Academic Requirements

The three-year curriculum is designed in accord with the professional law courses usually offered in ABA-approved law centers/schools. For graduation, there must be satisfactory completion of at least 90 semester hours of professional courses, including required courses, earning a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. Additionally, no student may qualify for the awarding of the Juris Doctor degree who has not acquired a 2.0 average for all required courses. Electives are offered as a part of the curriculum, and students are permitted to take the elective courses specified during the second and third years of school. Some electives may be assigned by the administration based on assessments of the student's work in various courses. Each student is responsible for keeping informed of the number of additional credits needed to meet the graduation requirements.

Except as otherwise provided, six full semesters in residence are required for graduation. Any study undertaken in a summer session shall not count toward the satisfaction of the residency requirement.

Students are enrolled as either full-time or part-time. Students enrolled as part-time can enroll as full-time after earning 46 credit hours. A student who wishes to change his/her enrollment status during the academic year must obtain the approval of the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and must file a Request for Exception to Academic Policy form (available in the Records and Registration Department). The director of records and registration must certify all changes of status. Any student who enrolls in or reduces his or her course load to fewer than 12 hours in a semester is considered a part-time student.

Students may not enroll in more than 16 credit hours per semester without the written approval of the Chancellor or Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. Students will not be allowed to enroll in more than 18 credit hours per semester.

New courses are added to the curriculum periodically to meet the needs of students and the Law Center. All required courses must be satisfactorily completed for graduation. Any student who receives a grade of "F" in a required course must repeat the course. Beginning with classes entering in the fall of 2016, students who earn the grade of "D" or "D-" in a required course and who have a cumulative grade point average lower than 2.5 at the end of the prior semester must repeat the course.

Probation, Dismissal, and Maximum Hours First-Year Students

- 1. A first-year student whose overall grade point average at the end of the first regular semester is less than 1.5 is automatically dismissed.
- 2. A first-year student whose overall grade point average at the end of the first semester is less than 2.0 is on probation and may not schedule more than 12 hours for full-time students or 8 hours for part-time students.
- 3. A first-year student whose overall grade point average at the end of the first two regular semesters is less than 2.0 is automatically dismissed.
- 4. First-year students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better at the end of the first year in order to attend summer school.

Second- and Third-Year Students

- 1. A second- or third-year student whose overall grade point average after the third regular semester is less than 2.0 is on probation. If the student was on probation in the regular semester immediately preceding, the student is automatically dismissed.
- 2. A second- or third-year student on probation may not schedule more than 14 hours.
- 3. A second- or third-year student who receives a grade of "F" in six semester hours of work in any one regular semester is on probation if the student's overall grade point average is 2.5; if it is less than 2.5, the student is automatically dismissed.