Concentration - Criminal Law

Juris Doctor

Description
The School of Law offers a Juris Doctor (J.D.), a concurrent Juris Doctor/Master of Accountancy (J.D./M.Accy.) and a concurrent Juris Doctor/Master of Taxation (J.D./M.Tax.).

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 90

Course Requirements

First Year
- Law 503 Civil Procedure I (3 credits, one semester)
- Law 507 Constitutional Law I (3 credits, one semester)
- Law 501 Contracts (4 credits, one semester)
- Law 568 Criminal Law (3 credits, one semester)
- Law 514 & 515 Legal Research and Writing I & II (6 credits, two semesters)
- Law 504 Property (4 credits, one semester)
- Law 502 Torts (4 credits, one semester)
- 1 Skills course (3 credits) (courses fulfilling the Skills requirement are designated each semester by the law faculty)
- Law 577 - Civil Procedure II (3 credits)

Upper Level (Second and Third Years)
- Law 603 Legal Profession (3 credits, one semester)
- Law 600 Evidence (3 credits, one semester)
- 1 Skills course (3 credits) and 1 Writing course (2-3 credits) (courses fulfilling the Skills and Writing requirements are designated each semester by the law faculty)

Otherwise, students have free choice of elective courses to complete the remainder of their credit hours.

Other Academic Requirements
For the Juris Doctor degree, the requirements are: (1) successful completion of 90 credit hours of law courses (70 of which must be graded credit hours and 75 of which must come from courses that meet in regularly scheduled classroom hours), including the courses specifically required for graduation, and (2) an overall grade-point average of 2.00 (C) or better. The curriculum and courses required for graduation are subject to change at any time without prior notice at the direction of the law faculty.

Concentration - Criminal Law

Description
The concentration in criminal law is designed to provide students with broad-based exposure to concepts, topics, and skills vital to criminal law practitioners and to prepare students for careers in criminal law.

Course Requirements
A student must complete 27 credit hours in criminal law and advocacy related subjects. Four core courses (Criminal Law 568, Evidence Law 600, Criminal Procedure I Law 635 and Criminal Procedure II Law 714) are required. The remainder of the credit hours can be fulfilled by taking courses from a list of approved elective courses:
- Children in the Legal System 646
- Criminal Trial Practice 686
- Cyber Crime 718
- Death Penalty 721
- Federal Criminal Trial Practice 678
- Federal Habeas Corpus 718
- Legal Problems of Indigence 639
- Prosecution Function 685
- Sentencing 688
- Youth Court Seminar 550
- Criminal Appeals Clinic 697*
- Prosecution Externship Placement 654*
- Public Service Internship Placement (limited to public defender placements) 636*
- Innocence Project 692*

*Clinical courses
As appropriate, additional courses and Selected Legal Topic courses focusing on criminal justice may also be included in this category on a case-by-case basis.

Each student must also complete a clinical and a writing requirement. The clinical requirement is satisfied by the student taking one approved clinical course (see above), while the writing requirement is satisfied by selecting a course from the elective category that requires a graded term paper, or by writing a
graded term paper as an independent study project under the supervision of a faculty member. The topic of the paper must pertain to criminal justice and must be a minimum of 25 pages.

**Other Academic Requirements**

A cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 in all concentration courses must be achieved in order to successfully complete the concentration. Students earning a cumulative grade-point average of 3.2 or higher in all concentration courses will have “with honors” reflected on their certificates.