

# JURIS DOCTOR

## Juris Doctor Program Mission

Forming virtuous attorneys in the Christian legal tradition for the common good and love of neighbor.

## Juris Doctor Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the JD program, graduates shall, at a minimum, possess competency by:

- Demonstrating knowledge and understanding of substantive and procedural law and the Christian legal tradition.
- Demonstrating competency in legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, and problem solving.
- Demonstrating competency in written communication in the diverse legal context.
- Demonstrating competency in oral communication in the diverse legal context.
- Articulating and applying proper professional and ethical responsibilities to clients and the legal system in formation as virtuous attorneys.
- Demonstrating professional skills needed for competent and ethical participation in the law profession culture proper to the common good and love of neighbor.

## Degree Completion Standards

The JD degree is conferred upon students who have met the admission requirements for the degree and who have satisfactorily completed the prescribed program of 90 units of study within five years. Candidates for the JD degree must complete six units of practical skills courses. Courses that meet the practical skills requirement include LA 559, LA 560b, LA 560d/LA 560e, clinics, and practical skills electives. The course description indicates if the course meets the practical skills requirement. A cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above is required to maintain good standing and to earn the JD degree.

Candidates for the JD degree must complete their studies no earlier than 24 months and no later than 60 months after the student has commenced law study at Trinity Law School, or a school from which the law student has transferred units. A student who requires more than 60 months to complete the JD degree must file a petition with the Registrar's Office for authorization. Final responsibility for meeting degree requirements for graduation rests with each student.

Students wishing to complete the JD program in three years should maintain a unit load of 15 units per semester. Students wishing to complete the program on a part-time basis should maintain a unit load of 12 units per semester. Students may be able to reduce their semester unit load by enrolling in summer sessions. Both the full- and part-time degree plans must be completed in five years or less. The full-time program must include at least three consecutive academic terms within five years; the part-time program must include at least four consecutive academic terms within five years.

Students are required to take a minimum of 9 units each semester. Students wishing to enroll in more than 16 units or less than 9 units in a semester must submit a petition to the Registrar's Office for approval.

In order to earn units for a course, students must complete not less than 80% of the VAE required in each course in which the student is enrolled. (See Attendance and Preparedness (<https://catalog.tiu.edu/law-cat/academic-rules-practices/#jd-attendance>).

The Academic Calendar (<https://catalog.tiu.edu/law-cat/academic-calendar/jd/>) consists of 15-week semesters – each fall and spring – with the option of taking additional courses during the summer session. Courses are typically offered in-person either during the day or in the evening as well as online in the evening to facilitate full- and part-time programs of study.

## United States Department of Labor's Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)

The JD program prepares graduates for occupations such as:

- Lawyers (SOC 23-1011.00)
- Judicial Law Clerks (SOC 23-1012.00)
- Administrative Law Judges, Adjudicators, and Hearing Officers (SOC 23-1021.00)
- Arbitrators, Mediators, and Conciliators (SOC 23-1022.00)
- Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates (SOC 23-1023.00)
- Law Teachers, Postsecondary (SOC 25-1112.00)

## Course Completion Sequence

Students are required to take courses in an order that will maximize their learning potential. Students must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in all courses in each category before they can take courses in the subsequent category.

Specialized academic plans will be created for those students in the Juris Doctor Flex Academic Support Classes (p. 5) who have joined the regular JD courses in their third- or fourth- semesters. These academic plans will follow the recommended course order as much as possible while optimizing a student's enrollment status, intended graduation date, completion of any Flex Third-Semester Courses (see Juris Doctor Flex Academic Support Classes (p. )), and the requirement to take LA 559 and then LA 560b during the first semester in which each course is offered.

## Category 1 Courses

- Legal Research and Writing 1 & 2 (LA 559, LA 560b)

All students are required to take LA 559 during their first semester and LA 560b during their second semester. Students must complete or be concurrently enrolled in LA 560b before completing the rest of the law school curriculum. Students who are required to take these courses and who withdraw from or who are dropped from LA 559 or LA 560b will not be permitted to enroll in or continue other courses.

## Category 2 Courses

- Contracts (LA 521, LA 521x, LA 522a, LA 522x)
- Torts (LA 541, LA 541x, LA 542, LA 542x)
- Criminal Law (LA 531a, LA 531x)
- Criminal Procedure (LA 783i, LA 783x)

## Category 3 Courses

- Foundations of Law (LA 550, LA 550x)
- Business Associations (LA 702a)
- Civil Procedure (LA 673b, LA 674b)
- Property (LA 661, LA 662)

## Category 4 Courses

- Professional Responsibility and Ethics (LA 613, LA 613x)
- Constitutional Law (LA 600i, LA 601i)
- Evidence (LA 671i, LA 672i)
- Community Property (LA 764)
- Jurisprudence (LA 790b)
- Wills, Trusts, and Estates (LA 803)
- Remedies (LA 822a)
- Legal Writing (LA 560d or LA 560e)
- Advanced Exam Approaches and Skills (LA 998e)

courses are offered each year. Elective courses are rotated and offered depending on student interest and professor availability.

### To avoid course conflicts, students should register for courses in the following order:

Code	Title	Units
LA 559 & LA 560b	Legal Research and Writing 1: Objective Writing and Legal Research and Writing 2: Persuasive Writing	6
LA 521 & LA 522a	Contracts 1 and Contracts 2	6
LA 541 & LA 542	Torts 1 and Torts 2	6
LA 531a	Criminal Law	3
LA 783i	Criminal Procedure	3
LA 550	Foundations of Law	3
LA 702a	Business Associations	3
LA 673b & LA 674b	Civil Procedure 1 and Civil Procedure 2	6
LA 661 & LA 662	Property 1 and Property 2	6
LA 613	Professional Responsibility and Ethics	3
LA 600i & LA 601i	Constitutional Law 1 and Constitutional Law 2	6
LA 671i & LA 672i	Evidence 1 and Evidence 2	6
LA 764	Community Property	2
LA 790b	Jurisprudence	3
LA 803	Wills, Trusts, and Estates	3
LA 822a	Remedies	3
LA 560d or LA 560e	Legal Writing: Litigation Skills Legal Writing: Transactional Skills	3
LA 998e	Advanced Exam Approaches and Skills	3

**Taking courses in any order other than what is listed above may result in a course conflict which may delay graduation.**

With the exception of LA 989 and LA 991 a, students may take electives upon completion of or concurrent enrollment in 30 units. Not all elective

## Juris Doctor Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses</b>		
LA 521	Contracts 1	3
LA 522a	Contracts 2	3
LA 531a	Criminal Law	3
LA 541	Torts 1	3
LA 542	Torts 2	3
LA 550	Foundations of Law	3
LA 559	Legal Research and Writing 1: Objective Writing <sup>1</sup>	3
LA 560b	Legal Research and Writing 2: Persuasive Writing <sup>1</sup>	3
LA 560d	Legal Writing: Litigation Skills <sup>1</sup>	3
or LA 560e	Legal Writing: Transactional Skills	
LA 600i	Constitutional Law 1	3
LA 601i	Constitutional Law 2	3
LA 613	Professional Responsibility and Ethics	3
LA 661	Property 1	3
LA 662	Property 2	3
LA 671i	Evidence 1	3
LA 672i	Evidence 2	3
LA 673b	Civil Procedure 1	3
LA 674b	Civil Procedure 2	3
LA 702a	Business Associations	3
LA 764	Community Property	2
LA 783i	Criminal Procedure	3
LA 790b	Jurisprudence	3
LA 803	Wills, Trusts, and Estates	3
LA 822a	Remedies	3
LA 998e	Advanced Exam Approaches and Skills	3
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>74</b>

<sup>1</sup> Course meets practical skills requirement. Students must complete a minimum of 6 units of practical skills courses toward the 90-unit graduation requirement.

Code	Title	Units
<b>Elective Courses (16 Units)</b>		
LA 523	Contracts Drafting	1
LA 545	Human Trafficking: Law and Policy (Cambodia)	1-3
LA 561	Mastering Multiple-Choice Questions: Part 1	1
LA 562	Mastering Multiple-Choice Questions: Part 2	1
LA 567	Mastering the Performance Test	1
LA 572	Victimology and Restorative Justice	1
LA 604	Religious Freedom and Sports	1
LA 674d	E-Discovery	1
LA 675a	Alternative Dispute Resolution <sup>1</sup>	3
LA 753	Trial Practice <sup>1</sup>	3
LA 763	Family Law	3
LA 843	Christian Legal Thought	3
LA 844	Recent Books on Law	3
LA 845a	Pro Bono Reading Seminar	1
LA 870b	Civil Litigation Skills <sup>1</sup>	3
LA 872	Advanced Legal Writing: Skills and Strategies	2
LA 891b	Juvenile Dependency	3
LA 901	Introduction to International Human Rights	3
LA 910	The Right to Life and the Law	3
LA 916a	Domestic Human Trafficking	1
LA 916b	International Human Trafficking	1
LA 922	Public International Law	3
LA 929	Children and the Law	1
LA 932	International Human Rights Protection (Europe)	6
LA 935	Law, Worldview, and Culture	1
LA 953	Legal Externship <sup>1,2,3</sup>	1-6
LA 957a	Law Practice Management <sup>1</sup>	3
LA 958	Law as a Vocation	1
LA 959g	Trinity Mediation Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	2
LA 959i	Trinity Law Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	1
LA 959j	Trinity Law Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	2
LA 959k	Trinity Mobile Legal Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	1
LA 959n	Trinity Religious Liberty Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	1
LA 959o	Trinity Religious Liberty Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	2
LA 959t	Trinity Mediation Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	3
LA 959u	Trinity Religious Liberty Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	3
LA 959v	Trinity Immigration Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	3
LA 959w	Trinity Immigration Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	1
LA 959x	Trinity Immigration Clinic <sup>1,2</sup>	2
LA 960	Administrative Law	3
LA 962a	Intellectual Property	3
LA 962d	Intellectual Property	1
LA 968	Legislation and Regulation	2
LA 970	Independent Study/Guided Research <sup>2,4</sup>	1-6
LA 973	From Brief to Bench: A Study of the Supreme Court's October Term	1
LA 974	First Amendment Trends and Exam Analysis	2
LA 984c	Religion and the Law	3
LA 984d	Law, Religion, and Public Policy	3

LA 988a	Criminal Law and Psychology	1
LA 988b	Domestic Violence Law	1
LA 989	Moot Court <sup>1,2,5</sup>	1-2
LA 991a	Law Review <sup>1,2,5</sup>	1
LA 993f	Fundamentals of Federal Taxation	3
LA 994b	Employment Law	3
LA 995f	Immigration Law	3
LA 995j	Adoption Law	1
LA 995nb	Negotiation for Law and Business <sup>1</sup>	2-3
LA 995np	Law of Nonprofit Organizations	3
LA 999cr	42 USC Section 1983: Civil Rights Violations	1
LA 999g	Civil Disobedience and the Christian Lawyer	1
LA 999i	Client Interviewing and Counseling <sup>1</sup>	2
LA 999p	Estate Planning	1
LA 999w	Workers' Compensation	3
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>16</b>

<sup>1</sup> Course meets practical skills requirement. Students must complete a minimum of 6 units of practical skills courses toward the 90-unit graduation requirement.

<sup>2</sup> This course is non-classroom. A maximum of 9 units of non-classroom units may be earned toward the 90-unit graduation requirement.

<sup>3</sup> Of the nine units of non-classroom units that may be applied to the degree, a maximum of six units may be from LA 953. Students cannot take more than three units of LA 953 in any semester, excluding the summer session. Students cannot earn LA 953 units for doing work supervised by a close relative. Effective Fall 2026, students may earn compensation.

<sup>4</sup> There is a six-unit maximum for LA 970.

<sup>5</sup> There is a total four-unit maximum for LA 989 and LA 991a combined.

## Juris Doctor Flex Academic Support Classes

Students who have not taken the LSAT or who do not meet the requirements for the regular JD program may be considered for admission into the Juris Doctor Flex Academic Support Classes (Flex Track). Students must complete one of the five paths below.

Flex Track students must enroll in and receive a passing grade in LA 521x, LA 531x, and LA 541x in the first semester, and LA 522x, LA 542x, and LA 599x in the second consecutive semester (Flex First-Year Courses). Five of the six Flex First-Year Courses are similar to the regular JD courses with the added benefit of a sixth course focused on improving students' legal analysis skills. The Flex Track courses also include academic support components designed to help students pass the FYLSX.

Students beginning in the fall semester may complete the Flex First-Year Courses either online or in the in-person evening format. Students beginning in the spring semester may only complete the Flex First-Year Courses online.

Eligible Flex Track students who do not otherwise fulfill Path 1 or Path 2 below have an option to attend a third semester of the Flex Track. If they choose to do so, students will enroll in and complete LA 550x, LA 613x, and LA 783x on the TLS-designated days and times for these courses (Flex Third-Semester Courses). The Flex Third-Semester Courses are only offered online.

### Special Rules for Students Enrolled in JD Flex Academic Support Classes

For students enrolled in the JD Flex Academic Support Classes, an AW, UW, FW, or F in any one course will result in a UW for the remaining courses in progress and an administrative withdrawal from Trinity Law School.

### The Five Paths

#### Path 1

The FYLSX will be waived for students who both:

- Submit an LSAT score of 145 or higher before the last day of the first-semester, and
- Earn a grade of "C" or higher in each of the first semester Flex First-Year Courses.

#### Path 2

The FYLSX will be waived for students who:

- Earn a cumulative GPA of 2.67 or higher at the end of the Flex First-Year Courses. (Based on the grading curve, approximately 15-20% of Flex Track students maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.67 or higher.)

#### Path 3

If Path 1 or Path 2 has not been achieved, the FYLSX is required.

- Take and pass the FYLSX after receiving passing grades in the Flex First-Year Courses.

#### Path 4

The FYLSX will be waived for students who both:

- Enroll in the Flex Third-Semester Courses, and
- Earn a cumulative GPA of 2.67 or higher at the completion of the Flex Third-Semester Courses.

#### Path 5

If Paths 1-4 have not been achieved, the FYLSX is required.

- Take and pass the FYLSX after receiving passing grades in the Flex Third-Semester Courses.

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses</b>		
LA 521x	Contracts 1	3
LA 522x	Contracts 2	3
LA 531x	Criminal Law	3
LA 541x	Torts 1	3
LA 542x	Torts 2	3
LA 550x	Foundations of Law	3
LA 599x	FYLSX Skills	3
LA 613x	Professional Responsibility and Ethics	3
LA 783x	Criminal Procedure	3
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>27</b>

## Law Student Registration with the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California

Students seeking admission to practice law in California must register with the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California within 90 days from the commencement of their law studies. Registration must be completed through the State Bar of California website (<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/>).

### State Bar Requirements for Admission to Practice Law

The State Bar of California regulates legal education in California. Each student has the responsibility to comply fully with the Rules Regulating Admission to Practice Law in California. Students are strongly advised to obtain a copy of the rules from the Office of Admissions of the State Bar of California.

### Professional Responsibility Examination

All applicants for admission to practice law in California are required to pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners. Trinity Law School recommends that students complete LA 613 or LA 613x, as applicable, prior to taking the MPRE. Students should consult the State Bar of California website (<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Examinations/Multistate-Professional-Responsibility-Examination/>) for details regarding the MPRE.

### Admission to Practice Law in California

Accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California, the JD program fulfills the requirements pertaining to admission to the practice of law in California. Graduates are qualified to take the California Bar Examination.

## Admission to Practice Law Outside of California

Study at, or graduation from, this law school may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be licensed to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek licensure to practice law outside of California at any time during their career should contact the admitting authority for information regarding its education and licensure requirements prior to enrolling at this law school.

Admission standards for each state are set forth in the American Bar Association's Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements. This resource may be obtained at [ncbex.org](http://ncbex.org) (<http://ncbex.org/>).

## Petitions to the Committee of Bar Examiners of The State Bar of California

Petitions filed with the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California must be verified. Accordingly, students are requested either to appear before a notary public to have a petition sworn to, or in the alternative, to attach a declaration under penalty of perjury in the following form:

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing petition is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Executed on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_(city), \_\_\_\_\_(state).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature