The University of Tennessee College of Law commenced operation in 1890 and has continuously sought to provide high-quality legal education in a university community.

The principal objective of the college is to prepare students for the practice of law. The college teaches the analytical skills needed to interpret cases and statutes, the ability to communicate effectively, an awareness of the historical growth of the law, a knowledgeable appreciation of the interrelationship of law and society, and the ability to use law as an implement of social change and development. Students are thus equipped to serve their communities not only as advocates and counselors, but as policy makers and active, responsible citizens.

The program of the college has three dimensions—teaching and learning, research into and appraisal of our legal systems and institutions, and service to the community. Each plays a significant role in the college as a modern law center.

The teaching and learning element of legal education at the college involves a co-operative classroom interaction between faculty and students in the analytical study of a host of questions and problems found in today’s legal profession. These involve decisional law, statutory interpretation, administrative regulation, techniques of trial and appellate advocacy, and the roles and responsibilities of the lawyer in advising and representing clients.

The college is also directly involved in providing service to the community. A major element of public service is centered in the Legal Clinic where students, under the guidance of skilled and experienced licensed practitioners, provide legal services to the community. Additionally, through research, consultation, and other services to legal institutions and groups within the state, the college seeks to participate in the development and improvement of the society in which its students may eventually practice law.

In combination, the direction and objectives of the college lead to the development not of a narrow technician, but of a student of the law with the perspective, breadth, and understanding necessary to accomplish the many tasks assigned by society to the legal profession.
DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE

The Doctor of Jurisprudence degree will be conferred upon candidates who complete, with the required average, six semesters of resident law study and who have 89 hours of credit, including all required courses. Of the required 89 hours of credit, no more than 18 hours of credit may be earned in any combination of the following courses – 947, 993, 994, 995, 996, or 997. The required average is 2.00 and that average must be maintained on the work of all six semesters and also for the combined work of the grading periods in which the last 28 hours taken in residence were earned. Averages are computed on weighted grades. Grades are awarded on a numerical scale (in increments of 0.10) from 0.00 to 4.30. No credit toward the JD degree is awarded for grades of 0.00 to 0.70.

Eligible law students may receive up to 6 hours of credit toward the JD for acceptable performance (a grade of B or higher) in upper-level courses that materially contribute to the study of law and which are taken in other departments at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Course selection and registration are subject to guidelines approved by the law faculty which include the requirement that any such course be acceptable for credit toward a graduate degree in the department offering the course.

Refer to the Law Catalog and Student Handbook for current degree requirements.

CONCENTRATION IN ADVOCACY AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Students interested in a concentration in advocacy and dispute resolution must complete the following courses.

Second Year Fall Semester – 813, 920.

Third Year (one of the following) – 905, 908 and 914 or 947.

During the second and third year, any combination totaling 12 hours from the following courses – 821, 855, 877, 915, 918, 921, 922, 923, 927, 990, 991, 991*(Only if approved by the Dean or Dean’s designee as satisfying the requirements of the concentration.)

Students electing a concentration in advocacy and dispute resolution may not take any of the above courses on an S/NC basis.

CONCENTRATION IN BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

Students interested in a concentration in business transactions must complete all of the following law courses.

818 Fundamental Concepts of Income Taxation
826 Introduction to Business Transactions*
827 Business Associations
972 Income Taxation of Business Organizations
940 Land Finance Law
840 Commercial Law
842 Contract Drafting Seminar

833 Representing Enterprises OR
978 Transactional Tax Planning

Students electing a concentration in business transactions may not take any of the above courses on an S/NC basis except 826.

*This course is not required for students who have an undergraduate major in accounting, finance, or business administration, who hold the MBA, or who are enrolled in the dual JD-MBA program. Waivers may also be granted to students who have acquired the requisite business knowledge through other coursework or through practical experience.

DUAL JD-MBA PROGRAM

The College of Business Administration and the College of Law offer a coordinated dual program leading to the conferral of both the Doctor of Jurisprudence and the Master of Business Administration.

The establishment of the dual program recognizes the increasingly complex body of knowledge necessary to the creative conduct of business and business-related law practice, the complementary nature of many aspects of the graduate programs of the College of Law and the College of Business Administration, and the intellectual benefits inherent in the concurrent study of both business and business-related law. The program is designed to accommodate the interests of students who (a) contemplate a career in public service and want to acquire the skills and perspective of the lawyer and the business-oriented manager; (b) contemplate a career in business management and want to acquire the skills and perspective of a lawyer; or (c) contemplate a career as a lawyer specializing in business-related law and want to acquire the skills and perspective of the business-oriented manager.

Admission

Applicants for the JD-MBA program must make separate application to, and be competitively and independently accepted by, the College of Law for the JD, the Office of Graduate and International Admissions and College of Business Administration for the MBA degree, and by the Dual Program Committee.

Students who have been accepted by both colleges may apply for approval to pursue the dual program anytime prior to, or after, matriculation in either or both colleges. Such approval will be granted, provided that dual program studies are started prior to entry into the last 28 hours of JD coursework and prior to the third semester of the MBA program. Students interested in entering the dual degree program should submit a letter of application to the Dual Program Committee. Upon receipt of the application, the Dual Program Committee will determine eligibility and assign students to advisors who will be responsible for course approval and supervision of the student's progress through the dual program.

Requirements

A dual program candidate must satisfy the graduation requirements of each college. Students withdrawing from the dual program before completion of both degrees will not receive credit toward graduation from either college for courses in the other college, except as such courses qualify for credit without regard to the dual program.

The College of Law will award up to 9 hours of credit toward the JD for acceptable performance in approved graduate-level courses offered by the College of Business Administration. The College of Business Administration will award up to 6 hours of credit toward the MBA for acceptable performance in approved courses offered in the College of Law. The approval of courses is the responsibility of the Dual Program Committee and the student's assigned advisor.

Students may begin their studies in either the JD or the MBA program, but may not enroll in MBA coursework while completing

Students interested in a concentration in advocacy and dispute resolution must complete the following courses.

Second Year Fall Semester – 813, 920.

Third Year (one of the following) – 905, 908 and 914 or 947.

During the second and third year, any combination totaling 12 hours from the following courses – 821, 855, 877, 915, 918, 921, 922, 923, 927, 990, 991, 991*(Only if approved by the Dean or Dean’s designee as satisfying the requirements of the concentration.)

Students electing a concentration in advocacy and dispute resolution may not take any of the above courses on an S/NC basis.

CONCENTRATION IN BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

Students interested in a concentration in business transactions must complete all of the following law courses.

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Students electing a concentration in business transactions may not take any of the above courses on an S/NC basis except 826.

*This course is not required for students who have an undergraduate major in accounting, finance, or business administration, who hold the MBA, or who are enrolled in the dual JD-MBA program. Waivers may also be granted to students who have acquired the requisite business knowledge through other coursework or through practical experience.

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The College of Business Administration and the College of Law offer a coordinated dual program leading to the conferral of both the Doctor of Jurisprudence and the Master of Business Administration.

The establishment of the dual program recognizes the increasingly complex body of knowledge necessary to the creative conduct of business and business-related law practice, the complementary nature of many aspects of the graduate programs of the College of Law and the College of Business Administration, and the intellectual benefits inherent in the concurrent study of both business and business-related law. The program is designed to accommodate the interests of students who (a) contemplate a career in public service and want to acquire the skills and perspective of the lawyer and the business-oriented manager; (b) contemplate a career in business management and want to acquire the skills and perspective of a lawyer; or (c) contemplate a career as a lawyer specializing in business-related law and want to acquire the skills and perspective of the business-oriented manager.

Admission

Applicants for the JD-MBA program must make separate application to, and be competitively and independently accepted by, the College of Law for the JD, the Office of Graduate and International Admissions and College of Business Administration for the MBA degree, and by the Dual Program Committee.

Students who have been accepted by both colleges may apply for approval to pursue the dual program anytime prior to, or after, matriculation in either or both colleges. Such approval will be granted, provided that dual program studies are started prior to entry into the last 28 hours of JD coursework and prior to the third semester of the MBA program. Students interested in entering the dual degree program should submit a letter of application to the Dual Program Committee. Upon receipt of the application, the Dual Program Committee will determine eligibility and assign students to advisors who will be responsible for course approval and supervision of the student's progress through the dual program.

Requirements

A dual program candidate must satisfy the graduation requirements of each college. Students withdrawing from the dual program before completion of both degrees will not receive credit toward graduation from either college for courses in the other college, except as such courses qualify for credit without regard to the dual program.

The College of Law will award up to 9 hours of credit toward the JD for acceptable performance in approved graduate-level courses offered by the College of Business Administration. The College of Business Administration will award up to 6 hours of credit toward the MBA for acceptable performance in approved courses offered in the College of Law. The approval of courses is the responsibility of the Dual Program Committee and the student's assigned advisor.

Students may begin their studies in either the JD or the MBA program, but may not enroll in MBA coursework while completing
the first year of the law curriculum and may not enroll in JD coursework while completing the first year of the business curriculum. During the first year in the JD program, students register through the College of Law. During the first year in the MBA program, students register as graduate students. After the first two years, any term in which students take law courses or a mixture of law and graduate courses, they are classified and registered as law students. If taking only graduate courses, they are classified and registered as graduate students.

Approved Dual Credit
MBA courses in which the student has earned a B grade or higher and are to be counted toward the JD program must include 9 hours approved by the College of Law. The 6 hours of law courses in which the student has earned a 2.30 or C+ grade or higher and are to be counted toward the MBA must be selected from those approved by the Assistant Dean of the MBA Program.

DUAL JD-MPA PROGRAM
The College of Law and the Department of Political Science in the College of Arts and Sciences offer a coordinated dual degree program leading to the conferral of both the Doctor of Jurisprudence and Master of Public Administration degrees. In this program, a student may earn the MPA and JD in about four years rather than the five years that otherwise would be required. Students pursuing the dual degree program should plan to be enrolled in coursework or an internship for one summer term in addition to taking normal course loads for four academic years.

Admission
Applicants for the JD-MPA program must make separate application to, and be independently accepted by, the College of Law for the JD and the Department of Political Science and the Office of Graduate and International Admissions for the MPA. Applicants must also be accepted by the Dual Degree Committee. All applicants must submit a Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score. An applicant’s LSAT score may be substituted for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score, which is normally required for admission to the MPA program. Application may be made prior to or after matriculation in either the JD or the MPA program, but application to the dual program must be made prior to entry into the last 29 hours required for the JD and prior to entry into the last 15 hours required for the MPA.

Requirements
A dual degree candidate must satisfy the requirements for both the JD and the MPA, as well as the requirements for the dual program. The College of Law will award a maximum of 9 hours of credit toward the JD for successful completion of approved graduate level courses (500 or 600 level) offered in the Department of Political Science. The MPA program will award a maximum of 9 hours of credit toward the MPA for successful completion of approved courses offered in the College of Law. All courses for which such cross-credit is awarded must be approved by the JD-MPA coordinators in the College of Law and the Department of Political Science. All candidates for the dual degree must successfully complete Administrative Law (Law 821). An internship is strongly recommended for students in the dual degree program, as it is for all MPA candidates, but an internship is not required.

During the first two years in the dual program, students will spend one academic year completing the required first year of the College of Law curriculum and one academic year taking courses solely in the MPA program. During those first two years, students may not take courses in the opposite area without the approval of the JD-MPA coordinators in both academic units. In the third and fourth years, students are strongly encouraged to take both law and political science courses each semester.

Dual degree students who withdraw from the program before completion of the requirements for both degrees will not receive credit toward either the JD or the MPA for courses taken in the other program except as such courses qualify for credit without regard to the dual program.

Awarding of Grades
For grade recording purposes in the College of Law and the Department of Political Science, grades awarded in courses in the other unit will be converted to either Satisfactory/No Credit and will not be computed in determining a student’s GPA or class standing. The College of Law will award a grade of Satisfactory for an approved MPA course in which the student earns a grade of B or higher and a grade of No Credit for any lower grade. The Political Science Department will award a grade of Satisfactory for an approved law course in which the student earns a grade of C+ or higher and a grade of No Credit for any lower grade. The official academic record of the student maintained by the Office of the University Registrar shall show the actual grade assigned by the instructor without conversion.

Policy for Graduate Students Taking Law Courses
Students pursuing a graduate degree in another college may, upon approval of the College of Law and the major chairperson, take up to 6 hours of law courses and receive credit toward the graduate degree. The graduate student must register for the law course during regular registration at the College of Law requesting an S/NC grade only. If a C or above is earned in a law course, an S will be recorded on the transcript. If a student earns below a C, an NC will be recorded, and the course cannot be used toward meeting degree requirements. Grades for law courses will not be reflected in the cumulative average. Law courses may be taken for credit only by students enrolled in a graduate degree program.

Different rules apply to the student enrolled in the Dual JD-MBA or JD-MPA Programs. Grades must be earned according to the grading system of the respective college, e.g. numerical grades for law courses, letter grades for graduate courses. Refer to section on Grades for the grading scale acceptable toward meeting degree requirements. Cumulative GPA for law courses only will be carried until graduation, at which time both the graduate and the law cumulatives will be shown on the permanent record.