



Summer 2026

Summer 2026 Course Catalog

Summer Semester 2026, May 18th - July 31st



Welcome to the Summer 2026 Course Catalog,

The summer semester is a great opportunity to continue building momentum in your legal education, whether that means completing required courses or exploring new areas of law

Summer registration is open to current 1L–4L students and includes both required courses and electives designed to help you stay on track for graduation while engaging more deeply with areas of law that interest you.

Most summer electives are offered online, allowing us to bring in experts from across the communities we serve. These courses give you the opportunity to learn from a wide range of practitioners while connecting with classmates from other campuses, expanding both your perspective and your professional network.

This catalog is designed to help you plan for the upcoming term. Inside, you will find summer course descriptions, JD graduation checklists for the Classes of 2026 & 2027 and 2028 & 2029, answers to frequently asked questions in the JD FAQ section, instructions for using the Populi Degree Audit, and a news bulletin outlining upcoming curriculum changes that will affect the Class of 2030.

As you review elective options, please remember to keep track of how many elective units you still need to complete your degree. The graduation checklists included in this catalog and the Populi Degree Audit are helpful tools for monitoring your progress and planning your course selections.

We hope you enjoy the summer courses and the opportunity to continue learning, connecting, and growing in your legal education.

-Dean Xyr

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Top 6 Things to Know About Summer Registration

1

Register in Populi: All summer course registration must be completed in Populi.

2

Know the Registration Window: Elective registration opens the week of March 23 and closes the week of April 14.

3

Join the Waitlist if a Course is Full: If a course is full, add yourself to the waitlist in Populi. You will be automatically enrolled if a space becomes available.

4

Clinics Require an Application: Students interested in summer clinics must apply through the Clinical Course Application process. Approved students will be manually enrolled.

5

Check Your Schedule Regularly: Course rosters can change frequently during registration, so check your schedule in Populi regularly to monitor enrollment and waitlist status.

6

Need Help Registering? If you need to register for a course offered on another campus, please contact the registrar or Dean Wright for assistance with registration.



2025-2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR - ALL CAMPUSES

2025 FALL SEMESTER

July 21 – August 1	Registration for Fall 2025-Spring 2026-Summer 2026 (All Campuses)
August 4 - August 7	Orientation (All Campuses) Mandatory for All First Year Students
August 18	Classes Begin (All Campuses)
August 25 –September 7	Drop Fall 2025 Classes (no fees)
September 1	Labor Day (Classes may be rescheduled)
November 27	Thanksgiving (Classes may be rescheduled)
November 27	Last Day of Instruction
December 1 - December 5	Study Week
December 8 - December 12	Fall Semester Midterm and Final Exams
December 13 – January 4	Semester Break (No classes)
December 13 - January 4	Add Period - Spring 2026 Classes
December 13 – January 4	Winter Break – Administrative Offices Closed

2026 SPRING SEMESTER

January 5	Classes Begin
January 5	Spring Start Begins
January 5 - January 18	Drop Period - Spring 2026 Classes (no fees)
January 19	Martin Luther King Day (Classes may be rescheduled)
February 16	Presidents Day (Classes may be rescheduled)
March 23 - April 14	Selection for Summer 2026 Electives
April 16	Last Day of Instruction (<i>Continuing and Spring Start students</i>)
April 20 - April 24	Study Week
April 27- May 1	Spring Semester Final Exams (<i>Continuing and Spring Start students</i>)
May 2 - May 17	Semester Break (No classes)
May 2 - May 17	Add Period - Summer 2026 (no fees)

2026 SUMMER SEMESTER

May 18	Classes Begin
May 18 - May 31	Drop Period - Summer 2026 Classes (no fees)
May 16	Graduation (SLO Students)
tba	Graduation (KCCL Students)
tba	Graduation (MCL Students)
May 25	Memorial Day (Classes may be rescheduled)
June 19	Juneteenth (Classes may be rescheduled)
July 4	Independence Day (Classes may be rescheduled)
July 24	Last Day of Instruction
July 27 – July 31	Summer Semester Final Exams
July 20 – August 2	Registration Fall 2026–Spring 2027-Summer 2027 Academic Year (All Campuses)
August 1 – August 16	Semester Break (No classes)
August tba	Orientation
August 17	Fall 2026 Classes Begin

Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
ADR: Mindset, Rules, Strategies and Applications	Online	Elective	Marie Muchow	In this 5 week course, we will examine the various ADR modalities available to practitioners from pre-suit demand letters and settlement discussions to Mediation, Arbitration and the use of CCP Section 998 Offers to Compromise.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	1 (Weeks 1-5)
Advanced Criminal Practice	On-Site ECL	Elective	Kathleen Pozzi	Students will learn the fundamentals of representing a client in a criminal case from initial interview through all stages of a jury trial. By the end of the course, students will be able to effectively interview a client, pick a jury (voir dire), prepare pretrial motions (motions in limine), give an opening statement (road map of the case), direct and cross examine witnesses, and give a closing statement.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	2
Advanced Ethics Techniques	Online	Elective	Vishad Dewan	Learning how to navigate real-world ethical quandaries involving your clients, your firm, and your practice of law. Students will be exposed to factual scenarios that raise several ethical issues, each of which students will need to work through. Each decision students make will have an immediate positive/negative outcome. Students will have to consult the rules of ethics. Students will learn how to spot ethical issues and how to stop, think, research, and then decide the proper course of conduct. Topics will include: dealing with difficult clients, how to deal with financial disputes with a client, the role of the lawyer when the client insists on certain actions, etc.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Professional Responsibility, Civil Procedure, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2
Animal Law	Online	Elective	Andrew Dibbern	Animals and the legal effects of their unique nature are present throughout the law. Animal Law is the body of law relating to animals and the unique interaction between people and animals. As such, this course explores the aspects of animal law on a horizontal plane: moving through each of the legal field's classic practice areas, identifying and discussing key animal law concepts in each, surveying the historical and current profile of this rapidly developing specialty. In brief, animal law encompasses all areas of the law in which the nature -- legal, social, biological -- of nonhumans is an important factor. In this manner, students will be provided with a comprehensive survey of animal law as a field within the United States' legal community, methods of integrating animal law into other areas of legal practice and analysis, and establishing a broad foundation upon which to build animal law study, should they so choose. It is an objective overview of a challenging area -- one with a growing number of cases and laws, increasing public and practical interest, and significantly different historical, legal and philosophical foundations than most other courses.	None specified.	2

Helpful Tip!

Before registration opens, take a few minutes to review your Populi Degree Audit and the JD Graduation Checklist to see which requirements and elective units you still need. Browse the course descriptions in this catalog and identify a few electives that support your academic or professional interests.



Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
Appellate Writing (Legal Writing III)	On-site & Online	Required	Various	In Legal Writing III, students are introduced to appellate practice and the more advanced writing skills necessary to persuade appellate judges to overturn or affirm lower court decisions. The focus is on advanced writing skills, advanced legal research, presentation skills including oral argument, and writing an appellate brief. Students will further develop their ability to undergo criticism of their writing and implement changes based on that criticism. Developing lifelong, self-learning skills will be emphasized at all levels of legal writing.	Legal Writing IA & IB, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2
Bankruptcy	Online	Elective	Lisa Holder	Bankruptcy is a summer-elective, five session, one-unit, survey course. Its purpose is to acquaint you with individual and business entity liquidation or reorganization. It will examine the economic and social policies that influenced the development of the modern bankruptcy code. The course will focus on the three main types of bankruptcy relief that you will likely encounter in practice: Chapter 7 (liquidation); Chapter 13 (individual debt adjustment); and Chapter 11 (reorganization). Relief under Chapter 9 (municipalities), Chapter 12 (family farm reorganization), and Chapter 15 (cross border insolvency) will not be discussed in detail.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	1 (Weeks 1-5)
California Housing Law	Online	Elective	Kellie Morgantini & Sarah Chronister	<p>This course will cover California housing law and policy - including review and discussion of low- and moderate-income units (from both the tenant and homeowner view), code enforcement (housing violations), affordable housing development (subdivisions, environmental review, etc.), public housing and housing subsidies, disability requirements, renting and access to justice.</p> <p>The class will have presentations from local experts on selected topics: These individuals may include a County Hearings Officer (Zoning Administrator), Environmental Consultants re: CEQA and environmental impacts, staff of local non-profit low-income housing organizations.</p> <p>The course will conclude with a study prepared by the students on a class-selected aspect of the topics we cover - from the perspective of local County/City regulations. The overall intent for this course is for the students to have an overview of the myriad ways in which housing, especially affordable housing, is pulled in California. Development, zoning, construction and social strains, but to be able to recognize, understand and navigate them as an attorney and advocate for affordable housing.</p>	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	2
Capstone I	Online	Elective	Christina Chong	This course provides a doctrinal review of three foundational first-year subjects — Contracts, Torts, and Criminal Law & Procedure. This course focuses on strengthening students' mastery of commonly tested bar exam topics from each of the three subjects. It is designed as a structured, application-driven refresher that guides students through the substantive law while sharpening their analytical and exam-taking skills. It also uses spacing theories to help students slowly commit rules to memory before officially studying and sitting for the bar examination.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	1

Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
Capstone II	Online	Elective	Christina Chong	This course provides a doctrinal review of three foundational first-year subjects — Civil Procedure, Evidence, and Real Property. This course focuses on strengthening students' mastery of commonly tested bar exam topics from each of the three subjects. It is designed as a structured, application-driven refresher that guides students through the substantive law while sharpening their analytical and exam-taking skills. It also uses spacing theories to help students slowly commit rules to memory before officially studying and sitting for the bar examination.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	1
Children and the Law	Online	Elective	Harvey Schweitzer	A review of selected U.S. Supreme Court cases involving children with emphasis on parental decision making regarding their children, the legal rights of children, and the criminal justice process with a focus on culpability and punishment. Depending on the interests of the class and if time permits other topics may be addressed; such as terminating the rights of birth parents in the context of adoption and the Indian Child Welfare Act.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	1 (Weeks 6-10)
Communication Skills for Lawyers: Difficult Conversations	Online	Elective	Fiona Hall & Caitlin Meredith	Whether sharing bad news with a client, apologizing for a mistake, providing feedback, or talking with a colleague about an uncomfortable issue, the ability to handle difficult conversations respectfully and professionally has never been more necessary. In fact, the most in-demand skill of professionals is good communication, according to LinkedIn's 2024 global inventory. With artificial intelligence's increasing prominence in the workplace, mastering uniquely human skills like empathy, intuition and self-knowledge creates a path to professional achievement. This lab will identify the key elements of preparing for, conducting, and concluding difficult conversations. Students will have class time to practice these skills through role plays.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	2
Contemporary Issues In National Security Law	Online	Elective	Scott Belden	This course will present students with an examination of contemporary national security issues, discussing relevant Constitutional, statutory, and case authorities. The role of State and Federal civilian and military forces, including the National Guard, and the reach of the judicial power in expanding or restraining State and Federal executive actions will be analyzed. Special emphasis will be placed on recent Court of Appeals and Supreme Court decisions on National Security issues in the domestic context, including the application of the First and Fourth Amendments and analogous California authorities.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	1 (Weeks 6-10)

Helpful tip!

Register for courses in Populi during the elective registration period (week of March 23 - week of April 14). If a course is full, add yourself to the waitlist. Be sure to check your schedule regularly, as course rosters may change during the registration period.



Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
Core Mediation	Online	Required	Various	This intensive 10-week, 32-hour Mediation Certification Training will teach you how to help others work through their conflicts. This training meets the requirements of the California Dispute Resolution Programs Act for mediators. The communication and problem-solving skills taught in this course are applicable in a wide range of situations, including work, personal and community life. The course has been adapted to a virtual format.	None specified.	2
Employment Law	Online	Elective	Siobhan Kelley	This class examines Federal and California laws governing employment relationships. Students will learn the complex interrelationship between California state statutes, regulations, and case law, and requirements set forth by Federal sources. Students will gain an understanding of the principles involved in discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, wage and hour, and other issues that arise in the employment context. Students will learn through a combination of theory and real-world case examples, enabling students to issue spot and analyze frequently experienced disputes arising in the workplace.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2
Estate Plan Drafting Intensive Practicum	Online	Elective	Jesse Hancox	This course offers a comprehensive, practical guide to estate planning, a field that touches every life. Moving beyond foundational Wills and Trusts, students will examine tax-efficient property transfers, incapacity planning, and the selection of fiduciaries for various beneficiary types. Focus is also placed on professional responsibility, including ethics, execution protocols, and risk mitigation. The hands-on curriculum concludes with the preparation of a complete estate plan.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2
Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Law	Online	Elective	Ann Clarke	This course will introduce students to the overlapping, but rich and complex fields of food, agricultural, and environmental law, Congress' purpose in enacting the major statutes in each field, their basic framework, and how each has evolved through regulation and judicial interpretation.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	2

Helpful Tip!

After you register, review your schedule in Populi to confirm your enrollment and waitlist status. Continue checking your schedule during the registration period and adjust your selections if needed to ensure you are on track with your graduation requirements.



Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
Gibson Appellate Advocacy	Online	Elective	Cathy Bennett	<p>In the Gibson Appellate Writing Project, students further refine their legal writing and research skills by working closely with a senior attorney (akin to a junior associate/senior partner relationship) to write an appellate brief in the same fictional case used in Moot Court class. Students will further develop their critical analysis skills, and their ability to implement changes based on criticism of their writing. Developing lifelong, self-learning skills will be emphasized at all levels of legal writing.</p> <p>This class satisfies the writing requirement for the joint JD/MLS program. <u>This class must be taken concurrently with Moot Court.</u></p>	Constitutional Law and Legal Writing III: Appellate Writing	2
Introduction to Legal Issues for Tech Companies	Online	Elective General & Tech	Huy Duong	<p>This course is designed to help students learn legal commercial issues surrounding a technology company in Silicon Valley. Topics discussed will include the following: Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) subscriptions, warranties and service level agreements (SLA's), data security and privacy, indemnities, limitations of liability, and much more. Through a combination of class discussion, lectures, and written exercises, this course will provide an opportunity for students to understand the role of a commercial attorney and how to consider, evaluate and adapt to emerging changes in commercial/technology law practice with a thoughtful and critical mindset.</p>	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	2
Legal Research	On-site & Online	Required	Various	<p>A class to familiarize students with the basic foundations of legal research. Assignments include researching problems in the law library and researching and writing office memoranda, opinion letters and other documents. Computer assisted legal research is included.</p>	Legal Writing IA & IB	2
Legal Synthesis	Online	Elective	Raymond Chao	<p>This course is designed to help graduating law students understand and begin preparing for the California Bar Examination. Students are expected to complete weekly homework (e.g., an essay assignment, a PT assignment, and/or MBE questions), and to come prepared to complete in-class simulations.</p> <p>Because the bar prep season is entirely self-study, after each in-class or homework assignment, students will evaluate ways to improve their exam-taking and study strategies. Students will also learn how to become self-regulated learners and how to use the required texts to begin early self-study for the California Bar Examination. This course includes several interactive activities and discussions to promote active learning and is NOT a passive lecture course.</p>	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB, Constitutional Law, Community Property, Business Organizations	2

Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
MLS Thesis	Online	Required	Kaiqi Hua	Students pursuing the Master of Legal Studies (MLS) degree are required to complete the Capstone Thesis course. Students in the joint JD/MLS program may petition to take this course in lieu of Gibson Appellate Advocacy by submitting a petition. The petition process begins by contacting Dean Chelsea Wright to obtain the required form. The MLS Director will teach this individualized writing and research course.	This course is for students in the MLS program who are in the final two semesters of their degree.	2
Moot Court	On-site & Online	Required	Various	Moot Court aims to help students discover and develop their advocacy skills in the context of advanced Constitutional Law hypotheticals. The course will emphasize oral advocacy exercises, culminating in multiple rounds of moot court argument.	Constitutional Law and Legal Writing III: Appellate Writing	2
Politics, Religion, and the Law in the United States	Online	Elective	Jeanine Kraybill	This course examines the complex and evolving relationship between religion, politics, and law in the United States. Students will explore how religious beliefs and institutions have shaped political movements, public policy, and constitutional interpretation from the nation's founding to the present day. Central to the course is an analysis of the First Amendment's Religion Clauses—the Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause—and how courts have balanced religious liberty with democratic governance and civil rights. Through the study of Supreme Court cases, historical documents, and contemporary controversies, students will engage key questions such as: What does the separation of church and state mean in practice? How should religious freedom be protected in a pluralistic society? What role does religion play in elections, legislation, and social movements?	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	1 (Weeks 1-5)
Probate Administration from Start to Finish	Online	Elective	Logan Walter	A comprehensive elective designed to guide law students through the California probate administration process from initial client intake through estate closing. Students explore procedural steps, document preparation, fiduciary duties, creditor claims, estate taxation issues, court processes, and post-distribution responsibilities. The course emphasizes practical skills including drafting petitions, notices, accountings, and client communications, as well as ethical considerations for probate attorneys.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2
Professional Responsibility	On-site & Online	Required	Various	Students will learn the principles, rules, and policies underlying the ethical obligations of attorneys in the practice of law.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB	2

Fun Tip!

Interested in building courtroom or client-facing skills? Summer courses like Trial Advocacy and Probate Administration focus on practical lawyering techniques and give you the chance to practice the skills attorneys use every day.



Course Name	Campus/Modality	Course Type	Professor	Course Summary	Take these classes before taking this class	Units
Real Estate Transactions	Online	Elective	Ryan Griffith	Real Estate Transactions is a practical upper-division course that examines the law governing the purchase and sale of real property from contract formation through closing and post-closing remedies. The course integrates foundational principles of property and contract law with a strong emphasis on risk allocation, drafting, negotiation, and remedies for breach. It is an excellent way to improve your understanding of the commonly tested bar subjects of property, contracts and remedies. Students will study the modern residential and commercial real estate transaction, including: the lawyer's role in real estate deals; real estate brokers and agency duties; offers and purchase and sale agreements; marketable title and allocation of title risk; escrow and closing mechanics; deeds, recording statutes, and priority disputes; title searches, title insurance, and public records; mortgages, mortgage substitutes, lien priorities, and foreclosure; remedies for breach, including damages, and equitable remedies such as specific performance, rescission, and restitution. The course emphasizes analytical problem-solving and bar-style essay application. Students will learn to evaluate transactional risk, draft and interpret key provisions of purchase agreements, and analyze disputes that arise when deals collapse. Particular attention is given to the intersection between transactional law and litigation strategy, making this course especially valuable for students interested in real estate practice, civil litigation, or bar preparation. Since real estate disputes frequently turn on the availability and scope of equitable and monetary relief, this course provides an excellent doctrinal foundation for Remedies. Students are encouraged to take this course before enrolling in Remedies, if scheduling permits.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2
Starting and Managing a Practice	Online	Elective	Daniel Raff	This course will provide training on how to start your own firm, and how to manage it once it is started. It will touch on firm administration, attracting clients, managing staff, and other aspects of subjects relevant to legal entrepreneurs. Even if you have no intention of starting your own practice, the skills discussed in this class will make you a more valuable associate, and help elevate you to a partnership position at a law firm.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	1 (Weeks 1-5)
Trial Advocacy	On-Site SLO	Elective	Hunter Starr	Trial Advocacy offers a unique experience in law school because it is a practice-driven experience involving the intersection of substantive law, evidence law, and the skill of courtroom presentation. Trial Advocacy provides insight into each segment of the trial process, from voir dire to closing argument. Students will be teamed up and prepare their case based on a fact pattern that the whole class will share. The final exam is a mock trial, where students will act as attorneys and witnesses.	Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Torts, Legal Writing IA & IB, Civil Procedure, Real Property, Evidence, Adv. Legal Writing IIA & IIB	2

JD

Graduation Checklists

Track Your Requirements

The JD Graduation Checklists appear on the following pages and are designed to help you understand your JD graduation requirements and track your progress throughout the program.

Two checklists are included in this catalog based on entering cohort:

- Classes of 2026 and 2027
Students who first enrolled in 2022 or 2023
- Classes of 2028 and 2029
Students who first enrolled in 2024 or 2025

Be sure to refer to the checklist for your cohort when reviewing your requirements and planning your coursework. Checking your checklist regularly can help you stay organized and feel confident that you are on track for graduation.

You may print the checklist and keep it handy as you track your progress through the program. You are also encouraged to review your Populi degree audit, which tracks your completed and remaining requirements.

If you have questions about your requirements or would like help planning your courses, your academic advisor is always available to support you.



JD Graduation Checklist

Classes of 2026 & 2027 (first enrolled in 2022 or 2023)

Students in the JD program will complete a 90-unit degree path, including 70 required units, two clinical units, core mediation training, and elective units.

Students must maintain a 70.00 cumulative grade point average (GPA) to maintain good academic standing. In addition, students who do not successfully pass at least 60% of the units in which they are enrolled during a semester will be placed on academic probation.

JD students must successfully complete all graduation requirements within 84 months (7 years) from commencement.

Students must be in good academic and financial standing to graduate.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1L Courses Fall - Summer	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contracts I Contracts II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Torts I Torts II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal Law & Procedure I Criminal Law & Procedure II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Writing I A Legal Writing I B	Fall Spring	1 unit 1 unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Skills	Fall Only	1 unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Responsibility	Summer Only	2 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Research	Summer Only	2 units

Because The Law Schools' curriculum is designed as a part-time program, the courses follow a required sequence that anticipates completion in four years starting from the fall semester of a student's 1L courses.

25 total units



Required 2L - 4L courses

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2L Courses Fall - Summer	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Evidence I Evidence II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Real Property I Real Property II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Civil Procedure I Civil Procedure II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Writing II A Legal Writing II B	Fall Spring	1 unit 1 unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appellate Writing	Summer Only	2 units
			22 total units

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3L Courses Fall - Summer	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Constitutional Law I Constitutional Law II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Organizations I Business Organizations II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Property	Fall Only	3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moot Court	Summer Only	2 units
			17 total units

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4L Courses Fall - Spring	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wills & Trusts	Fall Only	3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remedies	Spring Only	3 units

*The class of 2028 and beyond will be required to take a for-credit pre-bar preparation course in their 4L year.

6 total units*



Required Clinical Units

		Semester(s) Offered	Units
■	General Clinical Units	Fall, Spring, Summer	2 total units
■	Core Mediation Training	Spring & Summer Only	2 units
<p><i>The general clinical unit requirement may be met by completing clinics offered by the law school. After receiving approval, 3L and 4L students may complete legal and judicial internships for clinical credit. Students must successfully pass 1L courses, including professional responsibility, before enrolling in clinical courses where they will work with the public. If a student completes more than two general clinical units, the additional units will be applied to their elective unit requirement. Students may apply up to eleven clinical units toward the JD degree.</i></p>			4 total units

Electives: Classes of 2026 & 2027

		Semester(s) Offered	Units
■	General Elective Units	Summer	16 total units
<p>Most electives are offered during the summer, and the selection varies each year. The summer schedule is published before summer registration begins. Occasionally, electives may be offered in the fall or spring. Clinics are offered year-round. Students must complete 2 clinic units. Additional clinic units may count toward general electives.</p>			

Total Units Required for JD: Class of 2026 & 2027

<div style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border-radius: 10px;">1L - 4L Required</div>		<div style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border-radius: 10px;">Clinical & Elective</div>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1L = 25 units ✓ 2L = 22 units ✓ 3L = 17 units ✓ <u>4L = 6 units*</u> 	+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ General Clinical = 2 units ✓ Core Mediation = 2 units ✓ <u>General Elective = 16 units</u> 	=	<div style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="margin: 0;">90</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Total</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Units</p> </div> </div>
70 Units		20 Units		
<p>* The class of 2028 & 2029 must take a 3-unit pre-bar prep class in 4L and 13 general elective units</p>				



JD Graduation Checklist

Classes of 2028 & 2029 (first enrolled in 2024 or 2025)

Students in the JD program will complete a 90-unit degree path, including 70 required units, two clinical units, core mediation training, and elective units.

Students must maintain a 70.00 cumulative grade point average (GPA) to maintain good academic standing. In addition, students who do not successfully pass at least 60% of the units in which they are enrolled during a semester will be placed on academic probation.

JD students must successfully complete all graduation requirements within 84 months (7 years) from commencement.

Students must be in good academic and financial standing to graduate.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1L Courses Fall - Summer	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contracts I Contracts II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Torts I Torts II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Criminal Law & Procedure I Criminal Law & Procedure II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Writing I A Legal Writing I B	Fall Spring	1 unit 1 unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Skills	Fall	1 unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Responsibility	Summer	2 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Research	Summer	2 units

The Law School's curriculum is structured as a part-time program, and students may enroll in up to three bar-tested subjects per semester. Courses follow a required sequence designed for completion over four years, beginning with the fall semester of a student's 1L year and concluding with the spring semester of the 4L year, with graduates typically sitting for the July bar exam. Students who meet the applicable GPA requirements may instead graduate at the conclusion of their 4L fall semester and sit for the February bar exam. Interested students should consult the Student Handbook and their academic advisor to ensure they meet all eligibility and graduation requirements.

25 total units

Required 2L - 4L courses

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2L Courses Fall - Summer	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Evidence I Evidence II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Real Property I Real Property II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Civil Procedure I Civil Procedure II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Writing II A Legal Writing II B	Fall Spring	1 unit 1 unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appellate Writing	Summer	2 units
			22 total units

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3L Courses Fall - Summer	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Constitutional Law I Constitutional Law II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Organizations I Business Organizations II	Fall Spring	3 units 3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Property	Fall	3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moot Court	Summer	2 units
			17 total units

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4L Courses Fall - Spring	Semester(s) Offered	Units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wills and Trusts	Fall	3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal Synthesis (Pre-Bar Prep) I Legal Synthesis (Pre-Bar Prep) II	*Fall	3 units
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remedies	Spring	3 units

*While Legal Synthesis is typically a two-part sequence completed during the fall semester, an accelerated "split-track" is available for students planning a December graduation to sit for the February Bar Exam. Eligible students who meet applicable GPA requirements may enroll in Legal Synthesis I during the 3L summer, followed by Legal Synthesis II in the 4L fall. Students then begin early Bar prep mid-fall and transition into full-time Bar prep in December.

9 total units



Required Clinical Units

		Semester(s) Offered	Units
■	General Clinical Units	Fall, Spring, Summer	2 total units
■	Core Mediation Training	Spring & Summer	2 units
<p><i>Students may satisfy the general clinical unit requirement by completing law school clinics. Before enrolling in clinics, students must first successfully complete all required 1L courses, including Professional Responsibility. With prior approval, 3L and 4L students may also earn clinical credit through qualifying internships. If a student completes more than two clinical units, the additional units may be applied toward the general elective unit requirement. Students may receive credit for a course or clinic only once, and no more than eleven clinical units may be counted toward their JD degree.</i></p>			4 total units

Electives: Classes of 2028 & 2029

		Semester(s) Offered	Units
■	General Elective Units	Summer	13 total units
<p>Most electives are offered during the summer, and the selection varies each year. The summer schedule is published before summer registration begins. Occasionally, electives may be offered in the fall or spring. Clinics are offered year-round. Students must complete 2 clinic units. Additional clinic units may count toward general electives.</p>			

Total Units Required for JD: Classes of 2028 & 2029

<div style="background-color: #2e7d32; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">1L - 4L Required</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1L= 25 units ✓ 2L= 22 units ✓ 3L= 17 units ✓ <u>4L= 9 units</u> <p style="text-align: center;">73 Units</p>	+	<div style="background-color: #2e7d32; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">Clinical & Elective</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ General Clinical= 2 units ✓ Core Mediation= 2 units ✓ <u>General Elective= 13 units</u> <p style="text-align: center;">17 Units</p>	=	<div style="background-color: #2e7d32; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="margin: 0;">90</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Total</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Units</p> </div> </div>
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JD

Requirements FAQ



You Asked, We Answered



The following page provides answers to frequently asked questions about JD graduation requirements, course planning, and bar preparation. These questions reflect topics students commonly ask as they move through the program.

If you need help interpreting your requirements or planning your next semester, your academic advisor is always happy to help.



JD REQUIREMENTS FAQS:

You have questions.
We have answers!



QUESTION

ANSWER

How many elective units do I need to take?

The classes of 2026 & 2027 must complete **16 elective units**. The classes of 2028 & 2029 must complete **13 elective units**.

May I take more than two clinics?

Yes! If you complete more than two clinical units, the additional units may be applied toward your elective units. **You may receive credit for a course or clinic only once**, and no more than 11 clinical units may be counted toward your JD degree.

How do I know which classes to take next year?

The JD curriculum follows a required sequence designed for completion in four years, beginning in the fall of your 1L year. The **JD Course Catalog and checklists** include the **required course order**. Two-semester courses must be taken in consecutive semesters (e.g., Real Property I in fall and Real Property II in spring)

I'd like to graduate early. How many bar-tested subjects may I take each semester?

You may take up to **three bar-tested subjects** each semester. If you are in good academic standing and wish to graduate early, you may take Remedies in the spring of your 3L year rather than in your 4L year. If you complete all other requirements, you may graduate at the end of your 4L fall semester.

How can I check how many electives and/or clinics I have completed and which requirements remain?

Check your Populi Degree Audit. It shows how many electives and clinics you have completed and what requirements remain. See the Populi Degree Audit instruction sheet for more details.

If I must repeat a required class, when should I plan to retake it?

You must repeat the course in the **next academic year**.

I earned a 64 or below (but above a 59) in the fall semester of a two-semester, bar-tested course and must repeat it. Can I remain enrolled in the spring semester?

It depends. Students in good academic standing may remain enrolled in the spring semester, though some may be **advised** to drop the course. Students on academic probation may be **required** to drop the spring semester. Speak to your academic advisor about your specific situation.

I earned a failing grade in a two-semester legal writing course. May I remain enrolled in the second semester of the course?

No. If you fail the fall semester of a Legal Writing course, you **may not** remain enrolled in the second semester. You must repeat both semesters of the course in the next academic year.

I'm currently in the JD program and want to pursue the joint JD/MLS degree. How do I join the program and complete the requirements?

If you are in good academic standing, you may apply to the joint JD/MLS degree program after completing your 2L year by submitting the **request form in Populi**. Students generally take **Gibson Appellate Writing** in their 3L summer to satisfy the writing requirement but may petition to take the **MLS Thesis** course instead.

I'm in the 2028 (or 2029) cohort, when do I take the required pre-Bar Prep course?


The standard track is a two-part sequence completed during your final fall semester. However, if you wish to sit for the **February Bar**, you may follow the accelerated "split-track" (pending GPA eligibility). This allows you to complete **Synthesis I in 3L summer** and **Synthesis II in early fall**, enabling you to begin early Bar prep mid-semester and transition to full-time study in December.

When does preparation for the California bar exam begin?

Your bar preparation begins with Legal Synthesis. If you wish to sit for the February Bar, you will complete early bar prep in October and full-time prep from December through the exam. If you sit in July, you will take early bar prep in the spring and move to full-time study through the summer. **Regardless of your track, you are strongly advised to take time off from work during the final "full-time" preparation phase to ensure maximum success.**


When will I be eligible to take the California Bar Exam?

You must complete all **JD graduation requirements** in the semester before your target bar exam. To sit for the February exam, you must finish all requirements by the **end of fall**. To sit for the July exam, you must finish all requirements by the **end of spring**.




Populi

Degree Audit



Review Your Progress



The following page explains where to find the Degree Audit feature in Populi and how to navigate it.

Your Populi Degree Audit shows your completed and remaining graduation requirements and helps you track your progress toward the JD degree.

If you have questions about your audit or your degree requirements, please contact your academic advisor.

Important Note for Class of 2028 and 2029 students:

The Populi JD Degree Audit currently displays the same set of requirements for all JD students. As a result, Legal Synthesis I and II (three units) will appear in the elective category for students in the Classes of 2028 and 2029, even though they are required courses for those classes. This will be updated in the future as the class of 2027 graduates.

In the meantime, please refer to the JD Graduation Checklist for your class year to confirm your requirements.

Populi Degree Audit



The Populi degree audit compares your academic progress to the degree requirements. It is a useful tool to help you monitor your progress in real-time.

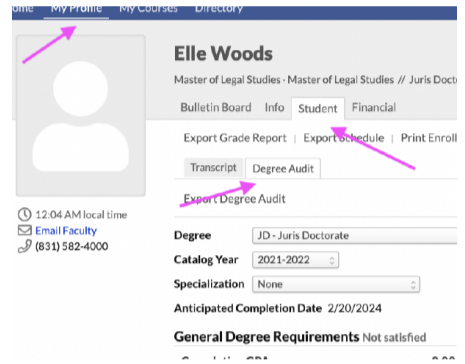
The Registrar maintains all student records and will determine official degree eligibility using both Populi records and your student file.

Step 1:



Log into Populi

- Log into your student Populi account.
- The degree audit is found on My Profile>Student.
- Navigate to the degree audit tab.

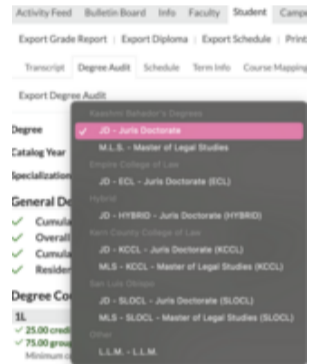


Step 2:



Select Degree

- Click the degree pull-down menu and select JD - Juris Doctorate.

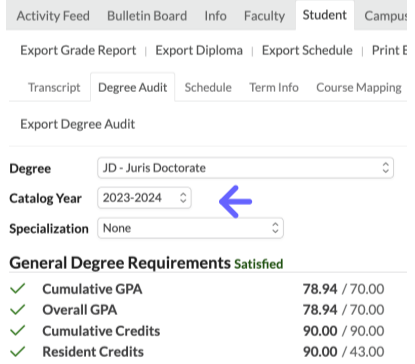


Step 3:

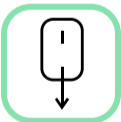


Select Catalog Year

- Select the current year.



Step 4:



Review Audit

- Scroll down to review the list of Completed and In Progress courses.
- Courses are organized by cohort year and type. For example, 1L courses, 4L courses, and electives.

4L

- ✓ 6.00 credits earned / 6.00 required
- ✓ 83.50 group GPA / 2.00 required
- Minimum course grade points: 2.00

Show All **Completed** Not completed

Course	Name	Grade	Status	Applied
326	Remedies	90	3 credits completed	✓
331	Wills & Trusts	77	3 credits completed	✓

Step 5:



Earned/Required

- Check the summary information at the top of each category to see how many units you need to satisfy each category and how many units you've earned so far.

3L

- ✓ 17.00 credits earned / 17.00 required
- ✓ 85.94 group GPA / 2.00 required
- Minimum course grade points: 2.00

Show All **Completed** Not completed



News

Bulletin


Changes for Class of 2030



The following page highlights upcoming updates to the JD curriculum that will apply to students in the Class of 2030. This news bulletin is intended to help current students understand what is changing and how the updated curriculum will be structured for the incoming students.

These updates are designed to strengthen the program and support students as they prepare for the bar exam and legal practice.

Students in the Classes of 2029 and earlier will continue to follow their current graduation requirements.

What's Changing for Incoming Students

New program changes will apply to students who first enroll in classes in 2026 (the Class of 2030). Your degree requirements will remain the same.

1

The minimum cumulative GPA required for good academic standing and graduation will increase from 70.00 to 72.00.

2

JD students will be required to successfully complete summer capstone courses after the first and second years to strengthen their doctrinal knowledge and analytical skills.

3

Legal Writing course outcomes and curriculum will be updated. Courses will integrate research skills, including the ethical and responsible use of artificial intelligence, throughout the curriculum.

What's Changing for the Class of 2030



Legal Writing Spotlight

The current Legal Writing and Legal Research courses will be phased out over three years and replaced by the new Legal Writing & Practice curriculum. The total number of required Legal Writing units will remain the same, though the curriculum, timing, and pacing will change. These changes apply to students in the Class of 2030. Graduation requirements for students in the Class of 2029 or earlier remain unchanged. However, students in the Class of 2029 or earlier who take a lighter course load or need to repeat a Legal Writing course after it has been phased out may satisfy that requirement by taking the equivalent course in the new Legal Writing & Practice curriculum.

Current Legal Writing & Research Course

Legal Writing I is a two-unit course that meets five times in the fall and five times in the spring. Legal Research is a two-unit summer course that meets ten times.

Legal Writing II is a two-unit course that meets five times in the fall and five times in the spring.

Legal Writing III is a two-unit summer course that meets ten times in the summer.

Replaced By

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Replaced By

Future Legal Writing & Practice Courses

Legal Writing & Practice I will be a four-unit course that meets ten times in the spring and ten times in the summer.

Legal Writing & Practice II will be a two-unit course that meets five times in the fall and five times in the spring.

Legal Writing & Practice III will be a two-unit course that meets five times in the summer and five times in the fall.