



Preparing to Register & Degree Basics



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Topics to Be Covered

- Essential Resources
- Registration Details
- JD & Diploma Privilege Requirements
- Tracking Your Progress



Essential Resources

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The Student Handbook

<https://law.wisc.edu/studenthandbook/>

- The Student Handbook is a collection of practical information about the UW Law School.
- Focus on Sections Two and Four for course information, graduation, and bar admissions.



The Academics Webpage

<https://law.wisc.edu/academics/>

- Calendars and Schedules
- Exam Information
- My Student Info
 - Experiential Learning Report; ULWR; Degree Audit Tool
- Academic Forms & Policies
- Law School Rules and Student Handbook
- Curricular Requirements, Offerings, and Planning Resources



The Academics Webpage (Con)

Academics

Links for Current Students



Jump to [Administrative Resources](#) for information on academic calendars, policies, and forms. For information about student activities & organizations, see [Student Affairs](#).

Curriculum Planning

Students at the Law School have many opportunities to experience what is known as the law-in-action idea. Our extensive curriculum places emphasis on the dynamics of the law – how the law relates to social change and to society as a whole – while at the same time stressing experiential learning.

J.D. Curriculum

- [General Curriculum](#)
- [Specialized Curriculums](#)
- [Interdisciplinary Study](#)
- [Curriculum Planning Resources](#)

Experiential Learning

- [Clinical Programs](#)
- [Externships and Internships](#)
- [Lawyering Skills](#)
- [Pro Bono](#)

Co-Curricular Activities

- [Moot Court](#)
- [Mock Trial](#)
- [Student Journals](#)

Administrative Resources

Calendars & Schedules

- Law School Academic Calendar
- UW-Madison Academic Calendar
- Courses & Schedules
- Exam Schedule



Forms & Policies

- Academic Forms
- UW Law Grading Systems
- Student Handbook:
 - Exam Policies
 - Grades, GPA, Class Standing, Pass/Fail
 - Graduation Requirements
 - WI Diploma Privilege Requirements

Additional Resources

[My Student Info](#) »
[Exam Info](#) »
[Grade Info](#) »
[Law School Rules](#) »

[Transcripts](#) »
[Academic Forms](#) »
[Academic Enhancement Program](#) »

<https://law.wisc.edu/academics/>



Registering for Classes

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1L Courses for Spring

Law 715: Torts

Law 723: Legal Analysis, Advocacy, & Writing II

Law 724: Property

Law 731: Constitutional Law



Enrollment Dates & Times

- Spring 2025 Enrollment for **1Ls opens Tuesday, November 12**
- By early November, you will receive an email with your assigned schedule of courses and enrollment instructions
- Special schedule and part-time enrollment requests must be submitted to Dean Kevin Kelly by **Monday, October 14**
- Scheduling requests will not be accepted after October 14



Registering for Classes (SH 2.3)

- Pre-Enrollment To-Dos
 - [Terms and Conditions Agreement](#) (every semester!)
 - Check for HOLDS: <https://kb.wisc.edu/registrar/4139>
- Enroll through the Course Search & Enroll App at your enrollment time
 - Instructions with pictures!: <https://kb.wisc.edu/registrar/page.php?id=4134#number>
 - Tips for troubleshooting errors in Course Search & Enroll: <https://kb.wisc.edu/registrar/page.php?id=95747>
 - Email Angela Nash (angela.nash@wisc.edu) if you have any trouble enrolling



Part-time Enrollment (SH 10.3)

- Enrolled for fewer than 12 credits
- For financial implications, contact the Law School's Financial Aid office at: financialaid@law.wisc.edu
- If fewer than 12 credits: UW Law Scholarship disbursement may be reduced or eliminated
- If fewer than 6 credits: Federal loan deferment expires; grace period begins unless already used up.
- International students: check with ISS



JD & Diploma Privilege Requirements



Student Handbook Section 4



JD Degree Requirements

- 90 Law Credits to graduate
- 64 credits in regularly-scheduled classes
- 1L Program (Contracts, Civil Procedure, Torts, Property, Criminal Law & Procedure, Legal Analysis, Advocacy & Wrtg I & II, Constitutional Law)
- Professional Responsibilities
- Rule 3.03: Cross-Cultural Competency
- Experiential Learning Requirement
- Upper-Level Writing Requirement
 - *Highly recommended: do **not** leave to final semester*
- 2.0 Cumulative GPA





Upper-Level Writing Requirement (SH 4.4.2)

- Requirements:
 - 20 pages, double-spaced (total)
 - faculty feedback on draft
 - final version incorporating feedback
- May NOT be met in the same course, same term as Experiential Learning Requirement
- It's **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** you do not leave this to your final semester

Diploma Privilege Requirements

(SH 4.6.2)



- JD Degree
- Mandatory classes:
 - Evidence
 - Trusts & Estates
- 60 credits in Diploma Privilege subjects



Determining 60-Credit Rule

(SH 4.6.3)

The Supreme Court requires 60 credits in diploma privilege subjects (identified on Course Schedule)

Application of 60-Credit Rule for Clinics, Trial Advocacy, Lawyering Skills, & PR

Course	Credits to 90-Credit Rule:	Credits to 64-Credit Rule:	Credits to 60-Credit Rule:	Credits to Experiential Learning Rule:
Clinical courses and Externships	All	Dependent upon the clinical or externship experience (refer to Course Schedule).	5	All
Lawyering Skills Course	All	All	5	All
Professional Responsibilities	All	All	1	0
Trial Advocacy	All	Instructor-led classes count; competitions do not.	4	All



Required Grades for Diploma Privilege (SH 4.6.5)

- 2.0 GPA in mandatory Diploma Privilege classes
- 2.0 GPA in diploma privilege 60-credit rule classes





Tracking Your Progress

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Degree Audit Report (DAR)

- <https://law.wisc.edu/academics/>
- My Student Info

The screenshot shows the Law School website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with various links like Handbook, Transcript, DARS, Student Grade Repo..., Track ULWR, Forms, Syllabi, Experiential, Enrolled, Standing, Course Proposals, Dates & Deadlines, and Restricted RADAR. Below this is a red banner with the 'MADISON' logo and the 'Law School University of Wisconsin-Madison' logo. A search bar is located on the right. A navigation menu includes About, Admissions, Student Life, Faculty & Research, Academics, Careers, and Library. The main content area features a photograph of law books on a shelf. Below the photo, the 'Academics' section is highlighted, and a green arrow points to the 'My Student Info' link in the 'Links for Current Students' row. Other links in this row include Course Schedule, Exams, and Grades.



Degree Audit Report (DAR)

My Student Info

Academic Information

Name:

Exam ID:

[Experiential Learning](#)

[Upper-Level Writing Requirement Form - Online Submission](#)

[View the Law School Degree Audit Report \(DAR\)](#) 

Locker Information

Locker:

Combination:

Email lists

[View/Update your Email list subscriptions](#)



Degree Audit Report (DAR)

Each section can be opened using the icon on the right.

Required 1L Courses	👁
Diploma Privilege (optional)	👁
Professional Responsibility (Max 1 credits counts toward 60 credit rule)	👁
Rule 303	👁
Upper Level Writing Requirement	👁
Experiential Learning Category (6 credits needed)	👁
Electives	👁
Clinic (Max 5 credits count toward 60 credit rule)	👁
Trial Advocacy (Max 4 credits credits count toward 60 credit rule)	👁
Directed Research or Reading	👁
Cumulative Totals	👁



Degree Audit Report (DAR)

Upper Level Writing Requirement



Experiential Learning Category (6 credits needed)



Electives



	90 Rule	64 Rule	60 Rule	Notes
Antitrust	3	3	3	1252A1748001
Bus Orgs: Partnership, LLC, Closely-held Corps (formerly Bus Org I)	3	3	3	1252A1817001

Clinic (Max 5 credits count toward 60 credit rule)



Trial Advocacy (Max 4 credits credits count toward 60 credit rule)



[Directed Research or Reading](#)



Cumulative Totals



Course Title	90 Rule	64 Rule	60 Rule	Grade	cUK	Notes
Cumulative Totals	45	45	39			



Am I On Track?

90 credits required to graduate

- Should average 15 credits per semester (90 credits ÷ standard 6 semesters (3 years) of law school)

Which means:

- At the end your 1L year: goal of 30 credits completed
- At the end of your 2L year: 60 credits completed
- At the mid-point of your 3L year: 75 credits completed

Summer credits may expedite graduation



Exam Process

How to prepare for exam day and using Exam4 software:

- Review and read carefully exam page on website:
<https://law.wisc.edu/academics/exams/>
- Read thoroughly - do not skim 😊 - emails from Jenner McLeod:
 - Download updated version of Exam4 software each exam period, midterms and finals
 - Take practice exams on Exam4

Contact Jenner McLeod @ jenner.mcleod@wisc.edu with any questions!



Questions?



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