Juris Doctor (JD)

The Juris Doctor (J.D.), or "law degree," is a three-year post-baccalaureate program. Students must complete 89 credit hours of law courses, roughly one-half of which are required courses.

Upon favorable recommendation of the Faculty of Law, the degree of Juris Doctor will be conferred upon a student who:

1. Has pursued in residence the full-time study of law for at least three academic years (or the equivalent), two of which must have been completed in this School. A full-time student is one who is registered for credit in 12 or more hours in a semester or six or more hours in a summer session. A student registered for less than 12 hours in a semester or less than six in two summer sessions, will receive proportional residence credit. The maximum number of residency credits obtainable in any one summer session shall be seven, provided that for purposes of accelerated graduation (in less than three academic years) no more than 12 residency credits may be obtained in summer sessions.

2. Has received a passing grade in all required courses, except required courses, which have been waived.

3. Has received passing grades in law courses aggregating at least 89 credits and has a numerical grade point average of at least 77.5; and

4. Has received an undergraduate degree before or concurrently with his or her graduation from law school.

[Note: The summer school residency provisions allow a student to combine two six-hour summer sessions or a seven-hour summer session with a five-hour summer session and obtain the equivalent of a full semester's residency credit.]

Curriculum

Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5010</td>
<td>Civil Procedure I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 5015</td>
<td>Civil Procedure II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5020</td>
<td>Contracts I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5025</td>
<td>Contracts II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5035</td>
<td>Criminal Law</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5050</td>
<td>Property</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 5070</td>
<td>Torts</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5080</td>
<td>Legal Research and Writing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5085</td>
<td>Advocacy and Research</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5090</td>
<td>Legal Reasoning ((if assigned))</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5095</td>
<td>Lawyering: Problem Solving and Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>2</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 5220</td>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 5260</td>
<td>Evidence</td>
<td>4</td>
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<th>Second or Third Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 5240</td>
<td>Criminal Procedure</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 5280</td>
<td>Professional Responsibility</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completion of a Writing Requirement for students who first matriculated in or after Fall 2006

1. Every J.D. student must complete a rigorous upper-level writing experience in either the second or third year of study.

2. A "rigorous writing experience" means an experience that culminates in an individually authored paper of at least 20 pages (double-spaced), based on independent research, through a process that includes preparation of a substantial draft, review and feedback by a faculty member, and revision of the draft.

3. Any of the following activities may satisfy the upper-level writing requirement, provided that the activity meets the definition of a "rigorous writing experience" in the individual case:
   a. completion of any course designated as a writing course,
   b. completion of a writing section attached to a traditional course,
   c. completion of an independent research project under L5875 Research, or
   d. membership on one of the journals of the University of Missouri School of Law.

4. A "designated writing course" is one in which all students complete a rigorous writing experience as defined in section (2) above and in which, in lieu of a final examination, a substantial portion of the final grade for the course is based on that writing.

5. In every case, the supervising full-time faculty member must certify that the writing requirement has been satisfied before a notation will be made in the student's record.

6. As stated in the Student Handbook, "[g]rading is done anonymously in all classes where it is possible." With the exception of Independent Research, if grading is to be done other than anonymously, the syllabus shall so state.

Professional Perspectives Requirement

1. As lawyers, each of you will be required to complete a required number of Continuing Legal Education requirements each year.

2. As law students at MU, you have a similar requirement.

3. You MUST complete a certain number of Professional Perspectives hours each year to be eligible to graduate from this law school.

4. Professional Perspectives' hours are designed to further your legal knowledge by presenting you with information about current legal events from current practitioners, including judges, and about other legal or legally-related matters. These hours are also designed to present you with needed information about career planning, the job market, and placement.

5. Matters counting for Professional Perspectives credit are broken into two categories:
   a. Professional Perspectives are those programs that give students a new or different prospective on the law or its practice.
   b. Career Component credits are those programs that give students information about career planning and placement.
   c. Any program approved for credit will designate the category applicable to that program.

6. Matters qualifying for Professional Perspectives credit will appear on the School of Law Calendar. It is your responsibility to select the events you wish to attend within the guidelines set out below.
7. Many programs sponsored by the School of Law automatically qualify for 
Professional Perspectives credit. When listed on the law school 
calendar, qualifying programs are so designated.

8. Programs sponsored by student or other groups may qualify for 
Professional Perspectives credit, but ONLY if an application for 
credit is filed 2 full business days in advance of the event with the 
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Application forms are available 
in the Dean's Office.

9. Every event for which Professional Perspectives credit is offered 
MUST be overseen by a responsible person who agrees to maintain 
an attendance record for that event.

10. Because Professional Perspectives credit is required, it is an event 
for which attendance counts. As a result, please note that it is 
an offense under the Honor Code to misrepresent one's own or 
another's attendance or absence from such an event. This would 
include signing in for an event and then leaving before the conclusion 
of that event.

11. The Professional Perspectives requirement for each class of students 
is as follows:
   a. For First Year Law Students:
      i 1 Professional Perspective program in the fall semester;
      ii 1 Career Component program in the fall semester;
      iii 1 Professional Perspective program in the spring semester;
      iv 1 Career Component program in the spring semester;
   b. For Second and Third Year Law Students:
      i 2 Programs each semester;
      ii At least two of the programs during the year MUST be for 
general Professional Perspectives credit;
      iii At least one program during the year MUST be for the Career 
          Component credit.

The above Degree Requirement checklist (http://catalog.missouri.edu/ 
schooloflaw/jurisdoctor/Degree_Requirements_Checklist.pdf) is also 
available in PDF.

Certificates & Emphasis

JD Certificates

- Graduate Certificate in Dispute Resolution (http:// 
catalog.missouri.edu/schooloflaw/jurisdoctor/grad-cert-dispute-res)
- Graduate Certificate in Electronic, Commercial and Intellectual 
  Property Law (http://catalog.missouri.edu/schooloflaw/jurisdoctor/
  grad-cert-elec-comm-intell-prop-law)
- Graduate Certificate in Taxation (http://catalog.missouri.edu/
  schooloflaw/jurisdoctor/grad-cert-taxation)

JD Emphases

- Emphasis in Criminal Justice (http://catalog.missouri.edu/schooloflaw/
  jurisdoctor/crim-justice-emphasis)
- Emphasis in Tax Law (http://catalog.missouri.edu/schooloflaw/
  jurisdoctor/tax-law-emphasis)

Experiential Opportunities

The School of Law recognizes the importance of providing students 
with opportunities to apply the knowledge they receive in the classroom 
in “real-life” situations. Over their course of study, students have the 
opportunity to enroll in clinical programs or practicums in a variety of 
different areas: criminal prosecution, family violence, mediation, the state 
legislature, landlord/tenant law, entrepreneurship, veterans' disability 
law, and the wrongly convicted. Additional details are available from the 
School of Law at http://law.missouri.edu/skills/.

In addition to these clinical opportunities, students can participate in our 
extensive externship program. In this program, students work under the 
supervision of a lawyer or judge in a public law office, government agency 
or not for profit organization or for an attorney in private practice engaged 
in pro bono work. Additional details are available from the School of Law 
at http://www.law.missouri.edu/academics/externships.html.