

LAW (JD)

NYSED: 08250 HEGIS: 1401.00 CIP: 22.0101

Program Description

NYU Law's 16 areas of study (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/areasofstudy/>) offer students a wide choice of academic specialties with courses taught by faculty who are leaders in their fields. Our rigorous academic programs create a close-knit, dynamic community, enriched by an impressive roster of centers and student organizations, as well as opportunities to work directly with faculty on cutting-edge research.

1L Year (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/node/32033/>)

Traditional required courses are complemented by our specially-designed Legislation and the Regulatory State (<http://its.law.nyu.edu/courses/description.cfm?id=11135>) course, which gives an in-depth understanding of government processes, and our renowned Lawyering Program (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/lawyeringprogram/>), where you'll learn the practical skills that every lawyer needs. You'll also have the chance to take the first steps of your career path early by taking an elective (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/courses/requiredfirstyearcourses/>).

Always an academic innovator, the Law School continues to lead the way in legal education on several fronts (Experiential and Clinical, Interdisciplinary and Global) and these fronts can be explored in the 2L and 3L years:

2L Year (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/node/32031/>)

Strong writing skills, essential for any successful lawyer, are emphasized in the second year. You can hone your writing through directed research with a professor, or as part of seminar (<http://its.law.nyu.edu/courses/?#searchResults>), completing the analytic paper required to graduate. You can use your paper as the basis for a "note" submitted to one of NYU Law's student journals (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/journals/>) and as a writing sample when applying for jobs and clerkships. The second year, you'll start to focus on advanced courses and can take simulation courses (<http://its.law.nyu.edu/courses/?#searchResults>) and clinics (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/clinics/>).

Interdisciplinary Front

NYU prides itself on being at the forefront of interdisciplinary research and teaching, with special strengths in law and philosophy, economics, politics, history, and social theory. Interdisciplinary ideas and methodologies pervade the curriculum, intellectually enriching the study of law and connecting it to multi-faceted problems in the real world. Intellectual life centers around the dozen colloquia (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/colloquia/>) held each year, which bring together students and faculty from NYU and other universities to discuss cutting-edge interdisciplinary work. NYU students pursue dual degrees (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/jdadmissions/dualdegreeprograms/>) in the arts and sciences and train as scholars through the Furman Scholars (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/furmanprogram/>) and Academic Careers (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/acp/>) programs.

Experiential and Clinical Front

Experiential training is integrally woven throughout our curriculum. The carefully constructed sequence of courses and clinics developed by Anthony Amsterdam (<http://its.law.nyu.edu/faculty/profiles/?fuseaction=cv.main&personID=19743>) introducing students to real-world skills that every lawyer needs to be an effective practitioner. Upper-level

simulation courses and our clinics (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/clinics/>) provides students with unparalleled experiences in working with clients and communities to address urgent problems, influence public policy, and improve the quality of legal problem-solving. A distinctive feature of NYU School of Law's clinics is that the faculty who teach them are tenured or tenure track professors whose sole professional interest is the research and teaching they do at the Law School.

3L Year (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/node/32032/>)

The third year is a great time to take a colloquium (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/colloquia/>) or clinic (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/academics/clinics/>). NYU Law's colloquia are meta-seminars in which faculty and students engage in the most rigorous intellectual experience in legal education, reading and discussing papers and works-in-progress by top scholars. You can also get invaluable hands-on training by taking a clinic. NYU Law offers more than 40 clinics, which cover everything from capital punishment to environmental law to international organizations to law and technology.

Global Front

The Law School offers an unsurpassed array of courses, seminars, and colloquia in international, comparative, and foreign law. Students develop cross-cutting expertise between areas that were traditionally studied separately, such as trade and environmental law, intellectual property and human rights, and global antitrust and international labor law. The Hauser Global Law School Program (<http://www.law.nyu.edu/global/abouthauser/>) brings faculty and fellows to New York from around the world to teach, study, and collaborate. These outstanding scholars and practitioners are joined by more than 300 international students

Admissions

All applicants are required to submit the general application requirements (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/jdadmissions/applicants/applications/>), which include:

- Application Form
- Standardized Test Score(s) and CAS Report
- Recommendation Forms
- Application Fee or Waiver
- Personal Statement
- Resume
- Supplying Additional Information

See JD Admissions Information and Instructions (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/jdadmissions/applicants/admissionsinformationandinstructions/>) for more detail.

Eligibility

Applicants must be at least eighteen years old and hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university or its international equivalent to be eligible to enroll in the Juris Doctor (JD) program. Students matriculate in the fall semester on a full-time basis only.

Program Requirements

The program requires the completion of 83 credits, comprised of the following:

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
LAW-LW 11672	Contracts	4
LAW-LW 11147	Criminal Law	4
LAW-LW 10687	Lawyering (Year) (taken twice, for a total of 5 credits)	5
LAW-LW 10925	Legislation and the Regulatory State	4
LAW-LW 11650	Procedure	5
LAW-LW 11275	Torts	4
LAW-LW 10598	Constitutional Law	4
or LAW-LW 11702	Constitutional Law	
LAW-LW 10427	Property	4
or LAW-LW 11783	Property	
Upper-Level Required Courses		
Professional Responsibility Course		3
Experiential Learning (as above)		3
Writing Requirement		3
Electives		
Other Elective Credits		4
Upper-Level Law Electives		36
Total Credits		83

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
LAW-LW 11672	Contracts	4
LAW-LW 11147 or LAW-LW 11275	Criminal Law or Torts	4
LAW-LW 10687	Lawyering (Year)	2.5
LAW-LW 11650	Procedure	5
Credits		15.5
2nd Semester/Term		
LAW-LW 10925	Legislation and the Regulatory State	4
LAW-LW 11275 or LAW-LW 11147	Torts or Criminal Law	4
LAW-LW 10687	Lawyering (Year)	2.5
LAW-LW 10598	Constitutional Law (or LAW-LW. 10694 Income Taxation for 1Ls; LAW-LW.11577 International Law for 1Ls; LAW-LW.10427 Property for 1Ls.; LAW-LW.10223 Corporations for 1Ls)	4
Credits		14.5
3rd Semester/Term		
LAW-LW 11702	Constitutional Law	4
LAW-LW 11783	Property	4
UPPER LEVEL LAW ELECTIVES: The credits for upper level classes can vary, students can carry 12 to 15 credits.		4
Credits		12
4th Semester/Term		
Professional Responsibility Course		3
Experiential Learning (as above)		3
Upper-Level Law Elective		4
Upper-Level Law Elective		4
Credits		14
5th Semester/Term		
Writing Requirement		3
Upper-Level Law Elective		4

Upper-Level Law Elective	4
Credits	11
6th Semester/Term	
Upper-Level Law Elective	4
Upper-Level Law Elective	4
Upper-Level Law Elective	4
Upper-Level Law Elective	4
Credits	16
Total Credits	83

Learning Outcomes

In accordance with Revised ABA Standard 302; N.Y. Court of Appeals Rule 520.18(a)(1) please find an inventory of student learning outcomes that covers the areas of “substantive knowledge and procedural law”; lawyering skills; and “proper professional and ethical responsibilities to clients and the legal system.”

Learning Outcomes for First-Year Courses

The first-year curriculum provides a base of analytic, doctrinal, and skills approaches that enable our students in their second and third years to study advanced topics in the law and to take advantage of increasingly complex practical opportunities. The first-year faculty approach the curriculum in different ways, and across a spectrum of interpretive approaches. Although not every faculty member introduces every approach into his or her lecture course, our students experience a range of perspectives in their first year. Themes that are covered include:

Substance of the Law

Much of law establishes the rights and responsibilities among individual members of society. Historically, tort law, chiefly through trespass and nuisance law described the implicit duties individuals owe one another as strangers wholly apart from consent. These are principally duties not to harm. Starting in the nineteenth century tort law placed a far greater emphasis on harms that arose out of consensual relations – occupier's liability, industrial accidents, medical malpractice and product liability, where it is uncertain the extent to which parties can contract out their harm-based liability to each other. Contracts addresses an extension of duties beyond those to refrain from harm; through contract, individuals voluntarily incur duties upon themselves, typically as part of an exchange, above and beyond the background duties owed as a matter of tort law. On the positive side, each of these courses also introduces students to the role of law in the creation and preservation of wealth, including through commerce. It also examines the ways in which contract and regulation can lead to a reduction in overall wealth. The study of such role addresses basic concepts (and moral criticisms) of capitalism as well as rudimentary business principles such as those of accounting and finance (principles employed more thoroughly later in courses such as Corporations and Securities Law). Only through understanding each of these bodies of law can a student glimpse a complete picture of the rules that govern interactions among society members.

Another important function of law is to establish the rules through which the government regulates and constrains the actions of individuals. For instance, where tort law provides individuals insufficient means to deter or to punish transgressions, the material studied in Legislation and the Regulatory State and in Criminal Law fill the void with governmental sanctions that are deemed too intrusive to be wielded by individuals. The criminal law is also the means through which society expresses moral condemnation for behavior, and as such the course in Criminal Law is the means through which students learn to contemplate the proper role of the state in instilling and enforcing moral precepts. These powerful

sanctions are, in turn, constrained by individual rights protected by principles addressed in Constitutional Law, which also exposes students to the institutional structures and relationships that constitute the American system of government. The course teaches students about the scope of congressional powers to legislate in various areas as well as the limitations on those powers. In addition, the course addresses the nature of American federalism and the constitutional relationship between national and state governments. Through these courses, students begin to learn the role of government in society as well as the role of a lawyer in her representation of an individual at odds with the government.

Legal Procedure

The creation and implementation of substantive duties and rights occur not merely in abstract theory but in practical process. Legislation and the Regulatory State, Criminal Law, and, of course, Procedure, in varying degrees, require students to learn how lawyers go about the business of navigating the legal system, whether through administrative process or criminal or civil litigation. The tools of such navigation, as well as knowledge of a lawyer's ethical responsibility in wielding them, are essential to the education of a lawyer (and are explored more thoroughly in later courses such as Evidence, Criminal Procedure, and Professional Responsibility). These courses introduce students to methods of statutory interpretation, to the constitutional doctrines that govern the roles of Congress and the President in the making of statutes and regulations, and to the statutory frameworks that govern the actions of administrative agencies. In addition, students learn through these courses how the rules as written play out in practice, gaining an introduction to gaps that may exist between the aspirations of law and the ground-truth of law as executed. Students are exposed to the ways in which access to resources or power, the existence of information deficits or asymmetries, or societal biases or structural injustices may influence or inhibit the implementation of legal ideals. Thus, our first-year curriculum runs from the substantive foundation of law as a means to govern the interaction of individuals to the process through which such governance takes place.

The Common Law

Judges have played, and play, an important role in the creation of substantive law, particularly in the areas covered by Contracts, Torts, and Property. Thus, in these courses, students learn the art and skill of reasoning from precedent and of applying underlying principle to new fact patterns. Through this process, students are exposed to the fundamental logic of a lawyer's trade.

Statute and Regulation

Beyond the common law, substantive rules are created by constitution, statute, and regulation. The Legislation and the Regulatory State and Constitutional Law introduce students to how statute and regulation (including the Constitution) are created and interpreted. Additionally, Contract Law and Criminal Law require students to study at length specific commercial and criminal codes, respectively. Depending on the individual course taught, an exploration of these topics may address a number of significant relationships: between the Constitution and ordinary statute; between statute and regulation; between federal and state government; between legislatures and judges; between judges and juries; and between legal structures and ordinary individuals.

Skills and Experiential Learning

The study of substantive and procedural law is accompanied by serious attention to the skills that students need to navigate, participate in, and affect the practical process of law making, judicial decision making,

counseling, negotiation, advocacy and the other aspects of a professional life in the law. Students, through the intensive Lawyering Program and through the immersion method associated with lecture courses, learn to read cases, to analyze statutes, to do research pertaining to judicial decisions, statutes, and regulations, and to formulate positions using the conventions and rhetoric of legal argument.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

School of Law Policies

Additional academic policies can be found on the School of Law academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/law/academic-policies/>).