

## **Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University**

### **New York State Skills Competency Requirement**

To be admitted to the New York State bar, J.D. students entering law school in fall 2016 or later, and L.L.M. students entering a U.S. law school in fall 2018 or later, must fulfill the New York State Skills Competency Requirement (“NYS Skills Requirement”) by demonstrating that s/he “possesses the skills and values necessary to provide effective, ethical and responsible legal services in” New York State. *See* <https://www.nybarexam.org/Skills/skills.htm>. New York State has provided five different “pathways” for a student to follow to satisfy the NYS Skills Requirement. The Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University (“Pace Law School”) has adopted Pathway One—described below—as the primary method for all students to satisfy the requirement.

#### Rationale

The faculty has determined that a J.D. student who achieves a passing grade in the following combination of required and elective courses has achieved the learning outcomes the school has adopted for its students: All First Year required doctrinal courses; First Year Legal Skills I and II; Professional Responsibility; a course sufficient to satisfy the Upper Level Writing Requirement; a course sufficient to satisfy the Upper Level Administrative Law Requirement; and courses sufficient to satisfy the Upper Level Skills Requirement (via Pathway One). *See* <https://law.pace.edu/academics/juris-doctor-program> for the Law School’s Learning Outcomes.

We have also determined that an L.L.M. student with a first law degree from a foreign country who achieves a passing grade in the following combination of required and elective courses has achieved Pace Law’s Learning Outcomes: Introduction to U.S. Legal Research, Writing and Analysis; Introduction to American Legal Systems, at least 6 credits of Bar Courses, Professional Responsibility, and Lawyering for L.L.M. students.

The Academic Dean at Pace Law School can excuse J.D. students from the requirement of Pathway One if they complete 15 credits of courses approved for Upper Level Skills credit (Pathway Two), or participate in our Pro Bono Scholar’s Program (Pathway Three). The Director of Graduate Programs can excuse L.L.M. students from Pathway One if they satisfy Pathway Four (qualifying apprenticeship) or Pathway Five (qualifying prior law practice in a foreign jurisdiction).

#### Pathway One

To fulfill the Pathway One requirement at Pace Law School, a student must

(a) successfully complete a total of 6 credits of coursework in courses approved by the Faculty Curriculum Committee as upper level skills courses. Approved upper level skills courses are:

## **Direct Representation Clinics**

*Barbara C. Salken* Criminal Justice Clinic  
Environmental Litigation Clinic  
*Equal Justice America* Disability Rights Clinic  
Food and Beverage Clinic  
Immigration Justice Clinic  
Investor Rights Clinic  
Neighborhood Justice Clinic

## **Externships**

Corporate Law Externship  
Criminal Justice (Prosecutorial) Externship  
Environmental Law Externship (NY and DC)  
Family Court Externship  
Federal Judicial Honors Externship (Spring Semester Chambers Placement)  
Legal Services/Public Interest/Health Law Externship  
Mediation Practicum  
Pro Bono Scholars Program  
Prosecution Honors Externship  
Real Estate Externship  
Semester-in-Practice

## **Simulations**

Advanced Appellate Advocacy  
Advanced Real Property  
Advanced Research Skills in Criminal Law and Procedure  
Advanced Trial Advocacy  
Commercial Leasing  
Commercial Transactions (Skills)  
Drafting Legal Documents  
Environmental Commercial Transactions  
Environmental Dispute Resolution  
Environmental Skills  
Federal Criminal Pre-Trial Simulation  
Intellectual Property Agreements and Licensing  
Law Practice Management  
Lawyering  
Negotiations  
Patent Practice and Procedure  
Pre-trial Civil Litigation Simulation (PCLS)  
Survey of Dispute Resolution Processes (for up to 15 students per semester)  
Trial Advocacy

AND b) complete at least ONE of the following in the course of fulfilling the 6-credit minimum:

1. The Pro Bono Scholars Program
2. Any clinic (Environmental Litigation; Food and Beverage Law; Immigration Justice; Disability Rights; Investor Rights; Criminal Justice; or Neighborhood Justice)
3. The Semester-in-Practice Program (Track I, II, or III)
4. Advanced Environmental Certificate
5. Real Estate Practice Concentration
6. Criminal Practice Concentration
7. Litigation and Dispute Resolution Concentration
8. One of the following externships:
  - a. Corporate Law Externship
  - b. Criminal Justice (Prosecutorial) Externship
  - c. Environmental Law Externship (NY only)
  - d. Family Court Externship
  - e. Legal Services/Public Interest/Health Law Externship
  - f. Prosecution Honors Externship
9. Lawyering

Students may not satisfy both the Upper Level Skills requirement and the Upper Level Writing requirement with the same course. For purposes of this rule, the seminar component of a clinic or externship taken concurrently with the clinic or externship is considered the same course as such clinic or externship, even if the seminar component bears a separate course number.