



Graduation Requirements

for students entering January 2024 and later

TOTAL CREDITS: Students must complete a total of at least **88 academic credits** and **6 Professional Development credits**.

A. FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENTS:

Full-Time:

Fall Semester (15)	Spring Semester (15)
Civil Procedure (4)	Constitutional Law (4)
Criminal Law (4)	Contracts (4)
Torts (4)	Property (4)
Legal Skills I and Legal Methods (3)	Legal Skills II and Legal Methods (3)
	IL Lab for ASAP students (0)

Part-Time Day:

First Semester (11 credits)	Second Semester (11 credits)	Third Semester (4 credits)
Civil Procedure (4)	Contracts (4)	Criminal Law (4)
Torts (4)	Property (4)	
Legal Skills I and Legal Methods (3)	Legal Skills II and Legal Methods (3)	Fourth Semester (4 credits)
	1L Lab for ASAP students (0)	Constitutional Law (4)

FLEX Part-Time:

First Semester (11 credits)	Second Semester (11 credits)	Third Semester (4 credits)
Civil Procedure (4)	Contracts (4)	Constitutional Law (4)
Torts (4)	Criminal Law (4)	Property (4)
Legal Skills I and Legal Methods (3)	Legal Skills II and Legal Methods (3)	
	1L Lab for ASAP students (0)	

B. UPPER LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Professional Responsibility** (2L Year for FT/2L or 3L year for PT)
2. **Upper Level Skills Requirement** [2 components]
 1. 6-credit minimum: Students must take 6 credits of qualifying courses. Please see Registration Guide for a full list of courses that satisfy this requirement.
 2. NYS Skills Competency: As part of fulfilling the 6-credit minimum, students must complete at least ONE of the following:
 - A. The Pro Bono Scholars Program
 - B. The Semester-in-Practice Program (Track I, II, or III)
 - C. Any clinic (Environmental Litigation; Food and Farm Business; Immigration Justice; Disability Rights; Investor Rights; Criminal Justice; or Representation in Mediation)
 - D. A qualifying externship (Corporate Law; Prosecution; Environmental (NY or DC); Family Court; Fed Judicial honors (Spring semester placement); Legal Services; Mediation Practicum; Prosecution Honors; Real Estate Externship; Social Justice Advocacy)
 - E. One of the following Advanced Certificates:
 1. Environmental Certificate

F. Lawyering Course [4 credits]

3. **Upper Level Writing Requirement, including Research & Citation Workshop.** Please see Registration Guide for a full list of courses that satisfy this requirement.

4. **Administrative Law/Regulatory Process Requirement** (1 course, minimum 3 credits)

<input type="radio"/> Administrative Law	<input type="radio"/> Labor Law
<input type="radio"/> Environmental Skills	<input type="radio"/> Law & Education (Prof. Morris)
<input type="radio"/> Environmental Law Survey	<input type="radio"/> Legislative and Regulatory Processes
<input type="radio"/> Federal Income Taxation I	<input type="radio"/> Natural Resources Law
<input type="radio"/> Health Law in America	<input type="radio"/> Securities Regulation
<input type="radio"/> Immigration Justice Clinic	

5. **Professional Development Requirement:** Registration and counseling with CCPD, and 6 PD credits in approved activities. 1 of the 6 PD credits must be diversity-based (for those entering Fall 2022 and later). See Career Services for list of approved activities. **These are not considered academic credits.**

6. **For ASAP students only: All courses required as part of the ASAP program (Principles of Legal Analysis, Bar Preparation courses in final year)**

C. **Limitations on Allocation of Credits:** Under the Rules of the New York Court of Appeals and the ABA, of the 88 Academic credits required to graduate, no more than an aggregate 24 of those 88 Academic credits may fall into the following categories:

1. Field Placement: Credits designated as "Field Placement" in externships, practicums, and continued clinical work, not including credits earned from any seminar accompanying those credits;
2. Non-law graduate school: A maximum of 12 credits taken at a non-law graduate school after matriculation at the Law School as a J.D. student, either as a joint degree candidate or otherwise;
3. Co-curricular: A maximum of 4 credits in non-classroom based, co-curricular activities such as Moot Court or other Student Competition teams,
4. Law Review: A maximum of 2 credits in the first year of membership, and a maximum of 4 credits in the second and third years of membership;
5. Faculty-guided research: A maximum of 4 credits of Guided Research or Directed Research; and 6. Faculty Guided Writing Project (for the Federal Judicial Honors Program): 1 credit.

D. **Distance Education:** Of the 88 Academic credits required to graduate, no more than 15 of those credits may be credits from Distance Education courses.

E. **NY STATE BAR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

1. All law students seeking admission to the New York State (NYS) Bar must perform 50 hours of qualifying pro bono work. Completion and certification of these pro bono hours is each student's responsibility. For more information, see <https://law.pace.edu/career-services/public-interest-law-center/pro-bono-justice-program/nys-50-hour-pro-bono-requirement>.
2. All students must establish that they have acquired the skills and are familiar with the professional values necessary to competently practice law. JD students entering in the Fall 2016 semester or thereafter who complete the USLR (see page 1) will meet this requirement.