

# Juris Doctor (Professional Program: JD)

## Mailing Address:

University of Illinois Chicago School of Law  
300 South State Street  
Chicago, IL 60604

## Contact Information:

Campus Location: First floor, Plymouth Building (P-100A)  
(800) 537-4280  
[law-admissions@uic.edu](mailto:law-admissions@uic.edu)  
[law.uic.edu](http://law.uic.edu)

## Administration:

Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management, Marchello Johnson

Students may complete any of the degree programs on a part-time or full-time basis and may begin their studies in the fall or the spring semester. Full-time students generally complete the JD program in three years, whereas part-time students can complete the JD program in four to five years. Part-time students who wish to complete the JD program in fewer than five years must enroll in summer school after completing the first 30 required semester hours.

Interdisciplinary joint degree offerings with other UIC colleges are available. For more information on the Law School's joint degree programs, please consult the following website: [UIC Law joint degree programs](#).

The Law School's degree programs are considered professional programs and are not administered by the Graduate College. The Law School website provides additional information on the Law School's degree programs, academic calendar, admission requirements, and the application process.

The JD program requires completion of 90 hours: 50 required core hours, including 3 hours of clinical or externship course work, and 40 elective hours. JD students may earn an optional JD concentration in one of eight areas:

1. Business Law
2. Criminal Law and Procedure
3. Critical Race and Gender Studies
4. Health Equity, Law, and Policy
5. Intellectual Property Law
6. International Human Rights Law
7. Sustainability
8. Trial Advocacy and Dispute Resolution

## Admission Requirements

- **Prior Degrees** Bachelor's degree in any field.
- **Test Required** LSAT or GRE. See the [School of Law website](#) for details on test guidelines.
- **Transcripts** Required.

- **Letters of Recommendation** Applicants must submit at least one letter of recommendation but are encouraged to submit two to three letters. Up to four letters will be accepted.
- **Personal Statement** Required. Statements should be 2-4 double-spaced pages. While a writing topic is not specified, applicants are encouraged to include examples of leadership, community involvement, talents, and achievements. The Personal Statement is an opportunity to offer the Admission Committee personal details to supplement LSAT scores, transcripts, and academic credentials.
- **Resume/Curriculum Vitae** Required.
- **Transfer Policy** Transfer applications are accepted year-round and do not need to follow the regular JD application deadline. Only students in good academic standing and who have completed 24-30 semester hours from an ABA-approved law school will be considered for admission. In addition to the application and personal statement, all transfer applicants must provide a copy of the law school report (CAS), as well as a complete official transcript and letter of good standing from the Law School previously attended. Students who wish to transfer to the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law must complete an LSAC application online.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score** (for international applicants)
  - The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam is the most widely used proficiency exam. UIC accepts TOEFL scores for up to two (2) years after the test administration. Original scores must be sent directly from Educational Testing Services (ETS) to the Office of Admissions at the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law (UIC Law) in order for the scores to be valid. **The TOEFL code for UIC Law is 1344.** UIC Law School requires a **minimum TOEFL score of 90 and 20 on the writing section.**
    - For information on test taking locations, please see the TOEFL Requirements section of the [International Supplement Form](#).
  - The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is also accepted by UIC Law. UIC Law accepts a **minimum IELTS score of 7.**
- **Other Requirements for International Applicants**
  - **Academic Translations** International applicants are required to use the JD CAS services provided by LSAC for the translation and evaluation of degrees and course work.
  - **Documents** Photocopy of valid, biographical passport.

## Degree Requirements

- **Minimum Required Semester Hours** 90 hours: 50 required core hours (including 3 semester hours of credit in clinical or externship fieldwork) and 40 elective hours.
- **GPA Requirement** Students must achieve and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.25/4.00 or higher.
- **Course Work**

Code	Title	Hours
<b>First-Year Core Courses</b>		
JD 405	Contracts I	
JD 406	Property	
JD 407	Torts	
LAW 402	Lawyering Skills I: Objective Analysis, Writing, and Research	

or LAW 403	Lawyering Skills I: Objective Analysis, Writing, and Research - Intellectual Property
or LAW 404	Lawyering Skills I: Objective Analysis, Writing, and Research - Civil Rights
JD 401	Expert Learning
JD 415	Contracts II
JD 411	Civil Procedure I
JD 416	Criminal Law
JD 414	Constitutional Law I
LAW 412	Lawyering Skills II: Advocacy
or LAW 413	Lawyering Skills II: Advocacy: Intellectual Property

**Other Required Courses**

JD 421	Civil Procedure II
JD 424	Constitutional Law II
JD 425	Evidence
or TADR 457	Trial Lawyer: Evidence
LAW 422	Lawyering Skills III: Appellate Advocacy
JD 423	Professional Responsibility
LAW 437	Lawyering Skills IV: Drafting General Practice (OR another Lawyering Skills IV course) <sup>a</sup>

**Experiential Learning**

Clinic/Externship (3 semester hours of fieldwork)
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**Electives**

40 hours of elective courses. Students may use their electives to pursue one of the concentrations listed below.
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a A complete list of courses for this requirement is available on the [Lawyering Skills IV webpage](#).

## Concentrations

JD candidates can pursue a concentration in one of the eight areas listed below. Each concentration has specific requirements and elective courses a student may take in order to earn the concentration. Concentration candidates must graduate with a cumulative overall GPA of 3.00/4.00 and a GPA of 3.25/4.00 in course work taken to fulfill the concentration.

### Business Law

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Business Law must complete at least 16 semester hours, including 11 to 14 hours of required and selective courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
LAW 533	Business Associations	
JD 470	Income Taxation	
LAW 544	Accounting for Lawyers <sup>a</sup>	
One of the following:		
TADR 492	Clinic: Community Enterprise and Solidarity Economy Law Clinic	
LAW 430	Lawyering Skills IV: Business Planning and Drafting	
LAW 439	LSIV: Contract Drafting and Review	

At least one of the following to satisfy a commercial law requirement:<sup>b</sup>

LAW 541	Sales Transactions
LAW 534	Secured Transactions
<b>Elective courses:<sup>c</sup></b>	
LAW 486	Antitrust Law
LAW 543	Banking Law
LAW 542	Bankruptcy Law
TX 517	Corporate Taxation I
JD 418	International Business Transactions
JD 419	International Trade Law
TX 510	Partner Tax
LAW 547	Securities Regulation
JD 468	U.S. Intellectual Property Survey
JD 400	U.S. Trademark Law

a This requirement may be waived with the approval of the faculty member designated as director of the concentration and the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs.

b If both of these courses are completed, one may count as a concentration elective.

c A concentration candidate may petition the faculty director and the Vice Dean to apply to have up to 3 hours of courses not included in the list of required and elective courses satisfy the concentration requirements.

### Criminal Law and Procedure

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Criminal Law and Procedure must complete a minimum of 16 semester hours, including 8 hours of required courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
TADR 445	Criminal Procedure: Adjudication	
LAW 536	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	
One of the following:		
TADR 400	Trial Advocacy	
TADR 401	Trial Advocacy: Accelerated	
TADR 402	Trial Lawyer: Advocacy	
<b>Electives<sup>a</sup></b>		
TX 533	Civil and Criminal Tax Procedure	
TADR 426	Counseling and Negotiations	
JD 472	Cyber Crime, Information Warfare and Economic Espionage	
TADR 429	Expert Witnesses	
TADR 473	Externship: Criminal Law Fieldwork <sup>b</sup>	
TADR 476	Externship: Restorative Justice Class <sup>b</sup>	
LAW 571	Federal Courts	
LAW 570	Federal Criminal Law	
LAW 474	Human Rights, Race, and Mass Incarceration	
TADR 427	Illinois Criminal Trial Litigation Strategy	
TADR 450	Illinois Evidence	
LAW 596	Independent Study in Law <sup>c</sup>	
LAW 517	International Criminal Law	

TADR 424	Jury Selection
TADR 460	Lawyering Skills IV: Drafting: Criminal Litigation
TADR 428	Litigation Technology
TADR 432	Sex Crimes
TADR 430	White Collar Crime

- a *If approved in advance by the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and the faculty director and, if necessary, the appropriate person in the UIC college offering the course, a student may take one graduate-level course at UIC in criminal justice, forensic science, or another highly relevant field.*
- b *Concentration candidates who take this experiential learning component must take both the class and placement components.*
- c *Topic must be approved in advance by the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and the faculty director.*

### Critical Race and Gender Studies

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Critical Race and Gender Studies must complete a minimum of 16 semester hours, including 10 hours of required courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
LAW 474	Human Rights, Race, and Mass Incarceration	
LAW 556	Critical Race Feminism	
LAW 557	Social Justice Lawyering	
LAW 596	Independent Study in Law <sup>b</sup>	
<b>Electives <sup>a</sup></b>		
LAW 595	American Constitutional History	
JD 539	Clinic: Fair Housing Class	
JD 541	Clinic: Fair Housing Clinic	
TADR 491	Clinic: Community Enterprise and Solidarity Economy Law Class	
TADR 492	Clinic: Community Enterprise and Solidarity Economy Law Clinic	
TADR 481	Clinic: International Human Rights Class	
TADR 482	Clinic: International Human Rights Clinic	
LAW 515	Comparative Human Rights	
LAW 591	Constitutional Civil Rights	
LAW 536	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	
TADR 445	Criminal Procedure: Adjudication	
LAW 503	Employment Discrimination	
TADR 476	Externship: Restorative Justice Class	
TADR 477	Externship: Restorative Justice	
TADR 472	Externship: Local Government and Non-Profit Fieldwork <sup>bc</sup>	
TADR 473	Externship: Criminal Law Fieldwork <sup>bc</sup>	
LAW 485	Immigration Law and Procedure	
LAW 594	Special Topics in Law <sup>b</sup>	

- a *If approved in advance by the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and the faculty director and, if necessary, the appropriate person in the UIC*

*college offering the course, a student may take up to 4 credits from a related graduate program at UIC.*

- b *Topic, placement, or course must be approved in advance by the faculty director.*
- c *Concentration candidates who take an experiential course must take both the class and clinic/placement components.*

- **Independent Research Component** As part of the concentration, candidates must complete a substantial research paper on a topic related to the concentration. The paper may build upon a paper completed in another course or for a law journal project or advocacy competition, if disclosed and approved in advance by the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and the faculty director of the concentration.

### Health Equity, Law, and Policy

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Health Equity, Law, and Policy must complete a minimum of 16 semester hours, including 11 hours of required and selective courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
JD 498	Administrative Law	
LAW 520	Health Law: Quality and Safety	
LAW 521	Health Law: Structure and Financing	
LAW 596	Independent Study in Law <sup>a</sup>	
One of the following: <sup>b</sup>		
LAW 527	Health Policy Practicum	
HPA 431	Public Health Law and Ethics	
<b>Electives</b>		
LAW 486	Antitrust Law	
LAW 524	Assisted Reproductive Technology: Law and Practice	
LAW 526	Bioethics and the Law	
LAW 522	Cancer Rights and Law	
TADR 492	Clinic: Community Enterprise and Solidarity Economy Law Clinic <sup>ac</sup>	
JD 541	Clinic: Fair Housing Clinic <sup>ac</sup>	
TADR 482	Clinic: International Human Rights Clinic <sup>ac</sup>	
TADR 495	Clinic: Patent Clinic <sup>ac</sup>	
TADR 488	Clinic: Veterans Clinic <sup>ac</sup>	
LAW 504	Disability Law	
LAW 490	Elder Law: Basics and Dignity of the Elderly	
LAW 501	Employment Law	
LAW 445	Environmental Law	
TADR 473	Externship: Criminal Law Fieldwork <sup>b</sup>	
TADR 472	Externship: Local Government and Non-Profit Fieldwork <sup>b</sup>	
TADR 477	Externship: Restorative Justice <sup>ab</sup>	
LAW 451	Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Law	
PTL 526	Health Information Privacy	
LAW 525	Healthcare Compliance	
LAW 485	Immigration Law and Procedure	
LAW 586	Law Review: Comment <sup>a</sup>	

LAW 434	Lawyering Skills IV: Drafting: Health Law
LAW 523	Medical Negligence
LAW 537	Products Liability
LAW 583	RIPL: Comment <sup>a</sup>
LAW 594	Special Topics in Law <sup>a</sup>
PTL 594	Special Topics in Privacy and Technology Law <sup>a</sup>

- a *Topic, placement, or course must be approved in advance by the Associate Dean for Law & Health Sciences.*
- b *Courses in addition to those listed above may be approved by the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and the Associate Dean for Law and Health Sciences to satisfy the interdisciplinary selective course requirement. Enrollment in courses offered by colleges other than the Law School may require notice to or approval by the appropriate college and the instructor of record, and may be subject to enrollment limits on law students.*
- c *Concentration candidates who take this experiential learning component must take both the class and clinic/placement components.*

## Intellectual Property Law

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Intellectual Property Law must complete a minimum of 16 semester hours, including 10 hours of required courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
Concentration candidates may choose to focus their concentration in Patent Law or Trademark/Copyright Law.		
<b>Patent Law Track:</b>		
JD/IP 432	U.S. Patent Law	
One of the following practical courses:		
TADR 494	Clinic: Patent Class <sup>a</sup>	
TADR 495	Clinic: Patent Clinic <sup>a</sup>	
IP 444	Legal Writing for Intellectual Property	
LAW 489	Patent Law Planning and Practice	
LAW 583	RIPL: Comment	
<b>Trademark/Copyright Law Track:</b>		
JD/IP 409	U.S. Copyright Law	
JD/IP 400	U.S. Trademark Law	
One of the following practical courses:		
JD 540	Clinic: Trademark Class <sup>a</sup>	
JD 544	Clinic: Trademark Clinic <sup>a</sup>	
IP 444	Legal Writing for Intellectual Property	
LAW 583	RIPL: Comment	
LAW 488	Trademark and Copyright Law Planning and Practice	
<b>Electives</b>		
JD/IP 427	Art and Cultural Heritage Law	
JD/IP 431	Business franchise Law and Practice	
TADR 494	Clinic: Patent Class <sup>a</sup>	
TADR 495	Clinic: Patent Clinic <sup>a</sup>	
JD 540	Clinic: Trademark Class <sup>a</sup>	
JD 544	Clinic: Trademark Clinic <sup>a</sup>	

JD/IP 434	Entertainment Law
LAW 510	International Intellectual Property Law
JD/IP/PTL 428	Intellectual Property in a Digital Environment
JD 486	Intellectual Property in Start-Up Companies
JD/IP 438	Intellectual Property Licensing
TADR 447	Intellectual Property Litigation
JD/IP 443	Music Copyright and Licensing
JD/IP 445	Patent Law: Statutory and Regulatory Fundamentals
LAW 489	Patent Law Planning and Practice
JD/IP/IBT 449	Patent Office Practice
JD/IP 448	Publishing Law
JD/IP 457	Right of Publicity and Protection of Personality
IP 594	Special Topics in Intellectual Property Law <sup>b</sup>
JD/IP 464	Sports Law
LAW 488	Trademark and Copyright Law Planning and Practice
TADR/IP 404	Trial Advocacy: Accelerated for Intellectual Property Attorneys
JD/IP 409	U.S. Copyright Law
JD 468/IP 594	U.S. Intellectual Property Survey
JD/IP 432	U.S. Patent Law
JD/IP 400	U.S. Trademark Law
JD/IP 469	U.S. Trade Secret Law
LAW 457	Video Game Law

- a *Concentration candidates who elect to take the Patent or Trademark Clinic must take both the class and clinic components.*
- b *Special Topics in Law course subjects must be related to intellectual property to qualify for elective credit. Students must contact the Center for approval.*

## International Human Rights Law

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in International Human Rights Law must complete a minimum of 16 semester hours, including 10 hours of required courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
TADR 481	Clinic: International Human Rights Class	
TADR 482	Clinic: International Human Rights Clinic	
LAW 512	International Human Rights Law	
LAW 484	International Law	
<b>Electives</b>		
At least 6 semester hours from the following:		
JD 515	Advanced Legal Research: International Law	
TADR 483	Clinic: International Human Rights Advanced	

LAW 514	Comparative Constitutional Law and Human Rights
LAW 515	Comparative Human Rights
LAW 596	Independent Study in Law <sup>a</sup>
TADR 449	International Civil Litigation
LAW 517	International Criminal Law
LAW 511	International Organizations
LAW 513	Regional Human Rights Systems
LAW 475	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law Seminar
LAW 594	Special Topics in Law <sup>a</sup>

a *Topic or course must be approved in advance by the Associate Dean for Academic Programs and the faculty member designated as the director of the concentration.*

## Sustainability

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Sustainability must complete a minimum of 16 semester hours, including 9 hours of required courses.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		
JD/RE 509	Real Estate: Energy Law	
JD/RE 420	Real Estate: Natural Resources Law	
JD 439	Real Estate: Transactions	
LAW 445	Environmental Law	
or JD 426	Real Estate: Environmental Controls and Concerns	
or RE 426	Real Estate: Environmental Controls and Concerns	
<b>Electives</b>		
RE 596	Independent Study in Real Estate Law	
IBT 481	International Trade and Development Law	
JD/RE 440	Real Estate: Commercial Transactions	
JD/RE 456	Real Estate: Construction Law	
JD/RE 531	Real Estate: Historic Preservation Laws	
JD/RE 452	Real Estate: Land Use Control and Zoning	
JD/RE 458	Real Estate: Public Finance Law	
RE 594	Special Topics: Real Estate and Sustainability Law	
JD/IBT 471	Sustainable International Economic Development	

### Practice-Oriented Electives

Candidates may select only one of the following two practical courses:

JD/RE 545	Externship: Sustainability
TADR 412	Moot Court Competition <sup>b</sup>

a *Special Topics in Law and Independent Study course subjects must be related to real estate to qualify for elective credit. Please contact the Center for approval.*

b *Concentration candidates interested in this course must contact the Center.*

## Trial Advocacy and Dispute Resolution

JD degree candidates pursuing the Concentration in Trial Advocacy and Dispute Resolution must complete a minimum of 15 semester hours, including two hours of credit in experiential learning.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses</b>		

Student must complete one of the following courses:

TADR 400	Trial Advocacy
TADR 401	Trial Advocacy: Accelerated
TADR 402	Trial Lawyer: Advocacy

### Clinical and Externship Courses

Candidates must complete at least two hours from the following:

JD/RE 539	Clinic: Fair Housing Class <sup>a</sup>
JD/RE 541	Clinic: Fair Housing Clinic <sup>a</sup>
TADR 462	Clinic: Pro Bono Litigation Gen/Fed Class <sup>a</sup>
TADR 464	Clinic: Pro Bono Litigation Clinic <sup>a</sup>
TADR 487	Clinic: Veterans Class <sup>a</sup>
TADR 488	Clinic: Veterans Clinic <sup>a</sup>
TADR 473	Externship: Criminal Law Fieldwork <sup>b</sup>
TADR 472	Externship: Local Government and Non-Profit Fieldwork <sup>b</sup>
TADR 475	Externship: JD Advanced <sup>b</sup>

### Trial Advocacy Courses

Candidates must complete at least two hours from the following: <sup>c</sup>

TADR 403	Trial Advocacy: Advanced
TADR 455	Advanced Scientific Evidence
TADR 443	Complex Litigation
TADR 448	Conflicts of Law
IP 502	Copyright Litigation
TADR 445	Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
LAW 536	Criminal Procedure: Investigation
TADR 420	Deposition Practicum
TADR 429	Expert Witnesses
TADR/PTL 422	E-Discovery
JD 479	Employee Benefits Litigation
LAW 570	Federal Criminal Law
TADR 427	Illinois Criminal Trial Litigation Strategy
TADR 440	Illinois Civil Procedure
TADR 450	Illinois Evidence
TADR 447	Intellectual Property Litigation
TADR 424	Jury Selection
TADR 461	Lawyering Skills IV: Drafting: Civil Litigation
TADR 460	Lawyering Skills IV: Drafting: Criminal Litigation
TADR 428	Litigation Technology

PTL 555	Practicum in Information Technology and Privacy Law
JD/RE 497	Real Estate: Litigation
TADR 432	Sex Crimes
TADR 430	White Collar Crime

**Dispute Resolution Courses**

Students must complete at least two semester hours from the following list: <sup>c</sup>

TADR 414	Alternative Means of Dispute Resolution
TADR 421	Arbitration
TADR 426	Counseling and Negotiations
TADR 476	Externship: Restorative Justice Class
TADR 477	Externship: Restorative Justice
LAW 460	Family Law
JD/IBT 523	International Commercial Dispute Resolution
LAW 502	Labor Law
TADR 423	Mediation and Mediation Advocacy

- a *Concentration candidates who take an experiential course must take both the class and clinic/field placement components.*
- b *Concentration candidates interested in these opportunities should contact the Program Director.*
- c *TADR 410, TADR 411, TADR 412, and TADR 413, taken for participation in a trial team Trial Advocacy/ADR Dispute Resolution Team Competition, Barristers' Board, Moot Court Competition Team, or Moot Court Executive Board, may be applied by exception towards Trial Advocacy electives. Credit will not be applied until a request has been made to the Program Director and that request has been approved.*