



MEMO TO: All Rising 2L and 3L J.D. Students
FROM: Jonathan Cardi, Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
DATE: March 23, 2017
SUBJECT: Information Regarding Fall 2017 Registration

Registration for the Fall 2017 semester approaches! Rising 3L students will register on April 3-4, and rising 2L students will register on April 6-7. After that, the add-drop period will be open to allow adjustments to your schedule until the end of the second week of classes this coming August. (Note this change—from a 1 to 2 week add/drop period. Adding and dropping classes after this two-week period will only be allowed, however, for unforeseen exigent circumstances and with approval of the professor and Associate Dean.)

The 2017-2018 list of classes and 2017 Fall class schedule are posted on the Registrar's webpage and on WIN. This memo contains a few reminders about the degree requirements in the J.D. program (the Student Handbook contains a more detailed description of these rules; see <http://studentlife.law.wfu.edu/handbook/>) and some notes about new classes being offered this coming Fall.

When dealing with the J.D. program rules, remember this equation:

$$4 \text{ courses} + 3 \text{ categories} + \text{total hours} = \text{J.D. degree.}$$

FOUR COURSES

After you complete the required first-year curriculum for the J.D. program, there are four remaining courses that every J.D. student must complete: (1) 200 Legislation and Administrative Law, (2) 207 Evidence, (3) 209 Constitutional Law II, and (4) 305 Professional Responsibility. All J.D. students must complete the Legislation and Administrative Law during their second year (including the summers surrounding the second year). The other required courses can be scheduled for any semester.

THREE CATEGORIES

There are three “categorical” requirements that ask you to complete one course from a list of qualifying courses. Those three categorical requirements are (1) the LAWR III requirement, (2) the Upper-Level Writing requirement, and (3) the Practical Skills requirement (for rising 3Ls) or the Experiential Learning Requirement (for rising 2Ls).

Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research III.

Several different courses fulfill the LAWR III requirement, including 219 Appellate Advocacy, 420 Business Drafting LAWR, 425 Contracts and Commercial Transactions LAWR, 427 Legal Writing for Judicial Chambers LAWR, and 553 Litigation Drafting LAWR. For a current list of courses you can use to check this box, see <http://academics.law.wfu.edu/courses/?req=3>. The LAWR III requirement is the only category that you must complete during your second year (although recall that you must also take Legislation and Administrative Law in your 2L year).

Upper Level Writing Requirement.

All students must, at some point during their second or third year, take a course that involves a substantial writing requirement. A comprehensive list of the relevant courses appears at <http://academics.law.wfu.edu/courses/?req=2>.

You should register for course number 800-0, Upper-Level Writing Requirement, in addition to registering for the classroom component of the course. If you are using the course to satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement, you may not take the course on a pass/fail basis. Ask the supervising professor to sign the appropriate form at a later date and return it to the Registrar's office. If you sign up for one of these courses for the purpose of satisfying the writing requirement, you should notify the instructor at the beginning of the term. When you complete the course, the instructor will grade your paper and will make a separate determination about whether the paper satisfies the writing requirement. It will be presumed that the paper satisfies the requirement if it receives a grade of 73 or higher (or, for 3Ls, a C+ or higher), but the instructor may announce at the beginning of the course that (1) a higher grade will be required before the paper is certified, or (2) the certification of the paper for the writing requirement will be independent of the grade received in the course. Note that the writing requirement cannot be satisfied by an independent research project under the supervision of a professor, or by writing projects in connection with a journal, moot court, or other student activities. Such projects must be undertaken on a pass/fail basis.

Practical Skills requirement/Experiential Learning Requirement.

Every Wake Forest J.D. degree student through the graduating class of 2018 must take at least one "practical skills" course. The courses in our curriculum that satisfy this requirement are listed on the course website at <http://law.wfu.edu/academics/courses/?req=1>.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2019, every J.D. student must take 6 hours of "experiential learning courses." The courses in our curriculum that satisfy this requirement are listed on the course website at <http://academics.law.wfu.edu/courses/?req=5>

Students may earn no more than 20 hours of credit for externships, internships, practicums, co-curricular activities (journals and moot court-related activities), and for non-J.D. courses (for which we do not typically grant credit without special exception granted by the Associate Dean). Clinics do not count against the 20-hour limit.

No double dipping.

Some courses qualify in more than one category. For instance, Appellate Advocacy satisfies either the LAWR III or the Practical Skills requirement. One course, however, cannot satisfy more than one requirement simultaneously. For example, if you enroll in 420 Business Drafting LAWR to satisfy the LAWR III requirement, you will need to take some other course to satisfy the Practical Skills requirement. This "no double dipping" principle applies to any course that you use to satisfy the Upper-Level Writing requirement, the Practical Skills/Experiential Learning requirement, and the LAWR III requirement. You must complete a separate course to satisfy each of these requirements.

TOTAL HOURS AND MISCELLANEOUS RULES

Plan ahead, and register for enough credit hours to reach a total of 90. At least 54 of those hours must be completed at Wake Forest (a rule that is most directly relevant to transfer students).

A couple of other rules to keep in mind:

A normal semester course load is no less than 13 credits and no more than 16 credits. Approval for course loads outside these parameters, as low as 10 and as high as 18, must be sought from the Associate Dean.

For the class of 2018, you may take no more than 7 credit hours pass/fail, although certain courses are excepted from counting toward this limit. For the class of 2019 and thereafter, you are limited to no more than 16 credit hours Honors/Pass/Low Pass/Fail, the only exceptions being transfer credits (i.e., from another school or from the Wake-China program) and the spring semester Washington D.C. Externship.

All students are limited to 15 hours of classes offered in an online format.

JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE

The final result of your academic planning? A Juris Doctor degree from Wake Forest, and a readiness to enter the professional world at a full sprint. Please consult with your Academic Advisor on the faculty and with any other faculty members whose guidance you value to make smart choices. As you prepare for a long career as a broadly educated and engaged professional, choose wisely!

NEW COURSES FOR Fall, 2017

Disability Law (2), taught by Kate Mewhinney, Director of our Elder Law Clinic—although similar in many respects to other areas of anti-discrimination law, disability law is its own unique area and is a common focus of litigation.

Reproduction and the Law (2), taught by Meghan Boone, of Civil Procedure fame—this fascinating course examines issues squarely within Professor Boone’s research expertise and cuts across doctrines in constitutional law, family law, civil rights law, health law, as well as tort and contract law.

Real Estate Finance (2), taught by Margaret Burnham, one of NC’s top real estate finance attorneys—real estate law is one of the hottest areas of practice at the moment, and finance is at the center of all commercial real estate deals.

Technology in the Modern Law Practice (2), taught by Raina Haque & Jon Mayhue—a cutting edge course in which students will form their own model law practice using a bevy of new disruptive technologies.

Wealth Transfer Tax & Fiduciary Income Tax (3), taught by loyal alum Jim Hickmon—for those interested in a tax practice or a transactional practice in which spotting tax implications is key, this course tracks some of the most common tax issues in today’s market.

European Union Law (2), taught by University of Leeds, England professor Iyiola Solanke—not exactly a new class, but an every-other-year favorite taught during the first 4 weeks of the semester. The impending Brexit makes this course particularly interesting.

Lobbying Theory and Practice (1), taught by lobbyist extraordinaire Bruce Thompson—learn the art of lobbying, an area of legal practice increasingly important in our modern political era.