

Academic Advising for Summer/Fall 2025

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Graduation Requirements – All JDs

- All First Year Courses (30 credits total)
- 88 Academic Credits total (58 additional after first year courses completed)
- Professional Responsibility (FT students must take in their second year; PT students must take in their second or third year)
- Upper Level Writing Requirement, including Upper Level Research Requirement
- Upper Level Skills Requirement, including NYS Skills Competency Requirement
- Administrative Law requirement (menu of courses, not just “Admin Law”)
- ASAP courses if required for you
- 6 Professional Development Credits

Registrar's Webpage: Course and Registration Information

- Registration Info and Guide
- Choosing Upper Level Courses
- Schedule Explorer [by semester]; also indicates seats available, prerequisites, and any special comments
- Course Descriptions in alphabetical order with LAW number
- Final Exam Schedules
- Course Grids for day/evening/weekend for each semester

Registration Information and Guide

Covers:

- Graduation requirements
- Normal credit loads [see next slide]
- List of courses offered fall 2025 that satisfy the:
 - ULWR
 - ULSR
 - Ad Law requirement
- Limits on Distance Education credits (15 credit limit; no distance courses before completed 28 credits)
- Limits on credits for non-classroom credits (e.g., law review, moot court competitions, field placements, Guided/Directed Research)

“Normal” Credit Loads

Full-time students:

- Fall/Spring - 13-16 credits; 10-12 as underload; 17 as overload, with permission of AD; no fewer than 10
- Summer – Maximum 8 credits
- To graduate in 3 years, need to average 29 credits in each of 2L and 3L years

Part-time students:

- Fall/Spring - 9-12 credits, 8 as underload; 13 as overload, with the permission of the AD; no fewer than 8
- Summer – Maximum 6 credits
- To graduate in 4 years, need average of 11 credits per semester, unless take summer credits

Aim for Balance

We strongly recommend you sign up for courses that balance the following categories:

- Progress towards meeting graduation requirements
- Courses that will help you succeed on the bar exam
- Courses that will help you prepare to be a competent and ethical practitioner
- Courses that interest you
- Courses that will help you pursue an Advanced Certificate or Path to Practice (optional)

**MANY CLASSES SATISFY MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY
AT THE SAME TIME**

Frequency of Course Offerings

- Professional Responsibility (PR): 3 sections in fall; 1-2 sections in spring
- Evidence, Criminal Procedure-Investigations, Corporations, Sales and Wills are offered every semester
- Courses required for one of the three Advanced Certificates offered at least once per year
- Most other bar and core courses offered once per year; some upper-level specialty courses offered every other year

Advanced Certificates and Paths to Practice: Who to Contact

- Advanced Health Law & Policy Certificate, Jessica Bacher
- Advanced Environmental Law Certificate, Achintha Vithanage
- Advanced International Law Certificate, Alexander Greenawalt
- Advisors for Paths to Practice [only guidance, no requirements]
 - Business (Corporate or Financial Compliance tracks), Bridget Crawford
 - Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Jill Gross
 - Criminal Practice, Lissa Griffin
 - Real Estate & Land Use Practice, Shelby Green
 - Women, Gender & the Law, Emily Waldman

Office of Academic Success

- ASAP Program: For all students below 2.3 GPA after the first semester or 2.8 GPA after second or any subsequent semester
 - 2L Year – must take Principles of Legal Analysis
 - 3L Year – must take designated bar preparation courses; likely 5 credits in semester right before bar exam [if graduating in spring]
 - SBSP during winter or summer of preparation
- Bar Preparation Counseling
- Academic Support
- Danielle Kocal, Stephanie Desiato and Nick Kording

Admission to the Bar (New York)

- Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) through February 2028
 - Registration period: October 1-31 for February Bar; March 1-31 for July Bar
 - Applications for test accommodations must be received in the Board's office no later than October 31 for the February exam and March 31 for the July exam
- New York Law Course
 - Approximately 17 hours of video lectures
 - Complete this within 1 year before or 3 years after passing the UBE
- New York Law Exam
 - Typically offered 3 times per year (April, September, December)
 - Complete this within 1 year before or 3 years after passing the UBE
- Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam
 - Typically offered 3 times per year (March, August, November)
 - Score is valid for 3 years in New York
- 50 Hour Pro Bono Requirement
- Character and Fitness

Uniform Bar Examination (UBE)

- The UBE consists of the:
 - Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) = multiple choice questions
 - Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) = IRAC essays
 - Multistate Performance Test (MPT) = entry-level attorney task such as a memorandum, argument section of a brief, opinion/demand letter, etc.
- Offered through February 2028 in select states, including NY
- National Conference of Bar Examiners publishes subject matter content outline

MBE Subjects (July '26-February '28)

MBE Subject	1L Course	Upper Level Courses
Civil Procedure	Civil Procedure	Conflicts*
Constitutional Law	Constitutional Law	
Contracts	Contracts	Commercial Law: Sales
Criminal Law and Procedure	Criminal Law	Criminal Procedure- Investigations Criminal Procedure- Adjudication*
Evidence		Evidence
Real Property	Property	Real Estate Transactions and Finance*
Torts	Torts	

*a limited number of topics on the MBE are covered in this course

MEE Subjects (July '26-February '28)

All MBE Subjects plus:

- Business Associations (Corporations and Partnerships)

Note: From July 2026 through February 2028, both Family Law and Trusts and Estates (Wills) will be tested regularly through the MPT.

For more information on bar-tested topics, choose [Bar Exam Information](#) from the [Academic Support page](#).

Upper-Level Bar Courses for UBE

- **Evidence**
- **Commercial Law: Sales**
- **Criminal Procedure: Investigations**
- **Corporations & Partnerships**

- Conflicts
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
- Real Estate Transactions & Finance

- Family Law
- Wills

NextGen Bar Exam

- NY adopted starting July 2028 [CT starting July 2026; NJ not announced]
- Foundational concepts and principles: Current MBE topics plus Corporations (Family Law added in July 2028)
- Foundational lawyering skills: legal research, legal writing, issue spotting and analysis, investigation and evaluation, client counseling and advising, negotiation and dispute resolution, client relationship and management
- MBE-like multiple-choice questions
- MPT-like questions integrating doctrine and lawyering skills
- No long essays; a little less memorization
- 1.5 days instead of 2 days
- Possibility that NY will expand its NYLE to half-day

Clinics and Externships

- Todd Ommen, Executive Director, [John Jay Legal Services](#)
- Deadline for summer [JJLS applications](#): April 4 at noon
- Deadline for fall [JJLS applications](#): April 11 at noon

Questions?

