

# JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE

The J.D. degree is awarded to all students who satisfactorily complete all academic requirements and complete 90 hours of credit in the Law School with a grade point average of at least 2.00 and a passing grade in all required courses. Normally, a minimum of 69 hours must be taken in courses in which a letter grade is received.

The course of study for the J.D. degree may be completed no earlier than 24 months and no later than 84 months after commencing law study at Washburn or a law school from which Washburn accepts transfer credit. At least two-thirds of the credit hours required for the degree must be earned at Washburn University. All students must comply with the rules pertaining to legal education prescribed by the Supreme Court of the State of Kansas, the American Bar Association, and the Association of American Law Schools.

## Admission Requirements

To be accepted into the Juris Doctor program, students must have graduated from an accredited college or university with a baccalaureate degree and must have taken either the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).

## Application Process

1. Apply Online Via LSAC (<https://www.lsac.org/>).
  - a. Complete Washburn Law application.
  - b. Attach personal statement and resume.
2. Submit to Credential Assembly Service (CAS) (<https://www.lsac.org/applying-law-school/jd-application-process/credential-assembly-service-cas/>):
  - a. Official Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores. If applying to law school with GRE scores instead of LSAT scores, request that Educational Testing Services (ETS) sends scores to Washburn University School of Law.
  - b. Transcripts from all institutions of higher education attended.
  - c. At least one letter of recommendation is required. No more than three letters will be accepted.

## Degree Requirements

### First-Year Program: Success from the Start

Washburn Law's first-year program gives students a meaningful start to their legal education. The low student/faculty ratio allows for individualized attention and an interactive learning experience. Washburn Law has developed a program to help students maximize their potential for success in law school, on the bar exam, and in law practice. Incoming students take advantage of this program by starting law school a week earlier than second- and third-year students.

The Law School's rigorous First Week Program teaches strategies to develop the skills needed for academic success.

### First-Year Courses

Students entering in the fall will take the following courses in their first year:

Course	Title	Hours
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
LW 875	Lgl Analysis Rsrch Writing I	3
LW 725	Torts	4
LW 732	Property	4
LW 729	Criminal Law	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
LW 876	Lgl Analysis Rsrch Writing II	3
LW 863	Civil Procedure I	4
LW 861	Constitutional Law I	4
LW 700	Contracts	4
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>29</b>

Students entering in the spring will take the following courses in their first year:

Code	Title	Hours
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Spring</b>		
LW 875	Lgl Analysis Rsrch Writing I	3
LW 863	Civil Procedure I	4
LW 861	Constitutional Law I	4
LW 700	Contracts	4
Subtotal		15
<b>Fall</b>		
LW 876	Lgl Analysis Rsrch Writing II	3
LW 725	Torts	4
LW 732	Property	4
LW 729	Criminal Law	3
Subtotal		14
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>29</b>

**Note:** The curriculum is subject to change.

### Upper-Level Requirements

To graduate, students must complete:

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Upper-Level Requirements <sup>1</sup></b>		
LW 770	Professional Responsibility	3
LW 862	Constitutional Law II	3
LW 868	Civil Procedure II	2,3
LW 757	Evidence	4
One Perspectives on Law course (See list)		3
Upper-level writing certification requirement <sup>2</sup>		3
Oral presentation requirement <sup>3</sup>		3
Skills courses (See list)		6
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>27-28</b>

<sup>1</sup> Graduation requirements are subject to change

<sup>2</sup> Courses that meet this requirement vary from semester to semester. Additional information is available at the following link

(<http://washburnlaw.edu/academics/jurisdoctor/upperlevel/requirements.html#writing>).

<sup>3</sup> All students are required, after completing at least 26 hours to make a substantial oral presentation. See additional details at the following link (<http://washburnlaw.edu/academics/jurisdoctor/upperlevel/requirements.html#oral>).

In choosing electives, students should understand that law school is an opportunity to obtain a broad foundation in the law. The faculty, therefore, encourages selection of courses across a wide range of topics. Even if students have an area of law in which they know they want to specialize, it is important to study other areas of law to understand their impact on the chosen specialty.

## Upper-Level Electives

### Perspectives on Law Courses

Code	Title	Hours
LW 735	Admiralty and Maritime Law	3
LW 743	Advanced Water Law	1
LW 792	Artificial Intelligence & Law	2
LW 891	Climate Change Crisis and Law	2
LW 852	Comparative Family Law	2
LW 754	Family Law Seminar	2
LW 934	Gender, Sexuality, and the Law	3
LW 778	Intl Business Transactions	3
LW 812	International Human Rights	2-3
LW 919	Int'l Human Rghts/Indig People	3
LW 973	Int'l Petroleum Transactions	3
LW 948	Intern'l Intellectual Property	3
LW 973	Int'l Petroleum Transactions	3
LW 799	Jurisprudence	2
LW 927	Law of Armed Conflict	3
LW 853	Law and Economics	2,3
LW 883	Leadership for Lawyers	2
LW 798	Legal History Seminar	2
LW 990	Stdy Abroad, Univ. /Maastricht	6-15
LW 823	Tax Policy Seminar	2
LW 723	Torts: Product Liab. & Privacy	2

### Skills Courses

Code	Title	Hours
LW 737	Adv Evidence: Expert Witnesses	1
LW 753	Alternative Dispute Resolution	3
LW 767	Appellate Practice	2
LW 854	Arbitration	2
LW 913	Child Advocacy Training	1-2
LW 756D	Clinic: Advanced Litigation	1-3
LW 931	Collaborative Law	1-2
LW 871	Commercial Leasing	1
LW 903	Criminal Appeal Advocacy	3
LW 903D	Crim. Appeal Adv.-Adv. Topics	1-2
LW 906	Cross Examination Techniques	1
LW 716	Divorce Practice	2
LW 937	Evolution of a Business Trans.	1
LW 859	Advanced Oral Arguments	1

LW 914	Interviewing and Counseling	2
LW 877	Jury Selection and Voir Dire	1
LW 702	Kansas Legal Research	2
LW 925	Law Practice Technologies	1
LW 965	LARW for the Government Client	2
LW 962	Legal Writing Clerkship/Extern	1
LW 857	Negotiation	2
LW 856	Oil and Gas Joint Operations	2
LW 762	Moot Court	1-2
LW 768	Pretrial Advocacy-Criminal	3
LW 858	Rural Practice Externship	3-6
LW 920	Spec. Legal Res: Bus & Tax Law	1-2
LW 949	Spec Leg Res: Statutory/Reg.	2
LW 907	Taking & Defending Depositions	1
LW 707	Transactional Drafting	3
LW 892	VITA and Compliance	1
LW 901	Writing for Law Practice	3

### Recommended Foundation Courses

The faculty strongly encourages enrollment in the following foundation courses, which lay the ground work for other advanced electives and are considered part of the core of a well-rounded legal education. Students are urged to enroll in these electives, along with the required courses in the second year of law study. Enrolling in these courses in the second year will not only lay the foundation for more advanced courses in the third year, but also result in fewer conflicts in scheduling classes and exams in both the second and third years.

Code	Title	Hours
LW 780	Administrative Law	3
LW 703	Business Associations	4
LW 915	Decedents' Estates and Trusts	3,4
LW 728	Family Law	3
LW 765	Pretrial Advocacy-Civil	3
LW 768	Pretrial Advocacy-Criminal	3
LW 928	Public International Law	3
LW 733	Real Estate Transactions	3
LW 790	Taxation of Individual Income	3

### Additional Course Suggestions

The following additional courses address material commonly tested on state bar examinations and are often studied in the third year of law school.

Code	Title	Hours
LW 755	Conflict of Laws	3
LW 739	Remedies	3
LW 963	Multistate Legal Analysis	3

## Prerequisites

One factor students should consider in course selection is whether a desired course requires a prerequisite course. Prerequisites are listed at the end of each course description. For descriptions of all courses currently offered, see [washburnlaw.edu/academics/courses/index.html](http://washburnlaw.edu/academics/courses/index.html) (<http://washburnlaw.edu/academics/courses/>).

## Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program

The Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program (LARW) provides a strong foundation in lawyering skills for first-year law students. Washburn Law's LARW program is consistently ranked among the top legal writing programs in the United States by U.S. News & World Report. All full-time Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing professors co-direct the first-year program and are members of the Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD) and the Legal Writing Institute (LWI). To assist with their writing projects, students and faculty have access to one of the nation's highest-ranked law libraries and professional library staff.

All first-year students complete six hours of graded Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing. Washburn Law's first-year program is one of only a handful nationwide that is staffed primarily by full-time, tenure-track faculty members. Classes are small and are taught by professors dedicated to legal writing as one of their primary fields for teaching, scholarship, and service.

The first-year curriculum is designed to give every student a strong foundation in both objective and persuasive legal reasoning, legal research skills, clear writing style, and oral advocacy. Legal writing students regularly observe oral arguments before state and federal appellate courts.

Students receive extensive written and oral feedback from faculty members on all major writing assignments. The feedback, consultation, and rewriting process enables law students to become increasingly proficient and independent in many of the core analytical and persuasive lawyering skills by the end of their first year. Furthermore, to introduce students to the rigors of the profession, the course is designed to simulate the demands of the actual practice of law. Washburn Law is among half of law schools that teach Legislative History and Administrative Law research in the first year.

Upper-level students also complete a rigorous writing experience reflecting the core values of supervised rewriting and individualized feedback. Washburn Law's regular upper-level courses include Writing for Law Practice and Transactional Drafting.