



MEMO TO: All Rising 2L and 3L J.D. Students
FROM: Jonathan Cardi, Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
DATE: March 14, 2018
SUBJECT: Reminders about J.D. Degree Requirements for Registration

Registration for the Fall 2018 semester approaches! 2L students will register on April 9-10, and 1L students will register on April 12-13. After that, the add-drop period will be open to allow adjustments to your schedule until the end of the second week of classes next Fall.

You will soon receive a working draft of the class schedule—"working draft" only because there are typically a few changes before the add/drop deadline ends. 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/>.)

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 (as well as LAWR III—see below) during their 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 LAWR IV requirement (previously known as the Upper Level Writing Requirement), and (3) the Experiential Learning requirement.

Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research III.

Several different courses fulfill the LAWR III requirement, each of which use a particular area of legal practice as a vehicle for honing your LAWR skills. 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).

LAWR IV.

All students must, at some point during their second or third year, take a course that involves a substantial writing requirement—this has been, until this coming year, known as the Upper Level Writing Requirement and is now known as LAWR IV. 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, LAWR IV, in addition to registering for the classroom component of the course. If you are using the course to satisfy the LAWR IV

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 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 writing projects in connection with a journal, moot court, or other student activities.

Experiential Learning Requirement.

Every Wake Forest J.D. degree student must take six credit 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, practicums, co-curricular activities (journals and moot court-related activities), and for non-J.D. courses earned in other departments or schools at this university or another institution of higher learning. 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 Experiential Learning 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 Experiential Learning requirement. This "no double dipping" principle applies to any course that you use to satisfy the LAWR III requirement, the Experiential Learning requirement, and the LAWR IV requirement. You must complete a separate course to satisfy each of these requirements.

TOTAL HOURS

Plan ahead, and register for enough credit hours to reach a total of 90. Not more than 16 of these hours may be Honors/Pass/Low Pass/Fail (although there is a proposal up for faculty vote to change this number), and not more than 15 hours may be in online courses.

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 Faculty Advisor 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!