The J.D. requires 85 credits, including:
- Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement
- Course in Professional Responsibility
- 6 Experiential Credits

After the first year, you will have 19-20 credits (depending on whether you took Week One)

That leaves you with 65-66 credits remaining
- Averages to 10-11 credits per upperclass semester without any summer courses on the 4 year track.
- Part-time students may take between 8-12 credits each semester (with permission may underload to 6 or 7 or overload to 13).
Required Courses

Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement Options

- Courses
  - 3 credits
  - Look for "WR" in course description on the Curriculum Guide
  - Advanced Evidence, Conservatism in Law in America, Higher Education and the Law, etc.

- Supervised Research Project
  - 2 Credits
  - Proposal must be submitted to Registrar and approved by the Associate Dean for JD Programs

Professional Responsibility Options

- Several Options each academic year
- 2017-2018 courses include:
  - Lawyers’ Ethics
  - Professional Responsibility
  - Professional Responsibility and the Future of the Legal Profession
  - Professional Responsibility: Advocacy and Ethics in Practice
  - Professional Responsibility: Ethics in Public Interest Practice
  - Professional Responsibility: Problems from Practice
General Advice

DO:
- Play to your strengths.
  - Reflect on what interests you; your career goals; your values; what you enjoy most in your 1L courses.
- Strive for balance.
  - Look for courses offering different assessment methods (papers, skills, exams).
  - Keep in mind your commitments outside the classroom: job searches, journals and other extracurriculars.
- Pick a direction and test it out. Develop broadly applicable skills.
- Think about what courses or experiences you may want next year, and plan for prerequisites you may need.
- Take courses that interest you.
- Talk to an academic advisor or faculty member for advice about course selection.

DON'T:
- Take courses to prepare for the bar exam or because you’re “supposed to.”
- Take all large exam courses.
  - It will be too much like 1L.
  - You’ll have less opportunity to get to know professors you may need to write a letter of recommendation for clerkships or other opportunities.
- Avoid writing courses.
  - Writing is like a muscle—exercise it.
  - It is an essential skill for all future lawyers.
## Common Prerequisites

**Corporations**
- Corporate Finance
- Deals
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Securities Regulation
- Initial Public Offerings
- Entrepreneurship and the Law
- Corporate Legal Department Practicum
- Law and Entrepreneurship Practicum
- Business Planning Seminar
- Governance of Non-Profit Organizations
- In-House Counsel
- Social Entrepreneurship and the Law

**Evidence**
- Trial Practice
- Role of the Federal Prosecutor
- Civil Litigation Practice
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Patent Trial Practice
- Community Justice Project
- Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic
- Criminal Justice Clinic
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Juvenile Justice Clinic

*Partial list for illustrative purposes—consult the Curriculum Guide for specific course requirements*
Common Prerequisites

Constitutional Law II*
- Federal Courts
- Civil Rights
- The Constitution and Democracy in the 21st Century Seminar
  - Recommended for many

Administrative Law*
- Food Law Seminar
  - Recommended for many courses

Taxation I*
- International Tax Law
- Retirement Income: Taxation and Regulation
- Corporate Taxation
- Taxation of Partnerships
- Estate and Gift Tax
- Business Planning Seminar
- Social Justice and Taxation
- Tax Policy Seminar

* Partial list for illustrative purposes—consult the Curriculum Guide for specific course requirements
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>Environmental Law</td>
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<td>Con Law II</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Federal Income Taxation</td>
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<td>Emerging Growth Companies and their Venture Capital Financing</td>
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<td>Corporations (required 2 E course)</td>
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<td>Evidence</td>
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<td>Entrepreneurial Transactions (LLM)</td>
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<td>Leadership and Team Skills for Lawyers (1-2 credit course)</td>
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