

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students at the School of Law must complete eighty-eight (88) credits and have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in order to graduate with a juris doctor degree. Students must also complete courses with an oral component, a writing seminar, and a professional skills course among their credits.

REQUIRED COURSES: FIRST-YEAR

CIVIL PROCEDURE I (LAW 7031)

Two Credits

Prerequisite: None

An introduction to the principles of subject matter jurisdiction, personal jurisdiction, proper venue, removal, and transfer.

CIVIL PROCEDURE II (LAW 7130)

Three Credits

Prerequisite: Civil Procedure I

A survey of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as they apply to pleadings, motions, joinder of claims and parties, and discovery.

CONTRACTS I (LAW 7010)

Three Credits

Prerequisite: None

An introduction to contract formation including offer, acceptance, and consideration, contract formalities, including the Statute of Frauds, the parol evidence rule, and implied obligations.

CONTRACTS II I (LAW 7011)

Two Credits

Prerequisite: Contracts I

An examination of contract interpretation, performance of the contract, conditions and breach, avoidance of the contract, the defenses of frustration and purpose, impracticability, impossibility, incapacity, duress, undue influence, mistake, misrepresentation and unconscionability.

CRIMINAL LAW (LAW 7080)

Three Credits

Prerequisite: None

A survey of the substantive criminal law, emphasizing elements of the criminal culpability including defenses, constitutional limitations on declaring certain conduct criminal, and the purposes of punishment.

CRITICAL THINKING (LAW 7000)

One Credit

Prerequisite: None

Skill development in the area of critical thinking, critical reading, critical listening, writing, case briefing, effective studying, organization and self-management.

LEGAL REASONING & ANALYSIS (LAW 7121)**Three Credits****Prerequisite: None**

Students are introduced to the basics of legal reasoning, analysis, and writing, such as the preparation of case briefs, issue identification, identification of key facts, analogy, distinction, case synthesis, and statutory construction. This course concludes with a closed-research, objective memorandum of law.

LEGAL RESEARCH & PERSUASION (LAW 7122)**Three Credits****Prerequisite: Legal Reasoning and Analysis**

This course will teach students the fundamentals of legal research and citation form and will provide advanced instruction in legal reasoning and analysis. The course identifies and describes the primary sources of law and relevant finding tools in print and electronic format. Students receive instruction on the research strategies necessary to find and update the law. Students prepare a research outline and an open-research, persuasive memorandum of law.

PROPERTY I (LAW 7050)**Three Credits****Prerequisite: None**

An introduction to private real and personal property rights and estates in land. Subjects covered may include the law of finders and other possessors, bailments, adverse possession, and present, future, and concurrent estates in land.

PROPERTY II (LAW 7051)**Two Credits****Prerequisite: Property I**

Subjects typically covered include landlord/tenant law, covenants, easements, and conveyancing.

TORTS I (LAW 7040)**Three Credits****Prerequisite: None**

An introduction to the principles of tort liability for intentionally and negligently caused injuries to persons and/or property. Subjects covered typically include: assault, battery, false imprisonment, infliction of emotional distress, trespass to land, and negligence, as well as defenses to liability, including consent.

TORTS II (LAW 7041)**Two Credits****Prerequisite: Torts I**

An examination of defenses to liability based on negligence, including contributory negligence, assumption of the risk, and statutes of limitation. Coverage also includes releases and covenants not to sue, vicarious liability, wrongful death, negligent infliction of emotional distress, nuisance, misrepresentation, strict liability, and product liability.

REQUIRED COURSES: UPPER-LEVEL

APPELLATE ADVOCACY (LAW 8000)

Two Credits

An overview of the appellate process, this course includes lectures, reading and writing assignments, and discussions relating to the fundamentals of appellate brief writing and oral advocacy. The course will culminate in an appellate brief and/or argument.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS (LAW 9040)

Four Credits

(Day Program Only)

An introduction to partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability entities, and corporations. The course also includes an introduction to the law of agency as it relates to various business forms. The majority of class time is spent discussing corporations and their formation, corporate powers, corporate liability, powers and duties of shareholders, directors, and officers, the sale of stock in publicly held corporations, and special issues concerning closely held corporations.

CORPORATIONS (LAW 8040)

Three Credits

(Evening Program Only)

This course studies the corporation as a business form. The course explores the advantages and disadvantages of incorporation. The formation, management and control of both closely held and publicly-traded corporations are also examined. The course is designed to complement our Agency-Partnership course.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW I (LAW 8031)

Four Credits

An examination of the allocation of power between the federal and state governments, the separation of powers between the three branches of government, and the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. The course also covers equal protection of the law and both substantive and procedural due process.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW II (LAW 8131)

Two Credits

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I

This course provides a comprehensive survey of either First Amendment or Fourteenth Amendment case law. Both versions of the course attempt to work current events as much as possible into class discussions.

DECEDENTS' ESTATES I (LAW 8020)

Three Credits

An examination of the substantive law of intestate succession, wills, and trusts. Topics covered include the execution, revocation, and construction of wills and trusts, and the protection of family members against disinheritance.

EVIDENCE (LAW 8010)**Three Credits**

An examination of the rules of evidence and the roles of the judge, jury, and attorney in the fact-finding process. Subjects include witness examination, competency, privileges, exclusion, the hearsay rule, authenticity, best evidence rule, and opinion evidence.

LEGAL LETTERS (LAW 8013)**Two Credits****Prerequisites: Legal Reasoning & Analysis, Legal Research and Persuasion**

To strengthen the student's legal research, analytical and communication skills, students will prepare a research memo. Students will be assigned to prepare various letters, such as a detailed client letter, a demand letter, a response to a demand letter, a letter to a regulatory/administrative agency, an investigative letter from Agency to Respondent, and a decision letter from the Agency.

NORTH CAROLINA DISTINCTIONS (LAW 9570)**Three Credits**

A team-taught synthesis course for third-year students that integrates procedural and substantive subjects in a comprehensive format utilizing the statutory framework of a single jurisdiction, North Carolina.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY (LAW 9290)**Two Credits**

An examination of the Rules of Professional Conduct, the roles and functions of lawyers in society, responsibilities involved in representing clients, and the organization and functions of the bar.

SALES / SECURED TRANSACTIONS (LAW 9030)**Four Credits**

An overview of the legal principles applicable to the sale of goods and security interests in personal property used as collateral for the extension of credit. The first part of the course is organized around the performance and warranty provisions of Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code and is designed to build upon, but not duplicate, the first-year in Contracts. The second part of the course is organized around Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code.

SENIOR WRITING (LAW 9500)**Three Credits****(Evening Program Only)**

An intensive writing class based on a single case file. Students will write several practical skills-oriented documents, including letters, pleadings, settlement brochures, motions, and supporting briefs.

TAXATION (LAW 8050)**Three Credits**

An introduction to the basic structure of federal income taxation, including gross income, deductions, tax rates, treatment of gains and losses, and computation of taxable income. Emphasis is placed on fundamentals and areas of concern to general practitioners.