)
- Law 262.5 Comparative Constitutional Law (3 units)
- Law 262.62 From Minority Rights to Human Rights -- 1878 to the Present (1 unit)
- Law 262.65 Human Rights and Social Justice Writing Workshop (3 units)
- Law 262.68 Human Rights and War Crimes Investigations (2 units)
- Law 263.1 Advanced Topics in Corporate Governance: A Comparative Analysis of the U.S and Asia (1 unit)
- Law 264.1 Ocean and Coastal Law (2-3 units)
- Law 264.5 Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law (2 units)
- Law 264.6 Health and Human Rights (3 units)
- Law 265.2 Asian Legal Systems (2 units)
- Law 267.31 Civil Rights in American History (3 units)
- Law 267.4 Law & History Foundation Seminar (3 units)
- Law 271.5 Environmental Law Writing Seminar (2 units)
- Law 271.51 Environmental Law Writing Seminar II (1 unit)
- Law 271.6 Science and Regulatory Policy (2-3 units)
- Law 273.63 Public Lands and Natural Resources Law (3 units)
- Law 275.32 Network Neutrality Seminar (2 units)
- Law 275.65 Transnational Intellectual Property Law (3 units)
- Law 275.66 Chinese IP Law (2 units)
- Law 276 Technology for Lawyers (1 unit)
- Law 276.32 Topics in Privacy and Security Law (3 units)
- Law 276.35 Social Media Law (1 unit)
- Law 276.67 Advanced IP: Theories of Innovation Policy and Culture (2-3 units)
- Law 276.85 Intro to Information Privacy (1 unit)
- Law 277.3 Patent Litigation II (3 units)
- Law 277.7 Art and Cultural Property Law (2 units)
- Law 278.33 Advanced Copyright Seminar (2 units)
- Law 280A Law and Technology Writing Workshop (2 units)
- Law 282.1 Domestic Violence Law Seminar (3 units)
- Law 283 Representing Low Wage Workers (3 units)
- Law 283.4 Advanced Civil Rights (2-3 units)
- Law 285.4 Consumer Protection Law (3 units)
- Law 285.62 Animal Law (2 units)
- Law 285.85 Community Economic Development (3 units)
- Law 286.32 Civil Liberties in a Pandemic (1 unit)
- Law 286.51 Federal Indian Law Writing Seminar
- Law 286.6 Race, Sexuality and the Law (2 units)
- Law 286.81 Transgender Rights & The Law (1 unit)
- Law 287 Disability Rights (2 units)
- Law 289 Independent Research and Writing (1-2 units)

Additional Coursework Required for Thesis Track (https://www.law.berkeley.edu/academics/llm/ll-m-thesis-track/) Students

Thesis Track students must complete the coursework requirements described above in Section General Requirements and Required Coursework, as applicable, and must additionally:

1. Complete six units of Thesis Track Independent Study, completed in one of two ways:
   a. two units of Law 325A in the fall semester, followed by four units of Law 325B in the spring semester; OR
   b. six units of Law 325AB taken during the spring semester

2. Complete an original thesis in the form of a substantial research and writing project that is of publishable quality and roughly 50-60 double-spaced pages. The thesis paper is due by the last day of instruction in the spring semester.

General Requirements

1. A minimum of 24 units of Law coursework

2. Three consecutive terms of enrollment: spring, summer, and fall in the same calendar year.

3. At least eight units of coursework must be completed online including:
   a. six units in the spring semester, and
   b. two units, including a mandatory one-unit Capstone course, in the fall.

4. The student’s remaining units must be completed in the summer and fall terms.

5. During the summer term, students must take a minimum of 10 units and a maximum of 16 units.
   a. Students may submit an Academic Rules Petition to take an overload of 17 units for the summer term.

6. All program requirements and coursework must be completed within three years of starting the program.

Required Coursework for Foreign-Trained LL.M. Students with a first degree earned outside the U.S. or Canada

1. Complete the 3-unit Fundamentals of U.S. Law class (spring semester, online)
   a. Law W208.9 Fundamentals of U.S. Law (3 units)

2. Complete either 3-units of Intellectual Property or 3-units of Business Associations (spring semester, online)
   a. Law W275.3 Intellectual Property Law (3 units)
   b. Law W250 Business Associations (3 units)

3. Complete 2-units of Legal Research and Writing for LL.M.s (summer term)
   a. Law 206.5S LLM Legal Research and Writing (2 units)

4. Complete the 1-unit Capstone Project (fall semester, online)
   a. Law W206.6 Capstone Writing Workshop (1 unit)

Required Coursework for U.S. or Canadian-trained Students with a J.D. in Common Law

1. Complete 6 units of online courses during the spring semester
   a. Law W208.9 Fundamentals of U.S. Law (3 units); and
   b. Law W275.3 Intellectual Property Law (3 units); or
   c. Law W250 Business Associations (3 units);
   d. U.S. or Canadian-trained Students with a J.D. in Common Law may petition to waive Fundamentals of U.S. Law and enroll simultaneously in both Intellectual Property Law and Business Associations during the spring semester.

2. Complete the 2-unit Legal Research and Writing class (summer term)
   a. Law 206.5S LLM Legal Research and Writing (2 units); or
   b. Law 206.51S LRW: Advanced Scholarship (2 units);

3. Complete the 1-unit Capstone Project (fall semester, online)
   a. Law W206.6 Capstone Writing Workshop (1 unit)

General Requirements

1. A minimum of 24 units of Law coursework

2. Two consecutive summers of enrollment.
   a. Students are not eligible to enroll in law courses during the academic year.

3. Students must take a minimum of 10 units and a maximum of 16 units each summer.
a. Students may submit an Academic Rules Petition to take an overload of 17 units or an underload of 9 units for the summer term.

4. All program requirements and coursework must be completed within three years of starting the program.

**Required Coursework for Foreign-Trained LL.M. Students with a first degree earned outside the U.S. or Canada**

1. Complete the 3-unit Fundamentals of U.S. Law class during their first summer
   a. Law 208.9S Fundamentals of U.S. Law (3 units)

2. Complete the Capstone Writing Requirement by completing 2-units of Legal Research and Writing for LL.M.s during their first summer
   a. Law 206.5S LL.M Legal Research and Writing (2 units)

**Required Coursework for U.S. or Canadian-trained Students with a J.D. in Common Law**

1. Students who have earned a J.D. in Common Law from the U.S. or Canada may request a waiver of the requirement to take Fundamentals of U.S. Law.
   a. Law 208.9 Fundamentals of U.S. Law (3 units)

2. Complete the Capstone Writing Requirement by completing 2-units of Legal Research and Writing for LL.M.s during their first summer
   a. Law 206.5S LL.M Legal Research and Writing (2 units)

Earning the Juris Doctor (J.D.) ([https://www.law.berkeley.edu/academics/jd/](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/academics/jd/)) requires:

- 85 units
- Completion of required first year courses ([https://www.law.berkeley.edu/academics/jd/first-year-curriculum/](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/academics/jd/first-year-curriculum/))
- Residence for 6 semesters
- Completion of moot court (included in 1st year required courses)
  - Law 202.1B Written and Oral Advocacy (2 units) – Spring semester of first year
  - Completion of Law 220.6 Constitutional Law (4 units)
  - Completion of a course in Professional Responsibility
  - Completion of 6 units of Experiential courses
  - Completion of the Writing Requirement during the third, fourth, or fifth semester

Students are limited to no more than 18 units of non-law/non-classroom units ([https://www.law.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/JD_Units_Reststriction_Summary2020.pdf](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/JD_Units_Reststriction_Summary2020.pdf))

***Please note that course specifics can vary by semester. The most current Law offerings can be found in the Berkeley Law Schedule of Classes at [https://www.law.berkeley.edu/php-programs/courses/courseSearch.php](https://www.law.berkeley.edu/php-programs/courses/courseSearch.php).

**Required first year curriculum:**

- Law 200F Civil Procedure (5 units)
- Law 202F Contracts (4 units)
- Law 230 Criminal Law (4 units)
- Law 201 Torts (4 units)
- Law 202.1A Legal Research and Writing (3 units) – Fall semester
- Law 202.1B Written and Oral Advocacy (2 units) – Spring semester

**Courses that satisfy the Professional Responsibility requirement include:**

- Law 210 Legal Profession (2 units)
- Law 211.11 Understanding the U.S. Legal Profession (3 units)
- Law 211.12 The U.S. Legal Profession: Prof. Resp. in Global Perspective (3 units)
- Law 211.2 Practical Legal Ethics (2 units)
- Law 283Q Domestic Violence F.P. Classroom Component: Ethics in Practice (2 units)
- Law 295 Civil Field Placement Ethics Seminar (2 units)
- Law 295C Criminal Law Ethics Seminar (2 units)
- Law 299.1 Harvard Law Exchange (1-12 units)

**Courses that may satisfy the 6 unit Experiential requirement include:**

- Law 202.1B Written and Oral Advocacy (2 units)
- Law 207.5 Advanced Legal Writing (2-3 units)
- Law 207.51 Advanced Writing Workshop (2 units)
- Law 208 Advanced Legal Research (3 units)
- Law 208.1 Adv Legal Research-Pathfinder (3 units)
- Law 208I Intl & Foreign Legal Research (3 units)
- Law 212.8 Anti-Blackness and the Law (3 units)
- Law 221.8 Stat Implem: Agcy Pol thru Reg (1 unit)
- Law 222.12 Whistleblower Law (2 units)
- Law 226.8A Strategic Con Litigation Practicum (1-2 units)
- Law 226.9 State&Local Impct Lit Prac Sem (2 units)
- Law 226.9A State&Local Impact Litigation Practicum (2 units)
- Law 227.1 Labor & Employ Arbitration (1 unit)
- Law 231.5 CA Prisons & Discret. Parole (1 unit)
- Law 233 White Collar Crime (2 units)
- Law 242.3 Lawyering as Problem Solving (2 units)
- Law 242.31 Advocacy Outside of the Courtroom (2 units)
- Law 242.32 Legislative Drafting and Lobby (3 units)
- Law 242.9 Listening and Communicating (1 unit)
- Law 243 Appellate Advocacy (3 units)
- Law 243.3 Oral Advocacy for LLM Students (1 unit)
- Law 243.7 9th Circuit Practicum (4 units)
- Law 243.7 9th Circuit Practicum Seminar (2 units)
- Law 243.7A 9th Circuit Practicum (4 units)
- Law 243.7B Advanced 9th Circuit Practicum (4 units)
- Law 244.42 Litigation 101 (2 units)
- Law 244.49 Trial Competition (2 units)
- Law 244.8 Mediation (3 units)
- Law 244.82 Mediation Advocacy (2 units)
- Law 244.83 Mediation Practicum Seminar (1 unit)
- Law 244.8B Mediation Practicum (1 unit)
- Law 244.91A Appellate Competition Intensive Pt 1 (1 unit)
Courses that may satisfy the Writing Requirement include:

- Law 207.5 Advanced Legal Writing (2-3 units)
- Law 209.45 Psychology, Diversity, and Discrimination (3 units)
- Law 208.1 Advanced Legal Research - Pathfinder (3 units)
- Law 208I International and Foreign Legal Research (3 units)
- Law 212 Critical Theory & Social Science Methodology (3 units)
- Law 212.3 Critical Race Theory (3 units)
- Law 212.8 Anti-Blackness and the Law (3 units)
- Law 214.2 Law and Classical Social Theory (3 units)
- Law 219.4T Courts, Lawyers, Justice in Film (3 units)
- Law 220.1 Constitution in Early Republic (2 units)
- Law 220.92 Democracy & the First Amendment (2 units)
- Law 221.6 Education Law and Policy Seminar (4 units)
- Law 223.1 Election Law (3 units)
- Law 223.8 California Constitutional Law (3 units)
- Law 224.22 Mental Health and the Law (2 units)
- Law 224.23 Public Health Law (3 units)
- Law 224.3 Social Justice Issues in Entertainment & Media Law (3 units)
- Law 227.8 Supreme Court Seminar (3 units)
- Law 230.2 Police Interrogations and Investigations: A Comparative Perspective (2 units)
- Law 232.9 Crimmigration (3 units)
- Law 234.2 Criminal Justice Theory (3 units)
- Law 236 Capital Punish & Constitution (3 units)
- Law 244.41 Post-Conviction Remedies (3 units)
- Law 242.32 Legislative Drafting and Lobby (3 units)
- Law 243 Appellate Advocacy (3 units)
- Law 243.7A 9th Circuit Practicum (4 units)
- Law 243.7B Advanced 9th Circuit Practicum (4 units)
- Law 244.42 Litigation 101 (2 units)
- Law 247.11 Consumer Financial Regulation (3 units)
- Law 248.2 Bioethics: From Nuremberg to Modern Times (3 units)
- Law 251.21 Business Strategy in Global Political Economy (2 units)
- Law 251.7 Business in Society (3 units)
- Law 251.74 Corporate Social Responsibility (2 units)
- Law 255.2 Gaming Law: Gambling, Wagers (2 units)
- Law 260.1 Tax Policy and Public Finance (2 units)
- Law 262.5 Comparative Con Law (2 units)
- Law 262.65 Human Rights and Social Justice Writing Workshop (3 units)
- Law 264.6 Health and Human Rights in Times of War and Peace (3 units)
- Law 267.4 Law & History Foundation Seminar (3 units)
- Law 270.41 Fire Science, Law, and Policy (3 units)
- Law 271.2 Biodiversity Law (3 units)
- Law 271.5 Environmental Law Writing Seminar (2 units)
- Law 271.6 Science and Regulatory Policy (3 units)
- Law 272.1 Water Law (3 units)
- Law 272.2 Environmental Justice: Race, Class & the Environment (3 units)
- Law 275.66 Chinese IP Law (3 units)
- Law 276.32 Topics in Privacy & Security Law (3 units)
- Law 276.74 Privacy Counseling & Compliance (2 units)
- Law 276.76 Life Sciences & Innovation Workshop I (2 units)
- Law 276.81 Secrecy: Info Control in Courts (3 units)
- Law 277.2 Patent Litigation I (3 units)
- Law 277.3 Patent Litigation II (3 units)
- Law 280A Law & Tech Writing Workshop (2 units)
- Law 281.9 Reproductive Rights & Justice (2 units)
- Law 285.62 Animal Law (2 units)
- Law 282.1 Domestic Violence Law Seminar (3 units)
- Law 283 Rep Low Wage Worker (2 units)
- Law 283.4 Adv Civil Rights (2 units)
- Law 285.4 Consumer Protection Law (3 units)
- Law 286.8 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & the Law (2 units)
- Law 287 Disability Rights (2 units)
- Law 288.4 Asylum/Refugee Law and Process (3 units)
- Law 295.5D Death Penalty Clinic (4-6 units)
- Law 295.5E Environmental Law Clinic (4 units)
- Law 295.5F Adv Environmental Law Clinic (2-5 units)
- Law 295.5H Intl Human Rights Law Clinic (4-6 units)
- Law 295.5I Advanced International Human Rights Clinic (1-10 units)
- Law 295.5M New Business Community Law Clinic (4 units)
- Law 295.5N Advanced New Business Community Law Clinic (4-6 units)
- Law 295.5P Policy Advocacy Clinic (4-10 units)
- Law 295.5T Samuelson Clinic (4 units)
- Law 295.5U Advanced Samuelson Clinic (1-4 units)
- Law 295.5X Advanced Policy Advocacy Clinic (1-10 units)
- Law 295.5Y Advanced EBCLC Clinic (1-10 units)
- Law 295.5Z EBCLC Clinic (1-10 units)
- Law 299 Independent Research and Writing (1-2 units)

1. Completion of Law 206.76 J.S.D. Legal Scholarship Seminar (1 unit, fall semester):

The seminar will provide students with a foundation for conducting in-depth legal research and support the students with developing their proposed dissertation project. It will explore the following: different types of research, how to plan a research project, research methodology, and review available organizational tools. Students will also gain a better understanding of what research resources are available on their chosen topics. Students will have opportunities to discuss their research projects and ideas with the group and participate in constructive discussion and feedback. At the end of the seminar, students will have made progress on developing an outline/prospectus on their proposed dissertation project. By Academic Rules Petition submitted within the first two weeks of classes and for good cause shown, a student may be permitted to substitute another similar seminar for this one.

2. Completion of the following required courses during the first year:

- One unit of Law 206.76 J.S.D. Legal Scholarship Seminar (described above);
- At least 12 units per semester of independent study (Law 299A in the fall and Law 299B in the spring) to be devoted to the student’s own research.

Any additional coursework must be approved by the student’s faculty adviser and the J.S.D. Program Faculty Director.

With prior approval from the J.S.D. Program Faculty Director, a student may be permitted to enroll in fewer than 12 units of independent study in a given semester in order to allow them to take a teaching pedagogy course in addition to one other course.

3. Submission of Fall and Spring Semester Progress Report and Course Approval forms:

During every semester of the J.S.D. program (including the first year), a student must complete and submit a “Progress Report and Course Approval” form to the ADP Office by the CalCentral Add/Drop deadline in Fall and Spring semesters. Each semester’s form must detail:

1. The progress the student has made toward the goals set out in his/h her last report (explaining deviations from these goals, if any)
2. Goals for the upcoming term, including a timetable for completion of those goals
3. Course enrollment for the semester.

The form must be signed by the student’s faculty adviser. It must also be signed by the J.S.D. Faculty Director to approve any coursework beyond independent study. Timely submission of Progress Report and Course Approval forms is required to maintain a student’s good standing in the J.S.D. program. Late submission puts a student’s status at risk.

4. Formation of Committees:

By the Spring semester of the first year, in consultation with the student’s faculty adviser, the student must identify 4 faculty members to serve on their Qualifying Exam (QE) committee and 3 faculty members to serve on their dissertation committee. Each committee must have a Chair, an Academic Senate Representative (ASR), and one or more additional member(s). The chair of the dissertation committee must be the student’s primary faculty adviser; the chair of the oral exam committee must be a faculty member from the law school other than the student’s primary adviser. All committee members must be members of the UC Berkeley Academic Senate (i.e., tenured or tenure-track faculty) unless an exception is granted by the Graduate Division.

5. Qualifying Examination:

The Qualifying Examination for J.S.D. candidacy should take place in the Spring semester or summer of the first year (and no later than Fall semester of the second year). The focus of the examination will be on the student’s proposed dissertation project. Successful passage of the QE is required before advancement to candidacy. At least three weeks before the QE is to take place, students must apply to take the exam by
submitting the Higher Degree Committees/Qualifying Exam eForm in CalCentral. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange a date and time for the exam that works for all committee members.

6. Submission of Abstract/Prospectus:
Two weeks prior to taking the QE, the student must submit to the QE committee a substantial piece of writing outlining a proposed dissertation project, in either of the following forms:

1. A short abstract (one page), plus a table-of-contents-like outline of the dissertation as a whole, plus one chapter of minimum 20 pages, **OR**
2. A minimum 20-page prospectus of the dissertation, providing a detailed discussion of the questions to be addressed, relevant literature and arguments surrounding the topic, and proposed research strategy for addressing the topic.

Where the student plans to write multiple shorter papers instead of a single long paper, he or she should submit either:

1. A 20-page draft of one of the papers plus short paragraph abstracts of the other two; or
2. Multiple shorter prospectus-like summaries of each paper, of a minimum of six pages each.

7. Application for Candidacy:
A student will be eligible for J.S.D. candidacy once the student has passed the oral examination and successfully completed all required coursework. The student must submit the Higher Degree Committees/Advancement to Candidacy eForm by the end of the semester in which the student completes candidacy requirements. If a student will be working with human subjects or animals, then the student must also complete training in human subjects research by taking and passing the online CITI Program, a basic course in the Protection of Human Research Subjects. Before beginning research, students must obtain approval for their research protocol from the Committee for Protection of Human Subjects.

8. Continuous Enrollment:
Once advanced to candidacy, students must maintain their student registration by enrolling in 12 units of independent study per semester for the duration of the program. Upon advancing to candidacy, a J.S.D. candidate must focus primarily on the research and writing of the dissertation.

9. Duration of Program
All program requirements including coursework and the dissertation are to be completed within three years. Extensions of time will be considered on a case-by-case basis; if granted, students must enroll only in independent study and may not take additional coursework. Extensions of time will not include an extension of the nonresident tuition waiver (if applicable) or any financial support from the law school, if previously awarded. After five years, candidacy will lapse and may not be reinstated except in extremely extenuating circumstances.

10. Filing of Dissertation
An electronic copy of the dissertation must be filed with the Graduate Division no later than the last day of the semester in which the student intends to graduate. A copy of the Receipt of Filing must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office within one week of filing. The dissertation must consist of original work in the form of a monograph or three shorter papers suitable for publication, and constitute a substantial contribution to learning in the field of research. Publishable papers and article-length essays are acceptable only if incorporated into a larger argument that binds together the dissertation as a whole. Inclusion of a student’s already-published work in the dissertation requires advance approval by the Graduate Division (for details, see http://grad.berkeley.edu/academic progress/dissertation/). All student dissertations will be archived at the University Library.