

2016

## 2016-2017 Law Student Handbook

Golden Gate University School of Law

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**GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW**

**STUDENT  
HANDBOOK**

**2016–2017**



SCHOOL OF LAW  
OFFICE OF LAW STUDENT SUPPORT

August 2016

Dear Entering Law Student,

Welcome! On behalf of the faculty and staff of Golden Gate University School of Law, we congratulate you on your admission to law school. We are very glad you have decided to enroll at Golden Gate, and we look forward to working with you.

Although certain key provisions of the *Student Handbook* will be highlighted for you at Orientation, please take the time to thoroughly read the entire *Student Handbook* online at <http://law.ggu.edu/student-support/organizations-and-student-life/student-handbook/>. **You are responsible for knowing the information contained in the *Student Handbook*.** It contains the answers to most questions that students have about the policies and procedures here at the School of Law. The *Student Handbook* also contains important information on the Standards of Student Conduct, Academic Standards, Examination Procedures, and Financial Aid.

**All students at Golden Gate University School of Law, including students in the LLM and SJD programs, are bound by the *Student Handbook* rules.** The policies and procedures specifically applicable to graduate (post-JD) students apply to all LLM and SJD students, whether graduates of law schools in the United States or elsewhere, and whether US citizens, permanent residents, or attending school on visas. Additional rules governing SEVIS registration and student visas may be found in the “International Students” section of this handbook.

**The policies, rules, and procedures in the *Student Handbook* are subject to change.** In the event that we make any changes, you will be alerted to them via *Law School News* (mandatory reading) or via email, and the updates will be reflected in the online version. Refer to the *Student Handbook* for the duration of your law school career. By having it easily accessible online, you will have answers at your fingertips.

Once again, we are happy that you have joined us at Golden Gate. We wish you all the best as you embark on this exciting endeavor of legal education, and we are here to support you along the way. The Law Student Support Office is located in suite 2333. Please stop by if you have any questions or concerns or just to introduce yourself.

Sincerely,  
Law Student Support

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# I. NOTICE TO STUDENTS

Students are responsible for ascertaining and following the rules, policies, and procedures contained in this *Student Handbook* and, where referenced, on the Law School's website. In addition, all students are subject to the rules, policies, and procedures of Golden Gate University, even those not specifically described in this handbook.

The Law School's website, <http://law.ggu.edu>, is the online resource for information, policies, and services referenced in this handbook. In addition, the website provides access to GGU4YOU, Golden Gate University's web portal to the administrative database.

A new edition of this handbook is published at the beginning of each academic year. All students should carefully review the new edition each year as all students are subject to all sections of the current handbook, except that continuing students who matriculated in prior academic years are governed by the Grading Policies portion of the Academic Standards of the current handbook and by all other portions of the Academic Standards in the handbooks for their respective matriculation years.

The provisions of this *Student Handbook* are subject to change at any time. The Law School expressly reserves the right to change the requirements for continuation at the School of Law or graduation, the right to modify the offering, timing, and content of courses, the right to modify scholarship policies, and the right to change regulations affecting the student body, including but not limited to the requirements relating to academic standing, disqualification, and graduation. Such changes shall become effective whenever the administration deems appropriate and may operate retroactively. Any changes to the *Student Handbook* made between the annually published versions will be noticed to students via email or *Law School News*.

## II. EMERGENCY SERVICES

In case of medical or family emergencies, the following telephone numbers can be used to reach GGU Staff, who will attempt to get a message to the student. Please note that, due to federal regulations, no contact information, course schedule or other information about students will be released to anyone without the express, written permission of the student.

⇒ **Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5:30 pm**

Contact Law Student Support at 442-6615 or the Dean's Office at 442-6600.

⇒ **Other times when the university is open** (nights and weekends)

Dial "0" from any campus phone or 442-7000 from an outside phone.

⇒ **When the university is closed**

Leave a message on the Law Student Support or Dean's Office voicemail, or contact GGU security services by calling 442-7093.

A student with a potential health emergency should, when possible, inform the Law Student Support Office ahead of time so that appropriate action can be taken in the event such an emergency does arise.

## III. SECURITY

Students with a security problem, including lost or stolen articles, should contact the switchboard operator by dialing “0” from a campus phone or 442-7000 from an outside phone. After regular hours (after 10 pm Monday through Friday and after 3:30 pm on weekends) a GGU security staff member may be contacted by calling 442-7093.

### A. ESCORT SERVICE

As a courtesy, the university operates a security escort service to accompany students from the university to their means of transportation after dark, within a reasonable distance. To request an escort, students may either call the operator or go to the information desk on the first floor. While it is unusual, sometimes (typically on Friday evenings) no escorts are available. Students should arrange in advance for escorts on weekends, as the switchboard closes at 3:30 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

Escort service maps, which show the range of service, are available from the information desk in the first floor lobby.

### B. LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

The university’s lost and found area is located at the Business Services and Facilities Office front counter in room P-63 (on the Plaza Level). Items can be turned in or retrieved from that office during its normal hours of operation. The front counter is open from 9 am to 7 pm, Monday through Friday. At all other times, please contact the operator by dialing “0” from a campus phone or 442-7000 from an outside phone for additional information and assistance. Students also may check with Law Student Support about lost items.

### C. PERSONAL PROPERTY INSURANCE

The Law School does not assume responsibility for loss or damage to personal property belonging to students. Students should inspect their own insurance policies to determine any such coverage.

### D. CAMPUS SECURITY INFORMATION

In accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, Golden Gate University publishes a set of crime survey statistics for the campus and surrounding area. That information, and other important security information, is available in *Street Smarts*, a document published annually by Business Services and Facilities. *Street Smarts* is available online via Golden Gate University’s website, under “About GGU.” Hard copies of *Street Smarts* are also available upon request from Business Services and Facilities.



## IV. SCHOOL OF LAW OFFICES

The majority of the School of Law's faculty and administrative offices, including classrooms and the Student Bar Association, are located on the second and third floors of the building at 536 Mission Street. The entrance to the Law Library is on the street level, in the main lobby adjacent to the university switchboard and information desk.

### A. MAILING ADDRESS

The mailing address for all offices and departments within the School of Law is:

**Golden Gate University School of Law**  
**536 Mission Street**  
**San Francisco, CA 94105-2968**

### B. PHONE NUMBER

The phone number for the main university switchboard is 442-7000, and the law school's main phone number is 442-6600. All telephone numbers referenced in this handbook are in the 415 area code.

### C. FACILITY HOURS

**536 Mission Street:** Monday through Friday – 7:30 am to 11 pm; Saturday – 7:30 am to 8:30 pm; Sunday 11 am to 6 pm

### D. SCHOOL OF LAW OFFICES

#### **ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**442-6664 or *relee@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Hours may vary, but will be posted on the office door. Please email for specific information.

#### **ADMISSIONS**

**442-6630 or *lawadmit@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm

#### **ALUMNI SERVICES**

**442-7824 or *alumni@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5 pm

#### **BAR EXAM SERVICES**

**369-5384 or *rboujaoude@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Hours may vary, but will be posted on the office door. Please email for specific information.

#### **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

**442-6625 or *lawcareer@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm; Evening hours by appointment

**DEAN'S OFFICE SUITE**

**442-6600**

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm

**FACULTY CENTER**

**442-6640**

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday – 8:30 am to 6:30 pm; Friday – 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

**FINANCIAL AID**

**442-6635 or *lawfao@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm, and by appointment

**GRADUATE LAW PROGRAMS**

**442-7234**

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 6:30 pm

**HONORS LAWYERING PROGRAM**

**369-5358 or *lcisneros@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9:30 am to 6 pm

**LIBRARY**

**442-6680**

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday – 7:30 am to 10:30 pm; Friday – 7:30 am to 9 pm;  
Saturday – 10 am to 7 pm; Sunday – 11 am to 6 pm (Hours are extended during exam  
study periods and restricted on holidays, semester breaks, and in the summer.)

**Computer Lab:** Monday through Thursday – 7:30 am to 10:15 pm; Friday – 7:30 am to 8:45  
pm; Saturday – 10:00 am to 6:45 pm; Sunday – 11 am to 5:45 pm.

**LITIGATION CENTER**

**442-6668 or *info@ggulitigation.com***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm

**ON-SITE LEGAL CLINICS**

**442-6647**

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5 pm

**REGISTRAR'S OFFICE**

**442-6620 or *lawreg@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday – 9 am to 6:30 pm; Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm

**STUDENT ACCOUNTING SERVICES**

**442-7839 or *sas@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm

**STUDENT CONDUCT AND PROFESSIONALISM**

**442-6562 or *speoples@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday and Friday – 11:00 am to 4:30 pm; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday –  
10:30 am to 4:30 pm, and by appointment.

**STUDENT SUPPORT**

**442-6615 or *lawstudentsupport@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday and Tuesday – 9 am to 6:30 pm; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – 9 am to 5:30 pm, and by appointment. Any variations to these hours will be posted on the office door.

**WELLNESS RESOURCES**

**442-6578 or *wellness@ggu.edu***

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday – 10 am to 6:30 pm; Friday – 10 am to 5 pm

# V. STUDENT COMMUNICATION

## A. STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNTS

All students are required to have a valid email and mailing address on file with the Registrar's Office at all times. Email is the primary mode of communication with students. All students are required to check this email account regularly. Students should send messages from the addresses on record in order to verify their identities. Students who send messages from addresses other than those that are on record will not be given confidential information.

## B. LAW SCHOOL NEWS

*Law School News (LSN)* is a weekly newsletter published by the School of Law. **Students are required to read LSN on a regular basis to keep up to date on important policies, deadlines, and time-sensitive information.** In addition, the *Student Handbook* is subject to change at any time during the year. Students will be notified of changes to the handbook through notices in *LSN*.

Aside from providing important administrative information about policies, courses, examinations, deadlines, review sessions, etc., *LSN* includes announcements of social events, on-campus speakers, career development programs, and other important news. **All notices published in LSN are considered to have been communicated to all students.**

*LSN* is published every Monday during the fall and spring terms while classes are in session. It is distributed via email to all law students' registered e-mail accounts. Additionally, it is posted outside the Law Dean's Suite on the second floor and on Law Student Support's glass-covered bulletin board on the third floor. *LSN* also is available on the "Organizations & Student Life" section of the Student Support website behind the GGU4YOU login.

Faculty, staff, and student organizations may submit announcements for publication in *LSN* pursuant to the [guidelines](#) posted under the "Organizations & Student Life" section of the Student Support website.

## C. GGU4YOU

GGU4YOU is the university's online service system which is accessed from the website, [www.ggu.edu](http://www.ggu.edu). User accounts are created automatically at the time of admission. User names and passwords are sent to students' e-mail address on record at the time of account creation. Students who do not receive their GGU4YOU account information or have any other questions may e-mail [help@ggu.edu](mailto:help@ggu.edu) for assistance.

Students may use the GGU4YOU system to update their address and contact information, view course schedules, register for courses, get their exam number, see their grades, view degree program evaluations, order transcripts, view financial aid information, and make credit card payments.

GGU4YOU is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, but access to registration and adding/dropping courses is subject to the published priority registration dates. Although traditional in-person services are available, students are strongly encouraged to use GGU4YOU for registration and other matters.

#### **D. FLYERS & DIGITAL SIGNAGE**

Members of the GGU Community may post approved flyers in authorized locations and submit materials to be displayed on the second and third floor digital signs in accordance with the policies and procedures posted under the “Organizations & Student Life” section of the Student Support website.

#### **E. STUDENT MESSAGES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Changes in classroom locations or times, class meeting cancellations, and other important notices will be posted outside the classroom door and/or emailed to affected students as needed.

#### **F. LOCKERS**

Each law student is entitled to the use of one individual on-campus locker at no charge. Lockers are assigned randomly during new student orientation, or may be requested during the year by contacting Law Student Support (LSS). Locker assignments typically remain the same throughout a student’s career at GGU, but the administration reserves the right to change student lockers if needed. Advanced notification will be provided prior to any such change. There is no seniority or priority for any students for locker size or location, with the exception of students with a verified disability. Students are not permitted to use more than one locker or to use a different locker than the one assigned. LSS reserves the right to cut locks and remove belongings kept in unauthorized lockers without prior notification. GGU is not responsible for items kept in unlocked or unauthorized lockers. Confiscated belongings will be held for *one week* only. Unclaimed items will be destroyed or donated.

Lockers must remain locked at all times. If LSS or security staff observes a locker unlocked after the second week of the academic year, they may lock the locker. It is then the student’s responsibility to contact LSS to reclaim the locker. Students must relinquish their assigned lockers on the last day of final exams of their last academic term, unless granted an extension by LSS. GGU is not responsible for any belongings left in locked or unlocked lockers after rights have been relinquished upon withdrawal, disqualification, or graduation.

Food, beverages, and used food containers may not be stored in lockers at any time.

Violation of these rules, including tampering with lockers, graffiti, or use of stickers, is strictly prohibited and may forfeit the student’s right to use a locker and/or result in discipline under the Standards of Student Conduct.

#### **G. HEALTH INSURANCE**

GGU Law does not provide nor require students to have health insurance. However, you are strongly encouraged to have coverage throughout law school. Accidents and illnesses can happen, and having insurance can help you keep your focus on law school and avoid large medical bills.

# VI. COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY USE

## A. COMPUTER NETWORK ACCESS

Network resources are intended for educational and research purposes. To ensure that a computer connected to our network does not negatively impact other computers, students are required to have up-to-date anti-virus software installed on their laptop computers prior to connecting to Golden Gate University's academic network (wired and wireless). Anyone using the network should also take proper precautions against malicious spyware or viruses. Any student whose improperly protected laptop computer disrupts network performance may be held responsible for any damage to university resources. Students must not use peer-to-peer file sharing applications when connected to the GGU network (see below). Use of network resource intensive applications such as web servers, ftp servers and audio/video conferencing software is inappropriate.

## B. AUDIO RECORDING OF CLASSES

The faculty has adopted a general policy permitting the use of audio recorders in class. Faculty members who do not wish to have a class recorded will announce this on the first day of class and list it in their syllabi. Recording of lectures or class presentations is authorized solely for students currently enrolled in that course section, for the purpose of studying. Recordings may not be posted, uploaded, distributed, or shared by any means without the express permission of the professor. Distribution of class recordings without permission violates university policy and may constitute copyright infringement in violation of federal and/or state law.

## C. UNAUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTION OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

Unauthorized distribution (downloading or uploading) of copyrighted material over the Internet, including peer-to-peer file sharing, is considered copyright infringement. Copyrighted material that may not be shared without authorization includes recorded music (often in the form of MP3 or MP4 files), movies, television shows, digital books, or magazines. Copyright infringement may subject a student to civil and criminal liabilities.

### **Summary of Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violation of Federal Copyright Laws**

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or statutory damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov), especially their FAQ's at [www.copyright.gov/help/faq](http://www.copyright.gov/help/faq).

### **Institutional Penalties for Copyright Infringement**

Students who use the university's network to engage in unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material are in violation of the Standards of Student Conduct and will be disciplined accordingly and possibly reported to licensing organizations, such as the State Bar.

### **Legal Alternatives for Acquiring Copyrighted Material**

A fairly exhaustive list of web sites from which you may legally obtain copyrighted material is published by EDUCAUSE.

# VII. COUNSELING AND ADVISING

## A. ACADEMIC ADVISING

The Associate Dean and the Director for Law Student Support are available for private academic advising throughout the year. All JD students are invited to seek advice regarding course selection, progress towards degree completion, or general academic concerns. JD students entering their final year of study are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor to ensure they are on track to graduate.

To schedule an in-person or telephone appointment, students should drop by Law Student Support, room 2333, or call 442-6615. LSS is open until 6:30 pm on Monday and Tuesday each week during the school terms. Additional evening hours are available upon request.

Students are responsible for enrolling in required courses and monitoring their progress towards completing their degree requirements by their anticipated graduation dates. Academic program evaluations are available on GGU4YOU by accessing “Academic Advising” and then “View My Program Evaluation Report.”

Upper division students may select their own course schedules, as long as they conform to the required course guidelines, unit loads based on their program status, and any conditions imposed by the Academic Standards Committee. Most upper division students take some elective and required courses each semester.

Students should carefully read the following:

- The *Student Handbook* from your year of your matriculation (available online), particularly the “Academic Standards” section and “Schedules and Course Descriptions” section;
- Current course descriptions, available on GGU4YOU and the [website](#);
- *Law School News* (available [online](#)); and
- Course syllabi (available on GGU4YOU and the [website](#)).

**Students are responsible for knowing all information contained in these and other School of Law publications.**

General questions about courses and scheduling that are not otherwise addressed in this *Handbook* or other publications should be directed to the Registrar, Associate Dean or Director for Student Support, faculty advisors for the various certificates of specialization, or LLM or SJD Program Directors. Detailed questions about a particular course should be directed to the instructor or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

International students with questions regarding F-1 and J-1 visas should refer to the “International Students” section of this handbook for more complete information.



## **B. INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING**

A number of counseling options are available at the School of Law, as listed below.

### **1. Courses**

Whenever possible, a student with a concern about a particular course should discuss the issue with the instructor and, if appropriate, follow up with the Director of the relevant program. If this is not possible, or if these discussions do not resolve the problem, the student should meet with the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support, the LLM Program Director, or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Students needing substantive help with course material should contact the course professor and/or the Academic Development Program staff.

### **2. Financial Aid**

Students with financial aid concerns should speak directly with a financial aid counselor. If this does not resolve the problem, students should speak with the Director of Financial Aid. Questions or problems with student accounts should be directed to Student Accounting Services.

### **3. Personal Concerns**

Students with personal concerns that are interfering or may interfere with their ability to attend classes, study, or take exams should promptly contact the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support to discuss how to address the situation. LSS does not engage in long-term counseling, but may direct students to outside resources to help them resolve their concerns. To schedule an in-person or telephone appointment, students should drop by LSS in room 2333 or call 442-6615. If the situation is urgent, the student should let someone in LSS know that more immediate assistance is needed.

In addition, students may receive confidential counseling and support through GGU's Wellness Resources office, which assists law students in successfully managing life situations that challenge their abilities to meet their personal, academic and career goals. This includes individualized, confidential counseling and health education opportunities that encourage effective lifestyle choices and teach skills that will serve students in and out of the classroom. Privacy is always respected, and all records are confidential and maintained separately from academic records.

**Counseling** services include assessment, short-term counseling, couples/relationship therapy, support groups for newcomers, and referral to off-campus resources as needed.

**Health Education** services include consultation, assessment and a free subscription to Student Health 101, an online wellness magazine with monthly support in the areas of health, fitness and relationships. Wellness Resources also provides referrals.

Wellness Resources is staffed by pre-licensed counselors working under the clinical supervision of a licensed therapist. GGU students may participate in up to 20 sessions—four initial sessions at no charge and up to 16 additional sessions for \$20 each. Referrals are made if additional services are needed. Wellness Resources is located in the east wing of the first floor (the GGU Hub), in room 1381. The phone number is 442-6578.

## VIII. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

One of Golden Gate University School of Law's great strengths is its active and enthusiastic student body. Student organizations serve the interests of a diverse population and spend a significant amount of time and effort developing programs and organizing activities to support their members and enrich the law school experience for everyone. Student groups publicize their activities in the Events Calendar, in *Law School News*, and by posting approved flyers and digital signage. Each organization has a mailbox in the Student Bar Association (SBA) Lounge.

SBA meetings are public, and all students are encouraged to attend and participate in SBA meetings and events. All students are eligible to vote in SBA elections, which are held every spring.

A portion of each student's fees goes to the SBA, whose officers make decisions about what activities and programs to fund throughout the year, including allocations to SBA-approved student organizations. Any student organization planning to raise or collect funds aside from the SBA funds allotted to the organization must coordinate appropriate accounting policies with the Director of Administration and Technology Services. Student organizations are not permitted to maintain bank accounts.

Student organization leaders are expected to collaborate and communicate regularly with their faculty and LCD staff advisors. This is especially important when members of the student organization invite attorneys and other VIP guests to campus.

A list and description of all student organizations recognized by the School of Law may be found on the [website](#). If you wish to start a new student group, revive a group that has been inactive, or update the name or description of your student organization, please contact the SBA President or Law Student Support.

# IX. LAW LIBRARY

Students should visit the Law Library website for extensive information about the law library and resources for students: [www.law.ggu.edu/law-library](http://www.law.ggu.edu/law-library).

The law library operates on two floors of the west side of 536 Mission Street. The entrance to the library is on the first floor street level. There are four sets of stairs and one elevator for access to the lower floors (the Plaza and Basement levels) in the law library. Students are expected to remain quiet while using the stairs or other common areas within the law library.

The law library has a collection of more than 300,000 volumes as well as access to a number of online subscription services. The library also houses a computer lab and an extensive microform collection. The knowledgeable staff is available to help law students understand legal research methods, answer specific questions, and carry out the tasks necessary to keep the law library operating efficiently.

## Contact information:

Circulation	442-6680
Reference	442-6692
Director	442-6682
Law Library Web Page	<a href="http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/">http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/</a>

## Fall and Spring Semester Hours:

Monday through Thursday	7:30 am to 10:30 pm
Friday	7:30 am to 9 pm
Saturday	10:00 am to 7 pm
Sunday	11:00 am to 6:00 pm
The schedule is extended during exam study periods and restricted over holidays, semester breaks, and summer. All variations are posted.	

## A. ACCESS POLICY

The law library serves law students, faculty, and alumni. In 1984, a limited access policy was instituted, which allows the law library to ensure that our law students and faculty receive the service and space they need, while accommodating a reasonable number of local attorneys through a fee-based membership program. Golden Gate University undergraduate and graduate students may also use the law library. Because the law library is a government depository, members of the public who need to use government documents must be admitted.

A Golden Gate University identification card is required to enter the law library. Be sure to carry your student ID card at all times.

## B. CIRCULATION DESK/COURSE RESERVE

Library staff and student workers are available at the desk to check books in and out of the library, answer directional questions, sign out course reserve materials, and accept requests

for inter-library loans. *The law library does not purchase or maintain a collection of course textbooks.*

### **C. INFORMATION AND RESEARCH ASSISTANCE**

Reference desk librarians assist with legal research and answer informational questions. The reference and Open Reserves collections are near the reference desk.

Reference librarians are generally available and can be reached by telephone, email, chat, and in person. Reference conferences can be arranged by appointment.

### **D. OPEN RESERVE AREA**

Hornbooks, Nutshells, loose-leaf resources, and other high-use items are in the Open Reserve Area, near the reference desk. Materials are placed in Open Reserve to give as many students as possible access to items most in demand. Most materials are available for use only in the law library. Twenty-four hour loans are available for selected items.

### **E. EXAMS ON FILE**

Essay exams with examples of model answers are located on the plaza level in the library. They also are available on our website, <http://law.ggu.edu/law-library>.

### **F. MICROFORMS**

Microforms are in Basement Room B-2. All materials are listed in the online catalog and marked "MICRO." A "Microform Finder," located near the cabinets, pinpoints the cabinet drawer where the title is stored. Use the reader-printers to make copies.

### **G. GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS**

The law library is a depository for selected California and federal government documents. In exchange for receiving these materials free of charge, the library provides access to members of the public.

### **H. INTERLIBRARY LOANS/ACCESS TO OTHER LIBRARIES**

Items not available in our collection may be borrowed through interlibrary loan. For more information, ask at the circulation or reference desk. The law library has reciprocal access arrangements for Golden Gate law students with two other law libraries in the Bay Area. For more information, contact a reference librarian.

### **I. ON-LINE CATALOG**

Search the online catalog to find the location of resources in the law library collection. <http://library.ggu.edu>

### **J. COMPUTER LAB**

The computer lab is available to currently enrolled Golden Gate University students for research and school-related purposes. Programs available on these machines include word

processing, spreadsheets, LEXIS, Westlaw, BloombergBNA, and other legal online services, as well as access to the Internet. Printing is \$0.13 per side of the page. As only currently registered GGU students may use the labs; students may be asked to show their photo IDs while using the computers. Plug-in and wireless network access is available throughout the law library.

For wireless laptop set up instructions, see <http://www.ggu.edu/help/wireless>.

## **K. COMPUTER-ASSISTED LEGAL RESEARCH**

Lexis, Westlaw, and Bloomberg Law access is available to law students. Students will be given their individual access codes during orientation. These are valuable, and their use is restricted to educational purposes only. It is each student's responsibility to register their access codes and maintain their accounts throughout their law school careers. The contract with these companies is managed by the law library. If any problems arise, please see one of the reference librarians.

## **L. COMPUTER-ASSISTED LEGAL INSTRUCTION (CALI)**

CALI interactive exercises cover most legal topics. These exercises can be accessed at [www.cali.org](http://www.cali.org). Contact a reference librarian with any questions.

## **M. RE-SHELVING**

Books should be returned to their proper shelves after use so that other patrons do not waste time searching for them.

## **N. PHOTOCOPIES**

Photocopy machines are located on all floors of the law library. Copies cost 13 cents. Copy cards can be purchased only through the card dispenser, which is located on the first floor, near the Open Reserves. The card dispenser accepts \$1 or \$5 bills; please use a one-dollar bill to purchase your first copy/print card.

## **O. CIRCULATION POLICY AND FINES**

Students must have a valid Golden Gate University identity card in order to borrow books. Since law libraries are primarily reference collections, only a small percentage of the collection can be checked out. Circulation desk staff is able to answer questions about which items may leave the library.

Circulating (non-reserve) materials are available for two-week loans. Students may renew loans twice, if no one else has requested the items and if they are not overdue. If an item is not returned by its due date, a fine of \$5 per item will be assessed. If a bill is mailed, an additional \$5 processing fee for each item is levied, together with the replacement cost of each item or \$50 per item, whichever is higher. For returned items, only the applicable fines will be assessed. Students will be subject to an additional \$10 fine and processing fee per item for every week that the item is overdue.

Possible consequences for failing to return items or pay fines include: loss of law library borrowing privileges or blocked grade reports, transcripts, registration, or graduation.

Any patron may use the open reserve materials in the law library. Some open reserve materials are available for 24-hour loan to Golden Gate law students and faculty; these materials are clearly labeled. Overdue material is subject to a \$5 fine for the first hour and \$1 per hour thereafter, plus service and replacement charges, if not returned.

Course reserve materials may be checked out at the circulation desk for two hours; these are renewable if no one else has requested the material. Course reserve materials may be removed from the building, but must be returned on time. Patrons with overdue items will be fined \$5 for the first hour and \$1 per hour thereafter for each overdue item. A course reserve item not returned is also subject to added service charges plus \$50, or the cost of replacing the item, whichever is greater.

#### **P. GROUP STUDY ROOMS**

Ten group study rooms are available, four in the basement and six on the plaza level of the law library, for GGU student use only. Keys to these rooms may be checked out at the circulation desk for two hours at a time. Renewals are possible if no other students are waiting for a room. These keys may not leave the law library and are subject to the same fines as reserve materials. During busy periods, there must be at least two students in a room. Baggage left unattended in an unoccupied study room will be removed. Although food is now allowed in the law library, including the group study rooms, food is not permitted that, by odor, sound, or debris, disturbs others.

#### **Q. CELL PHONES**

Cell phone use is not permitted in the law library. It is expected that library patrons will set their cell phones to silent alert. If a cell phone call needs to be taken or made, the student must do so outside the library in order to avoid disturbing others. Texting, however, is permitted and encouraged.

#### **R. FOOD**

Food and beverages are permitted in the law library. Any carrying, unwrapping, ingestion, digestion, and disposal of refuse must be done in a manner that does not disturb or offend other library patrons or staff. Patrons must take out what they bring in. Crinkling wrappers, crunchy food consumption, or any food odors may result in ejection from the law library.

# **X. LAW CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Located within the Center for Professional Development and Student Engagement, Law Career Development (LCD) partners with students and alumni to address their career development needs. The office is open from 9 am to 5:30 pm and may be reached at 442-6625. Evening appointments are available by prior arrangement.

LCD staff provides comprehensive career services to law students and graduates. Students have access to individual career counseling, a resume and cover letter review service, recruiting and employment opportunities, career resource library, and a variety of online resources and social media outlets. Up-to-date job listings are available through the LCDonline system at <https://law-ggu-csm.symplicity.com/students/>.

LCD educates students about the job search process and legal career options by presenting workshops and inviting attorneys to campus to share their experiences with students. In addition, LCD promotes a variety of networking and professional development opportunities through bar associations, mock interview events, and other programs.

LCD staff members conduct orientation meetings with first-year law students at the end of the first semester of law school. At these mandatory orientation meetings, staff members begin the career planning process and introduce students to the variety of services and resources available to them. Law Career Development continues to work in partnership with students throughout law school and after graduation to coach them through refining their career goals and planning and implementing job search strategies.

## **A. ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE**

The services and resources of LCD are available to all students currently enrolled in the JD, LL.M., or SJD programs at Golden Gate University School of Law, as well as alumni of these programs. Students and alumni of other ABA-accredited law schools may request access to the resources of the Law Career Development office through the terms of a reciprocity agreement between Golden Gate and their school. Access to the office is limited to the terms specified in the reciprocity policy, available from LCD.

## **B. USE OF LAW CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Students may use the resources of LCD for job search-related activities only. The computers, telephone, scanner, fax machine, photocopier, letterhead, supplies and other resources of the office are not for personal use. Students using LCD resources must agree to abide by all policies posted in the office regarding the use of office equipment and resources.

## **C. SERVICES TO FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS**

Golden Gate University School of Law is a member of NALP, the Association for Legal Career Professionals. According to Part V.D. of NALP's standards and procedures:

1. To position law students to be as successful as possible, their efforts during the first semester of law school should focus on their studies rather than on job search activities. Nonetheless, opportunities to learn about professionalism, professional development and the legal profession are appropriate early in law school. Recognizing that law schools will differ in philosophy as to first-year career development activities, law schools nevertheless should not begin offering one-on-one career counseling or application document reviews to first-year students before October 15 (except in the case of part-time students who may be given assistance in seeking positions during the school term). Individual law schools may set later dates as appropriate.
2. Prospective employers and first year law students should not initiate contact with one another and employers should not interview or make offers to first year students before December 1.
3. All offers to first year students for summer employment should remain open for at least two weeks after the date made.

#### **D. JD STUDENT EMPLOYMENT LIMITATIONS**

GGU prohibits JD students from being employed for pay in excess of 20 hours per week during any week in which the student is enrolled in more than 12 semester units. (Hours worked for academic credit are not counted towards the 20 hours.) First year full-time students may not be employed for pay at all. Failure to comply with this requirement may be considered a violation of the Standards of Student Conduct.

#### **E. LCD RESOURCE LIBRARY CIRCULATION POLICY**

The LCD Resource Library, which is located in the Law Career Development suite (2333), is integrated with the Law Library's collection. Students may search the Library's online catalog to identify resources housed at LCD.

Students must have a valid Golden Gate ID card or membership card in order to borrow books. Many LCD materials do not circulate but may be used on the premises and, in some cases, copied. Students should consult the Law Library's circulation policy for details regarding the length of resource loans, overdue fines, and other relevant information.

Possible consequences of failing to return items or pay fines include loss of Law Library borrowing privileges or blocked grade reports, transcripts, registration, or graduation.

#### **F. LCDONLINE AND RECRUITING PROGRAMS**

LCDonline is the official system for all information regarding recruiting programs, job listings, deadlines, presentations, and other LCD activities. All students will be assigned a username and password for access to the LCDonline system. Students will be required to maintain an updated profile, including a current email address. During the on-campus interview season, a student must maintain an updated profile with current contact information and check the LCDonline system at least once a day for updates to his or her interview schedule. Students are required to have a resume and at least one cover letter approved by LCD if they wish to participate in on-campus recruiting programs. Failure to have application materials approved may result in exclusion from on-campus recruiting programs.



## G. CANCELLATION POLICIES

### Interview Cancellations

In the event that a student needs to cancel a job interview arranged through the School of Law's recruiting programs or sponsored job fairs, the student must provide at least 48 hours' notice to LCD (and to the employer for interviews located at the employer's office). A student who does not attend a scheduled interview, or cancels an interview fewer than 48 hours in advance, will be required to send a letter of apology to the employer and provide the Associate Dean for Law Career Development with a copy. The student will not be permitted to participate in the on-campus interview program until the Associate Dean receives a copy of the apology letter. Cancellations, especially with short notice, reflect poorly on the student and on the School of Law.

## H. EMPLOYMENT OFFERS

Evaluating an offer for a job, internship, externship, or clinical experience is an important process. Students should contact LCD for advice and assistance. In addition, students must review and comply with the following principles:

### 1. Accepting an Offer

Students should consider the acceptance of an offer to be a binding obligation. Students should not accept offers of employment if they do not intend to honor that commitment. Once a student accepts an offer of employment, he or she must immediately contact all other employers who are evaluating his or her candidacy and withdraw from consideration. All students should contact LCD to report their job acceptance.

A student should not continue to interview or "shop around" for competing opportunities that would conflict with the commitment he or she has made to his or her employer. Doing so could damage the student's reputation as well as that of the School of Law.

### 2. NALP Standards Governing Offers with Employers Having More Than 25 Attorneys

As a member of NALP, Golden Gate University School of Law expects its students, personnel, and employer community to adhere to NALP Principles and Standards for Law Placement and Recruitment Activities. School of Law students must review and comply with the Principles and Standards stated on NALP's website, <http://www.nalp.org/fulltextofnalpprinciplesandstandards>.

The key components of these guidelines for your review are:

#### a. Part III. Principles for Candidates

Part III largely discusses students' responsibility to conduct themselves in a professional manner throughout the job search process, which includes honoring their employment commitments and representing their qualifications and interests fully and accurately. To assist LCD with their reporting requirements, students are encouraged to communicate any offers received to LCD.

#### b. Part V. General Standards for the Timing of Offers and Decisions during Fall Recruitment

NALP member schools and their students, along with NALP employers, should comply with the timing standards set forth in Part V of NALP Principles and

Standards. Students should review the guidelines in their entirety at <http://www.nalp.org/fulltextofnalppinciplesandstandards>.

## **I. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Employers who utilize LCD have agreed to abide by the School of Law's non-discrimination policy:

Golden Gate University's Law Career Development Office does not make its facilities or services available to employers who discriminate on the basis of race, sex, creed, religion, age, color, disability, sexual orientation, gender identification, ancestry, national/ethnic origin, nationality/citizenship, political affiliation, marital status, medical condition, or any other status protected from discrimination by federal, state, or local law.

The use of LCD services constitutes adherence to this policy.

In the event an employer acts in a manner inconsistent with this policy or places a student in an uncomfortable situation, the student should contact LCD immediately. The Associate Dean for Law Career Development can help determine how to remedy the situation.

## **J. EMPLOYMENT SURVEYS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

On a periodic basis, Law Career Development will request that students provide information evaluating their various law school work and internship experiences. LCD will gather the information to make it available to other students to assist them in evaluating future employment opportunities. We encourage students to be both honest and professional when preparing these evaluations.

Following graduation, LCD will also seek information from students regarding their post-graduate employment status. The Law School is required to collect and report this information anonymously to the ABA and NALP. The Law School also presents this information in an aggregated form to *US News & World Report*, employers, current students, alumni and prospective students to provide insight into hiring practices and salary trends.

Students are required to comply with these information requests in a timely fashion and in an honest manner.

## **K. STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT**

Actions that bear upon students' ethical and moral fitness (i.e., honesty and integrity) to practice law, even though such actions do not occur on the property of Golden Gate University, are subject to the School of Law's Standards of Student Conduct. This may include (but is not limited to) interactions involving employers, externship supervisors, pro bono activities, job fairs and conferences. Students are required to review the Standards of Student Conduct in their entirety.

## XI. SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The special programs described below provide opportunities for students to earn credit through experiential learning, writing and publishing, clinics and externship programs.

### A. LAW REVIEW

Law Review membership is among the highest honors that a student can earn during law school. First year membership provides students with opportunities to develop their skills in legal research, writing, and analysis, while second year membership provides valuable experience working on the editing process.

Each year, under the supervision of faculty advisers, selected students publish the *Golden Gate University Law Review*, which is included in the databases on Westlaw, LexisNexis, and HeinOnline.

Law Review is staffed by full-time and part-time students in their second, third, or fourth year of law school. Membership on Law Review is determined by grades or through a writing competition. Interested students should contact the Editor-in-Chief ([eic@ggulawreview.org](mailto:eic@ggulawreview.org)) with any questions regarding eligibility.

Membership on Law Review is a two year commitment; members earn a total of six academic credits, with two units awarded during fall semester and one unit awarded during spring semester for both years of membership. Members are eligible to serve on the Editorial Board in their second year on Law Review. Some board positions earn an additional academic credit. The Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor are both eligible to receive 4 units of credit, while the Executive Articles Editor, Executive Comments Editor, Ninth Circuit Survey Executive Editor, Executive Research Editor, and Executive Online Editor are eligible to receive 3 units of credit.

Informational sessions are held prior to the spring write-on competition. Dates and times of these sessions will be published in *Law School News*. Students with questions about law review should contact the Editor-in-Chief at [eic@ggulawreview.org](mailto:eic@ggulawreview.org).

### B. ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL

The *Golden Gate University Environmental Law Journal* (ELJ) is a student-run publication dedicated to exploring contemporary and emerging issues in environmental law and policy. The ELJ not only showcases creativity and scholarship in the area of environmental law, but also provides an opportunity for Golden Gate University Law School students to be published alongside esteemed faculty and environmental law professionals.

The ELJ publishes two issues annually:

The “Symposium Edition” is published every fall and contains lead articles written by academics and professionals, as well as student notes, comments and/or summaries. Its publication is coordinated with the annual Environmental Law Symposium that is held by Golden Gate University. The “Pacific Region Edition” contains lead articles written by academics and professionals, as well as student notes, comments and/or summaries focusing

on environmental law and policy issues in the Pacific Region (including, but not limited to, the North American Pacific Coast and the Asian Pacific Rim and Basin). The inaugural issues of Volume I of the *Golden Gate Environmental Law Journal* were published during the 2007-2008 school year.

To be eligible for the ELJ, applicants must be JD or LLM students in good academic standing, have a minimum required course GPA of 2.5, and have completed 30 units or the equivalent of the first year required courses for their program. The application processes for writers and editors are both held in the spring, but the requirements are slightly different for editorial positions. Membership for writers is determined by grades or through a writing competition, while membership for editors is determined after the submission of a resume, cover letter, and writing sample.

The ELJ is a one-year commitment, and members earn three academic credits. Two units are awarded for the first semester and one unit for the second semester. Members who choose to continue on the ELJ for a second year become Associate Editors. Second year members are eligible to run for the Editorial Board. The Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor can earn four academic credits, while the Pacific Region Edition Editor, Symposium Edition Editor, and Research Editors can earn three academic credits.

### **C. ANNUAL SURVEY OF COMPARATIVE & INTERNATIONAL LAW**

The Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law provides a forum for the scholarly publication of articles written by academics, practitioners and other professionals working in the areas of international and comparative law and related fields. The Annual Survey encourages research based on empirical observations and experience, as well as theoretical and multi-disciplinary approaches.

Students who have been selected by the Production Editor to work on the Annual Survey will edit articles submitted by outside and selected student authors. Student articles are selected through a writing competition. JD students who have completed 30 units of first year required courses by the end of the spring semester (full-time first year or part-time second year students), are eligible to apply to work on the Survey in a mentee capacity. Membership requires a one semester commitment in the spring, and students may participate for more than one spring semester with the approval of the Production Editor. Information about this program is available from Professor Chris Okeke ([cokeke@ggu.edu](mailto:cokeke@ggu.edu)).

The Production Editor receives 2 academic credits for working on the journal. All other second and third year student editors receive 1 academic credit for their editorial work on the journal.

### **D. ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT & BAR SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

#### **1. Academic Development Program (ADP)**

The Academic Development Program is part of the Academic Development and Bar Services Department. It is committed to the academic success of each law student. Starting with the first year, ADP provides a wide range of academic support services throughout a student's time at GGU, including administration of the first-year Practice Intensive Courses, one-on-one academic support, and academic skills-related workshops

and courses. ADP also works individually with students on Academic Supervision and Academic Probation to improve their academic standing.

Skills covered by ADP programming include the following:

- **Legal Literacy:** The ability to think and communicate like a lawyer. This includes the ability to read and listen closely, note relevant details, and understand the key points or legal significance in readings and discussion.
- **Synthesis:** The ability to take a large amount of information consisting of reading material, class notes, and other course-related material, and distill it down to an analytical framework or exam-targeted outline of reasonable length.
- **Self-Reliance/Self-Monitoring:** The ability, with initial guidance and support from instructors, to assess one's own preparation and performance and identify areas for improvement.
- **Analysis through Practice:** The ability to perform thorough legal analysis (i.e. applying facts to law while examining alternative arguments) with the use of IRAC through repetition and practice.

ADP also administers two intensive skills courses designed to help students improve their performance: Legal Analysis and Legal Methods. For first year students, enrollment in Legal Analysis in the spring semester is determined by students' academic performance during the fall semester. For second year students, enrollment in Legal Methods is determined by students' academic performance during their first year. Students who wish to opt-in to either course may do so upon obtaining approval from Law Student Support.

## 2. **Bar Services Department**

Starting in their final year of law school, all students are encouraged to work with Bar Services. Bar Services administers two courses in the final year of law school. Practical Legal Writing (PLW) and Early Bar Preparation (EBP) are designed to prepare students with the framework and skills necessary to be successful on the Bar Exam.

During the bar exam study period, Bar Services staff are available to help transition students from law school study to the bar exam.

## **E. CLINICS AND EXTERNSHIPS**

The School of Law offers students opportunities to participate in a variety of clinical experiences. Students who are interested in enrolling in a clinic or externship should review the "Course Descriptions" section of this handbook and the [Clinical Legal Education Program Student Handbook](#).

Students may not take more than **13 units** in externship and other clinical courses. Generally, these units are earned over the course of multiple semesters. Students may be required to seek the Director of Externship's approval before enrolling in more than 4 units per semester. Courses that count toward the 13-unit limitation include all clinics and externships, regardless of whether they appear on the list below. Occasionally, the School of Law partners with other organizations or universities to provide additional, clinical opportunities.

In rare circumstances and with consent of the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support, a student may be approved for more than 13 units. A student may not enroll in more

than one of these courses per term, unless permission is granted by the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support. Permission will depend in part on whether the student can verify that there is no conflict of interest between the student's two clinical placements. In no case may a student enroll in more than one of these courses per term when one of the courses is for a judicial externship.

**1. On-Site Clinics**

Environmental Law & Justice Clinic  
Pro Bono Tax Clinic  
Women's Employment Rights Clinic  
Veterans Legal Advocacy Center

**2. Off-campus Externships**

Advanced Legal Clinic\*  
Civil Field Placement Clinic  
Consumer Rights Clinic  
Criminal Litigation Clinic  
Family Law Clinic  
Homeless Advocacy Clinic  
Judicial Externship\*\*  
Legal Clinic\*

\*Students must receive approval from the Director of Externship Programs to enroll.

\*\*Students must have completed at least 3 law school terms, including Evidence, and must meet other GPA and course prerequisites.

Students who have completed 28 units of law school and are in good academic standing are eligible to enroll in any of the externship courses except as noted above.

Students on Academic Probation are not eligible to apply to any clinic without permission from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support.

**F. HONORS LAWYERING PROGRAM (HLP)**

The Honors Lawyering Program is a rigorous academic and practice-focused program. In HLP, students attend a regular first-year curriculum, with the exception of one elective course in the spring, and then participate in an intensive skills-focused summer session featuring actual client representation. Following the completion of the HLP summer curriculum, students spend the fall of their second year working in full-time apprenticeships in a wide variety of settings, including law firms, corporations, judicial chambers, public interest organizations, government agencies, public defenders' offices, and district attorneys' offices. During their last year, students complete a second apprenticeship. More information is available in the "Honors Lawyering Program" section of this handbook.

**G. JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS**

Joint degree programs allow students to reduce the number of units necessary to earn both a JD and a graduate degree in another specialty area. They particularly are beneficial to students who have undergraduate degrees and/or previous work experience in a given graduate area and who want to pursue careers that combine that experience and training with

legal work. Students enrolled in joint degree programs are able to fulfill 12 units of electives needed for their JD degrees from specified courses completed toward earning the other degree.

The **JD/MBA degree** is offered through Golden Gate University's Ageno School of Business. Students may apply to participate in this program after the completion of two semesters of law school, for full-time students, and after three terms for part-time students. Students' LSAT scores will be accepted in lieu of the GMAT and writing proficiency requirement in order to gain admission to the MBA program.

Interested students should submit an *Application for Joint JD/MBA Program* (available online or from the Registrar's Office) to Law Student Support for approval. Students register for MBA courses through the University's Office of Records and Registration and pay the same tuition as other MBA students. Students in the JD/MBA program must complete all requirements for both degrees before graduating. JD students wishing to withdraw from the joint degree program must submit a *Petition for Change of JD Academic Program* form.

Admission to the **JD/PhD degree in clinical psychology** is no longer available. However, students currently in the program offered in partnership with Palo Alto University's Pacific Graduate School of Psychology (PGSP) in Palo Alto, California, will be permitted to complete the program. No additional students will be admitted.

Students already in the program will complete one year of law school and then attend one year at PGSP. During their third and fourth years, students concurrently attend both Golden Gate University School of Law and PGSP. For students attending concurrently, the amount of tuition and fees charged by each school for the year is equal to one-half of the cost to attend the more expensive school on a full-time basis for the academic year. For purposes of calculating this cost, the School of Law assumes 30 credit hours per academic year. Students in this program are not charged tuition or fees if they attend Golden Gate University School of Law during the summer session in San Francisco. However, students who elect to attend a summer abroad program will be charged the regular tuition and fees for that program.

Prior to completing their JD degrees, students should request approval of 12 units of transfer credit from the Associate Dean for Law Student Services and then request the Registrar at PGSP to send an official transcript to the Golden Gate University Registrar in order for the 12 units of transfer credit to be recorded at Golden Gate. Students in the JD/PhD program need only complete the requirements for the JD degree before being eligible to sit for a bar exam.

Students in the JD/PhD program may receive federal aid through Golden Gate University for their first year of law school. Once they start classes at PGSP during their second year, any/all future aid is administered by PGSP.

## **H. CERTIFICATES OF SPECIALIZATION**

The School of Law offers certificates in the following areas of specialization:

- Business Law
- Environmental Law
- Family Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- Litigation
- Public Interest Law

A list of specific courses and requirements for the certificates can be found online on the Specialization Certificates [webpage](#). The *JD Specialization Certificate Application* is available online on the Registrar's Office forms [webpage](#).

Students must submit an application for a specialization certificate to the Registrar's Office during their last semester: by May 1 for May graduation candidates, July 1 for July graduation candidates, and by December 1 for December graduation candidates. Specialization certificates are mailed shortly after the student's degree is conferred. Any specialization certificates earned will be noted on graduates' transcripts.

## **I. SUMMER TRIAL & EVIDENCE PROGRAM (1<sup>ST</sup> STEP)**

1<sup>st</sup> STEP is an integrated summer litigation curriculum for students wanting to be trained as trial attorneys and litigators as early as possible in their legal studies. Students in 1<sup>st</sup> STEP take integrated courses specifically designed to improve their litigation and advocacy skills, including Evidence, Trial Advocacy, and a unique Litigation Center course, Evidence in the Courtroom. The program also includes instruction on presentation and acting techniques from a theater instructor.

Some students may be pre-selected for 1<sup>st</sup> STEP upon admission to GGU; others may apply for the summer program after the prior fall semester. These are the only opportunities to apply to the program. Admission to this innovative 8-week summer program is selective, but all eligible students are encouraged to apply. Full-time 1L students are eligible to apply for admission into 1<sup>st</sup> STEP for the summer after their first year of law school. Part-time students may apply to participate in 1<sup>st</sup> STEP for their second summer term. Students must have earned a minimum 2.35 GPA at the time of their application to 1st STEP.

The criteria for joining the program are demonstrated success in law school, interest in and enthusiasm for advocacy training, and the ability to perform successfully in a professional setting and in a career in litigation.



## XII. HONORS LAWYERING PROGRAM

The Honors Lawyering Program (HLP) began in 1998 under the name Integrated Professional Apprenticeship Curriculum (IPAC). HLP is an honors alternative for students who want to maximize their practical experiences while in law school. HLP provides an active, hands-on legal education. HLP students follow the standard first-year schedule, with the exception of an exclusive elective course in the spring to prepare them for their summer studies. In the first summer, HLP students study in intensive, interactive sections. The summer curriculum includes direct representation of actual clients with real problems. In the fall of their second year, HLP students work full time in professional apprenticeships in a wide variety of settings and locations. Students in HLP complete law school in three years, pay the same tuition, and take the same required courses as non-HLP JD students. Each HLP student undertakes at least three substantive work experiences in the legal profession before graduating.

HLP students are subject to the same rules and regulations as non-HLP JD students.

### A. ADMISSION

#### 1. **Entering Students**

Students may apply to HLP as part of the regular JD application process by checking the Honors Lawyering Program box on their admissions application.

#### 2. **Spring Admission**

First-year students may also apply to join HLP at the end of the fall semester. This is the only opportunity to transfer into HLP. Details regarding the post-fall admission process will be posted in *Law School News*. Students interested in applying are encouraged to meet with the HLP Administrative Director to inquire about the transfer process. The HLP Committee considers a variety of factors in the post-fall admission process, including students' demonstrated success in law school, professionalism, collegiality, volunteerism, high ethical standards, academic enthusiasm, and ability to perform successfully in a professional setting. The Committee evaluates each applicant's School of Law admissions materials, as well as fall semester grades, recommendations from School of Law professors, and a personal essay. The number of post-fall admittees to the program will depend upon the number of students already enrolled and the quality of applications. All eligible students are encouraged to apply, regardless of whether they applied to HLP as part of the law school admissions process.

#### 3. **Part-Time Students**

Part-time students are not eligible for enrollment in HLP.

#### 4. **Joint Degree Programs**

Students enrolled in the JD/MBA program are eligible for enrollment in HLP and should consult with the Director of Law Student Support regarding their schedules. Students enrolled in the JD/PhD program are not eligible for enrollment in HLP.

## B. WITHDRAWAL

Students who decide to withdraw from the Honors Lawyering Program must meet with the HLP Administrative Director and complete a *Petition for Change of JD Academic Program* form which requires the signatures of the HLP Administrative Director and either the Associate Dean or Director of Law Student Support. Students will not be able to register for courses outside the HLP curriculum or be considered by the Financial Aid Office as a non-HLP student until these steps are completed.

## C. REGISTRATION AND REQUIRED COURSES

First-year HLP students must sign and submit a summer registration form to the HLP Administrative Director. The Administrative Director will assign each student to a course section. Students must register for all of their section's HLP courses and may not register for any other courses during this term. HLP students are subject to the same rules as non-HLP JD students, including those regarding tuition, tuition credit, refunds, and withdrawals.

The Academic Director builds the HLP curriculum, which may change from year to year. The HLP curriculum for the entering class of 2015 included the following:

### 1. **Third Semester**

The HLP students took 11 units during their first summer, consisting of the following courses:

- Advanced Legal Research (2 units)
- Constitutional Law I (3 units)
- Evidence (4 units)
- HLP Client Representation (2 units; Credit/No Credit)

The summer session usually begins in late May and ends in late July. Classes generally are held Monday through Friday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, with a break for lunch. On rare occasions, weekend classes also may be scheduled. Final class schedules will be published as soon as they are determined. Because of the intense course schedule, HLP students are well advised not to make any plans which would interfere with daily attendance. HLP students are prohibited from being employed during the summer curriculum.

### 2. **Fourth Semester**

During their fourth (2L spring) semester, HLP students must enroll in HLP Constitutional Law II, along with other required and elective courses.

### 3. **Fifth and Sixth Semesters**

The school may offer optional, additional HLP courses. Additional HLP courses may include a co-requisite lab component. If the course includes a lab component, students may not enroll in the lab separately from the course.

## D. APPRENTICESHIPS

**It is the HLP student's responsibility to identify and secure a suitable position for his or her apprenticeship.** Law Career Development staff members provide primary support to help students identify and secure such a position.

1. **First Apprenticeship**

All HLP students must complete a full-time apprenticeship during the fall semester of their second year. Full time is defined as a minimum of 30 hours per week for at least 15 weeks. HLP students may not earn clinic units for their first apprenticeship.

2. **Second Apprenticeship**

All HLP students are required to complete a second apprenticeship, which may be either full-time (see above) or part-time (a minimum of 280 hours during one semester). A full-time or part-time apprenticeship may be completed in any term after the first apprenticeship. HLP students are advised to meet with the Associate Dean or Director of Law Student Support to schedule this second apprenticeship within their other course requirements.

Students may earn externship and clinic units for the second apprenticeship. HLP students are held to the same clinic and externship prerequisites as non-HLP JD students. In some instances, students may find themselves volunteering extra hours at their apprenticeships to meet the 280-hour minimum. For example, a student enrolled in an externship clinic for 4 units (i.e., 180 hours of work) would need to work an additional 100 hours over the course of the summer or semester to reach the 280-hour threshold.

3. **Apprenticeship Procedures**

First-year students meet with Law Career Development staff members beginning in October as part of the Law Career Development orientation sessions. HLP students are required to attend these sessions.

Students are advised to submit a draft resume to Law Career Development by the end of January. Students also should prepare a list of references and a writing sample in preparation for apprenticeship applications. Students should consult the Law Career Development handouts, attend the LCD Resume/Cover Letter workshops, and use the LCD Resume/Cover Letter Review Service when preparing these materials. Students are encouraged to schedule an individual appointment with an LCD counselor.

HLP apprenticeships are available in private firms, government agencies, non-profit organizations, companies, and judicial chambers. LCD staff members work with students to develop career-search strategies. Students seeking apprenticeships outside of the Bay Area should consult a career counselor early in their search process.

Membership in HLP authorizes the HLP and LCD staff to view copies of grade reports and transcripts for HLP apprenticeship placement purposes and to share apprenticeship placement information with fellow HLP students and faculty.

**ALL apprenticeships must be approved by the HLP Administrative Director.** It is the student's responsibility to inform the HLP Administrative Director of apprenticeship plans. No later than one week after securing an apprenticeship, students must complete and submit the *HLP Apprenticeship Placement* form to the HLP Administrative Director for review and approval of the proposed apprenticeship.

Apprenticeships must consist of substantive legal work under the supervision of a judge or practicing attorney. The nature of that work will vary depending on the environment. However, an apprenticeship that primarily consists of "shadowing" a judge

or attorney, without any meaningful participation in the legal or judicial process, would not be sufficient to satisfy this requirement. For example, in the context of an apprenticeship with a judge, the apprenticeship experience must include a significant amount of legal research, writing and/or analysis. If you have any questions or doubts as to whether your particular placement meets the aforementioned requirements, please speak with the HLP Administrative Director before accepting an offer for an apprenticeship.

#### 4. **Funding Options**

There are two main funding options for HLP apprenticeships:

##### a. **Wage/Salary/Stipend**

The employer pays the student directly. This arrangement is between the student and the employer, although LCD staff members are available to counsel students about salary ranges.

##### b. **Federal Work-Study**

Most students are awarded federal work-study to help fund their HLP apprenticeship. For further information, refer to the “Financial Aid” section of this *Handbook* or consult a financial aid counselor.

The work-study program is subject to the amount of funding available each year. If an HLP student is not eligible for outside funding, HLP students may volunteer for employers.

#### 5. **Fall Semester Enrollment**

Students may enroll in up to five (5) units of coursework during the 2L fall semester while working at their full-time apprenticeships. With the written approval of the HLP Administrative Director, students may seek permission to enroll in up to six units, so long as they are not enrolled in more than two classroom courses. Students engaged in a full-time apprenticeship may never enroll in more than six units. Students must enroll in at least three units during the fall to be eligible for federal financial aid.

Students who are apprenticing outside of the Bay Area and who need to enroll in three units for financial aid purposes may be allowed to enroll in classes at another ABA-approved law school. Alternatively, HLP students doing their apprenticeships may be allowed to enroll in an Independent Study for three units. Both of these options are subject to the prior approval of the Dean or Director of Law Student Support so students are encouraged to contact them early in the process.

#### 6. **Monitoring**

Students must participate in at least one in-person check-in session with HLP staff during their full-time apprenticeships. The date, time, and location of the sessions will be announced at the beginning of the fall semester. Students undertaking their apprenticeships outside of the Bay Area must participate in these check-in sessions as well, either by telephone or videoconference.

HLP or LCD staff may check in with the supervising attorneys by telephone during the semester. Personal site visits may be made by staff and will be made at the request of a student or employer.

Students who identify a problem at their apprenticeship should discuss it with their supervising attorney as early as possible. If that is not possible, or if the problem persists, students should promptly contact the HLP Administrative Director.

#### **E. FIRST-YEAR EVENTS**

First-year HLP students are required to attend periodic events held throughout their first year of law school. These events are designed to orient students to HLP, their HLP colleagues, and HLP staff and faculty. Students will be informed of the events by email.

#### **F. ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

To remain in the program, HLP students are required to maintain a minimum required course GPA of 2.75 in their first semester of law school, and a minimum cumulative required course GPA of 2.75 at the end of each spring semester thereafter. Students failing to meet these standards will be academically disqualified from HLP. However, if a disqualified student's cumulative required course GPA is 2.65 or higher, the student may petition the HLP Committee to remain in the program. Petitioning students are encouraged to submit a faculty letter of recommendation written in support of their petition, but are not required to do so. The decision to grant or deny the petition is at the Committee's discretion, and conditions may be placed on a student's continuation in the program. Any student who does not take a prerequisite for an HLP summer course prior to the summer session may not be eligible to continue in the program.

Disqualified students must meet with the Law Student Support to determine next steps. Students who are disqualified from HLP after the spring semester of their first year but who are eligible to submit a petition may choose to remain in the summer HLP classes, but will only be allowed to do an HLP apprenticeship in the fall if the HLP Committee grants their petition to remain in HLP. Students who are disqualified from HLP after the spring semester with a cumulative required course GPA below 2.65 will not be allowed to remain in the summer HLP classes or do an HLP apprenticeship in the fall. Students should be aware that grades for the spring semester may not be available until after the summer HLP courses have begun.

#### **G. GRADING**

Courses composed of 60% or more of HLP students, including the HLP summer classes, are not subject to the mandatory grading curve. HLP Client Representation is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. All other HLP courses must be taken for a letter grade.

#### **H. CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

HLP students may earn any of the certificates of specialization offered at GGU. See the "Special Programs" section of this *Handbook*. Students should contact the certificate advisor and the Dean or Director for Law Student Support for assistance in planning their academic schedules.

## **I. TRANSCRIPTS**

After students have completed the first HLP summer session, the registrar will add a notation to their transcripts stating, “Admitted to the Honors Lawyering Program (HLP).” In addition to confirming participation in the program, this notation helps to explain certain courses such as “HLP Client Representation.” Students who withdraw from HLP prior to completion of the first summer session will not have any reference to HLP noted on their transcripts.

## **J. FINANCIAL AID**

The Financial Aid Office works closely with HLP students. HLP students pay the same tuition and are entitled to the same scholarship opportunities as non-HLP JD students. HLP staff and faculty do not have access to a student’s financial aid records. For any questions regarding financial aid, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

## **K. GRADUATION**

HLP students receive a notation in the School of Law commencement program indicating that they are graduates of the Honors Lawyering Program. Each year, the HLP Committee selects an Outstanding Honors Lawyering Program Student from among the graduating HLP students, with the award acknowledged in the School of Law commencement program.

# XIII. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & PROCEDURES

## A. OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Newly matriculated JD students must ensure that official transcripts from their undergraduate degree granting institutions are on file with the Registrar's Office at the beginning of their first term. Students will be notified if a transcript has not been received. JD students must have completed all undergraduate degree requirements before the first day of Orientation. **JD students who do not have transcripts showing timely completion of undergraduate degrees on file will not be permitted to sit for final exams.** Transcripts included in the CAS report from the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) will suffice.

LLM and SJD students should consult the Graduate Law chapter of this handbook.

## B. PRIVACY OF STUDENT EDUCATION RECORDS

### 1. Students' Rights Regarding Their Education Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the California Education Code afford "eligible students" certain rights with respect to their education records. Eligible students are those who are or have been in attendance at Golden Gate University. These rights include:

- a. **The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the date the university receives a request for access.**  
A student should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and will notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, the official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed. If the student cannot inspect the records at Golden Gate University's San Francisco campus, copies of the records will be made available by regular mail at the cost of \$0.25 per page, upon satisfactory proof of the student's identity.
- b. **The right to request the amendment of a student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.**

A student who wishes to ask the school to amend a record should write the school official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If the university decides not to amend the record as requested, the university will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing

regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

- c. **The right to provide written consent before the university discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from students' education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.**

FERPA contains various exceptions to the general rule that the University should not disclose education records without seeking the prior written consent of the student. The following circumstances are representative of those in which education records may be disclosed without the student's prior written consent:

(1) The University may release "Directory Information" upon request. Directory information is information that is not generally considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. See the "Directory Information" section below for more information.

(2) School officials who have a legitimate educational interest in a student's education record may review it. A school official is a person employed by Golden Gate University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position; a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside the university who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agency or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her duties. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the university.

(3) The University may disclose education records without consent to officials of another school, in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, upon request of officials at that other school.

(4) The University may inform persons including either parent(s) or guardian(s) when disclosure of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.

(5) The University must provide records in response to lawfully issued subpoenas, or as otherwise compelled by legal process.

- d. **The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the university to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:**

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901



## 2. **Directory Information**

Golden Gate University has designated the following student records as "directory information," and at its discretion may release this information without the student's written consent:

- Full name
- Address
- Telephone number
- Email address
- Dates of attendance
- Enrollment status
- Program of study and concentration(s)
- Participation in officially recognized activities
- Awards
- Honors (including Dean's List)
- Degree(s) earned and date(s) conferred
- ID card photograph

As required by Section 99.37 of the FERPA regulations, this serves as annual public notice of which student records Golden Gate University classifies as "directory information." Students have the right to withhold all "directory information," but must notify the registrar in writing by completion and submission of the "[Request to Prevent Disclosure of Directory Information](#)" form. Once a non-disclosure hold is placed on a student's directory information, it will remain in effect until and unless the student removes it by submission of a written request to the registrar.

## 3. **Records Retention Policy**

Student files are maintained for five years after graduation or last date of attendance, after which they generally are destroyed.

## **C. SELECTION OF COURSES AND REGISTRATION**

For current information on course selection and the courses scheduled for the upcoming semester, students should refer to the [Course Schedule](#). The *Course Schedule* is made available around the middle of the prior semester, and may be found on the GGU website and on GGU4YOU. Registration procedures and information about the Academic Calendar, tuition and fees, deadlines, exams, and late fees are also available on the website and on GGU4YOU.

Course descriptions and course scheduling guidelines can be found on the GGU [website](#), GGU4YOU, and in the "Course Descriptions" and "Academic Standards" sections and Appendix C of this handbook.

Both the Associate Dean and Director for Law Student Support are available for individual academic advising, as described in the Advising and Counseling section of the handbook.

## **D. DEFINITION OF FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS**

All JD students are enrolled in either “full-time” or “part-time” academic programs. For academic purposes, full-time students must enroll in 12-16 units per fall or spring semester and must comply with the law school’s employment limitations set forth below. For academic purposes, part-time students should enroll in 8-12 units per fall or spring semester, but cannot enroll in more than 12 units without an approved overload (see section E. below). These unit limits include units taken at other schools or in other programs; students in the JD/MBA program must keep the combined total of JD and MBA units within these limits. Students should consult with the financial aid office concerning how changes in enrollment may affect their financial aid and scholarships.

After successful completion of the first year, all students may enroll in day and/or evening courses on a space-available basis. However, in their second year, part-time students who matriculated in 2015 or later require approval from Law Student Support to enroll in more than the courses required for the second year of their program. Part-time students may receive priority enrollment for evening sections.

## **E. WAIVER OF JD PROGRAM RULES**

Part-time students who want to enroll in more than 12 units during fall or spring semester must first complete a [\*Petition for Waiver of JD Program Rules\*](#) form and submit it to Law Student Support for approval. Students taking more than 12 units in a term must comply with the law school’s employment limitations described below. Students approved for the waiver will need to register for the overload unit(s) with a paper registration form, not online via GGU4YOU.

Full-time students are typically limited to a maximum of 16 units during the fall and spring semesters. In very limited circumstances, full-time students may receive approval to take one additional overload unit. Pursuant to ABA Standard 311(c), JD students may not be enrolled in more than 17 units at any time. Students wishing to take 17 units must first complete a [\*Petition for Waiver of JD Program Rules\*](#) form and submit it to the Director for Law Student Support for approval. Registration for the overload unit will not be processed unless the approved petition form is on file with the Registrar’s Office. Students approved for the waiver will need to register for the overload unit with a paper registration form, not online via GGU4YOU. Students may not apply for overload units in the summer term.

Full-time students with more than 25 units remaining who want to take fewer than 12 units in a semester must seek approval from Law Student Support. Full-time students with 25 or fewer units remaining in their last year, or 12 or fewer units remaining in their last semester do not need to change to the part-time program, submit a *Petition for Waiver of JD Program Rules*, or seek approval from Law Student Support to take fewer than 12 units in a semester.

Students are well advised to speak with a financial aid counselor if they have questions about how their enrollment may impact their financial aid. Please note that these enrollment limits do not relate to the requirements for eligibility for financial aid or VA benefits. Financial aid and VA benefits eligibility is based on students’ term enrollment status classifications, not their program types. See section G below for more information.

## F. JD STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR LIMITATIONS

A JD student may not exceed 20 hours per week of paid employment during any week in which the student is enrolled in more than 12 semester units. Hours worked for clinic credit and unpaid volunteer work are not counted towards the 20 hours. **First year full-time students are prohibited from being employed at all during the fall and spring academic terms.** Honors Lawyering Program students are prohibited from being employed during the HLP summer curriculum. Exceptions to these rules may be made for students required to participate in training or other duties as part of active duty or military reserve obligations; documentation for such obligations must be provided to Law Student Support prior to exceeding the limits.

Exceptions to the first year work limitation may be granted in limited circumstances. The factors which will be considered include whether the student has full control over any work obligations (e.g., a dance instructor can decline a class), the anticipated time commitment (e.g., a couple of hours now and then), academic performance in the first semester, and the maturity of the student in understanding the demands of law school. The student must seek written approval from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support. First year students are not prohibited from participating in extra-curricular activities or volunteer opportunities, however, they should carefully manage their time to maintain the required focus on their academics. First year students may not participate in inter-school competitions such as mock trial, moot court, etc.

Other than those enrolled in an approved joint degree program, JD students may not be concurrently enrolled in other degree programs. Exceptions to this rule may be made in very limited circumstances with advanced written approval from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support.

All students should strive to balance any extra-curricular, employment, and volunteer commitments with their academics. Any student feeling overwhelmed with obligations outside of school should immediately consult with the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support.

## G. ENROLLMENT STATUS CLASSIFICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL AID PURPOSES

The law school classifies students' enrollment status based on academic level and the number of units in which they are enrolled in a given term. These enrollment status classifications are used for verification of enrollment for loan deferment purposes, financial aid eligibility, and veteran educational benefits certification. It is possible for part-time evening students to be enrolled in 12 units and therefore be classified as full-time for financial aid purposes.

<b>Fall &amp; Spring Terms</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>3/4 Time*</b>	<b>Half-time</b>	<b>Less than half time</b>
JD Level	8+ units	7 units	6 units	5 units or fewer
LLM & 1 <sup>st</sup> Year SJD Level	8+ units	5 units	4 units	3 units or fewer

Summer Term	Full-time	3/4 Time*	Half-time	Less than half time
JD Level	5+ units	4 units	3 units	2 units or fewer
LLM Level	4+ units	3 units	2 units	1 unit or fewer

\* The three-quarter time status is used only for Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits determination.

## H. VETERANS AFFAIRS BENEFITS

Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits are administered by the Financial Aid Office. To initiate certification of enrollment, please contact the university certifying official at [VA@ggu.edu](mailto:VA@ggu.edu) or 442-7283.

## I. PAYMENT POLICIES AND PLANS

### 1. General Policies

#### a. Obligation for Payment

Registration constitutes a financial contract between a student and the University. Students' rights to University services and benefits are contingent upon their making all payments as agreed upon. If students do not make payments of amounts owed to the University when they become due, the University has the right to cancel students' registration; to withhold their grades, transcripts, diplomas, scholastic certificates, and degrees; to refuse admittance to exams; and to impound their exams. Students who fail to maintain good financial standing with the University will be denied participation in any deferred payment plans and/or some forms of financial aid. **Failure to fulfill payment obligations may result in registration cancellation and may be reportable to relevant bar admission agencies.**

#### b. Prior Balances

Prior to registering for a new term, students are required to pay any outstanding balances from prior terms. Students who have not paid outstanding balances or made payment arrangements satisfactory to the University will not be allowed to register. If students register, and it is later determined they have not met their payment obligations from a prior term, **their registration for the current term may be canceled.**

Students with a history of delinquency, students who are dropped from classes for non-payment, and/or students with a past due balance who wish to register for any additional units will be required to make payment in full for any past due balance and pay in full, at the time of registration, for any and all future registrations. Payment at the time of registration for these individuals must be in the form of a cashier's check, cash, or money order.

c. **Time of Payment**

In order to complete registration, law school students must either pay all tuition and fees within ten (10) business days of the start of the term (or at the time of registration if registering after the start of the term), or make other financial arrangements with Golden Gate University.

d. **Form of Payment**

The University accepts payment in cash, personal check, travelers' checks, credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, American Express), and wire transfers. Credit card payments may be made over the phone by calling the cashier at 442-7839. Checks should be mailed to: Golden Gate University, Student Accounting Services, 536 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94105-2968 or presented in person to the cashier at the GGU Hub. The student's school identification number (SID) must appear on all checks and money orders to ensure they are credited to the appropriate account. In addition to these forms of payment, the University offers deferred payment plans listed below. Some payment plans require verification of eligibility prior to registration.

e. **Returned Checks**

If checks are returned by students' banks, the payments are considered not made. If students' checks are returned for any reason (e.g., insufficient funds, stop payment order, closed account, etc.), the University will charge a fee to their accounts.

2. **Financial Aid Eligibility**

Students who have applied and been approved for financial aid (i.e., scholarships or loans) will have their tuition and fees deducted upon disbursement of the funds to their accounts. To receive financial aid, students must have completed the following steps prior to registration:

- a. Submitted a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);
- b. Supplied additional documents requested by the Financial Aid Office;
- c. Accepted or declined their award offer; and
- d. Completed any and all additional loan application materials.

Students whose aid is insufficient to pay all registration charges, or who submitted materials too late to be approved prior to registration, must pay their balances in full or pay in accordance with one of the following payment plans. **If students' financial aid is denied or canceled for any reason, their account balances become due and payable immediately according to the "Time of Payment" policies above.**

3. **Installment Payment Plan**

The University offers an installment payment plan through Tuition Management Systems (TMS, a payment plan management provider) to students in good financial standing. International students are not eligible for the installment payment plan in their first term at the University. Students may elect to have funds automatically debited from their checking accounts or credit cards. In order to participate in this plan, students must enroll with and pay TMS a non-refundable processing fee each term. Students may enroll with TMS via its website [www.afford.com/ggu](http://www.afford.com/ggu), by calling 1-800-722-4867, or by visiting Student Accounting Services.

a. **Installments**

All applicable non-tuition charges must be paid directly to the University. The remaining tuition balance is due in two to five equal installments over the course of the term, depending upon the length of the term. Students may select the number of payments and when the first payment is due, within certain parameters. Installment payments are due to TMS on the first of each month. In all cases, the final payment is due on December 1 for the fall term, May 1 for the spring term, and August 1 for the summer term. Failure to make installment payments as agreed with Tuition Management Services constitutes delinquency and is subject to the General Policies regarding Obligation of Payment.

b. **Payments**

TMS mails statements to students enrolled in payment plans. Payments may be made via the TMS [website](#), or by calling TMS at 1-800-722-4867. TMS will assess a late payment fee of \$40 per occurrence to students who submit payments late. The University will assess delinquent accounts a 1.5% finance charge per month beginning 30 days after the final due date for the term.

4. **Corporate Reimbursement Plan**

The University offers a corporate reimbursement plan through Tuition Management Systems (TMS, a payment plan management provider) to students whose employers offer a tuition reimbursement program. To be eligible for this plan, students' employers must agree, prior to registration, to pay for the students' tuition and/or fees for the term. To demonstrate eligibility each term, students must complete and submit the *Corporate Reimbursement Plan Authorization* form along with the business card of the authorizing officer to the Office of Student Accounting Services. In addition, to participate in this plan, students must enroll with and pay TMS a \$100 non-refundable processing fee. Students may enroll with TMS via its website [www.afford.com/ggu](http://www.afford.com/ggu), by calling 1-800-722-4867, or by visiting Student Accounting Services.

a. **Payments and Payment Due Dates**

The payment due dates are: February 5 for the fall term, July 5 for the spring term, and October 5 for the summer term. TMS will mail an invoice 30 days following the end of the term, with payment due within 15 days. TMS will mail one statement to students enrolled in this payment plan. Payments may be made via the TMS website or by calling TMS.

b. **Students' Responsibilities**

The University is not responsible for billing students' employers. If for any reason a student's employer fails to reimburse the student, that student remains responsible for payment of the full amount of the tuition and fees. TMS will assess a late payment fee of \$40 per occurrence to students who submit payments late. The University will assess delinquent accounts a 1.5% finance charge per month beginning 30 days after the due date for the term.

5. **Corporate/Agency Direct Billing Plan**

The University offers a corporate/agency direct billing plan through Student Accounting Services to students whose employers agree to pay their tuition and/or fees up front, without grade or course completion limitations. The University will bill students' employers directly for all authorized costs, and payments will be due 30

days after billing. Questions about corporate/agency direct billing should be directed to Student Accounting Services at 442-7839 or [sas@ggu.edu](mailto:sas@ggu.edu).

a. **Eligibility**

To be eligible for this plan, students must be in good financial standing with the University and submit a completed *Corporate/Agency Direct Billing* form to Student Accounting Services. Forms must be submitted and approved prior to registration. Students whose employers/agencies authorize less than 100% payment of registration charges will be required to utilize one of the University's other payment plans for the portion of the total charges that are not covered.

b. **Students' Responsibilities**

If for any reason, a student's employer/agency fails to pay the University, that student remains responsible for payment of the full amount of the tuition and fees. The University will assess delinquent accounts with a late payment fee of \$30 and a 1.5% finance charge per month beginning 30 days after the due date.

6. **Alumni Scholarship Program**

Golden Gate University School of Law offers a one-third scholarship towards tuition for qualified alumni who wish to enroll in individual courses to further their personal and professional development. The courses for which the alumni discount is requested may not count towards an additional degree. To utilize this scholarship, alumni must submit a completed *Alumni Scholarship Authorization* form to the Alumni Relations Office. After receiving confirmation of eligibility, alumni should register for the course at the Registrar's Office and obtain a Statement of Charges. The statement and scholarship form should then be submitted to the Financial Aid Office for processing.

## J. WITHDRAWAL TUITION CREDIT AND REFUND POLICIES

1. **Withdrawal Tuition Credit Policy**

Registration constitutes a financial contract between a student and the University. Students are responsible for paying all registration charges by the due dates for the payment options they select, or their registration may be canceled. Failure to attend class meetings, participate in a course, or oral notification of intent to withdraw is not considered official withdrawal from a course. The following financial policies apply when students officially withdraw from courses. Students also may be subject to academic course withdrawal policies and should review them before attempting to withdraw from courses. For further information, refer to the "Fulfilling Course Requirements" section of this chapter.

Withdrawal from a course (commonly known as "dropping a course" if done by the end of the second week of the term) is official once the Registrar's Office has been notified. Notification may be made electronically by "dropping" courses online via GGU4YOU or in writing by submitting a [Registration Request](#) form. Written notifications may be delivered in person, by standard mail, by fax, or by email. Email must originate from the student's e-mail address on record with the Registrar's Office. The date the written notice is received by the Registrar's Office will be the official date of withdrawal. Oral notification of intent to withdraw is insufficient.

Students should refer to the [Academic Calendar](#) to determine the last day to drop courses without tuition charge. After instruction begins for a term, fees are not

refundable except in the case of a course being canceled by the law school. Tuition credits remain on the student's account. Refunds are issued by Student Accounting Services upon written request from the student. If a student receiving Federal Student Aid funds withdraws from all courses (considered complete withdrawal), that aid is subject to the Return of Title IV Calculation, which may result in balances due to Golden Gate University.

a. **Regular Courses**

Regular courses are those that generally meet for the entire length of the term or for four or more weeks. Tuition will be credited as shown below.

<u>Withdrawal Date</u>	<u>Credit Amount</u>
Official withdrawal prior to the start of instruction .....	100%
Official withdrawal during the first or second week of instruction as stated in the academic calendar.....	100%
Official withdrawal after the second week of instruction .....	None

b. **Intensive Courses**

Intensive courses are those that are shorter than four weeks in length and generally meet more than once a week. Tuition will be credited as shown below.

<u>Withdrawal Date</u>	<u>Credit Amount</u>
Official withdrawal prior to the start of instruction .....	100%
Official withdrawal before the third class meeting for the course .....	100%
Official withdrawal after the third class meeting for the course .....	None

c. **Tuition Credits for First Year JD Students**

The School of Law allows first year JD students whose first semester academic performance is below 2.3 to withdraw from their subsequent spring semester courses without financial penalty for a limited time. Funds for tuition and fees are restored to the payer (i.e., to the bank or institution that provided the financial aid or to the student). **This option is available for a limited time (usually one week) after all first year fall grades are released.** Students who want to exercise this option should consult the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support once they have received all of their fall grades.

d. **Withdrawal From Law School, Leaves of Absence, or Visiting Away Status**

A student who decides to withdraw from the School of Law, take a leave of absence, or visit away at another law school, must provide official written notification. See the sections below regarding procedures.

Students who received financial aid must see the Financial Aid Office to document the financial consequences of their change in enrollment status on their financial aid and student account balances. Students with balances due must see Student Accounting Services to pay their charges. Leaves typically will not be approved for students owing balances. However, in the event an exception is made, students will be required to pay their balances in full before they will be allowed to return from leaves of absence.



e. **Return of Title IV Calculation**

Students receiving Title IV Federal Student Aid funds (i.e., Stafford, PLUS and Perkins loans) who withdraw from all of their courses for a term (complete withdrawal) must notify the Financial Aid Office after “dropping” their courses via GGU4YOU or by submitting [Registration Request](#) forms to the Registrar's Office. In some cases, when students go on approved leaves of absence or withdraw from law school, the Financial Aid Office must return Title IV Federal Student Aid funds to their lenders. The calculations for return of such funds is based on the students’ official withdrawal date, as indicated on their *Withdrawal* or *Request for Leave* forms. If students do not submit the forms, their official withdrawal date will be determined from the date of complete withdrawal from all courses for the term. Students may be required to return funds for which they are no longer eligible based on this calculation. Up through the 60 percent point in each term, a pro rata schedule is used to determine the amount of Title IV funds students have earned at the time of withdrawal. After the 60 percent point of the term, students have earned 100 percent of the Title IV funds, and no return of federal student aid will be required.

The Federal Return of Title IV funds calculation is separate from the Golden Gate University School of Law Withdrawal Tuition Credit Policy. All students receiving Federal Student Aid are subject to this federal policy. In addition, students withdrawing from the School of Law or taking leaves of absence must complete online loan counseling exit interviews. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for specific information.

f. **Revocation of Institutional Scholarships**

If institutional scholarship recipients withdraw during their first semester of law school, the Financial Aid Office will use the “Return of Title IV” calculations to determine if the scholarship has been “earned” or if a portion of it will be reversed (see above). This applies to first semester 1Ls only. After their first semester, if institutional scholarship recipients withdraw from law school in a given term, their scholarships are revoked and the students must pay back their scholarships, as determined by the terms above. See the Financial Aid section of this *Handbook* for more information.

g. **Refunds of Credit Balances**

To receive refunds of credit balances resulting from tuition credits in accordance with the School of Law Withdrawal Tuition Credit Policy, students must submit written requests to Student Accounting Services. Requests may be submitted by e-mail to [sas@ggu.edu](mailto:sas@ggu.edu) or by letter. Refund checks will be mailed to students’ addresses on record unless a different address is noted in the request. Students who have requested Direct Deposit of refunds will have the refund directly deposited to the bank provided. Credit card refund requests must include the last four digits of the credit card number and the expiration date of the credit card that was used to pay the charges. To receive refunds for personal checks deposited within 60 days, students must submit proof the checks have cleared their banks, such as bank statements.

h. **Student Financial Petitions**

Students who are confronted with unexpected circumstances that require them to withdraw from some or all courses after the drop deadline (generally the end of the

second week of the term) may petition Student Accounting Services to reverse a portion of their tuition charges. To do so, they must submit a petition in writing to the Director of Student Accounting Services no later than 90 days after the last day of the term from which they withdrew.

Petitions should explain in detail the circumstances and the correlation between these circumstances and the need to withdraw from the course(s), and what actions are being taken to resolve or prevent such circumstances from occurring in the future. All petitions must be supported by detailed documentation of all facts and circumstances as to why an exception to the withdrawal tuition credit policy should be made. The Committee will not approve any petition that is undocumented or is based on a pre-existing condition. *Financial Petition* forms with additional instructions are available on the website. The forms should be submitted to Student Accounting Services by fax or e-mail.

The Financial Petitions Committee will respond to all petitions in writing within 30 working days of receipt. If the petition is approved, the University will apply credit balances toward future tuition charges within the next twelve-month period. In rare cases, credit balances resulting from financial petitions will be refunded to students. Credit balances resulting from petitions for students receiving Title IV funds will be returned to the appropriate financial aid program or lender. Students who owe balances, either because they did not pay their charges in full or because some or all of their Title IV funds were returned, will need to make payment arrangements with Student Accounting Services.

**i. Account Disputes**

All disputes concerning students' accounts should be submitted in writing to: Student Accounting Services, Golden Gate University, 536 Mission St. San Francisco, CA 94105-2968 or [sas@ggu.edu](mailto:sas@ggu.edu). The University will respond within 30 working days of receipt.

**K. ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION**

The Registrar's Office reports enrollment status information to the National Student Clearinghouse. Consequently, most lenders will be notified of students' enrollment status and will update their records accordingly. Students whose lenders do not participate in the Clearinghouse, or those who need enrollment verifications for other purposes, such as rental agreements, may obtain them free of charge. Enrollment verification letters may be requested by submitting a [Student Status Letter Request](#), available on the website. Loan deferment forms also will be processed free of charge.

Students who are visiting away at another law school should work with the Financial Aid Office and Registrar's Office to ensure their enrollment statuses are reported correctly to their lenders.

Students who intend to participate in a recognized exchange program and need to complete foreign language instruction before enrolling in law courses at the host institution will be eligible to be reported as if they are enrolled at Golden Gate University during the time they receive the language instruction, provided it meets certain criteria. Specifically, the language instruction must be considered full-time, be organized rather than self-directed, and extend for a maximum of three months in duration. In order to be

reported as enrolled at Golden Gate University, the student must obtain documentation from the institution providing the language instruction (in English) verifying the student's enrollment and provide the documentation to the Registrar's Office.

In instances where the law school is asked to verify students' academic standing to an outside agency and where the law school has a continuing obligation to report any status changes, the Registrar's Office will submit the appropriate notification. For example, if the law school has certified students' eligibility for the California State Bar's Practical Training of Law Students Program and the student subsequently leaves the law school, the Registrar will notify the State Bar of this change in status.

## **L. CHANGE OF JD ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

JD students are enrolled in one of the following academic programs: the full-time day program, the part-time evening program, the Honors Lawyering Program, or one of the joint degree programs. Generally, students may request approval for a change of program after the end of their first academic year. Normally, students may change programs only once during law school.

Students who wish to request a change of program must submit a [\*Petition for Change of JD Academic Program\*](#) form and meet with the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support, who may impose reasonable conditions on the change. Students who wish to change to the regular JD program from the Honors Lawyering Program also must consult with the HLP Administrative Director.

Note that full-time students do not need to change their program status or submit a *Petition for Waiver of JD Program Rules* (see Section E above) if they have 25 or fewer units remaining in their last year, or 12 or fewer units remaining in their last semester. Students are well advised to speak with a financial aid counselor if they have questions about how their enrollment may impact their financial aid and scholarships.

## **M. ENROLLMENT IN SUMMER SCHOOL**

Summer courses are offered primarily at night to permit students to work during the summer. Students may enroll in a maximum of 8 units in the summer session, with the following exceptions: (1) those in the Honors Lawyering Program may enroll in a maximum of 11 units in the summer session; (2) those accepted in the Summer Trial and Evidence Program (1<sup>st</sup> STEP), who enroll in 9 units in the program's summer term.

Students are not required to take summer courses except for Honors Lawyering Program students, 1<sup>st</sup> STEP students, and part-time program students who matriculated in 2015 or later, who must take the summer courses required for their respective programs.

## **N. ENROLLMENT IN COURSES OR IN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS OFFERED BY OTHER ABA-ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS**

### **1. Transfer of Units for JD Students**

Students who want to take courses at another ABA-accredited law school or through another ABA-accredited law school's study abroad program must apply for approval from Law Student Support prior to registering in the courses by completing a [\*Request for Transfer of Units\*](#) and attaching descriptions of the intended program or course(s).

Students may typically transfer no more than a total of 6 units from other ABA-accredited schools or programs (in addition to the 6 permitted from a consortium school, as described below). Courses included in the calculation of the JD Required Course GPA must be taken at Golden Gate University.

For information about other schools' specific courses and programs, students should contact the law school in which they are interested.

With approval, students may qualify for financial aid from Golden Gate University to help pay the costs of courses taken at another law school. This requires a *Financial Aid Consortium Agreement* approved by both institutions. Students should contact the Financial Aid Office well in advance to arrange such financial aid and understand the implications of transferring in units.

## 2. **Transfer of Units from Bay Area Consortium Schools**

Golden Gate University is part of the Northern California Law School Consortium, a cooperative arrangement entered into by Golden Gate University, University of San Francisco, Santa Clara University, University of California at Berkeley, and University of California at Davis. Under this arrangement, Golden Gate University students who obtain advance approval may enroll in one course during the fall and/or spring at another consortium school. The Consortium does not operate during the summer term. A maximum number of six units may be earned through the Consortium. These six units are in addition to the six units a student may transfer in from non-Consortium, ABA-accredited law schools or programs. In addition to the procedures below, the following policies also apply:

- a. Law students who have received permission to take courses through the Consortium must enroll in LAW-701 at Golden Gate University and pay tuition at GGU for the number of units they take at the other Consortium school.
- b. After obtaining permission to take a Consortium course and enrolling in LAW 701, students must complete the *Northern California Law School Consortium* form, available from the Registrar's Office.
- c. Generally, host schools will accept cross-registration from Consortium students shortly before the start of the term. Students should contact host schools to inquire about registration periods for visiting students and any other limitations or special requirements.

## 3. **Transfer of Units for LLM Students**

LLM students should consult the Graduate Programs chapter of this handbook for details on transferring units to their programs.

## 4. **Procedures for Transferring Units**

- a. Prior to registering for courses or a study abroad program at another law school, a student must submit the appropriate *Request for Transfer of Units* form along with program and course descriptions for all courses they wish to take, to the Director for Law Student Support or LLM Program Director, as appropriate. A request to take a course at another law school will be denied if:

- (1) The course is included in the calculation of the student's JD required course GPA at Golden Gate University, or
  - (2) The course is an elective course offered at Golden Gate University that same semester
- b. All courses taken at other schools must be taken for a letter grade, unless the school (like UC Berkeley) does not offer letter grades. If permission is given to take a clinic/seminar combination, where the clinic component is not letter-graded, transferability of all units will be determined by the grade received for the letter-graded component.
  - c. For courses to be transferable, students must receive grades equivalent to a "C+" or better, as determined by the Registrar at Golden Gate University. Grades equivalent to a "C" or lower are not transferable, and the units will not count toward graduation.
  - d. Students must ensure their host institutions send official transcripts of all courses taken for transfer credit directly to the Golden Gate University Registrar's Office, regardless of the grade earned. The transcripts must include or be accompanied by the other law school's grading policy or system. Failure to provide an official transcript may delay graduation and/or certification for a bar exam. The deadline for receipt of transcripts is February 15 for courses taken during the fall term, June 15 for the spring term, and October 15 for the summer term.
  - e. When the Registrar receives transcripts from host institutions indicating transferable courses, a notation of "Transfer Credit, [X] University" and the number of units will be added to the student's Golden Gate University transcript. However, the letter grades will not appear on the Golden Gate University transcript. Transferable units will be counted toward the total number of units required for graduation, but are not factored into students' GPAs. Non-transferable courses will not be recorded at Golden Gate University. (Even though the letter grades will not be recorded on the GGU transcript or counted in the GGU GPA, the actual letter grades earned may be considered in evaluating students' eligibility for financial aid.) Students needing proof of specific courses and grades for employers or others may present transcripts from the host institutions.

**5. Visiting Away at an ABA-Accredited Law School**

In those rare instances where circumstances require a student to relocate during law school, the student should discuss with the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support the possibility of "visiting away" at another law school. This should be done as early as possible to allow for appropriate planning. The student must submit a statement of educational objectives, which describes the necessity for visiting away. The Associate Dean or Director has the discretion to grant or deny all requests to visit away and to impose conditions, subject to ABA and AALS restrictions. Students who visit away must be in good standing and follow all procedures described in the section above to transfer units from another ABA-accredited law school.

Students on "visiting away" status must complete all courses used to calculate the required course GPA at GGU, regardless of whether those courses are required at the host school. In extremely rare cases, Law Student Support may grant permission to take

required courses while visiting away. Required courses will not be waived simply because a student does not plan to take the California Bar Exam.

6. **Study Abroad Not Sponsored by an ABA-Accredited Law School**

In extremely rare cases, Golden Gate University students may receive approval to transfer units from a foreign law school that is not part of a program sponsored by an ABA-accredited law school. In these cases, the Director for Law Student Support must verify that the proposed course of study follows the guidelines in ABA Standard 307.

**O. TRANSFER AND VISITING STUDENTS AT GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY**

1. **Transfer Students**

Generally, Golden Gate University will only consider transfer applications from JD students who have completed at least one year of law school and who are currently attending and are in good standing at other ABA-accredited law schools. Exceptions for students who attended non-ABA accredited law schools which were approved by the State Bar of California's Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE) and exceptions to the requirement for current attendance may be made. If admitted, transfer students must provide complete syllabi (not just course descriptions) to Law Student Support at least two weeks before the first day of classes. The amount of credit transferred and whether the classes will satisfy GGU course requirements depend upon the grades earned (generally "C" and above) and whether the course is comparable to our curriculum.

A maximum of 43 hours of course credit from ABA-accredited schools or 29 hours of course credit from a CBE-accredited school may be transferred. If credit is not given and the course is required for graduation, the course must be re-taken at GGU. **Transferable units will be counted toward the total number of units required for graduation, but are not factored into the student's GPA.**

Students wishing to transfer into a GGU LLM program should consult the Graduate Law section of this *Handbook*.

2. **Visiting Students**

Students enrolled in other ABA-accredited law schools who wish to visit at GGU for 6 or fewer cumulative units are required to submit a letter of good standing from their home institution, complete a disciplinary history questionnaire, and agree to terms and conditions of the *GGU Law Student Handbook*. Prospective visitors should request for the Registrar at their home school to send a "Letter of Good Standing" to the GGU Registrar's Office. Prospective visitors may request the additional required forms from the GGU Registrar's Office.

Prospective visiting students who want to take more than 6 units should contact the [Law School Admissions Office](#) to apply for admitted visitor status. All visitors taking more than 6 units at GGU must have their schedules approved by a Law Student Support advisor prior to registering at Golden Gate University School of Law.

GGU reserves the right to deny admission to visiting students at any time.

Visitors seeking to enroll in courses with prerequisites must also provide proof of having completed equivalent courses, either by inclusion of a statement in the "Letter of Good

Standing” or by submission of an official transcript. These documents must be received before visitors will be allowed to register. Visitors seeking to enroll in LLM courses also must obtain the permission of the LLM Program Director.

Visitor registration begins one week before the start of the fall and spring semester. Earlier registration is available for the summer session. See the [Academic Calendar](#) to determine when visitor registration begins for each term. Visiting students may not register online using GGU4YOU. Instead, they must submit a [Registration Request](#) form.

During the fall and spring semesters, the law school participates in a consortium of five bay area law schools, including University of San Francisco, Santa Clara University, UC Davis, and UC Berkeley. Visitors from these schools seeking to take courses at GGU School of Law may submit a Consortium form in lieu of the "Letter of Good Standing" and tuition payment. The Consortium is not available during the summer session.

GGU transcripts for visiting students will not be automatically sent to their home schools. Instead, visitors must request copies of their transcripts from the [University Records Office](#) and pay for them to be sent, regardless of whether they are visiting from a Consortium school. Visitors should verify all of their grades have been recorded via [GGU4YOU](#) before submitting transcript requests.

Visiting students are subject to the terms of the *Student Handbook* in effect during their enrollment, including the Standards of Student Conduct. Visiting students may request a picture ID from the Registrar’s Office, which is necessary for obtaining access to the law library. Students visiting from outside of the Bay Area and who are enrolled in a minimum of 8 units during a fall and/or spring term are entitled to utilize Law Career Development.

## **P. CREDIT FOR NON-LAW COURSES**

After completing all first year courses, JD students may seek approval to enroll in up to 6 credits for non-law graduate level courses. The courses (1) must be related to the student’s course of law study; (2) must not duplicate courses offered by the law school; and (3) must not duplicate other undergraduate or graduate coursework the student has completed. Students must obtain prior written permission from the course instructor and the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support. Students enrolled in the JD/MBA or JD/PhD joint degree program may not receive credit for non-law courses beyond their joint degree program. Students must comply with the rules and procedures in the Transfer of Units section of this handbook. In addition, students must submit course syllabi as well as a written statement of how the course(s) will enhance their legal education.

## **Q. POLICY ON CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT**

JD students admitted to the School of Law are expected to pursue, without interruption, the complete course of study leading to the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence. Enrollment in the summer session is optional except for HLP and 1<sup>st</sup> STEP program students in their program summer and those in the first and second years of the part time program. If students are unable to complete a semester or are unable to return for the next regular semester, they must submit a request for a leave of absence, described below. Students who fail to complete all or a majority of the courses in which they are enrolled for a term may be administratively withdrawn from law school.



In addition, JD, LLM, and SJD students on F-1 or J-1 student visas are subject to Department of Homeland Security rules that require continuous enrollment. Visa holding students must seek academic advising and the approval of the School of Law Designated School Official (DSO) if, for any reason, they will not attend on a full-time basis during a regular fall or spring semester. Visa holding students are not required to attend law school during summer session, though they are permitted to do so. Failure to receive prior approval for non-enrollment can cause a student to fall out of status and be subject to deportation. More information can be found in the “International Students” section of this handbook.

## **R. LEAVES OF ABSENCE FOR JD STUDENTS**

If students are unable to complete a semester or are unable to return for the next regular semester, they must submit a [\*Request for Leave of Absence or Visit Away Status\*](#) form to the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support. A leave of absence will be granted only for expectant or new parents, exigent circumstances of a non-recurring nature, such as acute illness of oneself or a dependent, or for required military service; documentation is required. Leaves will typically not be granted for academic or financial reasons. Students are well advised to consult with Financial Aid regarding any impact this may have on their loan/scholarship eligibility.

The following rules apply to all leaves of absence for JD students. Except those who have student visas, LLM students are not required to be continuously enrolled.

1. Leaves of absence may be granted for one or two regular terms and may not be granted for a period longer than one academic year, except in exigent circumstances. The year begins from the start of the first term on leave. First year students granted leaves may be required to be on leave for a full year due to the year-long first year program. JD students are allowed to take only one leave of absence during their time at GGU School of Law. Once students register for courses at the end of their leaves, they have officially returned from leave.
2. In order to extend a leave of absence, students must submit written petitions for an extension to the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support **before** the expiration of their original leave. Students who wish to return to the School of Law before the expiration of their leave of absence must comply with the appropriate notice deadlines in the section below. Students who fail to provide timely written notice or to request an extension of a leave before the original leave expires may be denied permission to return to Golden Gate University and may be administratively withdrawn.
3. Students who receive permission to take a leave of absence in the middle of a term must complete the appropriate paperwork concerning the courses in which they are enrolled, in addition to completing the [\*Request for Leave of Absence or Visit Away Status\*](#). For each course, students must do one of the following: (1) complete the course requirements and earn credit or a grade; (2) withdraw from the course; or (3) request an incomplete grade. The Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support determines what options are available for which courses depending on students’ individual circumstances and the nature of each course and its place in the JD curriculum. Students should consult with a financial aid counselor regarding the impact of withdrawing or taking an incomplete grade in the middle of a term.



4. When students plan to return from a leave of absence, they should submit a [\*Notice of Intent to Return from Leave of Absence\*](#) to the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support by the start of priority registration for the term in which the student intends to return from leave. Delays in completing this step may affect the availability of courses and/or the timing of financial aid disbursements.

To be considered to have officially returned from leave, a student must complete registration (i.e., pay in full or make other arrangements to pay registration charges) by the last day of General Registration for that term. Students are well advised to consult with Financial Aid regarding deadlines for applying for aid.

5. All JD students returning from a leave of absence must receive approval of their schedules from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support before being permitted to register. The Associate Dean or Director also may require documentation to show that the conditions necessitating the leave (medical or otherwise) have been resolved.
6. JD students who have completed a minimum of two semesters and are on a leave of absence during the spring semester will be evaluated for academic standing following the completion of the first fall or spring semester back from leave.

## **S. WITHDRAWAL FROM JD PROGRAMS**

### **1. JD Students Who Voluntarily Withdraw**

JD students who decide for any reason to withdraw from the Law School must:

- a. Complete a [\*Withdrawal\*](#) form (available in the Registrar's Office) and participate in an exit interview with a Law Student Support advisor; and
- b. Participate in an exit interview with the Financial Aid Office and complete the Official Withdrawal Process. (See the "Withdrawal Tuition Credit and Refund Policies" section of this handbook for more information.)

### **2. JD Students Deemed to Have Withdrawn**

JD students who do not obtain an approved leave of absence will be deemed to have withdrawn from the School of Law if they do any of the following:

- a. Withdraw from all courses during any fall or spring semester and fail to complete the steps for voluntary withdrawal, above;
- b. Fail to enroll in the next succeeding fall or spring semester without securing approval for leave of absence or visiting away status; or
- c. Fail to enroll following the end date specified for any approved leave of absence or visiting away.

Students who are deemed to have withdrawn will be administratively withdrawn from the Law School, and notations will be made on their transcripts indicating administrative withdrawal.

### 3. **Effect of Withdrawal from the School of Law**

Students who voluntarily withdraw from the law school, or who are administratively withdrawn for any reason, must reapply for admission and be readmitted as entering first year students before they may enroll again in law school courses. Readmission of JD students who previously withdrew from Golden Gate is extremely unusual, and no assurances can be given that such students will be readmitted. Students who withdraw are encouraged to take a minimum of two years to resolve any issues which led to withdrawal or to prepare academically to succeed in law school. In most cases, JD students who are readmitted must restart their JD degree programs from the very beginning; units earned previously at GGU or other ABA-accredited law schools typically will not be applied toward graduation requirements. However, their prior academic history will continue to appear on their transcripts and will be considered in the review process for readmission to the law program. ABA Standard 311(b) mandates that a JD be completed no later than 84 months after a student has commenced law study at the law school or a law school from which the school has accepted transfer credit, except in extraordinary circumstances.

## **T. FULFILLING COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students are expected to complete all course requirements in a timely fashion. Except as provided below, each student enrolled in a course for which there is a final examination is required to take the examination at the time it is scheduled. If the course requirements include a paper, a series of papers, or reports, each student is required to submit such assignments at the time(s) specified by the instructor.

Students who do not take the final exam or who fail to complete all course requirements on time without first having officially withdrawn from the course, successfully petitioned for an incomplete, rescheduled the exam, or obtained permission for an extension of deadline, will receive a “WF” (Withdrew Failing) grade for the course, regardless of whether the student had elected to take the course CR/NC. For more information, see “Extension of Deadline to Complete Course Requirements” below and the “Examination Procedures” section of this handbook.

### 1. **Adding Courses after Registration**

Upper division JD and LLM students may add courses up until the published last day to add courses without instructor’s approval. After this date, upper division JD and LLM students may add a course only with the written permission of the instructor. **Any student found to be attending more than two class meetings of a course for which they are not registered may be considered in violation of the Standards of Student Conduct.**

### 2. **Withdrawal from (“Dropping”) Courses**

Withdrawal from a course (commonly known as “dropping a course”) is official once the Registrar’s Office has been notified. Notification may be made electronically by “dropping” a course online via GGU4YOU or by submitting a [Registration Request](#). Oral notification is insufficient. Written notifications may be delivered in person, by standard mail, by fax, or by email. Email must originate from the student’s email address on record with the Registrar’s Office. The date the written notice is received by the Registrar’s Office will be the official date of withdrawal. Students should refer to the Law School’s Withdrawal Tuition Credit Policy and the Academic Calendar to determine the effect of withdrawals on their accounts.

a. **Permission to Withdraw**

First year JD students may withdraw from courses only with the permission of the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support, and only in exigent circumstances. With the exception of the Lawyering Electives, absent exigent circumstances, first year JD students are prohibited from switching course sections.

Upper division JD students on academic supervision or academic probation must obtain permission for any changes to their schedule from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support. Withdrawal will be subject to normal tuition forfeiture policies. Students must complete Appellate Advocacy, Constitutional Law I and Constitutional Law II during their second year and may not withdraw from those courses without permission from Law Student Support. All other upper division JD students may withdraw from upper division courses without permission for any reason until the end of instruction. Students cannot “drop” courses online via GGU4YOU after the end of the second week of the term, but instead must submit a [Registration Request](#) form to withdraw from courses.

Students wishing to withdraw from courses after the end of instruction also must obtain the approval of the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support or their LLM Program Director, depending on their academic program. Upon approval, students may withdraw from exam-graded courses until the last business day before the exam, and from non-exam-graded courses until the last business day before all work upon which the student will be graded is due.

b. **Withdrawal Notations on Transcripts**

The Registrar’s Office will record “W” (Withdrawal) grades on students’ transcripts for courses from which students withdraw after the “drop” deadline (the end of the second week of the term). The Registrar’s Office will record “WF” (Withdrew Failing) grades for courses from which students do not withdraw by the deadlines stated above and which are not completed or approved for incomplete grades. “WF” grades count as “F” grades in GPA calculations.

Students must obtain approval from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support before registering for a course in which they previously received a “W” or “WF” notation on their transcripts.

c. **International Students**

International students with F-1 or J-1 visas may not drop below full-time status without the approval of an international student adviser. Full-time status is defined as eight (8) semester units for LLM students and twelve (12) semester units for JD students in the fall or spring semesters. The summer term is considered a “vacation term,” and no minimum enrollment is required.

## U. INCOMPLETE COURSE ATTEMPTS

Where circumstances prevent students from completing the requirements of a course in a timely manner, the students may request an Incomplete grade by submission of the *Petition for Incomplete Course Attempt* form. The rules governing Incomplete grades vary depending on the type of course, as described below. Note that Incomplete grades may have an impact on students’ financial aid and eligibility for Dean’s List.

1. **Extension of Deadline for Independent Study and Externship Courses**

Students who are unable to complete externship hours or their Independent Study papers before the last day of the final exam period may seek a revised deadline directly from the instructor. Students must submit the [Petition for Incomplete Course Attempt](#), including the instructor's signature and the revised due date, to the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support **prior to the last day of the final exam period**. The *Petition* must be approved by Law Student Support, and students are well advised to consult with LSS as soon as they realize that they might not finish on time. Students must be able to articulate compelling reasons for the inability to complete the course requirements in a timely fashion.

If a student receives a revised due date to complete course requirements during the term after which the student intends to graduate, the student must resolve the incomplete course by January 15 for fall; June 15 for spring; and September 15 for summer.

By the revised due date, the student must:

- (a) complete all course requirements; or
- (b) secure permission from LSS to extend the incomplete; or
- (c) withdraw from the course.

Failure to do so may result in a "WF" (Withdraw/Failing) grade for the course.

The incomplete course is deemed to be resolved when the instructor submits the final grade to the Registrar's Office.

If a [Petition for Incomplete Course Attempt](#) in an independent study or externship course is denied, students have the right to withdraw from the course up until the last business day before all work upon which students will be graded is due. The withdrawal will be subject to normal tuition forfeiture policies.

2. **Extension of Deadline for Classroom Courses Without a Proctored Final Exam**

All papers, series of papers, assignments, or take home finals must be completed and submitted at the time specified by the instructor, which is no later than the last day of the final exam period, according to the academic calendar, for the term in which the student is to receive credit. Students unable to fulfill the course requirements prior to the last day of the final exam period must secure approval for a revised due date from the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support **before the assignment is due**. Such extensions of deadline will be granted only for **documented exigent circumstances**, *i.e.*, circumstances beyond the student's control, such as illness of oneself or a dependent. **Students may not request from the instructor a revised due date for after the last day of the final exam period**. The Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support may consult with the instructor of the course and will inform the student of the decision. If the instructor or Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support determines that exigent circumstances exist but that an extension of deadline is inappropriate in a particular case, the student may be granted an Incomplete grade with permission to re-enroll in the course. This Incomplete grade will be subject to the applicable rules specified below for Incomplete grades in courses which have a proctored final exam.

If a student receives an extension of deadline to complete course requirements during the term after which the student intends to graduate, the student must resolve the incomplete course by January 15 for fall; June 15 for spring; and September 15 for summer.

By the revised due date, the student must:

- (a) complete all course requirements; or
- (b) secure permission from the Director for Law Student Support or LLM Program Director to extend the incomplete; or
- (c) withdraw from the course.

Failure to do so may result in a “WF” (Withdrew Failing) grade for the course.

The incomplete course is deemed to be resolved when the instructor submits the final grade to the Registrar’s Office.

If a petition for an incomplete grade in a course without a proctored final exam is denied, students have the right to withdraw from the course up until the last business day before all work upon which students will be graded is due. The withdrawal will be subject to normal tuition forfeiture policies.

**3. Incompletes for Courses Which Have a Proctored Final Exam**

- a. Approval for incomplete course attempts is granted only for **exigent circumstances**, which must be documented and attached to the [\*Petition for Incomplete Course Attempt\*](#). JD students must obtain the signature of the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support. The Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support may consult with the instructor of the course and will inform the student of the decision. Incompletes in courses with a proctored exam are granted with permission to re-enroll only, not for an extended deadline. (See Examination Procedures, below, regarding the limited circumstances under which a student may be eligible to reschedule a final exam. All exams for a term must be administered by the last day of the examination period for the term.)
- b. The [\*Petition for Incomplete Course Attempt\*](#) must be submitted by the date of the last class meeting. However, a *Petition* may not be submitted after all work upon which students will be graded is due. Failure to request an incomplete by the appropriate date results in an automatic waiver of the right to request an incomplete.
- c. Students do not receive a refund of tuition for a course in which they receive an incomplete grade, but in most cases do not have to pay again upon re-enrollment. See below for re-enrollment information.
- d. If a *Petition* for an incomplete in a course with a proctored final exam is denied, students have the right to withdraw from courses up until the last business day before the exam. The withdrawal will be subject to normal tuition forfeiture policies.
- e. If students wish to request a second incomplete grade for the same course, a new [\*Petition for Incomplete Course Attempt\*](#) form must be submitted. If students’ subsequent petitions are denied, they may re-enroll in the course but will be subject to the tuition rate in effect at the time of re-enrollment.

**4. Re-enrollment to Resolve an Incomplete**

- a. Students who intend to resolve an incomplete grade in a course with a proctored final exam should not register for the course but should submit a [\*Notice of Intent to Complete Course\*](#) to the Registrar’s Office. This form should be submitted during the time period for which the student is eligible to register for courses for that term. Note

that students are not guaranteed enrollment if their preferred sections already are full. Where appropriate, the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support may require re-enrollment with a different instructor from the original course attempt. Students who have received an incomplete grade more than once for the same non-required course may be required to resolve the incomplete with an alternate course.

- b. In most cases, students are not charged tuition upon re-enrollment when completing an Incomplete. Students who are only re-enrolling in courses for which they were granted an incomplete and not in any new courses will be charged the fees for the term, but no tuition. Students must advise the Financial Aid Office when they are re-enrolling for a course. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with the Financial Aid Office regarding the impact that re-enrollment may have on their financial aid.
- c. All incomplete courses must be completed within one academic year of the end of the initial course. For example, an incomplete course initially attempted in the fall term must be completed by the last day of the exam period of the following fall term. If a student fails to resolve an incomplete course within this time frame, or fails to secure an extension of the deadline, the incomplete may automatically convert to a notation of “WF” for “Withdrew/Failing.”
- d. The law school does not guarantee that every course will be offered every academic year, so re-enrollment may not be an option. The deadline to resolve an incomplete course may be extended by the Director for Law Student Support if a student is unable to re-enroll in the course because it is not offered or there is no space available prior to the expiration of the incomplete grade. See below for completion deadlines.
- e. Course Substitution: In limited circumstances, the student may seek written approval from the Director for Law Student Support to substitute another course of equal or less unit value. If the substitute course is of less value than the original course, the student is not entitled to a refund of tuition.
- f. Upon re-enrollment in a classroom course, the student must comply with all course requirements as established by the instructor, including attendance and assignments. In other words, the student is ‘starting over,’ regardless of when, during the original term, the incomplete was granted.
- g. Notation on Transcript: When the *Notice of Intent to Complete Course* form is received by the Registrar’s Office, the student will be enrolled in the new course attempt subject to seat availability, and the incomplete grade for the original attempt permanently will be changed from an “I” for “Incomplete” to a “W” for “Withdrawn.” When the instructor reports a final grade, it will be recorded for the term during which the student completes the course. If a student fails to resolve an incomplete course within the relevant time frame, secure an extension of the deadline or withdraw from the course, the incomplete may automatically convert to a notation of “WF” for “Withdrew/Failing.”

## **V. EXAMINATION PROCEDURES**

The School of Law strives to create an environment that will prepare students to sit successfully for a bar examination. Proctored exams are administered by the Exam

Coordinator, who is part of Law Student Support (LSS). The Exam Coordinator can be reached at [lawexam@ggu.edu](mailto:lawexam@ggu.edu) or 415-369-5201.

1. **Standards of Conduct**

Every student is required to act with honesty and integrity in regard to all academic matters in the School of Law. At a minimum, this means that a student shall not give, accept, or utilize any assistance in examinations or written work that has not been specifically authorized by the instructor for the particular course. **Students must not attempt to contact instructors about the exam, grades, or their performance in the class, or in any other way influence grading between the administration of an exam and the posting of final grades for the course. Students also must not attempt to contact instructors regarding requests to reschedule their exams.** All questions regarding reschedules for proctored exams must be directed to the Exam Coordinator. For more information, see the “Standards of Student Conduct” section of this *Handbook*.

2. **Failure to Take Exams**

A student who fails to take an exam at the scheduled time without contacting the Exam Coordinator, Associate Dean, or Director for Law Student Support in advance may receive a “WF” (Withdrawn Failing) in that course, even if the student had elected to take the course Credit/No Credit.

A student who decides not to take some or all exams and chooses to withdraw from the School of Law, should immediately contact the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support . Completion of the appropriate paperwork in a timely manner will keep a “WF” grade from appearing on a student’s law school transcript. For more information, see the “Fulfilling Course Requirements” section of this Handbook.

3. **Exam Accommodations**

For information on exam accommodations for students with disabilities, see “Policy and Procedures for the Provision of Services to Students with Disabilities” in this handbook. Students with approved exam accommodations requesting an exam reschedule should submit an [\*Exam Reschedule Petition\*](#) to Law Student Support by the stated deadline.

LLM and SJD students who seek exam accommodations for language should consult their Program Director and submit the language accommodation form by the stated deadline.

4. **Grading Anonymity**

Exam numbers are the exclusive means of identification used on proctored exams and other anonymously graded work. Names, social security numbers, student ID numbers, or any other means of identification should not be written on exams or blue books under any circumstances. A student who attempts to identify him/herself by means of personal information, notes, or images in exams or blue books, or by contacting instructors before grades are recorded, will be considered in violation of the Standards of Student Conduct. Students may not write any personal notes (e.g., “Great class”) in their exams.

5. **Exam Numbers**

In order to provide anonymous grading of examinations and papers, every student attending the School of Law is assigned a **different exam number each term**. Students must remove or obscure their exam number from midterm exams prior to reviewing them



with their instructors to ensure that the number remains confidential. **Faculty members do not have access to student examination numbers at any time.** In courses where exam numbers are not used, such as some writing courses, seminars, and clinics, work is to be submitted to the instructor by name.

Exam numbers are available on GGU4YOU within 24 hours following a student's registration for a given term. Students also will need their exam numbers to claim graded exams and/or final papers after the end of the term.

Students are responsible for maintaining the anonymity of their exam numbers. Students are not to share their exam numbers with any faculty member or any other student for any reason. Students who are found to have disclosed their exam numbers to a faculty member before grades have been posted or who share their numbers with another student or students before the end of the term may be referred to the Assistant Director of Student Conduct and Professionalism for disciplinary action. A student who believes his or her anonymity has been compromised must promptly contact the Registrar's Office to report the issue.

#### 6. **ExamSoft Policies and Procedures**

Absent approved accommodations or documented mechanical failure, all students are required to take exams on their personal laptops, using ExamSoft software. This includes exams that are fully multiple-choice. ExamSoft information and communications will be sent to students at the email address on file with the Registrar. It is each student's responsibility to confirm that this address is working and correct. For questions or technical assistance, contact the Exam Coordinator at 415-369-5201 or [lawexam@ggu.edu](mailto:lawexam@ggu.edu).

Certain computers may not be compatible with ExamSoft. Students should review the Minimum System Requirements at [www.ExamSoft.com/ggulaw](http://www.ExamSoft.com/ggulaw). In addition to these minimum requirements, a student's laptop also MUST be able to connect to the Golden Gate University's wireless network. All ExamSoft technical questions should be directed to ExamSoft Technical Support at (866) 429-8889. Questions regarding network connectivity should be directed to the Information Technology Services (ITS) at [help@ggu.edu](mailto:help@ggu.edu).

The use of parallels or other virtual machines is strictly prohibited.

Students must download, install, register, and complete a mock exam on ExamSoft's SofTest software prior to arrival in the examination room. Each student using ExamSoft is responsible for ensuring that ExamSoft functions properly on his or her computer. Students who have not successfully installed ExamSoft on their laptops or **who are unable to reach a "STOP" screen by five minutes prior to the commencement of the exam must handwrite their exams.** A student found to have deliberately prevented the successful installation and use of ExamSoft for the purpose of being allowed to handwrite their exam may be considered in violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

**If for any reason, ExamSoft or a student's computer malfunctions during an exam, the student will be required to hand write the remainder of the exam using blue books.** The student should write "continued from ExamSoft" on the first page of the first blue book. No extra time will be given for computer and/or software related problems.



If ExamSoft experiences a catastrophic error that results in the loss of exam files, the affected student(s), at the discretion of the instructor and/or the Associate Dean for Law Student Support, must re-take an exam for the course.

Students are responsible for downloading the exam file prior to the start of the exam and uploading their exam file after the exam has ended. Students are strongly encouraged to upload the exam file before leaving the exam room. **Students are required to upload their exam file within 24 hours after the exam start time.** The status of upload and confirmation of successful upload can be viewed at [www.examssoft.com/ggulaw](http://www.examssoft.com/ggulaw). Students who fail to upload their exam file within 24 hours may receive a “WF” (Withdrew/Failing) for the course. Any attempt to disable or tamper with SofTest’s security features will be considered a violation of the Standards of Student Conduct.

Students must not delete the exam file from their laptops until grades have been posted. Students who delete exam files without ensuring that the University has received the exam may receive a “WF” in that course. It is the responsibility of students to ensure that the exam has been received by the University.

#### 7. **Exam Dates and Rooms**

The initial exam schedule is published in the Course Schedule section of the website for that term. **Exam dates may subsequently change. If so, notice will be given in *Law School News*.** Because exam dates may change, students are advised to plan to be available for the full examination period as indicated on the Academic Calendar.

The exam schedule for each semester is available on the Registrar’s webpage under “Exam Procedures” and “Course Schedules” throughout the semester. Please note that the posted exam schedule is the official schedule and it may differ from what was posted at the start of the semester. Students are advised to double-check their exam dates and times just before the exam period begins.

Generally, exams during the final exam period begin at 9 am, 2 pm, or 6:30 pm, and can be scheduled during the week and/or on Saturday and Sunday. Exams are usually three hours in duration, but may be shorter or longer, as determined by the professor.

Exam rooms will not be listed on the exam schedule. On the date of the exam, room locations will be posted in the second and third floor lobbies. Exams are often not in the same room where the class was held. Students may be combined with other sections or courses within one exam room.

#### 8. **Exam Dates and Times for Accommodated and Rescheduled Exams**

The School of Law reserves the right to set rescheduled exams to begin at any time during the exam period. A makeup exam originally scheduled to start in the evening may be rescheduled during the day, and vice versa.

An accommodated exam for disability or language is usually scheduled on the same day as the regular exam, but may be scheduled on another date and may begin or end at any time the building is open. An accommodated exam may begin earlier or later than the normally scheduled exam.

## 9. Exam Rescheduling

### a. Rescheduling Proctored Exams in Advance

Students who need an advance rescheduling of examinations must submit an [Exam Reschedule Petition](#) with appropriate documentation to the Exam Coordinator by the deadline stated on the form. A reschedule will be approved **under the following circumstances only**:

- i. A student has two School of Law examinations that are scheduled to start within a 23-hour period (not including take home exams, midterms, or final projects/presentations);
- ii. A student has three School of Law examinations on three consecutive days (not including take home exams or final projects/presentations);
- iii. A student's religious beliefs prohibit the taking of an examination at the scheduled time; or
- iv. A student's participation in a Law School competition or course work for which the student is receiving academic credit directly conflicts with the examination.

Exams will **not** be rescheduled for vacations, airplane tickets, family events, business conflicts, or conferences. Exceptions to this policy *might* be granted (with timely and appropriate documentation) for the wedding of an immediate family member (parent, sibling, or child) *if* the student has a role in the ceremony *and* the student has a direct time conflict. Exceptions may also be considered for documented, unavoidable work conflicts for part-time JD or LLM students.

If an exam reschedule is approved, the Exam Coordinator will determine which exam to move. If more than one exam is rescheduled, the exams normally are kept in the same order. Students will not be allowed to choose which exams are rescheduled or when the rescheduled exam will take place.

**Students are prohibited from discussing exam reschedule requests with their instructors or fellow students.** All exam reschedule requests or questions must be directed to the Exam Coordinator.

### b. Rescheduling Proctored Exams Due to Emergencies

A student who becomes ill, injured, or is otherwise suddenly unable to take an exam on the scheduled date must notify the Exam Coordinator by phone at 415-369-5201 or email to [lawexam@ggu.edu](mailto:lawexam@ggu.edu) **before the start of the exam** and must provide a detailed message. Students are prohibited from discussing emergency exam reschedule requests with their instructors. All emergency exam rescheduling requests or questions must be directed to the Exam Coordinator.

Rescheduled exams must be completed by the end of the exam period at a time determined by the Exam Coordinator.

**A student whose exam is rescheduled due to an emergency must submit appropriate, contemporaneous supporting documentation prior to the rescheduled exam.** If an exam is rescheduled due to a medical emergency, documentation from a licensed health care provider qualified to diagnose the medical issue must be submitted. The documentation must specify that the student was seen by the health care provider on or just before the original exam date and that the

student was physically unable to take the exam at the scheduled time. The health care provider providing the documentation cannot be a relative of the student or the student him/herself. A student who fails to provide documentation or whose documentation proves unsatisfactory or untimely will be considered to have failed to take the exam and may be awarded a grade of “WF.”

All students are bound by the Standards of Student Conduct in this *Handbook*, which includes provisions regarding exams. Once an exam has been rescheduled, the new exam date will not be changed except in extraordinary circumstances. In extraordinary circumstances, the Associate Dean for Law Student Support has the discretion to require that a rescheduled examination be graded on a credit/no credit basis, or that the student’s grade be lowered by up to three grade levels (e.g., “B” to “C”).

Exceptions to this emergency rescheduling policy *might* be granted under the following circumstances:

- (i.) Funeral of an immediate family member (spouse/partner, parent, sibling, child) AND the student has a direct time conflict; or
- (ii.) Life threatening emergency of a spouse/partner, parent, sibling, or child.

c. **Rescheduling Anonymously Graded Take-Home Exams Due to Emergencies.**

A student who becomes ill, injured, or is otherwise suddenly unable to turn in an anonymously graded take-home exam by the deadline must notify the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support by phone at 415-442-6615 or by email at [lawstudentsupport@ggu.edu](mailto:lawstudentsupport@ggu.edu) **before the deadline** and must provide a detailed message. Students are prohibited from discussing emergency exam reschedule requests with their instructors or other students.

The Associate Dean or Director will contact the instructor without revealing the identity of the student to determine if an extended deadline is possible and, if so, what the new deadline should be. If granted, the Associate Dean or Director will work with the student and Faculty Assistant to arrange for submission of the exam in a way that protects the student’s anonymity. **The student will be required to submit appropriate, contemporaneous supporting documentation to the Associate Dean or Director prior to the rescheduled deadline.**

All exams must be completed by the end of the exam period as set forth in the Academic Calendar. If the extended deadline is denied or the emergency situation won’t allow the student to complete the exam before the end of the exam period, the Associate Dean or Director may allow the student to withdraw or take an incomplete in the course pursuant to the relevant policies on withdrawals and incomplete course attempts above.

d. **Failure to Sit for an Exam**

Failure to sit for an exam without advance approval may result in a “WF” grade for the course. A student who begins, but cannot or does not complete an exam, will not be allowed to complete the exam at a later time nor be given a different exam in that course for that exam period.

In some emergency situations, a student may be allowed to receive an Incomplete grade in the course by obtaining the approval of the Associate Dean for Law Student

Support. Appropriate documentation is required whenever exams are rescheduled or Incomplete grades are granted.

## 10. Exam Day Procedures

### a. **Items Required and Allowed in the Exam Room**

Students must bring a photo ID (student ID card or a government ID) and their own writing instruments (pens, pencils, highlighters, etc.) to the exam room. Proctors will not have writing instruments to lend out. Students are also permitted to bring a beverage and a watch to the exam. If the watch is digital the student must ensure that no alarms will sound during the exam.

For “closed book” exams, students will be instructed to leave personal belongings, books, notes, etc. in their locker when possible. All personal belongings brought to the exam room will be directed to a location in the room designated by the exam proctor, usually the front of the room. For “open book” exams, students may keep specified materials to refer to at their desks; however, backpacks, etc., must be left in the student’s locker or at the front of the exam room, or in a location designated by the proctor. If books, notes, etc. are found in the hallway or other unauthorized locations, they will be destroyed, and students will be subject to discipline under the Standards of Student Conduct.

If the exam allows calculators, only simple five function calculators are acceptable. Programmable calculators, cell phone calculators, laptop calculators, etc. are not allowed in the exam room.

### b. **Items Prohibited in the Exam Room**

Students are prohibited from having cellular phones, pagers, or any other electronic devices, including Apple iWatch, Google Glass, or other “smart” devices, on their person during an exam. All electronic devices brought into an exam room must be powered off and placed at the front of the exam room (or the location indicated by the proctor) for the duration of any exam. Any electronic devices found in the exam room that are not in the proper location and/or that are not powered off may be confiscated. Any student who keeps such a device in their possession or fails to turn off such a device during an exam will be subject to disciplinary action, including confiscation of the device, and/or their exam.

### c. **Arrival**

To ensure the smooth commencement of exams, students must arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the exam start time to set up their computers for use with ExamSoft. Students must be present and at the “STOP” screen of the software a minimum of 5 minutes prior to the start time of their exam. Any student who does not arrive in the room or whose computer is not at the “STOP” screen at least 5 minutes before the start of an exam (as determined by the proctor) may be required to handwrite the exam.

Upon arriving in the exam room, each student must check in with the proctor by showing his or her ID. Students should leave every other seat empty where possible.

Between arrival and the start of the exam instructions, students are free to leave the exam room to review notes, etc.

d. **Commencement of Exams**

Students should write their exam numbers on the exam as soon as the exam begins. Exam number, course, instructor, and semester should be written on all blue books and multiple choice answer sheets, if applicable. Under no circumstances should students write their name or a message to the instructor on exams or blue books, as such an act could result in disciplinary action. **No extra time will be given at the end of the exam to write exam numbers on any of the exam materials, and students who write after time is called, even if writing only their exam number, will be subject to discipline under the Standards of Student Conduct.**

Before starting the exam, students should review the entire exam to make sure that all pages are in order and none are missing. In addition, students should check for two-sided copying. Students must notify the exam proctor immediately if there are any problems.

e. **Questions During an Exam**

Students may not speak during an exam. If a question arises during an exam, students should give the exam proctor a note with the exact question written down. The Associate Dean for Law Student Support and, if necessary, the instructor will be contacted if needed. The response will either be communicated to the student with the question or, if the information affects all students, an announcement will be written on the whiteboard at the front of the room.

f. **Breaks During Exams**

Students may take a brief break during the exam, but must turn their exam materials face down and/or cover their laptop screen before leaving the room. Students must sign out and back in on the check-out sheet on the exam room door. Students are not permitted to leave the building, go to a different floor, or access personal belongings during their exam.

g. **Official Time Keeping for Exam Rooms**

Each exam room will have one designated official clock. The exam will begin at the start time shown on the official clock. Students should synchronize their watches with the official clock, in case the official clock is not visible to every student in the exam room.

h. **Late Arrivals to Exams**

Students who arrive up to fifteen minutes late for an exam (as determined by the proctor) will be allowed to sign in and start the exam at that time. **Late students will not be allowed to use ExamSoft and must handwrite the exam. There will be no extension of time for students who arrive late.** If the first portion of the exam is collected after a specified time, students who arrive late also will have to turn in that portion of the exam at that time. The exam will end at the same time for all students.

Students who arrive more than fifteen minutes after the start of an exam (as determined by the proctor) will not be seated for the exam. If this occurs, a student must contact the Exam Coordinator, who will alert the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support to determine when, if, and under what terms the exam is to

be rescheduled. The Associate Dean may decide to reschedule the exam later the same day, move the exam to another day during the exam period, not allow the student to take the exam, allow the student to take the exam with the time remaining, or allow the student to take the exam but with a grade reduction.

**Failure to contact the Exam Coordinator, lack of a valid reason for tardiness (as determined by the Associate Dean for Law Student Support), or inability to supply documentation may result in a “WF” grade for the course.**

i. **Conclusion of Exams**

Students must write their exam number, course name, and instructor on all blue book covers before the end of the exam is announced. When the exam proctor calls “time,” students must stop writing or typing, and close their blue books or exit ExamSoft.

The proctor will approach each student and make sure all exam materials have been returned. The proctor will document the use of ExamSoft or record the number of blue books used, and will initial the sign-out sheet. Students should review the information recorded by the proctor to ensure it is correct before signing the sign-out sheet. In a large class, this process can take up to twenty minutes. Students are asked to be patient during the sign out process and remain seated; the proctors know the students are anxious to leave the exam room and will work as quickly as possible.

Students who complete the exam earlier than the ten minute warning may walk up to the proctor to check out. Students who complete the exam after the ten minute warning must remain seated and wait for time to be called and the proctor to check them out.

11. **Post Exam Procedures**

a. **Discussion of Exams**

Since exams are rescheduled for a variety of reasons, and may be administered throughout the exam period, **students must not discuss an exam with another student or group of students until they confirm that the other student(s) have already taken the exam. Students are advised to be mindful of this consideration when posting to social networking sites, texting, or otherwise addressing groups of their peers.**

Students who are taking a rescheduled exam are forbidden to access information about the exam contents electronically or in person and must not discuss the exam or the course itself with any other student **until they have completed the exam and confirmed that the other student also has taken the exam.**

b. **Claiming Graded Exams, Final Papers, and Multiple Choice Score Reports**

Proctored essay exams may be picked up after the end of the term by submitting a [\*Blue Book Claim Form\*](#) to the Exam Coordinator. However, students in LLM Tax courses may only view those exams by contacting the Graduate Law department at 415-442-6604. Students may not keep LLM Tax exams, nor make copies. Take-home exams, final papers, and other non-proctored final projects, if available, may be collected from the course professor or faculty assistants after grades are posted for the term.

Graded exams, papers, etc., for a term will not be available until all of the grades have been recorded for that term. A date for the start of distribution of graded coursework will be announced when grades are in for the term. They will be available for pick up from an easily accessible location within the law school on the announced date, or one week after the form is submitted, whichever is later. Students will be asked to present a photo ID card before the graded course work or score reports will be released. Incomplete or illegible request forms may take longer to process.

Graded course work must be claimed in person by the student to whom they belong. They will not be mailed to students except under extraordinary circumstances and with the approval of Law Student Support. Blue books not claimed within one year of the completion of the term will be destroyed.

Multiple choice score reports provide information pertaining to the raw score and questions answered incorrectly. Students may view their multiple choice reports via the ExamSoft website upon notification from the Exam Coordinator that grades have been posted. The multiple choice questions and answers will not be available to students through this process. Students who wish to discuss multiple choice exam questions and answers should contact the professor directly after the grades for the course have been posted.

**c. Past Essay Questions and Sample Essays on Reserve**

Most essay questions are put on reserve in the Library after grades are recorded and graded exams are made available to students. In addition, each instructor generally designates the best student essay to be placed on reserve along with the question. Rather than submit a student essay, the instructor may provide an outline or draft of his or her own essay. Students are encouraged to review the questions and answers for their course, both from their own and other instructors' past exams. Multiple choice questions and short answer questions are not put on reserve.

## **W. GRADE NOTIFICATION**

The Registrar's Office begins recording grades in the student information system after the end of the exam period. First year grades are not recorded until all instructors for all sections have submitted their grade rosters to the Registrar's Office. Once grades are recorded, students may view them on GGU4YOU. Grades will **not** be released to students over the telephone. Grade reports will not be automatically mailed to students but are available upon request by emailing [lawreg@ggu.edu](mailto:lawreg@ggu.edu). Grade reports also may be held for students to pick-up at the Registrar's Office. Reports will be mailed or be made available for pick-up one business day following receipt of the request.

Grades are recorded section by section as the instructors submit their grade rosters. Larger sections generally take more time to grade—sometimes a month or more. If a student is graduating, and his or her grades are needed to certify him or her for a bar exam, the Registrar's Office will contact that student's professors to alert them to the urgency of submitting the grades for that course section and will obtain a temporary "CR" grade if necessary in order to certify the student, as long as there are no conduct issues pending.

Students will receive one of the following grades for each course in which they are enrolled: (1) a letter grade; (2) "CR" (Credit) or "NC" (No Credit); (3) "I" (Incomplete); (4) "W"

(Withdrawn); (5) or “WF” (Withdraw/Failing). “WF” grades are assigned when a student fails to withdraw from the course before the published deadline. “WF” grades are assigned whether or not a student elected credit/no credit, or if the course was graded on a credit/no credit basis.

## **X. GRADE CHANGES**

Although instructors are encouraged to review exam answers with their students for educational purposes, the instructor is not permitted to change a grade after its submission to the Registrar because of a substantive re-evaluation of the quality of an exam, paper or work in a clinic. An instructor may change a grade after its submission to the registrar **only** if the grade was incorrect because of a mathematical or clerical error by the instructor. Any grade change request must be initiated by the instructor, who can request the appropriate form from the Registrar’s Office.

The determination of the grade assigned to each student will be made by the instructor for each course, and his or her determination is final. However, if the Academic Standards Committee determines that the exam, assignments, exercises or clinical work on which the grade is based or its administration was unfair or improper, it may direct the Registrar to change a grade. Requests to the Academic Standards Committee (other than petitions for reinstatement) must be submitted within 60 days of receipt of the grade, conclusion of the course, or receipt of information that raises a question about a grade or course.

## **Y. DEAN’S LIST**

The Dean’s List is intended to recognize law students who perform at a superior level. The Dean’s List is compiled for the fall and spring semesters and the summer session. The eligibility rules below apply to both semester and session academic periods.

To be named to the Dean’s List, students must complete the specified minimum number of units and must achieve a 3.0 or higher grade point average for the term. Students who complete 10 or more units for a term must complete at least 8 letter-graded units. Students who complete fewer than 10 units for the term must complete at least 8 units, of which 6 must be letter-graded units. The determination of which eligibility rule applies is based on the student’s enrollment for the term, not whether the student is enrolled in a full or part-time program.

Students also must have no Incomplete, “NC,” or “NR” grades for the term to be eligible for Dean’s List. If one or more of a student’s grades is changed at a later date, such as having resolved an Incomplete, and the student wishes to be re-evaluated for Dean’s List, the student should contact the Registrar’s Office.

Only GGU law school units are included in the Dean’s List determination for joint degree students. Units taken at other schools or through study abroad programs are not included in the calculation of Dean’s List eligibility.

A notation will appear on the official transcripts of students named to the Dean’s List. After the end of the term, names of award winners may be posted in *Law School News* and on the Law School’s website. Students who have requested non-disclosure of directory information (see the FERPA section of this *Handbook*) will not appear on the published Dean’s List, but a



notation will be made on their transcripts. Students may not note “Dean’s List” on their resumes until they receive official notification from the law school of this achievement.

## **Z. WITKIN & CALI AWARDS**

The Witkin Award may be given in any letter-graded JD course with an enrollment of ten or more students. Nominations for this award are given at the discretion of the instructor and are based on the highest letter grade in the course. In the event of a tie for the highest grade, the instructor should select a single winner by considering other factors that the instructor feels warrant special recognition, such as extraordinary class participation or special contributions made to the class by a student.

The CALI (Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction) Award may be given, at the discretion of the instructor, to one or two students in each JD course. CALI Awards may be given in small courses and/or courses graded credit/no credit. The CALI Award is given to the most outstanding student(s) in the class, which may be determined by academic achievement, class participation, special contributions made to the class by students, or other appropriate factors as determined by the instructor. Instructors are encouraged to award the Witkin and CALI Awards to different students.

Students who are nominated for a Witkin or CALI award will receive certificates in the mail within three to four months. In addition, a notation will appear on students’ transcripts. After the end of the term, award winners may be posted in *Law School News* and on the Law School’s Web site.

Students who have requested non-disclosure of directory information (see the FERPA section of this handbook), will not have their names be posted on any award lists. A notation will, however, be made on their transcripts.

## **AA. JD CLASS RANK**

The Registrar ranks continuing students twice a year after both the fall and spring semesters based on their cumulative GPA. The purpose of ranking first and second year students is to approximate students’ final graduating class rank. All matriculated JD students with active degree programs at the time of the ranking are ranked. Students who were not enrolled in courses in the most recent semester, but are otherwise active in their programs, such as HLP and JD/PhD students and those on approved leaves, are ranked. December graduates are ranked following the fall semester, despite having graduated, in order to give them a more accurate rank prior to their final graduating class rank (see below). Students who were academically disqualified with no immediate right to petition for reinstatement and those who withdrew from the law school prior to ranking are not ranked. First-year first-semester students who withdrew from the semester, or took leaves of absence before the semester’s examination period, are not ranked.

The Registrar sends notices to continuing students of their class rank to their email addresses on record. Class rank will not be released to students in person or over the telephone but can be obtained by sending an email message to [lawreg@ggu.edu](mailto:lawreg@ggu.edu) from the student’s email address on record. Class rank is calculated once at the end of each semester. Class rank is not recalculated for continuing students based on some students withdrawing from the law school after the ranking is prepared. Class rank will be recalculated upon request if students receive grade changes.

After the fall semester, students are ranked in three groups: (1) first semester students; (2) the rest of the continuing students who are not part of the current academic year's graduating class; and (3) the current academic year's graduating class members (including December graduates). After the spring semester, students are ranked in two groups: (1) the prior August matriculated students; and (2) all other continuing students. See below regarding Graduating Class Rank.

### **Graduating Class Rank**

A graduating class consists of those who earn their degrees in December, May, and July of the same academic year. Following the release of final grades for summer graduates, the Registrar will complete a graduating class ranking of all graduates in the class. (See Section EE. below for more information.) The graduating class is not ranked following the spring semester. Members of the graduating class should continue to use their final fall semester rank until their graduating class rank is provided. Since the graduating class rank includes the students who graduate after the summer session, the ranking usually is not determined until late September.

Since LLM students are not graded under the same standards as JD students, their GPAs are not comparable. Therefore, LLM students are not ranked.

Students may not note their class rank on their resumes until they receive official notification from the law school. Students may never 'round up' their class rank.

## **BB. RETAKING COURSES**

Students are not permitted to retake courses unless instructed to do so by the Academic Standards Committee or LLM Program Director. Students who receive "F" (Failing) or "WF" (Withdrew Failing) grades in required courses are placed on academic probation and required by the Academic Standards Committee to repeat those classes. The Academic Standards Committee may require students whose GPAs place them on academic supervision or probation to retake courses in which they performed poorly, as determined by the Committee. Students who retake courses based on these criteria are required to register for the courses and again pay tuition and fees for them. Once the grades for the retaken courses are recorded, they replace the original grades in students' GPA and unit calculations. However, the original grades for courses that are retaken permanently remain on students' transcripts. For further information, refer to the "Academic Standards" section in this *Handbook*.

## **CC. COMMENCEMENT**

A graduating class consists of those who earn their degrees in December, May, and July of the same academic year. The academic year begins with the fall term and ends with the summer term. Commencement is held in May. The ceremony is usually held off campus in San Francisco. While participation in graduation is voluntary, all graduates are encouraged to attend.

### **1. Application Submission Deadline**

To be considered a candidate for graduation, students must apply for graduation online through GGU4YOU. Applications are due by December 1 of the year prior to the commencement ceremony for their graduating class. Students planning to graduate must submit this form whether or not they expect to attend the commencement ceremony. Only

students who are in good academic standing and good financial standing will be eligible to participate in the commencement ceremony. Students visiting away at another law school during their last academic year still are required to apply for graduation by the deadline. **Completing the application allows the Registrar's Office to order a student's diploma and ensures that the student will receive mailings and/or email updates regarding commencement throughout the spring semester. Completing the application form does not include ordering regalia, which is a separate process.**

2. **Required Graduation Regalia**

Graduates are required to wear a cap and gown (to be reserved through the University bookstore) if they wish to participate in the commencement ceremony.

3. **December Graduates**

Students who graduate in December are considered members of the class of the next calendar year, and they are expected to attend commencement in May of the following calendar year. However, individuals who will graduate in December may apply to "walk early" and participate in the commencement ceremony held the year prior to the one scheduled for their class. Students should submit an application online through GGU4YOU by the deadline for the year they wish to participate. The Registrar will confirm that a student who has submitted an application is likely to graduate in December, without being in overload status in the summer or fall terms, and is in good academic and financial standing. Students may participate in only one commencement ceremony.

4. **Graduation Communications**

Members of the graduating class receive information about graduation (*e.g.*, cap and gown ordering information, ticket information, diploma name confirmation) through email. Only students with current contact information who have submitted a graduation application will receive these materials and messages. Failure to submit an application by the deadline will result in the student missing important and time sensitive information. Graduation information is available through monthly e-newsletters and *Law School News*.

5. **Graduation Fair**

Members of the graduating class are required to attend the annual Graduation Fair. At the Graduation Fair, students complete necessary activities (reserving cap and gown, receiving tickets, diploma name confirmation, etc.) to ensure they are able to participate in the commencement ceremony. If graduation candidates are unable to attend the Graduation Fair, it is their responsibility to contact Law Student Support and complete all activities on their own before they may obtain their tickets. December graduates who are planning to attend the Commencement ceremony are encouraged, but not required to attend the Graduation Fair the year they will walk. December graduates should handle all matters before leaving campus.

## **DD. DIPLOMAS**

Participants in the graduation ceremony do not receive their diplomas the day of commencement. Instead, the Registrar mails (or holds for pick-up) diplomas to graduates after certifying that all degree requirements have been completed and all tuition and fees owed the University have been paid. Due to the fact that diplomas are printed by an outside company, graduates usually do not receive them until several months after their graduation

date. In addition, because honors and high honors rankings cannot be determined until all members of the JD class, including July graduates, have been awarded their degrees, honors diplomas may be delayed by as much as six months after the graduation ceremony. Students should be aware that changing their profile data in GGU4YOU, or by submitting a *Profile Change Request* form, will not update the address to which your diploma will be sent. That change request must be submitted separately and clearly marked as a change in diploma information.

## **EE. JD GRADUATING CLASS RANK and HONORS**

At the time of the commencement ceremony, students graduating at the end of the spring and summer semesters will not have received their final grades. Therefore, the commencement program will list Jesse Carter Society members (top 15%), Honors (top 10%) and Highest Honors (top 5%) based on GPAs at the end of the fall semester. Following the release of final grades for summer graduates, the Registrar will complete a graduating class ranking of all graduates in the class. Jesse Carter Society, Honors and Highest Honors will be re-computed based on this final ranking. Honors and Highest Honors will be reflected on transcripts and diplomas thereafter. Consequently, it is possible for a graduate to be listed as having earned Honors in the commencement program but to end up not having earned Honors once the final ranking is completed. In that case, the graduate's transcript and diploma **would not** list him or her as an Honors graduate. It also is possible for the opposite to occur.

LLM Honors are determined at the time the graduates' degrees are conferred. LLM Honors are earned by achieving an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher for the LLM program.

## **FF. CALIFORNIA BAR APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

### **1. First Year Students**

**First year students are encouraged to register with the State Bar of California as law students within 90 days of starting law school** if they intend to take the California Bar Exam upon graduation. Students may register online at the State Bar of California website, [admissions.calbar.ca.gov/](http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/). A registration card with a registration number will be mailed to each registered student within four weeks from the date of approval of his or her registration. Students must use this number on all subsequent applications and correspondence with the State Bar of California.

### **2. Second Year Full-Time & Third Year Part-Time Students**

Students who plan to take the California Bar Exam are required to file an Application for Determination of Moral Character. The application is lengthy and may require applicants to locate historical information and documentation. It is recommended that applicants begin the process at least eight to ten months prior to the time they intend to practice law in California and at least 180 days prior to being admitted to the bar. The application may be accessed on the State Bar's website at [admissions.calbar.ca.gov/](http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/). A student may file this application any time after completion of his or her first year, and it is valid for up to 24 months after the date of a positive moral character determination.

### **3. Graduating Students**

Students who plan to take the California Bar Exam must apply to take the exam prior to the deadline specified on the State Bar's website for that exam. Students must apply online at the Bar's website [admissions.calbar.ca.gov/](http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/). All applicable fees and deadlines are listed on the State Bar website. Students should carefully review the instructions for

applying for an exam and retain copies of all forms, documents, and correspondence sent to or received from the State Bar of California.

Students who wish to seek disability accommodations on any state's bar exam should contact the Assistant Director for Law Student Support to obtain advice regarding the request process. Such students should begin the application process at least ten months before the date of the bar exam. Information about requesting California Bar Exam accommodations can be found at:

<http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/Examinations/TestingAccommodations.aspx>

LLM or SJD students who wish to take a bar exam should contact the Program Director for the US Legal Studies program to obtain advice on the special requirements for foreign trained lawyers to take a US bar exam.

After the California Bar Examiners determine a student's eligibility to sit for the exam, they will mail an examination certification list to the Registrar. Certification by the Registrar involves confirming that a student has earned a JD degree. Graduating students are certified in early to mid-January for the February bar exam and in early to mid-June for the July bar exam. **The registrar will not certify students whose accounts are delinquent or who are required to complete financial aid exit interviews but have failed to do so.**

#### 4. Multi-State Professional Responsibility Exam

Students are required to take the Multi-State Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE) as a part of the California State Bar admission requirements, and for most state jurisdictions. This exam is administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) three times a year, in November, March, and August. Students generally take the Professional Responsibility course the semester they plan to take the MPRE exam. Most commercial bar review courses offer a short MPRE review course prior to the administration of the exam. Students may register for the MPRE on the NCBE website at [www.ncbex.org](http://www.ncbex.org).

If required by a state other than California, official copies of transcripts can be ordered online through the National Student Clearinghouse, or from the Registrar's Office. More information is available by emailing [records@ggu.edu](mailto:records@ggu.edu), online at <http://www.ggu.edu/shared-content/enrollment/academic-records/#official-transcript-ordering>, or by calling 442-7285. (The Registrar automatically sends graduates' transcripts to the California State Bar Office of Admissions as part of the certification process described above.) **The office will not release the transcripts of students whose accounts are delinquent or who are required to complete financial aid exit interviews but have failed to do so.**

Students who wish to seek disability accommodations on the MPRE should contact Law Student Support to obtain advice regarding the request process. Such students should begin the application process several months before the date of the exam. Information about requesting MPRE accommodations can be found at <http://www.ncbex.org/multistate-tests/mpre/accommodations-for-applicants-with-disabilities/>.

# XIV. LAW SCHOOL COMPLIANCE WITH ABA STANDARDS

## STUDENT COMPLAINT POLICY AND PROCEDURES

[ABA Standard 510](#) requires law schools to develop and maintain a policy and procedure for handling student complaints about significant problems regarding the law school's program of legal education and compliance with all ABA Standards. This policy, described below, is in addition to the policies on handling complaints related to sexual harassment and disabilities, outlined in the Discrimination & Harassment Policy and the Policy and Procedures for the Provision of Services to Students with Disabilities, respectively.

### 1. **Filing of Written Complaint**

Students who wish to report a problem with the law school's program of legal education or its compliance with the ABA Standards should file a written complaint with the Associate Dean for Law Student Support. (As appropriate, the Associate Dean may appoint a designee to fulfill his/her role in these complaint procedures.) The complaint may be submitted via email, US Mail, or personal delivery. The complaint should identify and describe in detail the problem, and explain how the matter implicates the law school's program of legal education and compliance with specific ABA Standard(s). The complaint also should include the student's contact information to facilitate further communication in regards to the complaint. The Associate Dean will acknowledge receipt of the complaint within five business days.

### 2. **Investigation and Response to Complaint**

The Associate Dean will investigate the complaint. The Associate Dean will then set up a meeting with the student or, alternatively, provide the student with a written response to the complaint, within 30 days of receipt of the complaint. In the meeting or the written response, the Associate Dean will provide a substantive response to the complaint, describing the steps taken to investigate the complaint, as well as any steps taken or to be taken to address the complaint.

### 3. **Optional Appeal**

If the student is dissatisfied with the Associate Dean's response to, or resolution of, the complaint, the student may file a written appeal with the Dean of the law school. The appeal must be filed within 30 days of the Associate Dean's response to the complaint. In response to the appeal, the Dean shall either affirm or reverse in whole or in part the Associate Dean's determination. The Dean's response to the appeal will be communicated to the student within 30 days of receipt of the appeal. The Dean's decision shall be final.

### 4. **Record**

The law school will maintain a record of all complaints filed pursuant to this procedure. The record shall be kept in the Associate Dean's office for a period of 8 years from the date of final resolution of the complaint.

## XV. ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The following academic standards pertain to those who matriculate as students during the 2016-2017 academic year. Unless otherwise noted, continuing students who matriculated in prior academic years are governed by the Grading Policies portion of the 2016-2017 *Handbook* and by all other portions of the Academic Standards in the handbooks for their respective matriculation years.

LLM, LLM Certificate and SJD students should consult the *Academic Standards* section of the *Graduate Law Programs* section of this *Handbook*.

Students also should note that the policies, rules and procedures in the *Student Handbook* are subject to change.

The Academic Standards of the School of Law reflect:

1. The requirements of our continuing accreditation by the American Bar Association, the Association of American Law Schools, and the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State of California;
2. The goal of ensuring that graduates are prepared to achieve a high standard in the practice of the legal profession; and
3. Dedication to equal educational opportunity.

### A. DEFINITIONS

1. “Academic year” means the two-semester period from August through May.
2. “Associate Dean” means the Associate Dean for Law Student Support or the person appointed by the Associate Dean to perform or administer a designated task or program.
3. “Student” without other qualification includes both full-time and part-time students.
4. “JD first year courses” means Civil Procedure I and II, Contracts I and II, Criminal Law, Property, Torts, Writing & Research I and II, and the first year Lawyering elective.
5. “Required courses” means those courses listed in section C.1, below.
6. “Upper division courses” means all courses other than first year courses.
7. “Grade point average (GPA)” means the figure derived by dividing the total number of grade points a student has earned by the total number of units the student has attempted in courses completed for letter grades. GPAs are typically calculated to three decimal places and are not rounded up in order to satisfy academic, financial aid, or career services standards.

## **B. JD DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The requirements for the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence are:

1. Successful completion of 88 or more units, including the requisite required course units and the first year Lawyering elective;
2. A GPA of 2.3 or better in all required courses, as listed in section C.1., below. This GPA is referred to as “required course GPA”;
3. A GPA of 2.0 or better in all courses in which a letter grade is earned;
4. Academic good standing at the completion of the student’s final semester;
5. *Satisfaction of any and all conditions imposed by the Academic Standards Committee;*
6. Satisfaction of ABA Time to Completion limits (see section D, *infra*); and
7. Timely filing of an *Application for Graduation and Commencement* form with the Registrar’s Office.

## **C. JD REQUIRED COURSES AND RECOMMENDED ELECTIVES**

1. The following 45 units are used to calculate a student’s required course GPA for purposes of B.2. above and merit scholarship eligibility:
  - Appellate Advocacy (2)
  - Civil Procedure I (3)
  - Civil Procedure II (3)
  - Constitutional Law I (3)
  - Constitutional Law II (3)
  - Contracts I (3)
  - Contracts II (3)
  - Criminal Law (3)
  - Criminal Procedure I (3)
  - Evidence (4)
  - Professional Responsibility (2)
  - Property (4)
  - Torts (4)
  - Writing and Research I (2)
  - Writing and Research II (3)



2. The following 28 units are referred to as “first year required courses,” regardless of when taken:
  - Civil Procedure I (3)
  - Civil Procedure II (3)
  - Contracts I (3)
  - Contracts II (3)
  - Criminal Law (3)
  - Property (4)
  - Torts (4)
  - Writing and Research I (2)
  - Writing and Research II (3)
  
3. First year full-time students must enroll in 30 units:
  - a. Of the 30 units, the following 28 units are required courses for purposes of calculating required course GPA:
    - Civil Procedure I (3)
    - Civil Procedure II (3)
    - Contracts I (3)
    - Contracts II (3)
    - Criminal Law (3)
    - Property (4)
    - Torts (4)
    - Writing and Research I (2)
    - Writing and Research II (3)
  
  - b. In addition to the above 28 first year full-time required units, students will enroll in a 2-unit first year Lawyering elective. First year students who have a required course GPA below 2.3 at the end of the first semester may be required to take Legal Analysis in place of the first year Lawyering elective. When space permits, other students may enroll in Legal Analysis with approval of the Associate Dean for Law Student Support.
  
4. First year part-time students must enroll in 22 units during their first fall, spring and summer terms:
  - a. Of the 22 units, the following 20 units are required courses for purposes of calculating required course GPA:
    - Civil Procedure I (3 units)
    - Contracts I (3 units)
    - Contracts II (3 units)
    - Professional Responsibility (2 units)
    - Torts (4 units)
    - Writing and Research I (2 units)
    - Writing and Research II (3 units)
  
  - b. In addition to the above 20 first year part-time required units, students will enroll in a 2-unit first year Lawyering elective. First year students who have a required course GPA below 2.3 at the end of the first semester may be required to take Legal Analysis in place of the first year Lawyering elective. When space

permits, other students may enroll in Legal Analysis with approval of the Associate Dean for Law Student Support.

5. Second year part-time students must enroll in 22 units during their second fall, spring and summer terms. All of the 22 units are required courses for purposes of calculating required course GPA:

- Appellate Advocacy (2 units)
- Civil Procedure II (3 units)
- Constitutional Law I (3 units)
- Constitutional Law II (3 units)
- Criminal Law (3 units)
- Evidence (4 units)
- Property Law (4 units)

6. All students who matriculated in fall 2010 or later also must complete additional required courses before graduation, as follows:

a. **Second Year Required Courses<sup>1</sup>:**

During their second year, all students must complete the following required courses:

- Appellate Advocacy (2)
- Constitutional Law I (3)
- Constitutional Law II (3)

Including the 8 units listed above, students must complete a minimum of 12 required course units during their second year. These 12 units must be completed no later than spring semester of their second year. (See Additional Upper Division Required Courses, below.)

b. **Additional Upper Division Required Courses<sup>2</sup>:**

The following required courses must be completed prior to graduation. At least four of these units must be completed during the second year:

- Criminal Procedure I (3)
- Evidence (4)
- Professional Responsibility (2)

c. **California Bar Subject Courses:**

All students must complete at least 8 units from the following list of courses:

- Business Associations (4)
- Community Property (2)
- Privacy, Defamation, and Other Relational Torts (2)
- Real Estate Transactions (2)
- Remedies (3)
- Sales (2)
- Wills & Trusts (4)

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<sup>1</sup> Part-time students entering in fall 2015 or later will have fulfilled this requirement by the end of their second year as part of the curriculum outlined in sections C.4.a and C.5 above.

<sup>2</sup> Part-time students entering in fall 2015 or later will have completed Evidence and Professional Responsibility by the end of their second year as part of the curriculum outlined in sections C.4.a and C.5 above.

Although all students must complete at least 8 units of California Bar Subject Courses, these units are not included in calculating a student's required course GPA.

**d. Upper Division Writing Courses:**

All students must complete at least 2 units from a number of courses which have been certified as including:

- At least 15 pages of writing (approximately 4100 words) in one large assignment or multiple shorter assignments;
- Independent research; and
- A rewrite of a draft on which the student receives individualized written feedback from the professor.

These courses include:

Advanced Legal Research (2)  
California Legal Research (2)  
*Environmental Law Journal* (3)\*  
Independent Study (1-2)  
*Law Review* (3)\*

Additional courses as identified in the course schedules for a particular semester or as approved by the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support in consultation with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

*\*Law Review and Environmental Law Journal participation satisfies the requirement, provided the student drafts a note or comment of satisfactory length, receives feedback from a professor or senior editor, and revises the piece, as certified by the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support or their designee.*

Although all students must complete at least 2 units of Upper Division Writing Courses, these units are not included in calculating a student's required course GPA.

**e. Upper Division Experiential Courses:**

All students are required to complete at least 6 units of Upper Division Experiential Coursework. Students graduating in the full-time day program must complete at least 3 of these units through a clinic, externship or field placement ("Non-Simulation Courses") listed below.

Students graduating in the part-time program may complete all 6 units of this requirement with Simulation Courses, but are strongly encouraged to complete at least 3 units through Non-Simulation Courses.

The Non-Simulation Courses include:

DOJ Internship\* (2-3)  
Environmental Law & Justice Clinic (2-3)  
Estate Planning Externship\* (2-3)  
Estate Planning Lab\* (1)  
Externships (2-13)  
HLP Client Representation (2)  
IRS Internship\* (3)  
IRS Litigation Clinic\* (1-3)  
Pro Bono Tax Clinic\* (1-3)

Veterans Legal Advocacy Center (2-4)  
Women's Employment Rights Clinic (2-3)

The Simulation Courses include:

Advanced Trial Advocacy (3)  
Alternative Dispute Resolution (3)  
Business Negotiations (3)  
Civil Litigation: Depositions (3)  
Civil Litigation: Pretrial (3)  
Criminal Litigation (3)  
Evidence in the Courtroom (2)  
Family Law Practice (3)  
IP Practicum: Trademark & Copyright Transactions (2)  
Mediating Trust & Estate Disputes\* (3)  
Negotiation (3)  
Trial Advocacy (3)

*\*Indicates courses offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.*

Additional courses with a significant experiential learning component, as identified in the course schedules or as approved by the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support in consultation with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, may satisfy either category.

Although all students must complete at least 6 units of Upper Division Experiential Courses, these units are not included in calculating a student's required course GPA.

See Appendix C in this *Handbook* for a checklist of required courses. Upper Division Required Courses often are prerequisites for related electives, so students should plan accordingly.

#### **D. ABA JD DEGREE TIME TO COMPLETION**

Pursuant to ABA Standard 311(b), students may not complete the JD academic program in fewer than 24 months and, except in extraordinary circumstances, must complete it within 84 months (7 years) after they have commenced law study at the law school or a law school from which the school has accepted transfer credit.

#### **E. LIMITS ON STUDY OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM**

JD students may earn a maximum of nineteen (19) units in outside classroom activities. Students must not exceed the maximums for each type of non-classroom course listed below:

##### **1. Non-Simulation Experiential Courses**

Students may take a maximum combined total of thirteen (13) units in clinics, externships, and field placements.

2. **Law Review and Environmental Law Journal**  
Students may take a maximum combined total of seven (7) units in *Law Review* and *Environmental Law Journal*.
3. **Independent Study**  
Students may take a maximum of four (4) units in Independent Study.
4. **Mock Trial and Moot Court**  
Students may take a maximum combined total of eight (8) units in mock trial, moot court, or negotiation competitions.
5. **Joint Degree Program Courses**  
Students in the JD/MBA or JD/PhD programs may transfer up to twelve (12) elective units from the MBA or PhD program towards their JD program. These 12 units are considered “outside classroom” units.

## F. CLASSROOM ATTENDANCE, PREPARATION, AND PARTICIPATION

Pursuant to ABA Standard 308(a), students are required to regularly attend class. Golden Gate University School of Law requires every student to prepare class assignments, attend class regularly, and participate knowledgeably in class discussions.

At the beginning of each course, each instructor will announce standards for attendance, participation, submission of assignments and papers, and other objective criteria as well as the sanctions for their violation. Instructors may impose sanctions such as reducing a student’s grade to the next lowest grade (in addition to the discretionary grade adjustment described in the Grading Policies below) or recommending that the student be administratively withdrawn from the course.

Regardless of whether or not the instructor announces an attendance policy, students must attend a minimum of **seventy-five percent (75%)** of scheduled class meetings for a course. Failure to do so will result in removal from the course as either an administrative withdrawal or as an incomplete course attempt, depending on the circumstances surrounding the absences.

A student may not register for two courses that meet at the same time or overlap in time, **even by five minutes.**

1. **Absences Due to Medical Circumstances**  
If a student misses a class due to a medical appointment or other medical circumstance and would like to request that the absence be excused under the professor’s attendance policy, that student should provide relevant documentation of such occurrence to Law Student Support. Once documentation is received, Law Student Support will contact the student’s instructor(s) confirming receipt of documentation. **Instructors are not required to excuse medical absences and may choose to apply their standards for attendance to all absences. Even if an absence is excused by a professor, the absence still counts in the calculation of attendance for the 75% attendance rule described above.**

## 2. Absences Due to Disability

Absence from class and/or modifications of participation requirements may be appropriate accommodations the School of Law may provide in some instances of student disability. (See Policy on Student Requests for Disability Related Accommodations in Attendance or Class Participation in the Disability Services section of this *Handbook* for more information.) Students should contact Law Student Support with any questions about the policy. Accommodations are not retroactive, so all absences fall under the standard policy until the relevant accommodation is approved. Students should request this accommodation directly through Law Student Support and not through their instructor(s). Please refer to Appendix B for further detail.

## G. GRADING POLICIES

### 1. Grade Designations

- a. Grades are based on a twelve-category letter system with numerical point equivalents as follows:

A+	4.0 (awarded, at discretion of instructor, to 1 student maximum in any course)
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.0
C-	1.67
D	1.0
F	0.0
WF	0.0

- b. The grade designations represent scholarship achievement as follows:

A+	Outstanding scholarship and intellectual initiative (awarded at discretion of instructor)
A	Superior scholarship and intellectual initiative
A-	Very good work
B+	Good work
B	Above average work
B-	Work demonstrating acceptable competence
C+	Work demonstrating minimal acceptable competence and indicating a need for improvement
C	Substandard work
C-/D	Unsatisfactory work
F	Failing work; no academic credit awarded
WF	Withdrew failing; failure to complete course requirements; no academic credit awarded

- c. In no course shall a grade of “C+” or better be given to an examination or paper completed by a JD student that fails to demonstrate the ability of that student to achieve a passing grade on a question of comparable complexity on the California Bar exam; i.e., the exam or paper must demonstrate:

1. The ability to analyze the facts of a question and to distinguish between material and immaterial facts;
2. The ability to discern the point of law or fact upon which the question turns; and
3. The ability to apply the relevant principles of law to the given facts and to reason in a logical, lawyer-like manner from the premises adopted to a sound conclusion.

## 2. JD Grade Curves

### a. First year Required Courses

Please note that the first year Lawyering elective, although required, is not considered a first year required course for purposes of the curve or for computing required course GPA, and instead is to be graded pursuant to the curve in section 2.c.i. below.

All JD first year required courses, as defined in section C.2. above, whether taken in the first year of a full-time program or in the second year of a part-time program, will be graded on the curve set out below:

	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u>
A- and above	20%	5%
B- and above	70%	45%
C- and below	20%	10%
D and below	5%	0%

### b. Other Required Courses

All required courses except those covered by subsection 2.a. above will be graded on the curve set out below:

	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u>
A- and above	30%	5%
B- and above	75%	45%
C- and below	20%	10%

### c. Other Courses

All other courses\*, not covered by subsections a. or b. above will be graded on the curves set out below.

#### (i.) Curve for Elective Courses with 20 JD Students or More and for the First Year Lawyering Elective

	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u>
A- and above	60%	15%
B- and above	100%	45%
C- and below	10%	0%

**(ii.) Curve for Elective Courses with Fewer Than 20 JD Students**

In elective courses in which there are fewer than 20 students, there shall be no mandatory curve, except that no more than 20% of the students may receive a grade of C- or below.

\* The elective curves will be applied to JD students enrolled in LLM courses. The applicable curve will depend on the total number of JD students enrolled.

**d. Honors Lawyering Program (HLP)**

Courses composed of 60% or more of HLP students, including the HLP summer classes, are not subject to the mandatory grading curve.

**3. Discretionary Grade Adjustments**

In courses in which the grading is anonymous, each instructor has discretion to adjust grades on the basis of his or her subjective evaluation of the students' class participation, commonly known as "push/pull points." Any such adjustments are subject to the following conditions:

- a. A grade may be raised ("pushed") or lowered ("pulled") only to the next grade (e.g., from "C" to either "C+" or "C-").
- b. At the beginning of the semester, each instructor gives written notice, by posting the course syllabus online or providing it in class, of his or her intention to adjust grades on the basis of subjective evaluation.
- c. The instructor must maintain reasonable documentation to support such grade adjustments. The Registrar will adjust individual students' grades at the direction of the instructor, only after the instructor has assigned and submitted to the Registrar unadjusted grades for the entire class, prepared on an anonymous basis.
- d. If the adjustment is made because of non-attendance, then the provisions of the section on "Classroom Attendance, Preparation, and Participation" shall apply.
- e. If the instructor reduces a student's grade for both poor participation and attendance, the student's grade can be reduced by two steps (e.g., from a "B-" to a "C").

**4. Credit/No Credit Policy**

- a. All JD required courses (as listed in section C.1.), and the first year Lawyering elective, must be taken for a letter grade. (LLM and SJD students should refer to the Graduate Law Student chapter for limits on credit/no credit classes.) In all other letter graded courses, a student may elect to receive, in lieu of a letter grade, a grade of "credit" or "no credit." In the event of such election, any grade of "C+" or better shall be recorded as "CR" (credit), and any grade of "C" or lower shall be recorded as "NC" (no credit). Credit/no credit grades are not included in the calculation of a student's grade point averages. However, earning "no credit" may have an impact on a student's financial aid. (See Financial Aid section on Satisfactory Academic Progress.)



- b. The deadline for submitting the [Election for Credit/No Credit](#) form to the Law School Registrar’s Office is the day of the last class meeting for the course, or the last day of instruction for the term for courses with no class meetings. However, in no case shall a student be permitted to elect a grade of credit/no credit after all work upon which the student will be graded is due.
- c. Except for independent study courses, the “credit/no credit” election must be kept confidential. Students must not indicate on their exams, papers, or other assignments or notify their instructors that they are contemplating or electing to take a course on a “credit/no credit” basis. Failure to abide by this rule may subject the student to disciplinary action.
- d. Once the student has submitted the election form, the decision to take the course credit/no credit may not be revoked unless a grade of “NC” (no credit) is received. Students receiving a grade of "NC" may submit a written request to restore the actual letter grade received. Requests to restore the letter grade must be received by the deadlines indicated below, or the request will be denied:

Fall Semester..... January 15  
 Spring Semester ..... June 15  
 Summer Session..... September 15

- e. For a JD student, the option to take a course on a “credit/no credit” basis is limited to **one course per term**, except in a student’s final term. JD students may elect to take up to nine units on a “credit/no credit” basis to fulfill JD degree requirements. Excluded from these limitations are units earned in clinical and externship programs and any other courses only offered on a “credit/no credit” basis (see paragraph h. below). Also excluded from these limitations are units transferred from another law school.
- f. Because “credit/no credit” grades are not included in GPA calculations, taking courses on a “credit/no credit” basis may make JD students ineligible for Dean’s List. (See the section on Dean’s List in the Administrative Rules and Procedures section of this *Handbook*.)
- g. After grades are posted, students who elected to take a course “credit/no credit” may find out the letter grade awarded by the instructor by asking the Registrar.
- h. The following courses are always graded on a “credit/no credit” basis. Letter grades are not an option, and the units do not count towards the maximum number of “credit/no credit” election units.

LLM-395 Curricular Practical Training  
 LLM 307 DOJ Internship  
 LAW-862C Environmental Law Journal Associate Editor  
 LAW-862D Environmental Law Journal Editorial Board  
 LAW-862A Environmental Law Journal Writer I  
 LAW-862B Environmental Law Journal Writer II  
 LAW 896M Externship: Advanced Legal Clinic  
 LAW-896A Externship: Civil Field Placement  
 LAW-896R Externship: Consumer Rights

LAW-896F	Externship: Criminal Litigation
LAW 837D	Externship: Family Law
LAW-896C	Externship: Judicial
LAW-809B	HLP Client Representation
LLM-309	IRS Internship
LLM-393	Judicial Externship (LLM Tax)
LAW-861C	Law Review Associate Editors
LAW-861D	Law Review Board
LAW-861A	Law Review Writer
LAW-801E	Legal Analysis
LAW-863C	Legal Methods
LLM 306	Pro Bono Tax Clinic
LAW-855	Professional Presentation & Persuasion
LLM-397	Tax Fieldwork

### 5. **Transfer Credit on Transcripts**

Courses transferred from another ABA-approved law school or as part of an approved joint degree program will not appear on a student's law school transcript. Instead, a summary notation of credits will appear for the courses transferred.

## H. **ACADEMIC STANDING**

### 1. **JD Student First Semester GPA Requirement**

JD students must earn a cumulative GPA of 1.67 or better in their first semester. Students who do not meet this requirement will be disqualified. These students are deemed to not be in good standing.

### 2. **JD Student Requirements for Good Standing**

To be in good standing, JD students must earn a cumulative required course GPA of 2.3 or better, as set forth in the "JD Degree Requirements" section of this *Handbook*, and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better in all courses, and must have earned a 'D' or better in all required courses at the time of evaluation. All students who are not disqualified under section H.1. above are deemed to be in good standing until their first official evaluation. See section C.1, above, for the list of required courses that are subject to this provision.

### 3. **JD Student Evaluation Timing**

Students who have completed a minimum of two semesters (not including a summer term) are officially evaluated for academic standing at the conclusion of each spring semester. However, students who have completed a minimum of two semesters (not including a summer term) who are on leave of absence during a spring semester will be evaluated for good standing following the conclusion of the first semester back from leave (not including a summer term). Note that all JD students are subject to automatic probation at the end of any term in which they receive an "F" in a required course. See "JD Program Automatic Probation" section of this *Handbook*.

### 4. **JD Student Evaluation Outcomes**

After students' academic standing evaluations, those who meet the requirements will be determined to be in good standing. Students determined to not be in good standing will be academically disqualified. Students who are disqualified, including those

disqualified pursuant to section H.1. above, may have the right to petition for reinstatement on academic probation. See the “JD Program Eligibility to Petition for Reinstatement” section below for more information.

**5. LLM and SJD Student Requirements for Good Standing**

LLM students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or better, and SJD students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better to remain in good standing. LLM and SJD students will be evaluated for academic standing at the conclusion of each semester following the completion of a cumulative total of eight (8) or more units. LLM students who have completed a cumulative total of fewer than eight (8) units are considered to be in good standing.

**6. LLM and SJD Student Evaluation Outcomes**

After evaluation, LLM and SJD students will be determined to be in good standing or on academic probation. Students who do not achieve the required minimum cumulative GPA in the probation semester(s) may be academically disqualified. Students on academic probation must have their schedules approved by their Program Directors before they will be permitted to register for courses.

**I. JD PROGRAM ACADEMIC SUPERVISION**

JD students whose required course GPAs fall at or above 2.3 and below 2.65 at the time of their academic evaluations (see above section H.3. – JD Student Evaluation Timing) will be placed on academic supervision status under the supervision of the Academic Standards Committee. These students still are considered to be in good academic standing. The Academic Standards Committee will review the records of these students. The Academic Standards Committee has the authority to, among other conditions, require these students to do any or all of the following:

1. Repeat any or all required courses.
2. Complete a course in Legal Methods or another skills course (including writing courses).
3. Complete any or all of the recommended bar courses, including but not limited to Business Associations; Community Property; Early Bar Prep; Practical Legal Writing; Privacy, Defamation, and Other Relational Torts; Real Estate Transactions; Remedies; Sales; and Wills & Trusts.
4. Follow an academic improvement plan developed by the Academic Development Program.
5. Limit involvement in extra-curricular activities so as to focus on academics.
6. Meet with the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support prior to registration each term for schedule approval. The Associate Dean periodically reports the status of all students on academic supervision to the Academic Standards Committee.
7. Work with the Bar Exam Services program at the start of the student’s final year.

Students will remain on academic supervision until their next academic standing evaluation, as defined in H.3. above. Students who are removed from academic supervision still are

required to satisfy the conditions of academic supervision, including repeating/completing courses before they graduate. Once students have been removed from academic supervision, their academic advising registration hold is removed.

#### **J. JD PROGRAM ACADEMIC DISQUALIFICATION**

JD students who do not meet the requirements for good standing shall be academically disqualified. Disqualification is effective when all of a student's grades for the spring or fall semester are recorded by the Registrar's Office. Disqualified students who are enrolled in summer school at Golden Gate University School of Law will be withdrawn from their summer courses and will have all summer tuition charges reversed. Disqualified students who are enrolled in summer abroad programs will not be withdrawn from those courses. However, these students may elect to withdraw, in which case, any reversal of program charges will be at the discretion of the director of that program. Students who elect to continue will not receive credit for any courses completed after disqualification unless they are reinstated on academic probation.

#### **K. JD PROGRAM AUTOMATIC PROBATION**

JD students who receive failing "F" or "WF" grades in one or more required course(s) shall automatically be placed on academic probation. In order to return to good standing, students must retake (one time) the failed course(s) as soon as the course is offered, earn a grade of at least a "D" in each of the repeated courses, and satisfy the academic standards for good standing by the end of the next full semester during which they have successfully completed the course(s). If all of these probation conditions are not met at that time, the student will be academically disqualified from the School of Law. Students remain subject to requirements for good standing and academic evaluation timing, as described in Section H. above.

If JD students receive "F" or "WF" grades in the first part of a two-part sequenced course, the students may not enroll in the second part of the sequenced course without first repeating and receiving a grade of "D" or better in the first part of the sequenced course.

If JD students receive "F" or "WF" grades in required courses in their final semester of law school, they will be placed on academic probation and will not be allowed to graduate until they have retaken the courses and received grades of at least "D" in those courses.

#### **L. JD PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY TO PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT**

All JD students who have been academically disqualified have at least one opportunity to petition the Academic Standards Committee for reinstatement to resume their studies on academic probation. Please see the "JD Program Procedures for Petitioning for Reinstatement" section below for guidelines on petitioning for reinstatement. Students who are reinstated on probation and subsequently disqualified for not meeting probation conditions do not have any further right to petition.

##### **1. Eligible to Petition for Reinstatement, However Not Eligible Immediately Following Disqualification**

###### **a. First year students with first semester GPAs below 1.67**

First year students who are disqualified after earning a GPA below 1.67 after their first semester may not petition for reinstatement immediately following

disqualification. Such students must wait one year from the time of disqualification to be eligible to submit petitions for reinstatement. This petition process usually occurs in the March a full year after the time of the initial disqualification and is the student's only opportunity to petition for reinstatement.

**b. First year students with required course GPAs below 2.0**

First year students who are disqualified after earning a required course GPA below 2.0 after the completion of two semesters may not petition for reinstatement immediately following disqualification. Such students must wait one academic year from the time of initial disqualification to be eligible to be reinstated upon a successful petition. This petition process usually occurs in the March preceding the next academic year and is the students' only chance to petition for reinstatement.

**c. Upper division students disqualified after a spring term Leave of Absence**

Upper division students disqualified after having taken a leave of absence in a spring term and having been evaluated for standing after the subsequent fall semester pursuant to H.3. above may not petition to be reinstated in the immediately subsequent spring semester. Instead, these students must wait to participate in the petition process that usually occurs in March of that semester for possible reinstatement in the following summer or fall term. This paragraph does not apply to students disqualified after a fall term for not meeting their probation conditions.

**2. Eligible to Petition for Reinstatement Immediately Following Disqualification**

Students have the immediate right to petition the Academic Standards Committee under the following circumstances:

**a. First year students with a required course GPA of 2.0 or above**

First year students who are disqualified after earning a required course GPA of 2.0 or above after the completion of two semesters may submit a petition to the Academic Standards Committee.

**b. Upper division students not currently on probation who are disqualified**

Upper division students who are disqualified after completing more than one academic year may petition the Academic Standards Committee for reinstatement on academic probation regardless of their required course GPA and cumulative GPA, unless they have been disqualified for not meeting their probation conditions.

**3. Deadline for Submitting Petitions**

The petition for reinstatement on probation must be submitted by the deadline specified in writing by the Academic Standards Committee and/or Law Student Support.

**4. Successful Petitions**

If a student's petition is granted, the student will be reinstated to the School of Law and allowed to resume his or her law studies on academic probation, subject to all conditions imposed by the Academic Standards Committee. These conditions may include, among other things, any or all of the following:

- a. The student does not resume his/her law school studies for an academic year, or any part thereof.
- b. The student demonstrates success on the [State Bar of California First Year Law Students' Examination](#).
- c. The student repeats the entire first year or repeats any course in which he or she earned a grade of "C-" or lower. See the "Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress" section of this *Handbook* for financial aid implications.
- d. The student successfully completes a course in Legal Methods or another skills course.
- e. The student takes any or all of the following courses: Business Associations; Community Property; Early Bar Prep; Practical Legal Writing; Privacy, Defamation, and Other Relational Torts; Real Estate Transactions; Remedies; Sales; and Wills & Trusts.
- f. The student successfully completes additional writing courses.
- g. The student follows an academic improvement plan developed by the Academic Development Program.
- h. The student works with the Bar Exam Services program at the start of the student's final year.
- i. The student limits or curbs involvement in extra-curricular activities so as to focus on academics.
- j. The student meets with the Associate Dean or Director for Law Student Support prior to registration each term for schedule approval.

#### 5. **Notations on Transcripts**

The transcripts of students who are academically disqualified permanently will reflect their disqualification from the School of Law. The transcripts of students who are academically disqualified and subsequently reinstated on probation permanently will reflect their disqualification from and reinstatement to the School of Law.

#### 6. **Unsuccessful Petitions**

Students who had the immediate right to petition in June/July following disqualification and whose petitions for reinstatement were denied through that process may **not** subsequently petition for reinstatement **unless the second petition alleges facts that could not have been discovered with reasonable diligence at the time the first petition was prepared.** These students must wait one academic year following the denial of their petitions before they are again eligible for reinstatement. This subsequent petition process usually occurs in March preceding the next academic year and is the students' final chance to petition for reinstatement. A student interested in pursuing a petition in March should contact the Law Student Support office to request a *Petition for Reinstatement* form by the March deadline indicated in the student's notice of petition denial letter. Please see the JD Program Procedures for Petitioning for Reinstatement section of this *Handbook* for guidelines on petitioning for reinstatement.

Students whose petitions are denied in the March process have no further right to petition for reinstatement, even if they have petitioned only once. The only exception to this rule is for students who petition for reinstatement in March under L.1.c. above. If these students' first petition is denied, they must wait until the following March before they are again eligible to petition for reinstatement. That subsequent March petition process is the students' final chance to petition for reinstatement.

**7. Time Limits within which to Petition for Reinstatement**

If students eligible under the descriptions above wish to petition the Academic Standards Committee for reinstatement, they must do so within one academic year of their disqualification, with the exception of students disqualified after their first semester with a GPA below 1.67 who must petition within three semesters of their disqualification. If more than this prescribed amount of time has passed since the students' disqualifications, the students do not have the right to petition the Academic Standards Committee for reinstatement. Such students may contact Golden Gate University or other law school admissions offices to inquire about the possibility of applying for admission or readmission as a new student.

**8. Return to Good Standing**

Students on academic probation due to falling below the GPA requirements for good standing will have their grades reviewed after the first full semester of their reinstatement (whether it be fall or spring) for purposes of determining whether they may continue their studies with the School of Law. Students with a cumulative required course GPA below 2.3 at the completion of that first semester of their reinstatement will be disqualified from the School of Law with no further right to petition. Students who earn at least a 2.3 cumulative required course GPA, maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better, and meet all other conditions imposed by the Academic Standards Committee are removed from academic probation and are returned to good standing. These students still will be required to satisfy the conditions of academic probation.

Students on academic probation due to "F" or "WF" grades in required courses will remain on probation until after they have retaken and earned a grade of at least "D" in the failed course(s). At that time, they also must satisfy the academic standards for good standing in order to be removed from probation.

**M. JD PROGRAM PROCEDURES FOR PETITIONING FOR REINSTATEMENT**

1. A JD student petitioning the Academic Standards Committee for reinstatement on probation **has the burden of showing that (a) his or her disqualification was not the result of a lack of capacity to satisfactorily complete the degree requirements of the JD program, and (b) he or she will be able to perform in an academically satisfactory manner in the future.** To meet this burden, the student must:
  - a. Identify with specificity the factors that led to the deficient GPA, including any extraordinary or exigent circumstances;
  - b. Explain with specificity why these factors no longer affect the student's performance and are not likely to affect the student's performance in the future, including by detailing what specific actions the student has taken to address, resolve, or eliminate these factors;
  - c. Demonstrate a capacity to perform in the JD program in an academically satisfactory manner; and
  - d. Present a specific remedial plan, and demonstrate that plan's reasonable likelihood of success.

2. A student's petition must contain the *Petition for Reinstatement* form as a cover sheet and an essay that clearly and completely sets out the bases for the student's petition.
3. A student's petition should clearly state any and all evidence the student wants the Academic Standards Committee to consider. Where a student's medical condition has been a contributing factor, a report from the student's attending physician must be provided. Where other external factors, such as death of a family member are alleged, reasonable documentation should be provided.
4. A student who chooses or is required to wait one academic year before petitioning for reinstatement as provided in the "JD Program Eligibility to Petition for Reinstatement" or "Unsuccessful Petitions" sections of this handbook, or a JD student whose initial petition was denied, must submit a petition for reinstatement by March 1 of the following academic year or such later date as is specified in writing by the Academic Standards Committee and/or Law Student Support. A student interested in pursuing this option should contact Law Student Support to request a *Petition for Reinstatement* form. (The specific deadline for submitting completed petitions also is set by the Academic Standards Committee.) The Committee views success on the State Bar of California First Year Law Students' Exam as one possibly persuasive factor for a petition and strongly encourages students eligible to take the exam to consider taking it and receiving the results **before** submitting a spring petition. (Please visit the State Bar's website at [www.calbar.ca.gov/admissions](http://www.calbar.ca.gov/admissions) for further information about this exam.)
5. The student must submit the original petition packet plus the number of copies requested (properly copied and collated) to the Law Student Support Office by the stated deadline. LSS will distribute the student's petition to the Academic Standards Committee.
6. The student does not have the right to appear personally before the Committee.
7. The Committee shall review and decide each petition as soon as possible. Notice of the Academic Standards Committee's decision will be sent to the student by US mail and email. Notification of the decision will not be given over the phone.

## N. ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

### 1. **Membership**

The Academic Standards Committee is composed of at least three voting faculty members.

### 2. **Jurisdiction of the Committee**

The Committee shall have jurisdiction to consider student petitions relating to all academic standards **except** the following:

- a. The requirement that a student successfully complete a minimum of 88 units to receive the Doctor of Jurisprudence degree;
- b. The requirement that a student achieve a 1.67 or better at the end of their first semester;



- c. The requirement that a student achieve a required course GPA of 2.3 or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better at the point the student is evaluated for academic standing, at the point the student completes all required courses, at the point the student completes 88 units, and at the point at which the student would otherwise graduate;
- d. The denial by an instructor of a request for a grade change for reasons other than mathematical or clerical error, unless the Committee determines that the exam or assignments/exercises on which the grade is based, or their administration, were so improper or unfair as to have clearly caused an unfair result;
- e. The requirement that a student on academic probation must achieve a required course GPA of 2.3 or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better at the completion of the next semester; and
- f. The requirement that a student must have a required course GPA of at least 2.0 to have the right to petition for reinstatement for the next semester.

Any such petition should be addressed to the Committee and provided to the Associate Dean for Law Student Support, who will share it with the rest of the Committee.

### 3. **Authority of the Committee**

The Committee shall have authority on matters within its jurisdiction to grant appropriate relief from the requirements of the academic standards, where the relief is justified by special requirements, is necessary to avoid serious detriment to the student, and is consistent with sound educational policy.

In the exercise of sound discretion that takes into account all relevant factors, the Committee may deny petitions for reinstatement on academic probation or any other relief, or grant them upon such conditions as the Committee deems appropriate.

### 4. **Appeal**

There is no appeal of a decision by the Academic Standards Committee.

### 5. **Deadline to Submit Petitions other than Petitions for Reinstatement**

Petitions other than petitions for reinstatement must be submitted within 60 days of receipt of the grade, conclusion of the course, or receipt of information that raises a question about a grade or course.

## **O. DECISIONS OF THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR LAW STUDENT SERVICES**

In those instances in which an application is made to the Associate Dean for Law Student Support for approval of a variance from an established policy or rule (other than those decided by the Academic Standards Committee), the Associate Dean shall exercise informed discretion that takes into account one or more of the following factors: the number of previous applications of a similar nature filed by the student, whether the need for relief is caused by a situation beyond the control of the student, and whether the variance or relief is necessary to avoid serious detriment to the student. The Associate Dean for Law Student Support has no discretion to allow students with a required course

GPA below 2.00 the right to petition for reinstatement or to allow students to graduate who do not meet the required course and overall GPA requirements.

A student aggrieved by a decision of the Associate Dean for Law Student Support on a matter based on the academic standards may petition the Academic Standards Committee within 60 days of the decision. This petition should be in writing and should be submitted to the Law Student Support Office, which will forward it to the Academic Standards Committee. There is no appeal of decisions by the Associate Dean for Law Student Support on matters not based on the academic standards.

# XVI. STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

## A. PURPOSE

All students at Golden Gate University School of Law have an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the School of Law's function as an educational institution preparing students for entry into the legal profession. The standards of professionalism within the legal field and within the School of Law are based on principles of honesty and ethics. The School of Law takes seriously these principles and expects all students to do the same.

Misconduct, as defined herein, is subject to discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion, as well as communication of the charge and/or sanction to employers, other educational institutions, and relevant bar admission agencies.

## B. JURISDICTION

These Standards of Student Conduct apply to conduct that is engaged in by each School of Law student, whether active, on leave, or on suspension. It sets forth the procedures by which all complaints of such conduct shall be handled (in conjunction with the Discrimination and Harassment Policy, where applicable).

Jurisdiction of the Standards of Student Conduct extends to:

1. Conduct on the part of a student that occurs on or adjacent to the property of Golden Gate University or on the campus of a summer abroad program of Golden Gate University School of Law or other school, or otherwise occurs in connection with any activity or program operated or sponsored by the University;
2. Conduct on the part of a student which, in the judgment of School officials, bears upon the student's ethical and moral fitness to practice law in the State of California and any other relevant jurisdiction, wherever such conduct occurs; and/or
3. Any other conduct that results in a criminal conviction under local, State, or Federal law.

## C. DEFINITION OF TERMS

**The following definitions apply solely to these standards of student conduct.**

1. **"Academic Activity"** includes classroom instruction, clinical instruction, externship, and other officially recognized academic and co-curricular programs such as participation in Law Review and in Moot Court competitions.
2. **"Assistant Director"** means the Assistant Director for Student Conduct & Professionalism, or his/her delegate or representative.

3. “**Associate Dean**” means the associate dean for academic affairs or his/her delegate or representative.
4. “**Charged Student**” means a student against whom charges under the Standards of Student Conduct have been brought.
5. “**Cheating**” means the act of obtaining, attempting to obtain, or helping another student to obtain credit for academic work through any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means.
6. “**Dean**” means the dean of the School of Law, his/her delegate or representative.
7. “**Hearing Panel**” means the Student Hearings Committee.
8. “**Instructor**” means a person who engages in either classroom or clinical instruction of students of the law school on a full- or part-time basis, including persons who are employed to assist in such programs as the Law School’s academic support programs.
9. “**Library**” means any library of Golden Gate University.
10. “**Member of the University community**” includes any person who is a student of, faculty member of, administrator of, or any person employed by the University.
11. “**Plagiarism**” means the presentation of another person’s idea or product as one’s own, regardless of intent.
12. “**Preponderance of the Evidence**” means proof by information that, compared with information opposing it, leads to the conclusion that the fact at issue is more probably true than not.
13. “**Registrar**” means the registrar of the School of Law, his/her delegate or representative.
14. “**SBA**” means the Student Bar Association of Golden Gate University School of Law.
15. “**School of Law**” means Golden Gate University School of Law.
16. “**Staff**” means any non-instructional employee of the School of Law or of the University.
17. “**Student**” includes any person who has enrolled in a program, course or courses at the School of Law (full-time, part-time, JD, LLM, SJD, visiting, auditing and non-degree). This term also includes any person who has enrolled and not yet graduated or withdrawn, but who is visiting away, on break (mid-semester or between semesters), on a leave of absence from the School of Law, or on suspension. “Student” includes a person whose conduct at issue occurred while a student, but the nature of such conduct was discovered after his/her academic degree was awarded.
18. “**The Standards**” means Golden Gate University School of Law Standards of Student Conduct.
19. “**University**” means Golden Gate University, including all of its campuses.

20. “**University premises**” includes all land, buildings, facilities, and other property in the possession of or owned, used, or controlled by the University.

#### **D. PROHIBITED CONDUCT**

Any student who commits, attempts to commit, or assists another student to commit any prohibited conduct as defined by the Standards will be found to be in violation of the Standards.

When more than one student is involved, each may be held equally responsible. The Law School determines the responsibility for misconduct using the standard of preponderance of the evidence.

Aspects of a case such as intent and extenuating circumstances may or may not be considerations in determining whether a violation has occurred, depending on the nature of the alleged violation. Such aspects may be relevant in the determination of appropriate sanctions.

Prohibited conduct includes any form of fraudulent, deceitful or dishonest conduct and attempted such conduct, including the following:

##### **1. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Prohibited conduct includes engaging in dishonest conduct, such as cheating, plagiarism, or any other dishonest conduct in connection with examinations, written work, or other academic activity.

###### **a. Cheating**

The following are acts of cheating:

- i. Copying, in part or in whole, from another student’s test or other evaluation instrument (including papers or other written assignments), or using any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations or in preparing papers or other written assignments.
- ii. Submitting work previously presented in another course, unless specifically authorized by the instructor of the subsequent course.
- iii. Using or consulting, during an examination, sources or materials not authorized by the instructor.
- iv. Disobeying assignment or exam instructions and procedures, including those described in the Administrative Rules and Procedures section of this handbook and those provided orally or in writing by a proctor or instructor.
- v. Altering or interfering with grading or grading instructions, including contacting an instructor between the time the final assignment is submitted or the exam is administered and when grades are recorded or notifying an instructor of the student’s contemplation of, or a decision to take a course on a “credit/no credit” basis.

- vi. Obtaining or giving aid on an examination, assignment, or attendance verification in writing or orally, unless specifically authorized by the instructor. Any student who is asked for assistance on an assignment or examination is responsible for obtaining instructor approval before providing such assistance.
- vii. Obtaining unauthorized prior knowledge of an examination or assignment, or if such knowledge was obtained inadvertently, failing to disclose immediately such knowledge to the Assistant Director.
- viii. Committing any other act in the course of academic work which defrauds or misrepresents, including aiding or abetting in any of the actions defined above.

**b. Plagiarism**

Prohibited conduct includes plagiarism, including, but not limited to, the following:

- i. Copying verbatim all or part of another person's written work without proper citation or attribution.
- ii. Paraphrasing ideas, theories, cases, conclusions, or research without proper attribution.
- iii. Using equations, charts, figures, illustrations, or mathematical or scientific solutions without citing the source.
- iv. Representing as one's own the original ideas (theories, models, principles, etc.), phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or any parts thereof, or the specific substance of another person's work without giving appropriate credit.
- v. Representing another person's scholarly works, computer programs, case studies, or artistic works as one's own.

**2. MISREPRESENTATION**

Prohibited conduct includes engaging in acts of misrepresentation of fact, such as:

- a. Forgery, written or oral false statement and/or the alteration, or misuse of documents, records, stationery, logo or identification related to the School of Law or any governmental or other official entity.
- b. Misrepresentation or helping to misrepresent a student's grades, awards, status, or rank to employers or potential employers
- c. Furnishing information which is known by the student to be false or misleading to any instructor, member of the staff, or other employee or agent of the School of Law, the University or any State Bar. This includes but is not limited to furnishing false, incomplete or misleading information in a student's application for financial aid, petition for incomplete, exam reschedule request, or request for accommodation.
- d. Furnishing false, incomplete or misleading information in or failure to inform the School of Law within thirty (30) calendar days of (1) any and all changes to a

student's law school application materials, including arrests, charges and offenses committed prior to matriculation, and (2) any arrests, charges, or offenses committed during law school. Students are not required to disclose any minor traffic or parking citation to the School of Law unless it involves alcohol, drugs or an arrest.

- e. Accusing another student of violating The Standards, knowing that the accusation is false, or showing a reckless disregard as to its truth.
- f. Misrepresenting the policies, practices and procedures of the School of Law.

### 3. **INTERFERENCE WITH PROPERTY AND MISUSE OF SERVICES**

Prohibited conduct includes the unauthorized taking, destroying or damaging of property, or misusing services or facilities of the School of Law, the University, instructors, or other students, including:

- a. Unauthorized taking, attempting to take, damaging, or destroying notes, books, papers, or other academic materials of other students.
- b. Unauthorized taking, attempting to take, damaging or defacing of property belonging to the School of Law (including lockers), the University, a member of the University community, or a visitor on University property.
- c. Unauthorized taking, attempting to take, damaging, destroying, or misusing library property or materials or misusing library services including LEXIS, Westlaw, or any other research service the library subscribes to.
- d. Unauthorized possession, duplication, or use of keys to any University premises or vehicles or unauthorized entry to or use of University facilities or vehicles.
- e. Unauthorized taking, attempting to take or other abuse of University technology/computer time, including, but not limited to the following:
  - i. Unauthorized entry into a file, to use, read or change the contents, or for any other purpose.
  - ii. Unauthorized transfer of a file.
  - iii. Unauthorized use of another individual's identification and password.
  - iv. Use of computing facilities to interfere with the work of another member of the university community
  - v. Use of computing facilities to view or send obscene, offensive, or abusive messages, materials or websites.
  - vi. Use of computing facilities in the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted or otherwise protected material.
  - vii. Interference with normal operation of the University computing system.
  - viii. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of facsimile machines, media equipment, or phone equipment (including voicemail).
  - ix. Misuse of the University's online event calendar.

### 4. **ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS**

This section addresses actions which result in conviction under local, State, or Federal controlled substance law or which would otherwise violate the Drug- and Alcohol-Free

Policy of Golden Gate University. Prohibited conduct of this nature includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Unauthorized use, possession, or distribution of illegal narcotics, dangerous drugs, or prescription drugs at any location under the School of Law's jurisdiction.
- b. Public intoxication at School of Law or University sponsored or supervised activities, or use, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages or other intoxicants except as expressly permitted by law and the School of Law or University policies (refer to the Drug- and Alcohol-Free Policy chapter of this handbook).

**5. DISRUPTIVE OR UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

Prohibited conduct includes engaging in acts of disruptive or unprofessional conduct, such as:

- a. Obstruction of, disruption of, or tampering with any School of Law or University activity, including teaching, research, administration, disciplinary, or public service functions, or of any activities authorized or supervised by the School of Law or the University, including elections for any School of Law organization.
- b. Obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic on University premises or at activities authorized or supervised by the School of Law or the University.
- c. Disorderly conduct or lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct or expression or breach of the peace or aiding, abetting, or procuring another person to breach the peace on University premises or at activities authorized or supervised by the School of Law or the University.
- d. Conduct that violates the Golden Gate University Discrimination & Harassment Policy (see corresponding chapter in this *Handbook*).
- e. Engaging in any act or omission in connection with legal representation (or assistance in legal representation) of any client which, if engaged in by an attorney, would violate the rules of professional conduct for attorneys of the state in which such conduct occurred.

**6. ACTS HARMFUL TO OTHER PERSONS**

Prohibited conduct includes engaging in acts that are harmful to other persons, defined as:

- a. Physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, and/or any other such conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.
- b. Hazing, defined as an act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or that destroys or removes public or private property, for initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization.



- c. Possession of firearms, explosives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals on University premises or at activities authorized or supervised by the School of Law or the University.
- d. Retaliation against an individual who filed, threatened to file, or served as a witness to a complaint under the policies and procedures set forth in this handbook or under the policies and procedures of any process under law.

**7. FAILURE TO COMPLY**

Prohibited conduct includes engaging in acts constituting a failure to comply with administrative rules and procedures, such as:

- a. Engaging in employment in violation of hours restrictions imposed on first-year and full-time students.
- b. Registering for courses or failing to register for prescribed courses in violation of the rules contained in the *Student Handbook*, the required course schedule, any directive from a Law Student Support advisor, or any Student Advising form.
- c. Failure to comply with directions of the School of Law or University employees, officials, or law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties and/or failure to identify oneself to the persons when requested to do so.
- d. Failure to cooperate with complaint procedures. Examples include:
  - i. Failure to cooperate with the investigation of a complaint under The Standards, including failure to provide information known to the person being questioned or documents within his/her control.
  - ii. Failure to appear and testify, without reasonable excuse, as a witness or a charged student when properly asked to do so by the Assistant Director or the Hearing Panel.
  - iii. Knowingly misrepresenting any fact in proceedings that administer the Standards of Student Conduct.
  - iv. Violating an obligation of confidentiality imposed by The Standards.

**E. VIOLATION OF LAW AND UNIVERSITY DISCIPLINE**

Disciplinary proceedings may be instituted against a student charged with violation of a law that also is a violation of these Standards of Student Conduct without regard to criminal arrest and prosecution or whether civil litigation is pending. Proceedings under these Standards of Student Conduct may be carried out before, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings.

If the alleged offense is both a violation of law and subject to these Standards of Student Conduct, the School of Law may advise off-campus authorities of the existence of these Standards of Student Conduct and of how such matters will be handled within the School of Law community.

## **F. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

### **1. Initiating A Complaint**

Any member of the University community may initiate a complaint against any law student for misconduct. Members of the University community shall complete the School of Law Complaint Form and submit it to the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism. In cases of academic dishonesty, a complaint form will be provided to the instructor by the Assistant Director of Student Conduct & Professionalism. The complaint form is to be submitted as soon as possible after the event takes place and no later than one year from the date of the conduct forming the basis of the complaint.

The Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism is responsible for investigating all allegations and facilitating the disciplinary and resolution process. In the event that the matter involves conduct as to which the Assistant Director is or may be a witness, the Assistant Director shall recuse himself or herself and shall refer the matter to the associate dean. Notwithstanding the above, the Assistant Director is not required to recuse himself or herself from further participation in an investigation or a determination that the filing of a complaint is necessary, if the Assistant Director learns of additional information during the course of investigating a complaint and may be required to provide testimony regarding such information. In the event that the Assistant Director and the associate dean recuse themselves, the dean shall appoint a designee to handle the complaint.

The name of the complainant, the accused student, and all details with respect to the complaint and its resolution, shall be maintained in a confidential file. All such information shall be kept confidential; provided however, that such information may be disclosed when administratively required, required to complete the investigation, and/or required by legal compulsion, or when the School of Law believes it is obligated to report the matter to employers or potential employers, educational institutions or bar admission agencies seeking information as to applicants or to otherwise take independent formal action. In cases of academic dishonesty, the Assistant Director may consult with the instructor in finalizing the academic actions that may be taken. The School of Law may post or describe specific conduct complaints and their resolutions, as long as individuals' names are redacted from any such posting or communication.

### **2. Complaint and Notice**

The Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism will open an investigation. If the circumstances surrounding the complaint indicate that a violation of the Standards may have occurred, a written notice of a complaint will be issued to the accused student. Notice of a complaint will be considered adequate if it is sent to the last known e-mail address on file with the Registrar's Office.

Proper written notice to a student will include the following:

- a. Recitation of facts surrounding the alleged incident, in sufficient detail as to date, time, and location;
- b. Statement of the specific conduct code provision(s) that may have been violated;
- c. Any penalty(ies) assigned or other action(s) taken pending the resolution of the complaint;

- d. Amount of time in which the student has to respond to the notice;
- e. Ramifications of not responding to the notice within the time limit; and
- f. Copy of “Rights of Accused Student(s) in Disciplinary Proceedings”

3. **The Investigation Process**

The Assistant Director shall investigate whether the complaint has merit. With due regard for privacy of all individuals involved, the investigation may include checking in with a student’s past or current instructors.

The complainant, the accused student, and any witness having probative information shall be required to cooperate to the fullest extent possible with the investigation of a complaint. This shall include allowing the inspection of electronic files and hard copy drafts of documents. The Assistant Director may draw adverse inferences from any lack of cooperation by a student or witness.

4. **The Resolution Process**

In an effort to ensure that cases are resolved in a timely manner, the School of Law reserves the right to move forward with the resolution and disciplinary process for a case in the following situation:

- a. The student fails to respond to a notification letter sent by the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism within the time limit specified in the letter.
- b. The student withdraws from the University after allegedly engaging in misconduct, whether or not the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism has initiated either the investigation or resolution process.
- c. The student fails to appear for any of his or her scheduled meetings with the Assistant Director during the investigation or resolution process.

If the complaint involves conduct regarding a specific course or courses, the Assistant Director may instruct the registrar to record a grade of Incomplete (“I”) pending resolution of the complaint.

Upon completing the investigation, if the Assistant Director concludes that no violation has occurred, the matter will be closed. In such cases all information related to the case will be secured in a sealed file and a conduct record will not be created for the accused student for the incident. If the Assistant Director determines that there was a violation of the Standards, he/she issues a Disciplinary Action Letter, outlining his/her findings and any resulting sanction(s). At this point, the case may be resolved in one of the following two ways:

- a. **Informal Resolution Process:** During an informal resolution process, the student and Assistant Director will meet informally to discuss the alleged violation(s). If the substantive facts, findings and sanction(s), as described in the Disciplinary Action Letter, can be agreed upon between the Assistant Director and the charged student, a Resolution of Complaint Form will be prepared and signed by both sides. A signed

Resolution of Complaint Form will constitute a waiver of the right to a formal hearing and any appeal, and an acceptance of the finding(s) and sanction(s).

If the accused student does not agree with the finding(s) and/or outcome(s) recommended by the Assistant Director, as outlined in the Notice of Disciplinary Action Letter, he/she may choose to either (1) appeal to the associate dean **OR** (2) provided that the case meets eligibility requirements, request that the case be resolved through the Formal Hearing Process. The accused student must elect their resolution choice by completing and submitting the Resolution of Complaint Form to the Assistant Director. If the Assistant Director does not receive a completed Resolution Complaint Form that is signed and dated by the accused student within five (5) business days from the date of the Notice of Disciplinary Action Letter, the finding(s) and outcome(s) detailed within the Notice of Disciplinary Action Letter will stand.

In electing to appeal to the associate dean, the accused student must complete and submit the Student Appeal Form to the associate dean within five (5) business days from the date of the Notice of Disciplinary Action Letter issued by the Assistant Director. Review of the matter by the associate dean may result in additional sanctions for the accused student.

If the case is eligible, and the accused student elects to have the case resolved through the Formal Hearing Process, the Assistant Director will submit a Formal Hearing Request to the chair of the Hearing Panel to have the case heard before the School of Law Hearing Panel.

- b. **Formal Hearing Process:** A formal hearing will be conducted by the School of Law Hearing Panel. Procedures for a formal hearing will be consistent with those described in Section H. The formal hearing process is not available for cases in which the sanction imposed is either a warning or written reprimand.

## **G. RIGHTS OF STUDENT(S) IN DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

The following rights apply to a student conduct proceeding that has reached the level of a formal hearing **EXCEPT** that Rights 1 through 5 apply also to any investigative meeting held with the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism. Students have the right to:

1. A written notice of the complaint against them.
2. Adequate notice of dates set for all meetings, conferences, and hearings.
3. Reasonable review of the disciplinary case file maintained by the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism prior to a formal hearing and/or appeal.
4. A written notice of the outcome of the proceeding, and a description of the appeal procedure.
5. Present witnesses and submit any pertinent, supportive documentation. In a formal hearing, the hearing panel, by a 2/3 vote of members present at the hearing, may limit the number of witnesses to avoid dilatory tactics.
6. Submit an appeal.

7. Engage an advisor or attorney, at the expense of the student. The advisor or attorney may appear at the proceedings with the student to provide advice, but may not represent the student, directly question or address witnesses, or, in any other way, participate in the proceedings.
8. Question and cross-examine the complainant and all witnesses.
9. Challenge a member of the hearing panel on the grounds of bias, conflict of interest or any other factor that could preclude the panel member from rendering an impartial and fair decision. The panel member may be disqualified upon majority vote of the remaining members of the board present at the hearing, conducted by a secret ballot. If the hearing panel votes to exclude the challenged panel member from that particular hearing, the hearing will continue with the remaining panel members present, even if the number of panel members is less than the number required by the Standards to reach a quorum for that hearing.

## H. PROCEDURES FOR FORMAL HEARINGS

The following are the procedural steps for formal hearings:

1. **Notice of Hearing:** After the formal hearing is scheduled, the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism will notify the student(s) involved of the date, time and place of the hearing and of the pre-conference.
2. **Pre-conference:** At least two (2) weeks prior to the formal hearing, a pre-hearing conference will be scheduled by the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism for any charged student. The two (2) week requirement may be modified by mutual consent of the charged student and the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism. The conference will include the presiding chair of the Hearing Panel, the Assistant Director, and the accused student (and their advisor, if applicable). The purpose of the pre-conference will be to identify those issues and facts which will be presented at the hearing, to exchange information as to witnesses to be called, to answer procedural questions, and to settle those matters which may be concluded by mutual agreement, including the admission of documents and/or written statements to be considered at the hearing. The conference will not be used to settle the issue of whether the student is responsible for the alleged violation nor will the conference be used to determine any applicable sanction(s). Failure of the accused student to appear will in no way affect any of their procedural rights and will not prohibit a hearing from being set and being held.
3. **Formal Hearing:**
  - a. The focus of inquiry in a formal hearing within the School of Law will be the determination of whether a violation of the Standards occurred, as described in the Notice of Complaint Letter and the Formal Hearing Request, and the appropriate sanction(s) within the parameters of the Standards. Such decisions may be totally unrelated to any criminal or civil decisions against the student arising from the same incident.
  - b. Formal rules of evidence will not apply to the School of Law proceedings, nor will deviations from these prescribed procedures necessarily invalidate a decision or

proceeding unless significant prejudice to the accused student or the School of Law may result.

- c. The accused student will be presumed not to have violated the Standards until it is proven otherwise.
  - d. The School of Law must prove its case by a preponderance of the evidence.
  - e. The Assistant Director may recommend a sanction to the Hearing Panel, but the Hearing Panel will have the authority to reject the recommendation and issue any sanction(s) deemed appropriate.
  - f. All formal hearings will be recorded. Copies of the recording will remain the property of the School of Law and will serve as the official record of the proceedings.
4. **Disposition of the Case:**
- a. In the event the student also is registered for courses in another school within the University, the matter shall be assigned to the Hearing Panel of the school in which the student is currently doing a major portion of his or her work, unless otherwise determined by the Dean.
  - b. Quorum for a formal hearing shall consist of the chair of the Hearing Panel, the SBA president, and at least three (3) members of the full-time faculty appointed by the dean to the Hearing Panel. In the event that the SBA president is unable to serve in this role, the dean shall appoint an alternative student representative to the Hearing Panel.
  - c. Hearing Panel decisions will be made by a simple majority of the Hearing Panel members present at the hearing. After hearing the case, panel members will go into closed session to reach a decision.

Findings and recommendations of the Hearing Panel will be detailed in a written report to the associate dean within five (5) business days of completion of the hearing. In the Hearing Panel's consideration of the official charge(s) against the student, the report will state what Standards of Student Conduct section(s), if any, the panel determined to have been violated by the student. The report also will detail any behavior(s) which the Hearing Panel believed to have constituted the violation. Finally, in cases where a student has been found responsible for misconduct, the Hearing Panel's report will list any recommended sanction(s) within the parameters of the Standards. The associate dean will either accept or modify the Hearing Panel's recommendations.

## **I. APPEAL OF FORMAL HEARING RESULTS**

A student may appeal the sanction and/or underlying decision to the dean of the School of Law within five (5) business days of the student receiving written notification of the final disposition by the associate dean. Students must complete a Student Appeal Form and submit it to the dean of the School of Law. Appeals shall set forth:

- 1. The specific determination or sanction being appealed;

2. The basis for contesting the determination or sanction; and
3. The relief requested.

An appeal shall be limited to review of the verbatim record of the hearing and supporting documents for one or more of the following purposes:

1. To determine whether the hearing was conducted fairly in light of the charges and evidence presented and in conformity with these procedures giving the complaining party a reasonable opportunity to prepare and present evidence, and giving the accused student a reasonable opportunity to prepare and to present a rebuttal of those allegations;
2. To determine whether the facts in the case were sufficient to establish that a violation of the Standards of Student Conduct occurred;
3. To determine whether the sanction(s) imposed were appropriate for the violation of the Standards of Student Conduct that the student was found to have committed;
4. To consider new evidence sufficient to alter a decision because the person appealing did not know of such evidence and/or facts at the time of the original hearing and could not have reasonably discovered such facts, and such information may have resulted in a different resolution.

The dean of the School of Law shall respond to an appeal within fifteen (15) business days after the student files a notice of appeal. The dean may reduce the sanction without further remand to the Hearing Panel. If the dean determines that any other of the above conditions are met, he or she shall remand the matter back to the Hearing Panel for reconsideration. The scope of reconsideration shall be limited to one or more of the above conditions, as specified by the dean. The final disposition of the associate dean based on the reconsidered recommendation by the Hearing Panel shall be final with no further right of appeal to the dean of the School of Law.

## **J. INTERIM SUSPENSION**

Pending action on charges, a student's status as a member of the University community will not be altered or his or her right to attend classes or perform his or her prescribed duties suspended, except under any of the following circumstances as determined by the Assistant Director and approved by the dean:

1. To ensure the safety and well-being of members of the University community or preservation of University property;
2. To ensure the student's own physical or emotional safety and well-being;
3. If the student poses a credible threat of disruption of or interference with the normal operations of the University; and/or
4. If the student fails to attend the scheduled hearing on the disciplinary charges.

During the interim suspension, the student shall be denied access to University facilities including classes, and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, and/or other restrictions, as the Assistant Director may determine.

## **K. SANCTIONS FOR MISCONDUCT**

The following sanctions may be imposed by the Assistant Director upon any student found responsible through either the informal or formal resolution process to have violated the Standards:

1. **Warning:** a notice to the student that the student violated the Standards.
2. **Reprimand:** a written reprimand for violation of these Standards. The reprimand will describe the standards violated and will advise the student that they may face more severe disciplinary sanctions if found in violation of any of these Standards during the remainder of their status as a student.
3. **Loss of privileges:** denial of specified privileges for a designated period.
4. **Denial of course credit, an “F,” “WF” or “NC” grade, and loss of tuition:** If the misconduct occurred in connection with a particular course, the student could be sanctioned with loss of credit for the course(s), an “F,” “WF” or “NC” grade, notation of the loss of credit on official transcript, and/or loss of tuition. Alternatively, a grade may be otherwise adjusted based on a finding of misconduct.
5. **Fines:** imposition of a monetary penalty.
6. **Withdrawal and/or repayment of scholarship:** withdrawal from course(s) and/or rescission of any offer of future financial scholarship, denial of eligibility for future scholarship, and/or requirement that the student repay scholarship funds already received.
7. **Restitution:** compensation for loss, damage or injury. This may include appropriate community service (either within the University or outside the University) and/or monetary or material replacement.
8. **Discretionary sanctions:** work assignments, service to the School of Law or the University, or other related discretionary assignments.
9. **Disciplinary Probation:** An official notice that the student’s conduct is in violation of the Standards of Student Conduct but does not warrant suspension or expulsion. Probation is for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student commits another conduct code violation during the probationary period. During the probation period, a student may be subject to conditions including, but not limited to, exclusion from some programs and curricular or extra-curricular activities, such as running for and/or holding office in any student organization.
10. **Suspension:** separation of the student from the School of Law for a definite period, after which the student is eligible to return to the School. The Hearing Panel (in the case of a formal hearing) or the Assistant Director may specify conditions for reinstatement which must be satisfied in the administrative judgment of the Assistant Director in order to



perfect eligibility to return to the School. During the suspension, the student shall be denied access to University facilities including classes, and/or all other University activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible, and/or other restrictions, as the Assistant Director may determine.

11. **Expulsion:** permanent separation of the student from the School of Law.

12. **Revocation** of a degree already granted by the School.

More than one of the sanctions listed above may be imposed for any single violation.

The final disposition, whether through the informal or the formal complaint process, will note whether the misconduct and/or any sanction is reportable. If reportable, a copy of the disposition will be placed in the student's official file in the Registrar's Office.

The School of Law may inform any bar examining agency of any reportable sanction to the extent that, in its judgment, it is required or permitted to do so.

The associate dean or Assistant Director will inform the accused student in writing of the final disposition of the complaint.

## **L. JUDICIAL RECORDS POLICY**

The Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism maintains a hard copy file and any taped recordings of the hearings.

Judicial records are regulated by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The judicial record of a student may be shared internally with University personnel only in instances where such disclosure is permitted under the provision of "an educational need to know" under FERPA.

## **M. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS**

Any question of interpretation of these Standards of Student Conduct shall be referred to the Assistant Director. The dean and only the dean will make final and binding resolution of any such question.

The Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism reserves the right to amend the Standards of Student Conduct at any time.

## XVII. FINANCIAL AID

**As a reminder, students should note that the policies, rules and procedures in the *Student Handbook* are subject to change.**

Most Golden Gate University School of Law students require some type of financial assistance to pay for their education. While the law school makes every effort to assist students, financial aid funding is limited. Therefore, students should make every attempt to supplement their financial aid with savings and employment.

### A. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Golden Gate University School of Law administers a full range of programs to help students fund their education. Funding can be met with a combination of scholarships, federal work-study, federal loans (Perkins, Stafford, PLUS) and private loans.

In order to be eligible for federal student aid, a student must:

- Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov);
- Be admitted and/or enrolled in the School of Law (at least on a half-time basis) as a degree seeking student;
- Be a US citizen or permanent resident or have an eligible alien status;
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress (see Section I below);
- Have registered with the selective service, if required by federal law; and
- Not be in default on any Title IV loan or owe a refund on any Title IV grant.

A separate university financial aid application is not required for JD students. JD students are automatically packaged for the fall/spring terms. A separate financial aid application is needed for summer. All LLM and SJD students must submit a financial aid application, available on our [website](#). Visa-holding LLM and SJD students should consult the “International Students” section of this *Handbook* for more information. Students enrolled in the JD/MBA program receive aid based on the cost of attendance for law students during their entire tenure. Students enrolled in the JD/PhD program receive financial aid from Golden Gate University during their first year of law school and the first summer semester. All future eligibility is determined and disbursed by Pacific Graduate School of Psychology (PGSP).

### B. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A student who wishes to receive financial aid must complete the following items each academic year:

1. Students must complete and submit a FAFSA to the Federal Processor. The FAFSA must be filed every year. The priority deadline is March 2. Students must indicate in Section H on the FAFSA form that Golden Gate University is the college they plan to attend. Golden Gate University School of Law’s Title IV Institutional Code is: 001205-29.

2. If selected for verification, students must submit additional documents as requested by the Financial Aid Office, such as an IRS tax transcript, W-2 forms, verification worksheets and/or proof of citizenship or permanent residency.
3. All first-time GGU federal loan borrowers must complete a mandatory online entrance counseling session at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Information regarding the counseling session is sent with the award offer.
4. All first-time federal loan borrowers must sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) for the Stafford Loan(s) with the federal government at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). The Financial Aid Office will certify a student's Stafford Loans each year upon the student's acceptance of his or her financial aid offer. The amount requested is the amount the student accepts on the financial aid award letter.
5. Students who receive a Federal Perkins Loan or Federal Work-Study Award must complete the required documents requested by the Financial Aid Office in a timely manner, or the funds may be forfeited.
6. Students applying for a PLUS loan must sign an MPN online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) and submit a loan request form to the school. Students applying for private loans must contact their lenders directly and go through the loan approval process. The Law School strongly encourages students to complete the loan process online and to e-sign the promissory note to expedite processing. In most cases, the Financial Aid Office certifies all loans electronically, unless the student chooses a lender that does not accept electronic certification.
7. Students requesting a PLUS or private loan must complete and submit a *Budget Worksheet/Loan Request Form*, available on the financial aid [website](#).
8. Students requesting additional funding or a late loan certification for a PLUS or private loan must make sure that the certification request is submitted to the Financial Aid Office no later than December 1 for the fall term, May 1 for the spring term, and July 1 for the summer term. Certification requests received after this date will not be certified.
9. Upon graduation or separation from the law school, students receiving federal aid must complete exit loan counseling as instructed by the Financial Aid Office.

Failure to complete the above items can result in delays or the complete loss of all financial aid eligibility.

Further information about financial aid may be obtained by calling the Financial Aid Office at 442-6635 or by e-mailing [lawfao@ggu.edu](mailto:lawfao@ggu.edu).

### **C. SCHOOL-BASED FINANCIAL AID**

To be eligible to receive a Federal Perkins loan, Federal Work-Study, or need-based Special Scholarship assistance, a student must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority deadline of March 2. Failure to meet the priority deadline may preclude the student from being considered for school-based aid. School-based aid can be used to cover tuition expenses at Golden Gate University only; it cannot be applied toward semesters visiting away. If a student decides to study abroad for a semester during which he

or she has been awarded school-based aid, this aid will be canceled and may not be transferred to any other semester.

**1. Federal Perkins Loan**

The Perkins Loan is a federally funded fixed 5% interest loan through Golden Gate University. Repayment of the loan and interest accrual begins nine months after the borrower graduates, leaves school, or drops below half-time enrollment. Students may be considered for Perkins Loans after they have completed their first year of law school. Funding is awarded at the discretion of the Financial Aid Office with priority given to students who meet the FAFSA priority deadline and demonstrate financial need as defined by the federal processor and the university. Perkins Loans are offered to help offset the cost of tuition. If awarded a Perkins Loan, a student must complete a Perkins promissory note as instructed by the Financial Aid Office prior to funds being transmitted to the student's account. Funding is limited, and it is possible that in certain years, no funds will be available. The maximum annual award is \$8,000, with an aggregate Perkins lifetime loan limit of \$60,000.

**2. Federal Work-Study**

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) program was designed by the federal government to expand part-time employment opportunities for students with demonstrated financial need. Through this program, federal funds are used to pay a portion of the student's salary; the job provider is responsible for the remainder. Students may be considered for FWS after they have completed their first year of law school. Funding is awarded at the discretion of the Financial Aid Office with priority given to students who meet the FAFSA priority deadline and demonstrate financial need as defined by the federal processor and the university. Funding is limited; the amount of work-study award is based on the availability of funds.

In addition, the jobs developed under this program are intended to serve the public interest and thus meet the needs of the community and the University. Off-campus job providers are private employers, non- or not-for-profit agencies, or organizations in the public or private sectors. Private sector employment must be educationally relevant. No work-study student employee may displace previous employees, nor may the work-study job involve political or religious activities.

Work-study funds may be made available during periods of non-enrollment (e.g., summer). However, if a student chooses to secure federal work-study funding and is not enrolled at least half-time for that semester, the gross amount the student earns will be considered a monetary resource for the next term in which the student is enrolled at least half-time. FWS will not be processed for students who will not be enrolled the following semester. Students may not receive FWS funds during the same semester they are working for the same job provider for academic credit.

All work-study recipients are employees of Golden Gate University, even if they are working for an off-campus job provider. Employment is governed by the personnel policies and practices of Golden Gate University. During periods of enrollment, students may work up to 19.5 hours per week, provided that there are no conflicts with class schedules. During periods of non-enrollment, or during an HLP apprenticeship, students may submit time sheets for up to 37.5 hours per week. Overtime is never allowed. Anything over 7.5 hours per day is considered overtime. Additionally, if students work more than 5 hours in a day, a minimum 30-minute lunch break is required. Students cannot work more than 999 hours per calendar year. Students should meet with a financial aid counselor for more information.

### 3. **Public Interest Work-Study (PIWS)**

The School of Law established the Public Interest Work-Study (PIWS) program to assist selected students in gaining work experience at government agencies and public interest organizations. Through PIWS, the School of Law pays the job provider's portion of a student's salary to supplement federal work-study funds. In this way, students may work for job providers who are unable to pay their salary allocation required under the Federal Work-Study program (described earlier). Private, for-profit employers are not eligible to participate in the Public Interest Work-Study program.

Historically, the number of students who apply exceeds the number of PIWS placements that are available. Preference is given to students who are seeking to work for a job provider with whom they have not previously worked in any capacity. Community involvement and academic performance also may be considered.

Students are not eligible for School of Law PIWS funds if they are not in good academic standing and/or are likely to be disqualified, or if they will not be enrolled at the School of Law the following semester. Preference is given to students who have not been previously awarded PIWS. Approval of PIWS funds for a particular job provider is subject to the discretion of the Financial Aid Office. The job provider must be a government agency or a non-profit organization. A job provider who employs any students under the regular Federal Work-Study program is not eligible under the School of Law PIWS Program.

### 4. **Veteran Benefits**

Students who qualify for benefits under the Veterans Affairs Educational Assistance Programs listed below may use those benefits to assist with their educational expenses.\*

- Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill: Active Duty
- Chapter 31 Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation
- Chapter 32 Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP)
- Chapter 33 Post 9/11 Tuition/Fees & Yellow Ribbon Program
- Chapter 35 Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance
- Chapter 1606 Montgomery GI Bill: Selected Reserve
- Chapter 1607 Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

Golden Gate University is proud to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, a provision of the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Under the Yellow Ribbon Program, the university will award a grant up to 50% of unmet tuition costs, not to exceed \$13,000 per semester, to eligible Yellow Ribbon Program veterans. The Veterans Administration will match the other 50%.

Merit scholarships awarded by GGU Law will be applied to tuition costs only. The combination of a merit scholarship, VA tuition benefit, and GGU's Yellow Ribbon grant may not exceed the total cost of tuition. Eligible students should contact the University's designated VA certifying officer as soon as possible to receive a comprehensive review of how VA benefits may assist with tuition and to initiate the certification of enrollment to the Veterans Administration. The VA officer may be reached at (415) 442-7283 or via email at [va@ggu.edu](mailto:va@ggu.edu).

*\*VA benefit information is accurate as of the time of the printing of this document. Students applying for VA benefits are strongly encouraged to review the VA benefits at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) as benefits are subject to change at any time without prior notice.*

## **D. COST OF ATTENDANCE/BUDGET PETITIONS**

A student who experiences a change in circumstances (e.g., unexpected medical expenses, childcare expenses, other emergencies) may file a petition for additional funding. Relocation expenses and consumer debt (e.g., credit card debt, high-cost apartment, car loans) will not be considered for budget increases. To apply, students must submit a petition form, available only after meeting with a financial aid counselor, along with a detailed explanation for the request with the appropriate receipts and documentation to support the petition. Petitions will be accepted from the beginning of the semester for which the expenses were incurred but no later than November 15 for the fall term, April 15 for the spring term and Friday of the fourth week of the term for the summer term. Petitions may take up to three weeks to be reviewed. A student must agree to submit any additional documentation that is requested. All submitted documentation is confidential and considered property of the University once it has been submitted and, therefore, will not be returned under any circumstances. All petitions are submitted to the Financial Aid Office and reviewed by a committee. Approval of a petition does not guarantee the student will be able to obtain the loan funds from the lender and/or automatically constitute that a similar petition may be approved in the future. Any misrepresentation or falsification will result in the denial of the petition and possible withdrawal of future financial aid and may be subject to action under the Standards of Student Conduct.

## **E. COMPUTER PURCHASE BUDGET INCREASE**

Students receiving financial aid may request a budget increase to reflect the expense of purchasing a computer for educational use. The increase is allowed as a one time adjustment during the student's tenure at Golden Gate University, regardless of what might happen to the computer (e.g., theft or loss). Increasing a student's budget to allow for the purchase of the computer will increase the student's PLUS/private loan eligibility. Approval of the budget increase does not guarantee the student will be able to obtain the loan funds from the lender.

In order to have the budget increased, the student must first purchase a computer. The computer must be purchased during the academic school year period for which the student is enrolled. Students will need to submit an itemized copy of the receipt(s), including the total cost of the computer, to the Financial Aid Office. The budget will be increased by the actual cost of the computer, not to exceed \$2,000. Computer budget increase requests will be accepted from the beginning of the semester during which the expense was incurred but no later than December 1 for the fall term, May 1 for the spring, and July 1 for the summer.

## **F. BAR LOANS**

### **1. Private Bar Exam Loans**

Bar examination loans are available to graduating students through private lenders to assist with financing the costs associated with taking the bar exam and living expenses during the bar exam study period immediately after graduation. Bar loans are credit-based, and the amount students can borrow varies by lender. Please note the Financial Aid Office may certify a bar loan through one lender only. Bar loans are in addition to any financial aid a student may have received for the regular school year.

### **2. GGU School of Law Bar Exam Prep Loans**

Golden Gate University School of Law offers an institutional loan to students who are otherwise ineligible to obtain a private bar study loan. The intent of this loan is to assist

graduating JD students in covering the cost of taking a prep course to pass the California bar exam for the first time. Funding is limited to cover up to the cost of the review course plus reasonable living expenses. Loans are awarded on a first come, first served basis.

To be eligible, a JD student must complete a timely application and:

- Be sitting for the California Bar Exam for the first time;
- Have been denied a private bar loan through two of the private lenders within 30 days of applying for the GGU BAR loan (proof will be required);
- Be in good standing with the University;
- Submit proof of registration for a bar review course;
- Submit a brief statement explaining the need for funding;
- Submit a statement from their law school bar mentor stating they are participating in the Law School Bar Mentor Program; and
- Attend a one-on-one in-person exit loan counseling session prior to graduation.

## **G. EXTERNAL SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID**

In order to obtain adequate funding for a law school education, students are encouraged to explore additional avenues of funding. **We recommend that students research other outside private scholarship opportunities through the Bar Association of San Francisco, state or local bar associations, ethnic or cultural membership organizations, or local Chamber of Commerce offices. Many national and local organizations are eager to recognize promising law and graduate students. Students receiving outside scholarships should report them to the Financial Aid Office, as they must be considered as part of the aid package.**

## **H. INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIP & GRANT INFORMATION AND POLICIES**

All School of Law institutional scholarships are applied against tuition for courses taken at Golden Gate University School of Law. Our school policy dictates that a student may not, at any time, receive more scholarship than their tuition expenses for any given semester. Students cannot use these awards to pay tuition at other law schools, study abroad programs, or other schools within Golden Gate University. This does not preclude using the award to pay for units taken through the Northern California Law School Consortium.

**Please refer to the Academic Standards section of this *Handbook* for a complete listing of the required courses that are considered in order to determine your cumulative grade point average in required courses and scholarship eligibility for each year of law school.**

For purposes of institutional scholarships, the evaluation period to determine eligibility occurs at the conclusion of each spring semester. However, the first two evaluation periods for part-time evening students that started in fall 2015 or later will be at the end of each full year of law school to include summer. Any student who is granted an Incomplete in a required course or granted a leave of absence from law school will not be evaluated for scholarship eligibility until all required courses attempted have been completed. Please note this might jeopardize the total amount of scholarship a student is eligible to receive. Continued scholarship eligibility will be communicated by the Financial Aid Office. At the end of the first year or during any subsequent evaluation period, if a student fails to achieve the necessary cumulative GPA in required courses and loses his or her scholarship, there will not be an opportunity for re-evaluation. Students academically disqualified from law school

will lose all institutional scholarships they had received, regardless of any subsequent reinstatement. Once forfeited, institutional scholarships cannot be regained.

Generally, all institutional and special scholarship awards are divided in half and applied equally against tuition charges in the fall and spring terms. Second year HLP students who maintain their merit scholarships after the evaluation period will have half of their merit scholarships retroactively applied toward their summer tuition and the other half will be applied towards their subsequent spring tuition. Second year HLP students who are also recipients of Public Interest, Environmental Law, and special scholarships will have these awards applied toward their tuition for the subsequent spring semester. Part-time students matriculating in fall 2015 or later will have their scholarships divided over the fall, spring, and summer terms of their first and second years.

Any change in a student's program or enrollment status will result in the re-evaluation of the award but will not increase the amount or extend the term of the scholarship that was originally offered. Scholarships are granted contingent upon the student's matriculation and successful completion of all courses undertaken. **If a student withdraws from law school in a given term, the scholarship will be revoked or canceled, and the student may be liable for tuition costs for those courses as determined by the Withdrawal Tuition Credit Policy.** A student who graduates early or who chooses to visit away may forfeit some of the scholarship award. All questions regarding scholarship allocation should be directed to the Financial Aid Office.

#### 1. **Dean's and Faculty Merit Scholarships**

The Office of Admissions awards Dean's and Faculty Merit Scholarships to eligible JD students at the time of admission. Scholarship amounts are stated in the admission offer letter. **To maintain eligibility for a Dean's or Faculty Merit Scholarship as a continuing (upper-year) student, a student must earn a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or higher in required courses at the end of each scholarship evaluation period.** Please refer to the Academic Standards section of this *Handbook* for the list of the courses that are considered in order to determine a student's required course GPA.

#### 2. **California, Gateway and San Francisco Housing Scholarships**

The Office of Admissions awards California Scholarships to a select number of admitted students who earned their undergraduate degrees at one of California's public universities (California State University or University of California). These scholarships are awarded at the time of admission and are based on the recipients' academic achievements and contributions to their campus communities. Scholarship amounts are stated in the offer of admission. California Scholarships are **one-time, non-renewable awards**.

The Office of Admissions also awards Gateway and San Francisco Housing Scholarships to eligible students at the time of admission. Scholarship amounts are stated in the offer of admission. Gateway and San Francisco Housing Scholarships are **one-time, non-renewable awards**

#### 3. **Public Interest and Environmental Law Scholarships**

The Office of Admissions awards Public Interest Scholars Program (PISP) Scholarships and Environmental Law Scholars Program (ELSP) Scholarships to eligible students at the time of admission. PISP and ELSP Scholarship amounts are stated in the admission offer letter. **To maintain eligibility for a PISP or ELSP Scholarship as a continuing**



**(upper-year) student, a student must earn a cumulative GPA of 3.00\* or higher in required courses at the end of each scholarship evaluation period.** Please refer to the Academic Standards chapter of this handbook for the list of the courses that are considered in order to determine a student's required course GPA.

*\*Students that started law school prior to fall 2016 must earn a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher in required courses to maintain eligibility.*

4. **Continuing JD Student Scholarships**

Funds permitting, the Law School Scholarship Committee may evaluate for Continuing Student Merit Scholarships those continuing students who did not receive a scholarship at the time of admission. The amount of the scholarship award is based on academic achievement and contingent on the availability of funds. This scholarship does not require an application. Continuing Student Merit Scholarships will be awarded only prior to the beginning of the student's second full academic year. New scholarships will not be awarded at the start of any subsequent academic year. **To maintain eligibility for a Continuing Student Merit Scholarship, the student must earn a minimum 3.00 cumulative grade point average (GPA) in required courses at the end of each evaluation period thereafter.** Please refer to the Academic Standards section of this *Handbook* for the list of the courses that are considered in order to determine a student's required course GPA.

5. **Special Scholarships**

The School of Law is the custodian of several donor-based and endowed scholarship funds that are distributed to students based on eligibility and specific award criteria. Some of these scholarship sources are used to supplement the law school's institutional aid and merit scholarship programs. Others are awarded on a competitive basis for which an application or essay is required. Typically, special scholarship applications are available in late spring. Please contact the Financial Aid Office with any questions regarding special scholarships.

Students who are selected to receive a special scholarship must agree to write a thank you letter to the donor prior to the scholarship being applied to their student account.

## I. FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

1. **Measures of Progress**

All students who receive Title IV Federal Financial Aid must maintain financial aid satisfactory academic progress. Golden Gate University is required to periodically evaluate students' progress toward their degree completion. **Note that this financial aid evaluation is separate and distinct from the law school's evaluation for academic standing.** Golden Gate University's Satisfactory Academic Progress policy evaluates students' qualitative progress (GPA) and their quantitative progress (courses completed) as follows:

a. **Qualitative (GPA) Measure of Progress**

All financial aid recipients must demonstrate a certain level of academic achievement, as measured by the cumulative overall and cumulative required course grade point averages (GPAs). Please refer to the Academic Standards section of this *Handbook* for the list of the courses that are considered in order to determine a

student's required course GPA. The following GPAs represent the minimum cumulative GPAs needed to maintain a student's financial aid eligibility:

All JD degree programs (following two semesters):

For students who matriculated in fall 2014 or earlier:

Overall .....2.00

Required courses .....2.15

For students who matriculated in fall 2015 or later:

Overall .....2.00

Required courses .....2.30

All LLM degree programs (after eight or more units) .....2.50

SJD degree program.....3.00

b. **Quantitative Measure of Progress**

All students receiving financial aid must successfully complete at least 80% of the units attempted. Attempted units include all graded and transcribed units, all incomplete units, units from prior terms that were dropped after the first week of classes or that were not completed, and all transfer units. Completed units are those units for which the student has received a grade and degree credit, including all transfer units.

In addition, students must complete at least 70% of the units for which they receive financial aid. **A student will not receive degree credit twice for the same course, so a repeated course will not be counted as completed units.** Courses taken with audit status are not included in either the number of units attempted or the number of units completed. Likewise, courses taken in "Open Enrollment" status are not included unless those course(s) are subsequently applied toward a degree program. Satisfactory progress always measures what has happened in prior terms, so all registration and enrollment activity for the current term is excluded from the evaluations.

All students receiving financial aid must complete their degree programs within 150% of the minimum required units for the degree (rounded up to the nearest whole number of units). For example, the JD degree program requires 88 units for graduation. Students may attempt 132 units toward this degree before becoming ineligible for financial aid. All students are eligible to receive aid for up to 150% of the minimum time frame required to complete their degree. For example, the full-time JD degree program is completed in 3 years. A student may receive aid for up to 4.5 years to complete their degree. If a student does not complete their program within this time frame, he or she will no longer be eligible to receive further federal aid. Students should monitor their total loan debt while completing their degree.

2. **Financial Aid Warning**

A student who falls below either measure (qualitative or quantitative) will be placed automatically on "financial aid warning" (FAW) for one semester. Note that financial aid warning is completely separate from academic probation as described in the Academic Standards chapter of this *Handbook*. A student may be placed on FAW independently of his or her academic standing. A student who has not met the minimum GPA requirements will have **one** warning semester to raise his or her GPA up to the minimum required level. A student who does not achieve the 80% completion rate will have **one** warning semester to raise his or her completion rate back up to 80%. A student on FAW will not

be eligible to receive funding in a subsequent semester until he or she has met the minimum requirements to be removed from FAW. Funding for a subsequent semester may be certified but funds will be held until eligibility is cleared. If a student regains satisfactory standing at the end of this period, he or she will be removed from FAW, and any pending aid will be released. If, at the end of the warning semester, the student fails to gain satisfactory standing, the student's financial aid will be canceled. Students are allowed only one warning period. Students who drop below the minimum progress requirements a second time will not be given a second warning period, and their financial aid will be subject to immediate cancellation.

**3. Financial Aid Appeals**

Students who are unable to regain satisfactory academic standing at the end of a warning period or whose financial aid is otherwise subject to cancellation have the right to petition for a probationary period. Students who feel that there were truly exceptional and/or unavoidable circumstances that prevented them from meeting the eligibility requirements should submit a letter of appeal to the Financial Aid Office, stating in detail the basis of their appeal, along with any supporting documentation. Supporting documentation must be detailed and specific as to its relevance to a student's request for an exception to this policy and must provide information about the student's ability to continue in their program. The Financial Aid Appeals Committee will review the documentation submitted and make a final decision. The student will be notified of the decision via email.

**4. Financial Aid Probation**

If an appeal is approved, the student receives aid for one additional semester. Funding for a subsequent semester may be certified, but funds will be held until eligibility is cleared. If a student regains satisfactory standing at the end of their probationary period, he or she will be removed from Financial Aid Probation and any pending aid will be released. If, at the end of the probationary semester, the student fails to gain satisfactory standing, the student's financial aid will be canceled and the student will become ineligible for further aid. A student whose financial aid is canceled after he or she fails to maintain financial aid satisfactory academic progress must regain satisfactory standing in order for his or her eligibility for financial aid to be reinstated. This can be done by the student if he or she raises their cumulative GPA to the minimum required for the student's degree program or by increasing their completed-to-attempted units percentage during a semester without receiving federal financial aid.

A student who is returning to Golden Gate University after being academically disqualified will be evaluated on a term-by-term basis at the end of every term. In this case, a student's evaluation for financial aid satisfactory academic progress will be based on the term GPA and not on the student's cumulative GPA.

## XVIII. GRADUATE LAW PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise indicated, the administrative policies and procedures described in other chapters of this handbook apply to all students in the School of Law, including graduate law students. **Wherever there is a note referring graduate law students to differing LLM and SJD policies, students can find them stated in this section.**

The Academic Calendar and published deadlines apply to all law students in all programs.

All LLM and SJD students have access to all student services, including the law library, online research, computer support, counseling and advising, student organizations, career services, bar examination loans, and many of the special programs and clinics.

**The policies and procedures that follow apply to all students in all graduate programs,** whether they are graduates of US or foreign schools of law, and whether they are US citizens or permanent residents, or attending school on an F-1 or J-1 student (temporary/non-immigrant) visa.

Additional rules governing SEVIS (Student Exchange Visitor Information System) registration and tracking of foreign law graduates on F-1 or J-1 student visas may be found in the “International Students” section of this handbook.

Each LLM and SJD program has special requirements in addition to those spelled out in this handbook. Every student should seek advising from the Program Director or Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to ensure that he or she is complying with the program rules.

### A. REGISTRATION AND ADVISING

LLM Tax and Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law graduate students may use GGU4YOU for online registration; all other LLM graduate law students should submit a paper [\*Registration Request\*](#) form to the Registrar’s Office. Graduate students may find that their registration is blocked if a course for which they are attempting to register has a prerequisite which they have not taken at Golden Gate. Graduate students will need to register for these courses by submitting a paper registration form and obtaining the signature of their Program Director or the course instructor. **All LLM graduate students should seek academic advising every semester *before* registering for classes and obtain the signature of the Program Director for all courses as needed.**

### B. OVERLOADS AND FULL COURSE LOADS

The LLM and SJD programs have flexible enrollment policies that permit continuous enrollment when a student is enrolled in one course, thesis, practical training, externship, or directed study. The programs also allow for leaves of absence in increments of up to one year (and in special cases more) and for course overloads when authorized by the Program Director. However, all students should be aware that financial aid regulations and visa requirements may limit their options. When in doubt, students should seek specific advising to avoid problems.

## C. AUDITING

Students who are enrolled in an LLM degree program cannot audit courses. SJD students and students who are not pursuing a degree may audit courses. Attorneys may enroll in a course as auditors on a space available basis. Subject to the approval of the Program Director, a limited number of non-degree candidates who are not attorneys may audit certain tax and trust and estate courses. Auditing is always subject to the approval of the instructor for the course. Courses taken in an audit status may not be applied to an LLM program. Auditors may be required to participate in class discussions, but they may not take the final exam and they receive no grade or academic credit for the course. Auditors are subject to the School of Law's Standards of Student Conduct. SJD and non-matriculated students may change to audit status by submission of a [Registration Request](#) form until the last day of instruction for the term. Once the status of a course has been changed to audit, it may not be revoked.

## D. VISITING SCHOLARS

Visiting scholars are judges, lawyers, law graduates, or law professors from other countries who register for one or two semesters at Golden Gate to pursue research. These scholars may not have a degree objective but may enroll in one or more classes according to the terms of their invitation or government study grant. Visiting scholars may take the final examination and receive a grade for the course. Visiting scholars are required to pay registration fees and international student fees. Visiting scholars who later decide to pursue an LLM or SJD program may, upon approval of the Program Director, apply courses completed while in visiting scholar status to the degree program.

## E. ADDING AND DROPPING COURSES

All graduate law students are governed by the same add-drop policies as JD students. They must meet all of the deadlines to add or drop courses to avoid penalties. However, where students experience unavoidable visa problems that delay their arrival and registration, the situation will be taken into account. F and J visa holding students planning to enroll in Curricular Practical Training (CPT) should see that section in the "International Students" section for eligibility and registration procedures.

## F. CREDIT/NO CREDIT ELECTION

With the approval of the Program Director, LLM students may take up to six units of **non-required courses** on a "Credit/No Credit" basis. The deadlines for submitting the [Election for Credit/No Credit](#) form are the same as those in the JD program; see the "Administrative Rules" section of this handbook.

## G. LANGUAGE ACCOMMODATION FOR EXAMS

LLM or SJD students whose first language is not English and whose prior law degree was not obtained in English may request a language accommodation for examinations only in special circumstances and with the approval of the Program Director. A *Request for Language Accommodation* form is available on the Registrar's Office forms [webpage](#). The form must be completed and submitted by the deadline listed on the form. The deadline

for requesting language accommodations is very early in the semester, so students should act promptly. The LLM/SJD Program Director must approve and sign the request. Late requests will not be granted without the approval of the Exam Coordinator.

If approved, the language accommodation allows an extra 20 minutes per hour of scheduled examination time and permits accommodated students to bring a bilingual dictionary to the exam. The dictionary must be “English to student’s language” or “student’s language to English” only. English language dictionaries with definitions, electronic translators with definitions, and law dictionaries are NOT permitted.

Requests must be made each term in which the student wants to receive the language accommodation. **Approval in a prior term does not carry over to subsequent terms.**

## **H. GRADING POLICIES**

Many LLM students plan to work in US law offices as law clerks or lawyers. Therefore, they need to have a realistic picture of their ability to understand and practice US law. For all JD courses in which they enroll, LLM students will be graded according to the JD grading standards found in this handbook. However, they will not be included in curve calculations.

## **I. GRADE VALUES**

Grades are based on a twelve-category letter system with numerical point equivalents as follows:

A+	4.0 (awarded, at discretion of instructor, to 1 student maximum in any course)
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.0
C-	1.67
D	1.0
F	0.0
WF	0.0

## **J. RETAKING A COURSE**

LLM and SJD students who have received a “C-” or lower in a specific course, or who are on academic probation, may retake a course with permission of the LLM or SJD Program Director. The grade from the second taking is the grade that will be calculated in the student’s GPA, whether or not it is higher than the first grade earned. The first grade will not be calculated in the student’s GPA, but the course and grades will appear on the student’s transcript as having been repeated. All tuition charges and fees associated with the second taking must be paid by the student.

## **K. APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION**

LLM and SJD students should enter their anticipated date of graduation on the registration form each semester, and this date may be changed by advisement. However, every student must also file an [\*Application for Graduation and Commencement\*](#) prior to graduation. The deadlines for filing the application are September 1 for December graduation candidates and December 1 for May and July graduation candidates.

## **L. GRADUATION HONORS**

Graduation honors are awarded to LLM students earning cumulative GPAs of 3.50 and above.

## **M. TRANSCRIPTS**

LLM and SJD students must provide official transcripts of their prior law study with their application. These transcripts become the property of Golden Gate University and remain in the student's file for up to five years after graduation. Students who have graduated from law school in non-English speaking nations must provide certified translations as well.

## **N. TRANSCRIPTS FOR BAR EXAMINATIONS**

All students who plan to take a bar examination should review the state bar requirements before requesting documentation for the bar. Students from other countries should bring with them to the US an official transcript and a certified translation in sealed envelopes or with official seals for submission to the bar when applying to take the bar exam. Upon completing the LLM degree, the student should obtain an official Golden Gate transcript online from the National Student Clearinghouse, or from the Registrar's Office. Students from nations where it may take considerable time to obtain official records should plan ahead. Where, because of circumstances beyond the student's control, it is impossible for a student to obtain additional official transcripts from the home country, the Registrar's Office may be able to certify a photocopy of the original transcript which is on file with the University. Information on requesting official transcripts, certification to the bar, and bar-related forms and documents are available online. If you have questions, the Registrar's Office may be able to assist you.

## **O. LLM STUDENT REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OR REAPPLICATION OF UNITS**

Generally, whether the courses were taken while the student was in a JD or LLM program, up to twelve units from courses in a related program at an ABA-approved LLM program may be counted towards an LLM program at Golden Gate University School of Law. The student must have earned a grade of at least "B-" (2.67) in each course to be transferred. Consent of the receiving Program Director is required for any transfer or reapplication of units.

## **P. TRANSFERRING BETWEEN LLM PROGRAMS AT GGU**

A student may apply to transfer from one GGU LLM program to another by submitting a request in writing to the new Program Director. The Program Director will determine admission and whether any scholarship awarded in the prior program will be applicable in

the new program. The new Program Director will also determine what, if any, courses taken in the prior program will apply to the new program.

#### **Q. LLM US LEGAL STUDIES APPLICATION FOR CONCENTRATION FORM**

While the LLM programs in Environmental Law, Intellectual Property, International Legal Studies, Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law, and Taxation have specific course requirements that provide the student with a specialization in a particular area of US or international law, the LLM program in US Legal Studies is a general program offering a basic curriculum in US law. Nevertheless, some law graduates in the LLM US Legal Studies program may elect to specialize in a particular area of US law. LLM US Legal Studies students may complete a concentration by completing the required courses for the LLM US program and completing a minimum of sixteen units of courses selected from the concentration course lists. Concentrations are available in Corporate and Commercial Law, Immigration Law, Labor and Employment Law, Litigation and Lawyering Skills, Real Estate/Property Development Law, and US Legal Practice. To apply for a concentration, students should obtain the *LLM US Legal Studies Concentration Application* form, refer to the list of courses in section XIX.H.3. below, and make an advising appointment with the LLM US Legal Studies Program Director.



# XIX. GRADUATE LAW ACADEMIC STANDARDS

The following academic standards pertain to those who matriculate as students during the 2016-2017 academic year. Unless otherwise noted, continuing students who matriculated in prior academic years are governed by the Grading Policies portion of the 2016-2017 *Handbook* and by all other portions of the Academic Standards in the handbooks for their respective matriculation years.

This section only pertains to students in LLM, LLM Certificate, or SJD programs. JD students enrolled in LLM courses are subject to JD Academic Standards. Any standards not addressed in this section are thereby subject to the JD Academic Standards.

Students also should note that the policies, rules and procedures in the *Student Handbook* are subject to change. The Graduate Law Programs office will make every attempt to notify students of any changes to their program requirements, but it is the students' responsibility to check the online version of the handbook throughout the year to keep apprised of any changes to program rules and policies.

The Academic Standards of the School of Law reflect:

1. The requirements of our continuing accreditation by the American Bar Association, the Association of American Law Schools, and the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State of California;
2. The goal of ensuring that graduates are prepared to achieve a high standard in the practice of the legal profession; and
3. Dedication to equal educational opportunity.

## A. DEFINITIONS

1. "Academic year" means the two-semester period from August through May.
2. "Associate Dean" means the Associate Dean for Law Student Support or the person appointed by the Associate Dean to perform or administer a designated task or program.
3. "LLM Program Director" means the LLM Programs Director or designee for a particular LLM program.
4. "Student" without other qualification includes both full-time and part-time students.
5. "Grade point average (GPA)" means the figure derived by dividing the total number of grade points a student has earned by the total number of units the

student has attempted in courses completed for letter grades. GPAs are not rounded up in order to satisfy academic, financial aid, or career services standards.

## **B. GENERAL LL.M. (MASTER OF LAWS) REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Successful completion of 24 or more units;
2. Successful completion of the courses required for the degree program;
3. Completion of the program requirements within the number of years below:
  - a. Environmental Law, 4 years
  - b. Intellectual Property Law, 4 years
  - c. International Legal Studies, 4 years
  - d. Taxation, 5 years
  - e. Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate, 5 years
  - f. US Legal Studies, 4 years
4. A cumulative GPA of 2.50 on a scale of 4.0; and
5. Timely filing of an *Application for Graduation and Commencement* form with the Registrar's Office.

**Note:** Program Directors may exercise the right to administratively withdraw any student who withdraws from two (2) or more courses without demonstrating special circumstances.

## **C. LL.M. IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students in this program who do not hold a JD degree are highly encouraged to complete the following courses:
  - a. Introduction to the US Legal System (3 units);
  - b. Graduate Legal Writing & Research (2 units).
2. **Required Courses**  
Students in this program are required to take at least two of the three courses listed below:
  - a. Environmental Law & Policy (3 units)
  - b. California Environment and Natural Resources Law (3 units)
  - c. Toxics & Brownfield Law (3 units)
3. **Elective Courses**  
Students in this program must complete the remaining 18 units from the courses listed on the law school website for this program.

## **D. LL.M. IN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students in this program who do not hold a JD degree are highly encouraged to complete the following courses:
  - a. Introduction to the US Legal System (3 units)
  - b. Graduate Legal Writing & Research (2 units)

2. **Required Courses**

Students in this program must earn at least 6 course credits by taking courses from at least two of the following five core areas. Students may take other basic courses as electives.

- a. **International Law**  
International Law (3 units)  
International Organizations (3 units)  
Law of International Armed Conflicts (3 units)
- b. **Private International Law/Conflict of Laws**  
Transnational Litigation (3 units)
- c. **Comparative Legal Systems**  
Comparative Legal Systems (3 units)  
European Union Law (3 units)
- d. **International Economic Law**  
International Business Transactions (3 units)  
International Investment Law (3 units)  
International Trade Regulation (3 units)
- e. **Dispute Resolution**  
International Dispute Resolution (3 units)  
Pacific Settlement of Disputes Between States (3 units)  
Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 units)

3. **Elective Courses**

Students in this program must complete the remaining 18 units from the courses listed on the law school website for this program.

4. **Writing Requirement**

Students in this program must complete a satisfactory thesis or analytical paper as part of a seminar.

**E. LLM IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students in this program who do not hold a JD degree are highly encouraged to complete the following courses:

- a. Introduction to the US Legal System (3 units);
- b. Graduate Legal Writing & Research (2 units).

2. **Required Courses**

Students in this program must complete 9 units from the following courses:

- a. Intellectual Property Law Survey (3 units)
- b. Cyber-Law (3 units), and
- c. One of the following:  
Copyright Law of the US (3 units)  
Patent Law of the US (3 units) or  
Trademark Law of the US (3 units)

3. **Elective Courses**

Students in this program must complete the remaining 15 units from the courses listed on the law school website for this program.

**F. LLM IN TAXATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Required Courses**

Students in this program must complete 17 units from the following courses:

- a. Characterization of Income & Expenditure (3 units)
- b. Corporate Tax (3 units)
- c. Federal Tax Procedure (3 units)
- d. Professional Responsibility for Tax Practitioners (2 units)
- e. Tax Research (1 unit)
- f. Timing of Income & Expenditure (2 units)
- g. One of the following:
  - International Tax (3 units)
  - Partnership Tax (3 units)
  - Real Estate Tax (3 units)

2. **Elective Courses**

Students in this program must complete the remaining 7 units from the courses listed on the law school website for this program.

3. **Internship/Externship**

LLM Tax students may enroll in the tax and estate planning internship/externship programs and are allowed to apply up to six units of this type of non-classroom experience to their degree program. Students seeking to exceed this amount must receive the express permission of the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs Director.

**G. LLM IN ESTATE PLANNING, TRUST, AND PROBATE LAW**

1. **Required Courses**

Students in this program must complete all 17 units of the following courses:

- a. Estate and Gift Tax (3 units)
- b. Estate Planning (3 units)
- c. Income Taxation for Estate Planners (1 unit)
- d. Income Tax of Trusts and Estates (2 units)
- e. Mediating Trust and Estate Disputes (3 units)
- f. Professional Responsibility for Trust and Estate Practice (2 units)
- g. Probate Procedure (3 units)

2. **Elective Courses**

Students in this program must complete the remaining 7 units from the courses listed on the law school website for this program.

3. **Internship/Externship**

LLM in Estate Planning students may enroll in the tax and estate planning internship/externship programs and are allowed to apply up to six units of this type of non-classroom experience to their degree program. Students seeking to exceed this amount must receive the express permission of the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Program Director.

**H. LLM IN UNITED STATES LEGAL STUDIES PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

4. **Required Courses**

Students in this program who do not hold a JD degree must complete the following courses:

- a. Introduction to the US Legal System (3 units)
- b. Graduate Legal Writing & Research (2 units) or Writing and Research I (2 units)
- c. Directed Study, Thesis, Curricular Practical Training, or Clinic (1-3 units)

There are no required courses for JD graduates of ABA or California-accredited law schools.

2. **Elective Courses**

Students in this program who complete the required courses must complete the remaining units from the courses listed on the law school website for this program. Students who hold a JD degree may choose 24 units from among most of the courses offered in the law school. (Please see the Program Director for academic advising.)

3. **Concentrations**

US Legal Studies students may elect to concentrate in a particular field of law and obtain an “LLM with a concentration.” Application forms are available on the Registrar’s Office forms webpage. Students electing to earn a concentration must complete 16 units in a concentration which will also count towards the 24 units needed for the LLM degree. Each concentration requires completion of 16 units of required and recommended courses, with the approval of the concentration advisor. Concentrations are available in the following areas:

- a. Corporate and Commercial Law
- b. Immigration Law
- c. Labor and Employment Law
- d. Litigation and Lawyering Skills
- e. Property Development and Real Estate Law
- f. US Legal Practice

Lists of the requirements for each of the Concentrations follow:

**Corporate & Commercial Law**

- a. Required: Business Associations (4 units)
- b. Students must complete an additional 12 units from among the following courses, for a total of 16 units:
  - International Investment Law (3 units)
  - Contracts I (3 units)
  - Contracts II (3 units)

Sales (2 units)  
 Cyber Law (2 units)  
 Mergers & Acquisitions (3 units)  
 Securities Regulation (3 units)  
 Corporate Governance (3 units)  
 Corporate Compliance & Ethics (2 units)  
 Secured Transactions (3 units)  
 Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 units)  
 Accounting for Lawyers (2 units)  
 Intellectual Property Law Survey (3 units)  
 Business Bankruptcy (3 units)  
 Employment Law (3 units)  
 Employment Discrimination (3 units)  
 Federal Income Taxation (3 units)  
 Business Immigration Law (2 units)  
 Business of Solo and Small Firm Law Practice (1 unit)  
 Antitrust (3 units)  
 Foreign Accounting Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) (1 unit)  
 International Taxation (2 units)  
 Transfer Pricing I (1 unit)  
 Transfer Pricing II (1 unit)  
 International Trade Regulation (3 units)  
 Corporate Taxation (3 units)  
 Partnership Taxation (3 units)  
 401(K) Plans-Tax & ERISA Issues (1 unit)  
 Federal Income Tax of Limited Liability & “S” Corporations (2 units)  
 Bankruptcy Taxation (1 unit)  
 International Business Transactions (3 units)

- c. Students may complete a substantial academic research paper in the field of corporate and commercial law, either in connection with certain courses listed under requirement b. or through a faculty-supervised directed study project.
- d. Students may complete 1-4 units of Curricular Practical Training or clinic as part of the 16 units required to complete the Corporate and Commercial Law concentration.

**Immigration Law**

- a. Required: Immigration Law (3 units)
- b. Students must complete an additional 13 units from among the following courses, for a total of 16 units:
  - Constitutional Law I (3 units)
  - Constitutional Law II (3 units)
  - Administrative Law (3 units)
  - Business Immigration Law (2 units)
  - Immigration and Refugee Policy Seminar (2 units)
  - Women's Employment Rights Clinic (1-3 units)
  - Women's Employment Rights Seminar (3 units)
  - International Human Rights Seminar (3 units)

- c. Students may complete a substantial academic research paper in the field of immigration law, either in connection with certain courses listed under requirement b. or through a faculty-supervised directed study project.
- d. Students may complete 1-4 units of Curricular Practical Training or clinic as part of the 16 units required to complete the Immigration Law Concentration.

**Labor & Employment Law**

- a. Students must complete two of the following three required courses for a total of 6 units:
  - Employment Law (3 units)
  - Employment Discrimination (3 units)
  - Labor Law (3 units)
- b. Students must complete an additional 10 units from among the following courses, for a total of 16 units:
  - Administrative Law (3 units)
  - Employment Discrimination (3 units)
  - Employment Law (3 units)
  - Entertainment Law (3 units)
  - Business Immigration Law (2 units)
  - Labor Law (3 units)
  - Sports Law (2 units)
  - Women's Employment Rights Clinic (1-3 units)
  - Women's Employment Rights Seminar (3 units)
  - Workers' Compensation (2 units)
  - ERISA I (1 Unit)
  - ERISA II (1 Unit)
- c. Students may complete a substantial academic research paper in the field of labor and employment law, either in connection with certain courses listed under requirement b. or through a faculty-supervised directed study project.
- d. Students may complete 1-4 units of Curricular Practical Training or clinic as part of the 16 units required to complete the Labor and Employment Law Concentration.

**Litigation & Lawyering Skills**

- a. Required: Evidence (4 units)
- b. Students must complete an additional 12 units from among the following courses, for a total of 16 units:
  - Civil Procedure I (3 units)
  - Civil Procedure II (3 units)
  - Writing & Research I (2 units)
  - Writing & Research II (3 units)
  - Advanced Legal Research: eSearch (2 units)
  - Appellate Advocacy (2 units)
  - Criminal Procedure I (3 units)
  - Evidence in the Courtroom (2 units)
  - Professional Responsibility (2 units)

Legal Profession Seminar (2 units)  
 Remedies (3 units)  
 Administrative Law (3 units)  
 Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 units)  
 Externship: Homeless Advocacy (3 units)  
 Guerrilla Lawyering (1 Unit)  
 Criminal Procedure II (3 units)  
 Family Law Practice (2 units)  
 Federal Courts (3 units)  
 Professional Presentation & Persuasion (2 units)  
 Business of Solo & Small Firm Practice (1 Unit)  
 Practical Legal Writing (2 units)  
 California Legal Research (2 units)  
 Mediation & Collaborative Lawyering (2 units)  
 Wrongful Convictions (2 units)  
 Real Estate Practice Seminar - Litigation (3 units)  
 Advanced Trial Advocacy (3 units)  
 Externship: Civil Field Practice (2 - 4 units)  
 Externship: Judicial (2 - 13 units)  
 Civil Litigation: Pre-Trial Phase (3 units)  
 Civil Litigation: Depositions (3 units)  
 Criminal Litigation (3 units)  
 Trial Advocacy (3 units)  
 International Dispute Resolution (3 units)

- c. Students may complete a substantial academic research paper in the field of litigation or lawyering skills, either in connection with certain courses listed under requirement b. or through a faculty-supervised directed study project.
- d. Students may complete 1 - 4 units of Curricular Practical Training or clinic as part of the 16 units required to complete the Litigation and Lawyering Skills Concentration.

**Property Development/Real Estate Law**

- a. Required: Property (4 units) (waived if taken at a US law school)
- b. Students must complete 10-14 additional units (16 if the Property requirement is waived) from the following courses, for a total of 16 units:
  - Real Estate Transactions (2 units)
  - Remedies (3 units)
  - Environmental Law & Policy (3 units)
  - Federal Income Taxation (3 units)
  - Land Use Regulation (3 units)
  - Real Estate Development (3 units)
  - Externship: Real Estate (2-4 units)
  - Commercial Leasing (2 units)
  - Real Estate Practice (3 units)
  - Real Estate Taxation (3 units)
  - Partnership Taxation (3 units)



- c. Students may complete a substantial academic research paper in the field of property law, either in connection with certain courses listed under requirement b. or through a faculty supervised directed study project.
- d. Students may complete 1-4 units of Curricular Practical Training or clinic as part of the 16 units required to complete the Property Development/Real Estate Concentration.

**US Legal Practice**

- a. Required: Remedies (3 units) or Professional Responsibility (2 units)
- b. Students must complete 13-14 additional units from the following courses for a total of 16 units:
  - Civil Procedure I (3 units)
  - Civil Procedure II (3 units)
  - Contracts I (3 units)
  - Contracts II (3 units)
  - Property (4 units)
  - Torts (4 units)
  - Writing & Research I (2 units)
  - Writing & Research II (3 units)
  - Appellate Advocacy (2 units)
  - Sales (2 units)
  - Constitutional Law I (3 units)
  - Constitutional Law II (3 units)
  - Business Associations (4 units)
  - Evidence (4 units)
  - Professional Responsibility (2 units)
  - Remedies (3 units)
  - Wills & Trusts (4 units)
  - Community Property (2 units)
  - Business of Solo & Small Firm Law Practice (1 Unit)
  - Practical Legal Writing (2 units)
  - Externship: Civil Field Placement (2-4 units)
- c. Students may complete a substantial academic research paper in a selected field of US law, either in connection with certain courses listed under requirement b. or through a faculty supervised directed study project.
- d. Students may complete 1-4 units of Curricular Practical Training or clinic as part of the 16 units required to complete the US Legal Practice Concentration.

**I. SJD IN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

**1. Residency and Required Units**

SJD (Doctoral) students must earn a minimum of 8 units and spend at least two semesters registered as in residency. Each student's program of study must be approved by the SJD Program Director.

2. **Dissertation and Candidacy**

Each SJD student must work closely with his or her dissertation committee during the residency period. At the end of the second semester in residence, the student must present a detailed outline and draft chapter of the dissertation and must pass a qualifying oral examination. Students who successfully complete these tasks will be advanced to candidacy. The SJD candidate is expected to work closely with the members of the dissertation committee during the candidacy period and must present a final dissertation in publishable form no later than four years after advancing to candidacy. SJD students are required to register for the fall and spring semesters for each year they remain in candidacy. Students who do not register for any given semester may be subject to administrative withdrawal from the program. Certain students will be required to register for the summer term as directed by the SJD Program Director.

3. **Acknowledgment Form**

Each SJD student will receive a copy of the SJD Procedural Guidelines.

4. **Report of (Normal Academic) Progress of Work**

Prior to registration, all SJD students must receive the approval of the SJD Program Director as to their course schedules. SJD students are required to provide regular quarterly reports to their dissertation committee members as well as to the SJD Program Director. SJD students who are at any stage of residency or candidacy may be withdrawn from the program by the Program Director if the student's work is not conforming to the high standards of writing and research for Doctoral candidates and fails to make normal academic progress towards their degree.

5. **Withdrawal/Leave of Absence**

Students seeking to withdraw from the SJD Program are required to provide written notice to the SJD Program Director. Students seeking a Leave of Absence will need the written permission of the SJD Program Director.

6. **Standards of Student Conduct/Plagiarism**

All SJD students must abide by the Standards of Student Conduct as stated in this *Handbook*. The School of Law maintains a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism. Submitted written research materials will be subjected to rigorous scrutiny for any form of plagiarism, including through the use of anti-plagiarism software (i.e., TurnItIn). Student conduct violations, including plagiarism, will be penalized as set forth in the "Standards of Student Conduct" section of this *Handbook*.

**J. CERTIFICATE IN ESTATE PLANNING**

This certificate is offered under the auspices of the LLM in Taxation Program. The Estate Planning Certificate is awarded to those students who complete fourteen units of instruction in the LLM Tax Program. The following courses are required: Estate and Gift Tax, Estate Planning, Income Taxation for Estate Planners, Income Taxation of Trusts and Estates, PR for Trust and Estate Practice, and Probate Procedure. With the approval of the Program Director or Administrative Director, an elective may be substituted for a required course.

Courses must be taken for credit (i.e., not as an auditor). The certificate is available to both degree and non-degree seeking students. A student pursuing the Estate Planning Certificate who decides to continue in the LLM Tax Program may apply all credits earned toward the

LLM Tax degree. Students in the LLM Tax degree program may transfer to the Certificate in Estate Planning Program and all qualifying credits will be transferred. All courses must be completed within five years of matriculating and the student must receive a cumulative 2.5 grade point average. Students who received JD degrees from ABA accredited schools may apply no more than six qualifying units of LLM Tax courses taken while a JD student toward the Estate Planning Certificate. Students seeking the Certificate in Estate Planning are not eligible for Financial Aid.

## **K. CERTIFICATE IN TAXATION**

This certificate is offered under the auspices of the LLM in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law Program. The Certificate in Taxation is awarded to those students who complete fourteen units of instruction in the LLM in Estate Planning Program. The following courses are required: Characterization of Income & Expenditures, Timing of Income & Expenditures, Corporate Taxation, Federal Tax Procedure, Professional Responsibility for Tax Practice, and Tax Research. With the approval of the Program's Director or Administrative Director, an elective may be substituted for a required course.

Courses must be taken for credit (i.e., not as an auditor). The certificate is available to both degree and non-degree seeking students. A student pursuing the Certificate in Taxation who decides to continue in the LLM in Estate Planning Program may apply all credits earned toward the LLM in Estate Planning degree. Students in the LLM Estate Planning degree program may transfer to the Certificate in Estate Planning Program and all qualifying credits will be transferred. All courses must be completed within five years of matriculating and the student must receive a cumulative 2.5 grade point average. Students who received JD degrees from ABA accredited schools may apply no more than six qualifying units of LLM Estate Planning courses taken while a JD student toward the Certificate in Taxation. Students seeking the Certificate in Taxation are not eligible for Financial Aid

## **L. POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**

Post Graduate Certificate programs are offered under the auspices of the LLM US Legal Studies Program. These programs require the completion of 16 units, and they are offered in the following areas: Corporate & Commercial Law; Labor & Employment Law; Immigration; US Law Practice; Litigation & Lawyering Skills; and Property Development/Real Estate Law. Students are expected to complete the certificate program in two years. Post Graduate Certificates may be available in other LLM program areas at the consent of the Program Director.

F-1 students who maintain active immigration status during post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT), remain eligible to apply for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) upon enrolling in the Post Graduate Certificate Program.

## XX. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The following policies apply to all students on F-1 or J-1 temporary (non-immigrant) visas attending Golden Gate University (GGU) School of Law in the JD (Juris Doctor), LLM (Master of Laws), SJD (Doctoral), Visiting Scholar and Post Graduate (LLM) Certificate programs. For US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) registration at the beginning of each semester and summer session, address and name information updates, travel/reentry authorization, administrative advising, change of non-immigrant status, and all employment-related matters, including practical training (pre-completion curricular practical training (CPT) and post-completion optional practical training (OPT)), F-1 students and J-1 scholars must report to the US Department of Homeland Security Designated School Official (DSO) in the GGU School of Law International Student & Scholar (ISS) Services Office, Room 3320 in the 536 Mission Street Academic Building.

Students who are not US citizens or US lawful permanent residents and who hold US visa status other than F-1 or J-1 are not covered by the SEVIS (immigration compliance) system. They are subject to rules different from those mentioned in this section. GGU law students with questions may contact the School of Law DSO for general administrative information or for a referral to qualified legal assistance.

Golden Gate University's (Non-Law) International Admissions and Advising (IAA) office is located in the University's Admissions Office. The GGU IAA office (<http://www.ggu.edu/graduate/international>) offers general orientation and information programs for all foreign students and scholars throughout the academic year.

### A. ARRIVAL, REGISTRATION, AND ORIENTATION

All F-1 and J-1 students and scholars must report to their assigned GGU School of Law program DSO upon arrival. At the beginning of each semester, the DSO will register the current session start and end dates. The DSO will enter into the SEVIS system the date of the student's arrival at Golden Gate, thus enabling the student to register for law courses on a full-time basis. During the orientation period in August or January, the DSO will copy the student's passport, I-20 Form, I-94 Arrival/Departure record and other immigration travel forms for the GGU law student immigration compliance file. The DSO will maintain a document file for every SEVIS student while he/she attends Golden Gate University School of Law and during the standard 12 month (optional) post-completion practical training period.

### B. PASSPORTS

All F-1 and J-1 students must have at least six months remaining until passport expiration under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). If your visa is in a passport that has expired or will expire within six (6) months of the end of your US visit, you will need to get a new passport. However, you do not need to apply for a new visa. Just bring both your new passport and your old passport with the valid visa to present to the US Customs & Border Protection (CBP) Officer when you arrive in the US.

## C. REPORTABLE EVENTS

While enrolled at Golden Gate University, students must report within ten days all “reportable events” to the DSO for entry into SEVIS within the time period required by federal law. Failure to do so can cause a student to fall out of F-1 or J-1 student visa status and the student could be deported (removal from the US) or potentially be banned from reentering the US for a period of up to ten years.

SEVIS reportable events include the following: a change of name or US mailing address; a substantial change (of more than 30% due to currency devaluation) in funding; a change of academic program or enrollment status, including changes between LLM academic programs at Golden Gate University; failure to maintain status or complete the program; early graduation or program completion prior to the end date on the Initial Attendance SEVIS I-20; disciplinary action taken by the University or as a result of the student being convicted of a crime in the US; and any change involving dependents, such as adding dependents (spouse and children under the age of 21), or name or address change of dependents.

At the beginning of fall (August) and spring (January) semesters, the GGU School of Law DSO is required to report registration information for all F-1 and J-1 law students and scholars to the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) using the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) database.

## D. RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

In addition to SEVIS reportable events, DSOs are required to keep records of the following:

### 1. Travel

An F-1 or J-1 student planning to travel out of the US must report to the DSO at least one to two weeks before traveling. Unfortunately, some foreign students have encountered delays when seeking entry/reentry at the US Port on a student visa (i.e. secondary inspection). To minimize delays, a student should be certain that the DSO has his/her travel information. Students should ALWAYS be sure to get a DSO travel signature (endorsement) on page 3 of their I-20 **two–four weeks before** traveling outside the US. Students should carry their passport(s), student immigration documents, evidence of financial resources, and proof of enrollment (transcripts) at Golden Gate University (GGU) School of Law especially when traveling internationally.

### 2. Full Course of Study and Continuous Enrollment Requirements

A full course of study for JD students is twelve (12) units per semester. A full course of study for LLM students is eight (8) units per semester. All SJD students must register for the fall and spring semesters unless they are on an approved leave of absence (LOA).

**Law students must seek academic advising to be certain they maintain a full course of study and immigration status while attending Golden Gate University.**

US federal regulations permit medical leave and certain other exceptions to the full course of study requirement, but every student must have the approval of their Program Director or Director for Law Student Services and the DSO before departing from the full course of study requirement. In addition, every student should speak with the DSO to fully understand the important academic and administrative consequences of such departure from the US.

3. **Program Extension**

Law students who need more time to complete the academic program than has been entered in the SEVIS I-20 Form must see the DSO and file for a program extension at least *thirty (30) days (one month) before the end date on the GGU Law I-20 Form (Certificate of Eligibility)*.

4. **Employment**

In general, F-1 and J-1 students have limited work options while attending law school on a full-time basis. However, four important exceptions/benefits apply:

a. **On-Campus Employment**

F-1 and J-1 students may work up to twenty (20) hours per week on campus as a research assistant (RA), in libraries, school offices, and the like.

b. **Pre-Completion Curricular Practical Training (CPT)**

F-1 students in JD, LLM, and SJD programs may work off-campus for pay in law-related employment (law clerk/legal researcher) to satisfy practical training requirements and to gain US work experience. To become eligible for CPT, students must complete the following steps: meet the English language proficiency requirement, complete the required first semester courses (LLM US Legal Studies Program), and work with Graduate Law Programs and Law Career Services (LCS) to present an appropriate resume and cover letter to help locate practical training in the San Francisco Bay Area under the supervision of a qualified US attorney. For CPT (legal residency) advising, application forms and detailed instructions, students should see the GGU School of Law International Student Adviser.

c. **Post-Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT)**

F-1 students may spend up to one year after graduation working in the US in a law-related position or internship. To qualify for OPT, the student must apply sixty (**60**) **days before the last day of the semester/graduation**. Because of the two to three month processing time for the OPT Employment Authorization Document (EAD) work permit, we recommend that GGU law students apply for OPT near the beginning of their final semester. For assistance, students should contact the International Student Adviser, or the Program Director of their JD/LLM/SJD Program.

d. **Academic Training (AT)**

J-1 students and scholars (exchange visitors) have work opportunities similar to those permitted F-1 students. The US Department of State (DoS) rules and deadlines differ slightly, but in general J-1 students may work during and after their studies in law related practical training positions with authorization from their sponsor. For assistance, students should contact the GGU School of Law International Student Adviser.

e. **Economic Hardship**

Though it is extremely difficult to qualify for economic hardship, there is an application process for this employment authorization from US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). For more information, students may contact their GGU School of Law International Student Adviser.

## **E. DEPENDENTS**

Dependents entering the US while their parents or spouses are studying at Golden Gate University will need F-2 or J-2 dependent visas, additional financial certification, and individual registration with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS). For more information, students should contact the DSO for their GGU School of Law program.

## **F. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS (SSN)**

The current relationship between the US Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (formerly INS) is settled since 2004. The local US Social Security Administration (SSA) office (560 Kearny Street, San Francisco) has specific policies regarding issuing social security numbers to visa-holding students with valid US work authorization and evidentiary documentation.

In order to get on-campus employment, F-1 students must obtain a letter from the appropriate Golden Gate University (GGU) School of Law hiring department co-signed by the GGU Law International Student Adviser. Students who secure paid off-campus employment under a GGU School of Law practical training program may apply for a US social security number upon receipt of the work permit. Details and application forms can be obtained from the GGU School of Law DSO in Room 3320.

## **G. FINANCIAL AID**

Generally, US financial aid, including subsidized loans supported by the US government, is not available to F-1 and J-1 visa holding students and scholars. However, some international agencies provide loans, grants and scholarships for US study. Further information can be found on the website at the following address: [law.ggu.edu/admissions/international-applicants](http://law.ggu.edu/admissions/international-applicants).

## **H. STUDENTS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES**

The National Security Entry Exit Registration System (NSEERS) was a pilot project focusing on a smaller segment of the non-immigrant alien population deemed to be of risk to national security. Inspectors at ports of entry have discretion, based on national security criteria and intelligence reports, to refer an individual from any country to a more detailed secondary inspection. Also, under NSEERS, males born on or before November 15, 1986, and who are nationals of designated countries, were required to register at a local district immigration office. The process included an interview by an immigration inspector or adjudicator and the collection of biometrics (fingerprints and a photograph): [www.ice.gov/doclib/nseers/srindividuals.pdf](http://www.ice.gov/doclib/nseers/srindividuals.pdf).

## **I. US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS)**

On March 1, 2003, the immigration functions of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) were transferred to three new bureaus within the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS). US CIS (Citizenship and Immigration Services) is responsible for most applications and adjudications that were, in the past, handled by legacy INS. US ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) is responsible for immigration investigation, detention, removal/deportation, intelligence/surveillance, and SEVIS. US CBP (Customs and Border

Protection) is responsible for immigration inspections at US Ports of Entry, for the Border Patrol, and for Customs Service.

Please note important changes to the I-94 Arrival/Departure Documentation. US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) completed automation of the I-94 arrival/departure record) at airports and seaports on May 21, 2013. Foreign visitors to the US who need to prove their legal-visitor status -to employers, schools/universities or US government agencies -can access their CBP arrival-departure record information online:  
<http://www.cbp.gov/travel/international-visitors/i-94-instructions>

US Customs and Border Protection automated Form I-94 (arrival/departure record) at air and sea ports of entry to increase efficiency, reduce operating costs and streamline the admissions process. The paper I-94 form will no longer be provided to a traveler upon arrival, except in limited circumstances. The traveler will be provided with a CBP admission stamp on their travel document (passport).

Within ten (10) days of entering the US Port, ALL travelers are advised to get a copy of their electronic I-94 (record of admission) for verification of alien registration (California Department of Motor Vehicles DMV ID Card), immigration status (Social Security Number SSN processing) and/or post-completion employment authorization (US Citizenship & Immigration Services USCIS). I-94 admission information can now be obtained from the official US Customs and Border Protection website: [www.cbp.gov/I94](http://www.cbp.gov/I94).

ALL non-immigrants entering the US are issued an I-94 record of their arrival. For more than 50 years, the I-94 record was issued as a small paper card and manually inserted for the US customs officer in the passport as proof of legal status in the US. It was then surrendered at the time of departure from the US in order that the departure was recorded officially.

The I-94 automation will remove the need for the paper-based I-94 and instead will create an electronic record of the individual's entry and departure information: [www.cbp.gov/I94](http://www.cbp.gov/I94).

Students can now prove legal F-1 or J-1 status without the paper I-94 card. A student's passport will now be stamped with the date of admission to the US and the visa status under which the student has been admitted and this serves as proof of legal status along with a passport and GGU Law Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20/DS-2019).

GGU School of Law recommends that students print their I-94 documentation from the official CBP website after each arrival in the US and retain it for immigration compliance records. The US government printout will serve as the official I-94 record which can be used for I-9 (employment eligibility verification) compliance as well as for other government agencies (e.g. DHS, DMV, SSA). All the previous rules and procedures related to the paper I-94 card still apply until the next entry to the US Port creates an electronic I-94 record.

## **J. IMMIGRATION FORMS**

The most common forms an international student will encounter while studying at Golden Gate University are:

USCIS Form AR-11 Change of Address Online (Ten Day US Address Change Rule):  
<https://egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do>



USCBP Form I-94 (Record of Admission) Automation:

<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/request.html>

USCIS Form I-765 Application for Employment Authorization (Work Permit):

<http://www.uscis.gov/i-765>

USCIS Form I-539 Application to Change/Extend Nonimmigrant Status in the US:

<http://www.uscis.gov/i-539>

These forms are available on the web at <http://www.uscis.gov/forms> or from the GGU School of Law International Student Advisor in Room 3320.

This US government website provides information from recent blog posts on how to study in the United States and how to maintain your visa status:

<https://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/students>.

# XXI. POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Golden Gate University School of Law is committed to equal educational opportunity and full participation for persons with disabilities. The School of Law values the inclusion of students with disabilities, which benefits not only these individuals, but the law school community and the legal profession as a whole. Enrolled students with verified disabilities will be provided reasonable and necessary accommodations, including auxiliary aids and services. Law Student Support administers the disability services program, under the supervision of the Associate Dean for Law Student Support, who is the designated ADA/Section 504 Compliance Officer for the law school.

## A. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to terms used in this section, and are based on federal law.

- 1. Individual with a Disability:** An individual who (1) has a physical or mental impairment that limits one or more major life activities; or (2) has a record of such an impairment; or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.
- 2. Otherwise Qualified Individual with a Disability:** An individual with a disability who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission and participation in the law school's educational program and activities. The qualifications for participating in the law school's educational program include but are not limited to the ability "to understand, analyze, apply and communicate legal concepts."
- 3. Reasonable Accommodations:** Modifications of the academic program, standards, or physical environment, and auxiliary aids and services provided in the academic environment to enrolled students with disabilities to address a verified need. Reasonable accommodations do not include measures that would fundamentally alter the nature of the academic program, or would result in an undue financial or administrative burden.

## B. ADMISSIONS

### 1. Application Process

The law school does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admissions process, nor is information regarding disability status requested from applicants. Any disability-related information an applicant volunteers during the admissions process shall be kept in accordance with state and federal laws relating to confidentiality. When assessing the qualifications of an applicant with a disability, evaluators consider other relevant factors, including undergraduate record, educational program, work experience, and any other information that the applicant supplies.

Prospective students and applicants with questions related to disability accommodations at the law school are welcome to contact the Law Student Support at 442-6536 or [lawds@ggu.edu](mailto:lawds@ggu.edu).

## **2. Accepted Applicants with Need for Accommodations**

The law school encourages admitted students with disabilities who will be requesting accommodations to contact the Law Student Support at 442-6536 or [lawds@ggu.edu](mailto:lawds@ggu.edu) at the earliest possible date, and ideally no later than two weeks before the start of the student's first term. The law school will work with the student in an effort to have reasonable accommodations in place when the student commences study. Early planning is essential for many of the resources and accommodations provided. Please refer to "Registering with Law Disability Services" below.

## **C. THE LAW SCHOOL'S DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAM**

### **1. Policy of Non-Discrimination Based on Disability**

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended in 2008, and the Unruh Civil Rights Act, no otherwise qualified individual shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, any GGU School of Law program or activity on the basis of disability. The law school shall provide reasonable accommodations to afford equal opportunity and full participation in all law school programs for qualified students with professionally verified disabilities. In particular:

- a. Students with disabilities shall have the opportunity to participate in law school programs and activities such as scholarly publications, interscholastic competitions, clinics, and externships for which they qualify. When necessary, the appropriate entity will provide students with reasonable accommodations to maintain access to the activities described above.
- b. No registered student organization shall discriminate in its membership practices on the basis of disability.
- c. The law school will not assist outside organizations or persons known by the law school to discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability.
- d. The law school will provide academic advising and career development services without discrimination on the basis of disability. Qualified students with disabilities will not be counseled toward more restrictive career objectives than are other students with similar interests and abilities.
- e. In providing financial assistance to qualified students, the law school may not provide less assistance, limit eligibility for assistance, or otherwise discriminate on the basis of disability.

### **2. Registering with Law Disability Services**

Law Disability Services is housed within Law Student Support. Law Student Support works with students individually to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations. All accommodations and services are provided on a case-by-case basis. Students should NOT discuss disability accommodations directly with their instructors.

Students who may require accommodations should contact Law Student Support at 442-6536 or [lawds@ggu.edu](mailto:lawds@ggu.edu) to arrange an intake appointment. Law Student Support will conduct a personal interview to explore the student's needs in the law school setting and explain the verification process. Documentation requirements will vary, depending on the disability and the accommodations requested, and may include:

- a. A history of accommodations received in post-secondary institutions or in places of employment, which is subject to verification; and/or
- b. Documentation from a licensed health care provider, who must be a nonrelative and not the student him/herself, who is qualified in the diagnosis of the relevant disability.

Law Student Support reviews the documentation and other information provided to ensure that the requested accommodations are reasonable and appropriate, given the student's present impairment and functional limitations in the academic setting. The law school may, at its own expense, obtain outside consultation regarding the accommodations determination.

Law Student Support will notify students in writing about the outcome of the verification process and any approved accommodations.

Students who have been approved to receive accommodations are considered to be registered with Law Disability Services, but must submit a "Request for Accommodations" at the time of the determination and each semester thereafter.

### **3. Procedures for Registered Students**

- a. Students who are registered with Law Disability Services are responsible for submitting a "Request for Accommodations" form at the beginning of each term through an online process, identifying the classes and exams for which they will need accommodations.

Students will receive a reminder email prior to the start of each term with a link to the form; however, students are responsible for complying with the established deadlines and should contact Law Student Support if they have not received the email. Late requests may not be honored.

- b. Accommodations shall be subject to review and may be terminated upon any change in the nature of the student's disability or the student's failure to properly utilize the services provided. Each student registered with Law Disability Services shall meet upon request with Law Student Support to evaluate the accommodations plan.
- c. Students are expected to immediately report any problems or dissatisfactions with an accommodation to Law Student Support.

### **4. Accommodations for a Temporary Disability**

Students seeking accommodations on the basis of a temporary disability must provide documentation from their licensed health care provider, who must be a nonrelative and not the student him/herself, who is qualified in the diagnosis of such conditions. The documentation may be on the law school's verification form (obtained by contacting the

Law Student Support or at <http://law.ggu.edu/student-support/disability-services/>) or on the professional's letterhead. It must be signed and dated, and include the nature of the condition, the student's current level of functional impairment, the expected duration of the condition, and recommended accommodations. The cost of obtaining the professional documentation shall be borne by the student.

If the initial documentation is incomplete or inadequate to determine the extent of impairment and appropriate accommodations, the law school shall have the discretion to require the student to obtain a supplemental assessment, the cost of which shall be borne by the student. If impairment continues beyond the expected duration, the student will be required to submit additional documentation.

## **5. Records and Privacy**

- a. Student records regarding disability are maintained separately from the Registrar's official student files, and no information disclosing disability or accommodations becomes part of a student's official transcript.
- b. All documents produced by consultants in the performance of services for the law school shall be and shall remain the property of the law school.
- c. If necessary, disability-related information may be provided to school officials with legitimate educational interest or to other parties as required by law.

## **6. Disqualified Student Appeals**

An academically disqualified student who identifies himself or herself as disabled may request in writing to Law Student Support that his or her Petition for Reinstatement be supplemented by a summary report and/or student records, which may include: the nature of the disability reported, if any; whether accommodations were provided at GGU; the date accommodations were initially granted; results of outside testing to determine the extent to which the disability affects the student's ability to participate or perform in the academic program; and any other information contained in the student's disability file relevant to the petition.

## **7. Post-Graduation Policy and Services**

- a. The law school will assist students and alumni in documenting accommodations received during law school; student requests for such documentation must be in writing. The law school will also provide counseling regarding the bar exam accommodations application process. Note: student records are maintained for five years after graduation or last date of attendance, after which time they generally are destroyed.
- b. The Law Career Development Office will aid all graduates, with or without disabilities, in developing career opportunities after the completion of studies at Golden Gate University School of Law.
- c. The law school has a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability in all alumni activities that are a part of the official program of the law school or that involve the participation of applicants or enrolled students.

## **8. Grievances**

All student-initiated grievances shall be heard according to the following procedures:

a. **Informal Resolution**

A student who believes that he or she has encountered a violation of the policies listed herein is encouraged to notify the Associate Dean for Law Student Support as early as possible after the incident. In the event that the party against whom the grievance is filed is the Associate Dean for Law Student Support, then the grievance shall be filed with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The Associate Dean for Law Student Support (or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs) may dispose of the matter informally or refer it for a hearing to the Student Hearings Committee.

If the matter is handled informally and the student agrees with its disposition, the disposition shall be final. If the matter is handled informally and the student disagrees with its disposition, a hearing by the Student Hearings Committee shall be held.

Before final action on a grievance, the Associate Dean for Law Student Support (or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs) may impose any appropriate measure on an interim basis when there is reasonable cause to believe that such action is needed for the health, safety, or welfare of the student or other members of the law school community or to avoid disruption to the academic process. Notice shall be given expeditiously of action hereunder. Where interim measures are imposed, the grievance process shall proceed in an expedited manner.

Except as provided above, the parties to the grievance shall maintain the status quo and no services shall be removed or additional obligations imposed before final action on a grievance is taken.

b. **Formal Resolution**

To institute a formal grievance, the student shall file a written grievance with the Associate Dean for Law Student Support (or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, if the Associate Dean for Law Student Support is a party in the grievance). The grievance will then be forwarded to the Student Hearings Committee (“the Committee”).

Within a reasonable amount of time prior to the hearing, the student and the respondent shall be given a brief statement of the factual basis of the grievance, the law school policies or regulations in regard to the matter, and written notice of the time and place of the hearing.

The student and the respondent shall have the opportunity to present documents and witnesses and to confront and cross-examine witnesses.

The Committee shall make an adequate record of the hearing by written memorandum, tape recording, or otherwise.

The hearing shall be closed unless the student requests that it be open.

The Committee shall render an expeditious written decision which shall include findings of fact, conclusions, and, if appropriate, remedies.

The Committee shall have the discretion to prescribe its procedures for matters not addressed herein. For example, the Committee may require that oral evidence be

taken only on oath or affirmation and/or that any relevant evidence be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible people are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rule that might make improper the admission of the evidence over objection in civil actions.

The Committee may seek independent testimony from experts whether or not the parties presented testimony from experts at the hearing.

c. **Appeal to the Dean**

An aggrieved student may appeal the decision of the Student Hearings Committee to the Dean of the School of Law in writing within 10 days of the date of the decision.

On appeal, the Dean shall review the written decision of the Committee. The Dean may affirm or reverse or modify the panel's decision. The Dean shall issue a written decision affirming, overruling, or modifying the decision of the Committee. A copy shall be sent to the student and the members of the Committee. If the Dean overrules or modifies in any respect the decision of the panel, his or her written decision shall include the reasons for the modification of the decision of the panel. The decision of the Dean is final.

d. **Expedited Grievance Procedures**

Expedited grievance procedures shall be utilized where there is a time-sensitive grievance, for example, a dispute over exam accommodations for a student with a disability or matters related to an impending bar examination. In addition, any grievance may be designated for expedited grievance process by the Associate Dean for Law Student Support or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

The informal resolutions process of expedited grievances shall be concluded within three days of the filing of the grievance. If the matter is not resolved informally within that time, the matter shall be referred to a hearing. The Student Hearings Committee shall be convened within seven days of the referral for hearing. If, because of the timing of the appeal, the Committee members are not available, the Dean of the School of Law shall have authority to appoint alternative faculty members to the Student Hearings Committee.

The panel shall issue a decision within seven days after conclusion of the hearing. Any appeal to the Dean shall be made within three days of the date of the decision of the Panel. The Dean shall issue a written decision within five days of the appeal.

## **XXII. DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, TITLE IX POLICY**

### **A. STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Golden Gate University is committed to creating a university-wide environment free of all forms of discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or intimidation. As members of an organization that holds high the principals of mutual respect, teamwork, and honest communications, each of us shares in the responsibility for ensuring an atmosphere in which students, faculty, and staff are consistently treated with both consideration and respect, and are protected from unlawful discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment or assault.

### **B. SUMMARY OF POLICY**

This policy provides members of the University community with information about applicable federal and state standards that apply to this policy; behaviors that constitute unlawful discrimination, harassment and sexual assault; the University's guidelines on interpersonal relationships among students, faculty and staff; reporting and investigation procedures in the event of a complaint; and additional resources in the event of sexual assault.

University employees and students are expected to read and follow this policy in its entirety.

### **C. APPLICABLE STANDARDS**

In accordance with federal and state law, Golden Gate University policy prohibits discrimination or harassment based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth, medical condition related to pregnancy or childbirth, religion, religious creed, age, veteran's status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, or any other basis that is protected by law. Under the law, these forms of description are referred to as one's membership in a "Protected Class" of people. Applicable laws governing these prohibitions include Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the California Fair Employment and Housing Act.

For the purpose of this policy, "discrimination" is any decision, act, or failure to act which interferes with or limits a person's or group's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, privileges, or activities of the University when such decision, act, or failure to act is based on the person's status as a member of a Protected Class.



Claims for harassment that are *not* based on an individual's membership in a Protected Class shall be handled under the applicable disciplinary process.

The University's policy prohibiting discrimination and harassment applies to all individuals involved in University operations, including students, faculty and staff; applicants for admission or employment; and any persons doing business with or for the University.

#### **D. HARASSMENT**

1. Harassment on the basis of any protected characteristic is strictly prohibited. Under this policy, harassment is verbal, written or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law, or that of his or her relatives, friends or associates, and that:
  - a. Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work or educational environment.
  - b. Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance.
  - c. Or otherwise adversely affects an individual's employment or educational opportunities.
2. Harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. **Verbal conduct**, such as racial, ethnic, gender-based, religious, disability-based, or epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs that apply to any protected characteristic.
  - b. **Visual conduct**, such as derogatory posters, photography, cartoons, drawings, or gestures.
  - c. **Misuse of property**, such as using University computers, e-mail, or web services as a mode of communicating prohibited verbal or visual messages.
  - d. **Unprofessional conduct**, such as creating an academic or employment environment that could reasonably be perceived as intimidating, hostile, or abusive.

#### **E. SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Sexual harassment may be viewed as a particular type of gender-based discrimination. Prohibited forms of sexual harassment include but are not limited to the following kinds of behavior:

- **Verbal conduct**, such as sexual epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs, or unwanted sexual advances.

- **Visual conduct**, such as derogatory or sexually-oriented posters, photography, cartoons, drawings, or gestures.
- **Physical conduct**, such as assault, unwanted touching, or blocking/interfering with an individual's ordinary movement or activities.
- **Misuse of property**, such as using University computers, e-mail, or web services as a mode of communicating prohibited verbal or visual messages.
- **Abuse of authority**, such as making submission to sexual advances a term or condition of an individual's academic advancement or employment.
- **Unprofessional conduct**, such as creating an academic or employment environment that could reasonably be perceived as intimidating, hostile, or abusive.

Sexual harassment may take many forms. It may be subtle and indirect or blatant and overt. It may be conduct affecting an individual of the opposite sex or conduct affecting an individual of the same sex. It may occur between peers or between individuals in a hierarchical relationship. The fact that someone did not intend to sexually harass an individual is no defense to a complaint of sexual harassment. Regardless of intent, it is the effect and characteristics of the behavior that determine whether the behavior constitutes sexual harassment.

## F. SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

The following examples of sexual misconduct are prohibited, and include, but are not limited to:

1. **Sexual Assault**  
Having or attempting to have sexual contact with another individual:
  - a. By force or threat of force.
  - b. Without effective consent.
  - c. Or where the individual is incapacitated
2. **Non-Consensual Sexual Contact** (or attempts to commit the same)  
Any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any object, by any person upon any other person, that is without consent and/or is by force. "Person" is regardless of gender status.
3. **Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse** (or attempts to commit the same)  
Any sexual intercourse, with any object or body part, by any person upon any other person, that is without consent and/or is by force. "Person" is regardless of gender status.
4. **Sexual Exploitation**  
Taking non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another person for one's own advantage or benefit, or to the benefit or advantage of another person. Examples of sexual exploitation include:
  - a. Causing or attempting to cause another person to become drunk, drugged or otherwise incapacitated with the intent of engaging in a sexual behavior.

- b. Recording, photographing or transmitting images of sexual activity and/or the intimate body parts (groin, genitalia, breasts or buttocks) of another person without their consent.
  - c. Allowing third parties to observe sexual acts and voyeurism (spying on people who are engaging in sexual acts or who are doing other intimate activities such as undressing, showering, etc.).
  - d. Exposing one's genitals in non-consensual circumstances or inducing someone to expose their genitals.
  - e. Knowingly transmitting a sexually transmitted disease or virus to another person without his or her knowledge.
  - f. Sexually-based stalking and/or bullying.
5. **Domestic Violence**  
Violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.
6. **Dating Violence**  
Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
- a. The length of the relationship.
  - b. The type of relationship.
  - c. The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
7. **Stalking**  
A course of physical or verbal contact directed at another individual that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.

## **G. INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

Golden Gate University seeks to maintain a professional educational environment. Actions of faculty members and employees that are unprofessional or appear to be unprofessional are inconsistent with the University's educational mission. It is essential that those in a position of authority not abuse, nor appear to abuse, the power and influence with which they are entrusted. Therefore, it is in the University's interest to provide clear direction and education with regard to interpersonal relationships among faculty, staff and students.

Romantic and sexual relationships, including those which are consenting or appear to be consenting, between Supervisor (meaning any person in authority over another to hire and/or make employment or salary recommendations or oversee task performance or who are in a

position to influence employment determinations by other supervisors) and Employee (meaning any person reporting to the supervisor or reporting within the chain of command to the supervisor); between any instructional staff and a student; and between any employee and a student have the potential for extremely serious consequences and must be avoided.

#### **1. Potential for Abuse of Authority & Influence**

Individuals entering into a consensual relationship must recognize that:

- a. The reasons for entering such a relationship may be a function of a difference in authority and influence between the individuals.
- b. Where the difference in authority and influence exists, even in a seemingly consensual relationship, there are limited after-the-fact defenses against charges of sexual harassment.
- c. The individual with the greater authority and influence in the relationship may bear the burden of responsibility.

Codes of ethics for many professional associations forbid professional-client relationships, and the relationships enumerated above should be viewed in this context. In the case of instructor and student, for example, the respect and trust accorded the instructor by the student, as well as the controlling influence exercised by the instructor in giving grades, academic advice, evaluations, and recommendations for further employment greatly diminish the student's actual freedom of choice in an amorous or sexual relationship.

#### **2. Conflict of Interest**

Conflicts of interest may arise in connection with consensual romantic and/or sexual relationships between instructional staff and students, supervisors and subordinates, or between employees and students. It is a generally accepted ethical principle in our society, reflected in the University's "Employment of Relatives" policy that individuals are precluded from evaluating the work of others with whom they have intimate familial relationship, or from making hiring, salary or similar financial decisions concerning such persons. The same principle applies to consensual romantic and/or sexual relationships.

#### **3. Responsibility for Reporting Relationships between Employees**

Faculty, supervisors and other employees should understand that there are substantial risks in even an apparently consenting relationship. This is particularly evident where a difference in influence or authority exists. Even if the conflict of interest issues are resolved, charges of sexual harassment or violation of the University's "Employment of Relatives" policy may develop, even when both parties have consented to the relationship. The faculty member, supervisor or other employee may, by virtue of his or her position of authority and responsibility, bear the burden of accountability.

If a proscribed romantic and/or sexual relationship exists or develops, the parties involved shall report it to an appropriate supervisor. For example, a faculty member must report the matter immediately to the department chair and/or Dean; an employee must report the matter to his/her supervisor. Once notified, the supervisor, in conjunction with HR, will assess individual situations for the protection of individual and University interests. Failure to report such a relationship may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Any member of the University community who is troubled by an apparent romantic and/or sexual relationship between employees of the University should contact the Vice President of Human Resources. The Human Resources department will make inquiries consistent with the informal sexual harassment complaint procedure described below. At any time, the Vice President of Human Resources may initiate a formal complaint as described below.

**4. Relationships between Faculty or Staff and Students**

Golden Gate University should embody the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and mutual respect. The professional obligations of a University employee include refraining from any conduct that poses a serious risk of undermining the educational environment for any student at the University. Faculty/staff members must be free to evaluate and assist students fairly and without favoritism. All students must be free to engage intellectually with faculty/staff. Relationships formed between faculty/staff and students are affected by the context of the University environment, which includes the unequal distribution of power between faculty/staff and students.

For these reasons, and in furtherance of a positive educational and professional environment, the University prohibits relationships of a sexual and/or romantic nature between faculty/staff and students. These relationships have profound effects upon the student body, other faculty/staff members, and the involved students and faculty/staff members themselves. They inappropriately take the student-faculty/staff relationship out of an academic context and complicate that relationship with issues of a romantic and/or sexual nature. They also may create a hostile, discriminatory and/or unacceptable environment for other members of the University community.

The prohibition on romantic or sexual relationships between students and faculty or staff is intended to dispel any unfairness or appearance of unfairness that can be caused by such relationships. Rather than chilling meaningful personal relationships between faculty/staff and students, these policies are intended to enhance the roles of professors, administrators and staff, as teachers, scholars, counselors, mentors, and friends of students. These rich personal relationships between faculty/staff and students are an important strength of the University community.

This prohibition shall not apply to consensual situations where the faculty or staff member had a sexual and/or romantic relationship with the student in question prior to the time that the student enrolled at the University. However, a faculty or staff member with such a pre-existing relationship with a student normally should avoid roles with direct academic, supervisory or professional responsibility for that student and must disclose the existence of that relationship to the Vice President of Human Resources at the time of the student's enrollment.

If a proscribed romantic and/or sexual relationship exists or develops, the parties involved are required to report it to the Vice President of Human Resources promptly. Failure to report such a relationship may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of the involved employee and up to and including expulsion of the student from the University.

Any member of the University community who is troubled by an apparent romantic and/or sexual relationship between an employee of the University and a student should

contact the Vice President of Human Resources. The Human Resources department will make inquiries consistent with the informal sexual harassment complaint procedure described below. At any time, the Vice President of Human Resources may initiate a formal complaint as described below.

#### **5. Sexual Assault & Consent**

Sexual assault may be defined as the imposition of non-consensual sexual conduct, including but not limited to sexual intercourse, oral copulation, penetration by a foreign object, or touching of the intimate parts of another. Sexual assault is absolutely prohibited, and any member of the University community found guilty of its commission may be subject to the sanctions hereinafter described. In addition, criminal and civil penalties may be imposed by state or federal authorities.

Consent generally means positive cooperation. The person must act freely and voluntarily and have knowledge of the nature of the act involved. Consent cannot be inferred from the absence of a “no”; a clear “yes,” verbal or otherwise, is necessary. Consent to some sexual acts does not constitute consent to others, nor does past consent to a given act constitute present or future consent. Consent means “affirmative consent,” which means affirmative, conscious, and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity.

It is the responsibility of each person involved in the sexual activity to ensure that he or she has the affirmative consent of the other or others to engage in the sexual activity. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean consent, nor does silence mean consent. Affirmative consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity and can be revoked at any time. The existence of a dating relationship between the persons involved, or the fact of past sexual relations between them, should never by itself be assumed to be an indicator of consent.”

Consent cannot be obtained by threat, coercion, or force. Agreement under such circumstances does not constitute consent.

Consent cannot be obtained from someone who is asleep or otherwise mentally or physically incapacitated, whether due to alcohol, drugs, or some other condition. A person is mentally or physically incapacitated when that person lacks the ability to make or act on considered decisions to engage in sexual activity. Engaging in sexual activity with a person whom you know – or reasonably should know – to be incapacitated constitutes sexual misconduct.

Acquaintance rape, or date rape, is sexual intercourse undertaken by a friend or acquaintance without the consent of the other. Acquaintance rape is punishable in the same manner and to the same degree as similar conduct between strangers. Similarly, other acts of sexual assault are not affected by any acquaintanceship between the parties involved.

## **H. REPORTING DISCRIMINATION OR HARASSMENT**

The University understands that victims of discrimination or harassment are often embarrassed and reluctant to report these acts for fear of being blamed, concern about being retaliated against, or because it is difficult to discuss these matters openly with others. However, no student or employee should have to endure discriminatory or harassing conduct, and the University therefore encourages persons to promptly report any such incidents so that

corrective action may be taken. Who to make the report to, and how to report it, is described below.

### 1. **Help and Information**

The University's Vice President of Human Resources serves as the University's Title IX Coordinator. In this role, the Vice President is the campus's primary resource on issues relating to perceived discrimination or harassment. Any person who would like advice or assistance in dealing with any instance of perceived discrimination or harassment, or in understanding this policy, should contact the Vice President of Human Resources.

The Dean of Students and the Associate Dean for Law Student Support ("Deans of Students" for purposes of this policy) serve as Title IX Deputy Coordinators, and are also valuable resources for students who have concerns about discrimination or harassment. Students are encouraged to contact one or both of these Deans of Students at any point in the process for help and advice.

### 2. **Making the Initial Report**

- a. *If the accused is a student*, the incident should be reported to one of the Deans of Students, and/or the Vice President of Human Resources.
- b. *If the accused is an employee of the University*, the incident should be reported to the Vice President of Human Resources. This includes faculty and staff.
- c. *If the accused has a business relationship with the University*, the incident should be reported to the Vice President of Human Resources. This includes vendors and contractors.
- d. *In other cases*, if the accused is not a student or an employee of Golden Gate University, and has no business relationship with the University, and the violation did not take place in a University-related setting, the University might not have authority to take disciplinary action, but the matter must still be reported to the Vice President of Human Resources.

Individuals may also report illegal acts and/or violations of University policy via the University's anonymous compliance reporting system, EthicsPoint.

Any individual who has been the victim of a sexual assault is encouraged to notify the University immediately. Whether or not an individual makes an official complaint to the University, he or she is strongly urged to seek immediate help, which may include receiving medical evaluation and treatment, and obtaining information, support and counseling.

Victims of sexual assault also may choose to report the matter to appropriate law enforcement authorities. Please see the information in the attached Appendix for more specific contact information. The University will make all reasonable efforts to assist students, faculty or staff in working with law enforcement.

### 3. **Retaliation**

No individual shall be penalized in any way for having reported or threatened to report discrimination or harassment, nor for cooperating with or participating in an investigation

of a complaint or at a hearing concerning discrimination or harassment. Retaliation by any member of the University community against such an individual is prohibited and shall be considered a serious violation of University policy. Retaliation includes threats, intimidation, reprisals, and any adverse actions related to an individual's employment or education.

**4. Confidentiality**

Where discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment or assault has been reported, the University will make every effort to preserve the complainant's privacy and protect the confidentiality of his or her information. However, complete confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. University personnel may need to inform other individuals to protect their safety or rights, in fairness to the persons involved, or in response to legal requirements. In addition, the University is required by law to report to the police certain statistical information about incidents occurring on campus which does not disclose individual identities. Finally, as noted below, the University may on its own initiative investigate allegations of discrimination or harassment, even in situations where the victim or initial complainant does not wish to proceed with an investigation, leading to a necessary disclosure of the name of the affected person and the facts of the underlying allegations.

**5. Confidentiality: Students**

The University encourages victims of sexual violence to talk to somebody about what happened so victims can get the support they need, and so the University can respond appropriately. Different employees on campus have different abilities to maintain a student victim's confidentiality.

- a. Some are required to maintain near complete confidentiality; talking to them is sometimes called a "privileged communication."
- b. Other employees may talk to a victim in confidence, and generally only report to the University that an incident occurred without revealing any personally identifying information. Disclosures to these employees will not trigger a University investigation into an incident against the victim's wishes.
- c. Thirdly, some employees are required to report all the details of an incident (including the identities of both the victim and alleged perpetrator) to the Title IX coordinator. A report to these employees (called "responsible employees") constitutes a report to the University – and generally obligates the University to investigate the incident and take appropriate steps to address the situation.

This policy is intended to make students aware of the various reporting and confidential disclosure options available to them, so they can make informed choices about where to turn should they become a victim of sexual violence. This policy also is intended to inform employees of their obligations as they relate to confidentiality for students who may be the victim of sexual assault or sexual violence. The University encourages victims to talk to someone identified in one or more of these groups.

**6. The Options Privileged and Confidential Communications**

- a. *Professional Counselors:* Professional, licensed counselors and pastoral counselors who provide mental-health counseling to members of the school community (and



including those who act in that role under the supervision of a licensed counselor) are not required to report any information about an incident to the Title IX coordinator without a victim's permission.

**Director of Wellness Resources**  
**415-442-6578**

- b. *Non-Professional Counselors and Advocates:* Individuals who are not “professional counselors” as defined above, but who work in the on-campus Wellness Resources area, including front desk staff and students, can generally talk to a victim without revealing any personally identifying information about an incident to the University. A victim can seek assistance and support from these individuals without triggering a University investigation that could reveal the victim's identity or that the victim has disclosed the incident.

While maintaining a victim's confidentiality, these individuals or their office should report the nature, date, time, and general location of an incident to the Title IX Coordinator. This limited report – which includes no information that would directly or indirectly identify the victim – helps keep the Title IX Coordinator informed of the general extent and nature of sexual violence on and off campus so the coordinator can track patterns, evaluate the scope of the problem, and formulate appropriate campus-wide responses. Before reporting any information to the Title IX Coordinator, these individuals will consult with the victim to ensure that no personally identifying details are shared with the Title IX Coordinator.

Following is contact information for these non-professional counselors:

**Wellness Resources General Office**  
[wellness@ggu.edu](mailto:wellness@ggu.edu)

A victim who speaks to a professional or non-professional counselor or advocate must understand that, if the victim wants to maintain confidentiality, the University will be unable to conduct an investigation into the particular incident or pursue disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator.

Even so, these counselors and advocates will still assist the victim in receiving other necessary protection and support, such as victim advocacy, academic support or accommodations, disability, health or mental health services, and changes to living, working or course schedules.

A victim who at first requests confidentiality may later decide to file a complaint with the school or report the incident to local law enforcement, and thus have the incident fully investigated. These counselors and advocates will provide the victim with assistance if the victim wishes to do so.

**NOTE:** While these professional and non-professional counselors and advocates may maintain a victim's confidentiality vis-à-vis the University, they may have reporting or other obligations under state law.

**ALSO NOTE:** If the University determines that the alleged perpetrator(s) pose a serious and immediate threat to the University community, University Security may

be called upon to issue a timely warning to the community. Any such warning should not include any information that identifies the victim.

#### 7. **Reporting to “Responsible Employees”**

A “responsible employee” is a University employee who has the authority to redress sexual violence, who has the duty to report incidents of sexual violence or other student misconduct, or who a student could reasonably believe has this authority or duty.

When a victim tells a responsible employee about an incident of sexual violence, the victim has the right to expect the University to take immediate and appropriate steps to investigate what happened and to resolve the matter promptly and equitably.

A responsible employee must report to the Title IX coordinator all relevant details about the alleged sexual violence shared by the victim and that the University will need to determine what happened – including the names of the victim and alleged perpetrator(s), any witnesses, and any other relevant facts, including the date, time and specific location of the alleged incident.

To the extent possible, information reported to a responsible employee will be shared only with people responsible for handling the University’s response to the report. A responsible employee should not share the victim’s identity with law enforcement without the victim’s consent or unless the victim has also reported the incident to law enforcement, absent a subpoena or similar legal requirement.

The following employees (or categories of employees) are the University’s responsible employees:

- All University Administrators, Managers, Supervisors
- Full Time Faculty
- Adjunct Faculty
- Vice President, Human Resources
- All Human Resources Staff
- Dean of Students
- All Student Affairs Staff (Except Wellness Resources)
- Associate Dean of Law Students
- All Law Student Support and Law Career Development Staff
- All Academic Advisors
- All University Security Staff in Business Services

Before a victim reveals any information to a responsible employee, the employee should ensure that the victim understands the employee’s reporting obligations – and, if the victim wants to maintain confidentiality, direct the victim to confidential resources.

If the victim wants to tell the responsible employee what happened but also maintain confidentiality, the employee should tell the victim that the University will consider the request, but cannot guarantee that the University will be able to honor it. In reporting the details of the incident to the Title IX Coordinator, the responsible employee will also inform the Coordinator of the victim’s request for confidentiality.

Responsible employees will not pressure a victim to request confidentiality, but will honor and support the victim’s wishes, including for the University to investigate fully an

incident, but will let the victim know how confidentiality can limit what action the University can take. By the same token, responsible employees will not pressure a victim to make a full report if the victim is not ready to.

**8. Requesting Confidentiality From the University: How the University Will Weigh the Request and Respond.**

If a victim discloses an incident to a responsible employee but wishes to maintain confidentiality or requests that no investigation into a particular incident be conducted or disciplinary action taken, the University must weigh that request against the University's obligation to provide a safe, non-discriminatory environment for all students, including the victim.

If the University honors the request for confidentiality, a victim must understand that the University's ability to meaningfully investigate the incident and pursue disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator(s) may be limited.

Although rare, there are times when the University may not be able to honor a victim's request in order to provide a safe, non-discriminatory environment for all students.

The University has designated the following individual(s) to evaluate requests for confidentiality once a responsible employee is on notice of alleged sexual violence:  
**Vice President, Human Resources**

When weighing a victim's request for confidentiality or that no investigation or discipline be pursued, s/he will consider a range of factors, including the following:

- d. The increased risk that the alleged perpetrator will commit additional acts of sexual or other violence, such as:
  - i. Whether there have been other sexual violence complaints about the same alleged perpetrator.
  - ii. Whether the alleged perpetrator has a history of arrests or records from a prior school indicating a history of violence.
  - iii. Whether the alleged perpetrator threatened further sexual violence or other violence against the victim or others.
  - iv. Whether the sexual violence was committed by multiple perpetrators.
  - v. Whether the sexual violence was perpetrated with a weapon.
  - vi. Whether the victim is a minor.
  - vii. Whether the University possesses other means to obtain relevant evidence of the sexual violence (e.g., security cameras or personnel, physical evidence).
  - viii. Whether the victim's report reveals a pattern of perpetration (e.g., via illicit use of drugs or alcohol) at a given location or by a particular group.

The presence of one or more of these factors could lead the University to investigate and, if appropriate, pursue disciplinary and/or other action. If none of these factors is present, the University will more likely respect the victim's request for confidentiality.

9. **If the University determines that it cannot maintain a victim's confidentiality**, the University will inform the victim prior to starting an investigation and will, to the extent possible, only share information with people responsible for handling the University's response.

The University will remain ever mindful of the victim's well-being, and will take ongoing steps to protect the victim from retaliation or harm and work with the victim to create a safety plan. Retaliation against the victim, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

The University will also:

- a. Assist the victim in accessing other available victim advocacy, academic support, counseling, disability, health or mental health services, and legal assistance both on and off campus (see portion of policy identifying these).
- b. Provide other security and support, which could include issuing a no-contact order, helping arrange a change of living or working arrangements or course schedules (including for the alleged perpetrator pending the outcome of an investigation) or adjustments for assignments or tests.
- c. Inform the victim of the right to report a crime to campus or local law enforcement – and provide the victim with assistance if the victim wishes to do so.

The University may not require a victim to participate in any investigation or disciplinary proceeding.

Because the University is under a continuing obligation to address the issue of sexual violence campus-wide, reports of sexual violence (including non-identifying reports) will also prompt the University to consider broader remedial action – such as increased monitoring, supervision or security at locations where the reported sexual violence occurred; increasing education and prevention efforts, including to targeted population groups; conducting climate assessments/victimization surveys; and/or revisiting its policies and practices.

10. **If the University determines that it can respect a victim's request for confidentiality**, the University will also take immediate action as necessary to protect and assist the victim.

## **I. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

The University has put in place complaint procedures that apply to complaints of misconduct by students, faculty and staff. The following informal resolution and formal complaint procedures apply specifically and solely to any problem of perceived discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment or assault.

## 1. **Informal Complaint Resolution**

Depending upon the nature and seriousness of the discrimination or harassment reported, any individual who believes that he or she has been treated inappropriately may want first to attempt to resolve the matter informally, by discussing the situation honestly, thoroughly, respectfully, and in a timely manner, with the other person who is involved. *An attempt at an informal resolution is not, however, a prerequisite for bringing a formal complaint.*

In attempting to deal with the problem informally, the aggrieved individual may seek the advice and assistance of any appropriate University official. For example, a student may wish to speak with his/her academic advisor; a member of the faculty may wish to speak with his/her department chairperson or Dean; or a staff member may wish to speak with his/her supervisor. Alternatively, any member of the University community may consult with the Vice President of Human Resources.

An informal complaint need not be in writing.

- If the complaint is directed at a member of the University faculty or staff, the matter may be concluded with an informal discussion between the appropriate academic or administrative Dean, the Vice President of Human Resources, and the alleged offender, whom the Vice President of Human Resources will inform about the nature and substance of the complaint.
- If the complaint is directed at a student, the matter may be concluded with an informal discussion between the appropriate Dean of Students, the Vice President of Human Resources, and the student against whom the complaint was made.
- If the complaint is initiated against a Dean of Students, the matter may be concluded with an informal discussion between the Vice President of Human Resources, the Dean of the Law School or the Vice President of Academic Affairs, and the respective Dean of Students.
- If the complaint is initiated against the Vice President of Human Resources, the matter may be concluded with an informal discussion between the President and the Vice President of Human Resources.

In each case, the person against whom a complaint has been made shall be informed about the nature and substance of the complaint. The focus of the discussion shall be to raise the sensitivity of the person complained about to incidents of the kind alleged for the purpose of attempting to avoid similar incidents in the future. The discussion should be held within 30 days after the filing of the complaint.

After the discussion with the alleged offender, the Vice President of Human Resources, the Dean of Students, and/or an appropriate University official shall meet with and inform the complainant of the discussion and that the matter is forthwith closed, and shall confirm such fact in writing. If the complainant then wishes to pursue the matter, he or she may initiate a formal complaint at any time within one year of the date of the conduct which is the basis of the complaint.

Any University manager who becomes aware of a situation that involves alleged discrimination or harassment should keep a written record relating to the case (e.g., dates and summaries of conversations). The manager should also contact the Vice President of Human Resources to ensure that the Director has an overview of all complaints that have been voiced. The University also encourages the complainant to keep a written record relating to his or her attempt to resolve the problem informally. This documentation may be helpful in cases where a problem persists despite the informal efforts to resolve it.

Any University employee who becomes aware of a situation that involves alleged discrimination or harassment should inform his or her manager of the facts regarding the case.

It is important to note that in any situation involving alleged discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment or assault, the University owes a duty to the University community as a whole as well as to the complainant, and is often obligated to conduct a thorough and timely investigation to its conclusion, even if the complainant requests that an investigation not be conducted or that an investigation be discontinued.

## **2. Formal Complaint Procedure**

If the problem is not informally resolved to the satisfaction of the individual, or if he or she does not want to deal with the problem informally, a formal complaint may be brought. In addition, a formal complaint may be brought at any time by any member of the University community – student, faculty, or staff – who believes that discrimination or harassment has occurred. Investigation and proceedings will differ depending upon whether the alleged violator is a student, faculty or staff, or a third party.

## **3. Formal Complaint: Investigation and Proceedings Where the Alleged Violator is Faculty or Staff**

A formal complaint may be filed with the Vice President of Human Resources, which should in ordinary circumstances be filed within thirty (30) days of the alleged incident of harassment or discrimination. Prompt filing is encouraged. In instances of discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment or assault, reported against a University faculty or staff member, the Vice President of Human Resources will be responsible for investigation, and may at his or her discretion refer the matter to a special investigator. A formal investigation will generally involve interviews with the complainant, with the alleged violator(s), and, where appropriate, with witnesses; and, again where appropriate, a joint meeting between the involved parties.

All University personnel shall make every effort to maintain confidentiality with respect to the complainant and shall only divulge the name of the complainant, the circumstances of the complaint, and the disposition of the matter, to those people who have a legitimate need to know.

Within sixty (60) working days of the filing of the complaint, if an external investigator is engaged, the investigator will issue a report to the Vice President of Human Resources. Within ten (10) working days of the issuance of the investigator's report, the Vice President of Human Resources shall submit a written summary to the President, including a description of any corrective actions to be taken.

The Vice President's decision in the case, including a description of any corrective or remedial action taken, shall be submitted in writing to each involved party within twenty (20) working days after submission to the President of the written investigation summary.

Where a determination is made that an employee has engaged in unlawful discrimination or harassment, or sexual assault or complicity in sexual assault, that employee will be subject to University disciplinary procedures. Possible disciplinary action can include, but is not limited to:

- a. Formal letter of reprimand
- b. Suspension from employment
- c. Termination of employment

**4. Formal Complaint: Investigation and Proceedings Where the Alleged Violator is a Student**

A formal complaint may be filed with the Dean of Students, and should in ordinary circumstances be filed within thirty (30) days of the alleged incident of harassment or discrimination. In instances of discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment or assault, reported against a University student, the Dean of Students will be responsible for investigation, and may at his or her discretion refer the matter to a special investigator. A formal investigation will generally involve interviews with the complainant, with the alleged violator(s), and, where appropriate, with witnesses; and, again where appropriate, a joint meeting between the involved parties.

All University personnel shall make every effort to maintain confidentiality with respect to the complainant and shall only divulge the name of the complainant, the circumstances of the complaint, and the disposition of the matter, to those people who have a legitimate need to know.

Within sixty (60) working days of the filing of the Petition, if an external investigator is engaged, the investigator will issue a report to the Dean of Students. Within ten (10) working days of the issuance of the investigator's report, the Dean of Students shall submit a written summary to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, including a description of any recommended corrective actions to be taken. If it is this Vice President against whom the complaint has been filed, the Dean of Students will make a determination as to the most appropriate University official to have responsibility for making a final decision about the case.

The Vice President's decision in the case, including a description of any corrective or remedial action taken, shall be submitted in writing to each involved party (with a copy to the Dean of Students) within twenty (20) working days of the receipt of the recommendations of the Dean of Students.

Where a determination is made that a student has engaged in unlawful discrimination or harassment, or sexual assault or complicity in sexual assault, that student will be subject to University disciplinary procedures. Possible disciplinary action can include, *but is not limited to*:

- a. Barring of access to the campus
- b. Probation
- c. Suspension from admission

- d. Expulsion from the University, including withholding of any degree not yet awarded
- e. Revocation of any degree already awarded.

Pending his or her decision, the Dean of Students may take a variety of administrative measures against a student charged with discrimination or harassment, including restriction of privileges and services, interim suspension, exclusion from certain on-campus facilities, including classrooms, libraries or administrative areas, academic probation, suspension from the University or expulsion from the University, including withholding of any degree not yet awarded.

**5. Formal Complaint: Investigation and Proceedings Where the Alleged Violator is a Third Party**

In instances of discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment or assault, reported against a vendor, contractor or any other person doing business with or for the University, the Vice President of Human Resources will be responsible for investigation, which shall generally follow the procedures established for handling a complaint against staff, except that interim measures and disciplinary sanctions shall be appropriate to the circumstances, and may include termination of the business relationship and reporting to federal, state or local regulatory agencies. The appeal procedure available to faculty, staff or students is not available to third parties, and the decision of the Vice President of Human Resources will be final.

**6. Appeal Procedure**

An appeal procedure is available to faculty, staff or students who are not satisfied with the outcome of the disciplinary proceedings. A written request for further review must be submitted to the Vice President of Human Resources within five (5) working days of the receipt of the written decision of the Dean of Students (for students), the Vice President of Academic Affairs (for faculty) or the Vice President of Human Resources (for staff).

Within five (5) working days after the appeal is filed, all documentation relating to the investigation, including the investigator's report, the Dean of Student's recommendations and the Vice President of Human Resources' or Vice President of Academic Affairs' decisions will be sent to the office of the University President or his/her designee. These documents will constitute the appeal record. The President or his/her designee will review the appeal record, and may at his/her discretion review other facts relating to the complaint.

Within fifteen (15) working days of the receipt of the appeal documentation, the President or his/her designee will render a final decision in the matter, copies of which, including notice of any corrective action taken, will be provided to the involved parties. This decision of the President or his/her designee shall be final in all respects and not be subject to review under any other complaint procedure.

**A NOTE ABOUT TIME FRAMES:** The University's complaint procedures reflect the University's commitment to resolving problems in an expeditious manner. Every reasonable attempt will be made to adhere to the time frames specified, but there may be occasions when it will be necessary to make exceptions. Such occasions could relate to the circumstances and complexity of the matter, the time demands and schedules of the parties involved, or the time of year that a complaint is filed (e.g., many faculty members and students are not available during semester breaks or over the summer months). It is the goal of the University to balance the need for an expeditious resolution with the need



to make a full and accurate investigation. If it is deemed necessary to alter the time frames specified in these policies, all parties will be notified of the amended schedule.

## **J. OTHER RESOURCES/AGENCIES FOR REPORTING DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT**

In addition to notifying the University about harassment or retaliation complaints, affected individuals may also direct their complaints to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing ("DFEH"), which has the authority to conduct investigations of the facts. The deadline for filing complaints with the DFEH is one year from the date of the alleged unlawful conduct. If the DFEH believes that a complaint is valid and settlement efforts fail, the DFEH may seek an administrative hearing before the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission ("FEHC") or file a lawsuit in court. Both the FEHC and the courts have the authority to award monetary and non-monetary relief in meritorious cases. Individuals can contact the nearest DFEH office or the FEHC at the locations listed in the University's DFEH poster or by checking the state government listings in the local telephone directory.

Individuals also may file a complaint relating to prohibited harassment in employment with either the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; they also may bring a complaint concerning discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability to the attention of the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education. Any member of the University community may seek assistance from the Vice President of Human Resources regarding how to contact the state and federal agencies with a claim of discrimination or harassment.

## **K. INTENTIONALLY FALSE REPORTS**

Discriminatory activity and harassment, and particularly sexual harassment or assault, often is not witnessed by others, and reports of such activity cannot always be substantiated by additional evidence. Lack of any such additional evidence should not discourage an individual from reporting any incident in violation of this policy. However, individuals who make reports that are later found to have been intentionally false or made maliciously, without regard for truth, may be subject to disciplinary proceedings and/or sanctions.

## **APPENDIX TO DISCRIMINATION & SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY RESOURCE GUIDE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT**

### **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION**

Sexual assault can happen anywhere. Research findings suggest that approximately 25 percent of women and 5 to 10 percent of men have been raped. (Psychology of Women Quarterly, Vol. 20, 1996.) The research further suggests that the highest number of assaults occur among 18 to 21 year-old women. (Journal of American University Health, Vol. 45, 1997.) Sexual assault is a widespread problem on University campuses across the country, with as many as one in five female students being victimized during their undergraduate careers according to government statistics. Because less than 5 percent of these students report their assault to the police, the response of University's to this problem is extremely important. This guide is offered as a means of becoming aware of the issues involved, the actions you can take to prevent or respond to a sexual attack, and the resources available to victims, their families and friends.

### **WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED**

The following are actions you can take after a rape or other sexual assault:

- Get to a safe place immediately.
- Leave the scene of the crime as is. Do not drink, eat, shower, douche, wash your hands, comb your hair, brush your teeth, or change your clothes. Such activities destroy physical evidence that could be used in the possible prosecution of the perpetrator.
- Contact a friend who can help you and support you.
- Contact the campus or community resources listed below for treatment and counseling.
- **Get medical attention right away.** Even if you do not want to report the event to the police, you may have injuries, sexually transmitted diseases, or a pregnancy that requires medical care. Take a change of clothes to the hospital because those worn during the assault may be collected as evidence. Hospitals can also provide you with emergency contraception upon request.
- Consider contacting Community Violence Solutions (800-670-7273) to advocate on your behalf at the hospital. If you wish, the police may also meet you at the hospital.
- When you get a quiet moment, record everything that you remember happening in detail.
- This may help you through your own healing process as well as with any legal action you may decide to take.

The importance of seeking immediate medical attention cannot be overstated. While Wellness Resources will support and act as a resource for any student, the most comprehensive, complete medical care is available at a local hospital emergency room.

## **HOSPITAL EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

San Francisco General Hospital  
**415-206-8000**

UCSF Medical Center  
**415-476-1000**

Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Medical Center  
**415-833-2000**

## **RIGHTS OF A SURVIVOR**

- You have the right to receive medical care and mental health treatment.
- You have the right to participate in legal procedures only after giving informed consent.
- You have the right not to be asked questions about prior sexual experiences.
- You have the right to keep your name from the media.
- You have the right to be protected against future assaults.
- You have the right to report to the police.
- You have the right not to report to the police.
- You have the right to be given as much credibility as a victim of any other crime.
- You have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

## **HOW TO HELP A FRIEND**

- Give your friend the chance to talk about the experience and her or his feelings. Be supportive and thoughtful in your responses. Do not overreact. Do not question your friend's actions or judgment. Believe your friend, and let your friend know you do.
- Show interest, but do not pry or ask for specific details which may make the survivor relive the experience. Allow your friend to be silent. You do not have to speak when she or he stops talking.
- Support your friend in making decisions about whom to tell and how to proceed, but recognize your own limitations. No one expects you to be an expert in counseling or sexual assault; therefore, avoid making strong recommendations to the survivor. Instead, listen and then ask how you can help.
- Do not touch or hug your friend without permission.
- Realize that as a friend you yourself may need counseling to cope with the events your friend may have shared with you.

## **REPORTING THE ASSAULT**

San Francisco Police:	911 or 415-553-0123 (anytime)
Domestic Violence Reporting:	415-553-9225
SF DHS Child Abuse Reporting:	415-558-2650/1-800-856-5553
Adult/Elder Protective Services:	415-553-9225

## **ONGOING SUPPORT**

Immediately following the assault, and later when you may find you need support and counseling, there are University and community resources available to you. The following

Wellness Resources:	415-442-6578 (M-Th 9-6:30; F 9-5)
Community Violence Solutions:	800-670-7273 (RAPE)
San Francisco Rape Treatment Center:	415-206-3222

## **CRISIS LINES: 24 HOUR / 7 DAYS A WEEK**

WOMAN, Inc.	415-864-4722/1-877-384-3578
La Casa de Las Madres	877-503-1850
La Casa de Las Madres (Teen Crisis Line)	877-923-0700
Riley Center	415-255-0165
Asian Women's Shelter	877-751-0880
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233
San Francisco Women Against Rape	415-647-7273
SF Suicide Prevention	415-781-0500/1-800-SUICIDE
SFGH Psych. Emergency	415-206-8125
Youth Crisis Line	800-843-5200

**IF YOU ARE IN DANGER OR NEED IMMEDIATE MEDICAL HELP, CALL 911**

## XXIII. DRUG- AND ALCOHOL-FREE POLICY

**What follows is the University-wide policy, which applies to both students and employees.**

GGU has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by its employees and students on school premises or as part of any of its activities. In addition to compliance requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (as amended in 1989), GGU subscribes to providing a University environment free of drug and alcohol abuse. Every member of the GGU community—staff, faculty, students, alumni, and visitors—has the right and responsibility to pursue his or her professional and academic endeavors in a safe, effective, drug-free environment.

As part of its drug prevention program for employees and students, this policy contains the following information:

1. Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by employees and students on University property or as part of any of its activities;
2. A description of applicable local, state and federal legal sanctions pertaining to the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
3. A description of health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs, abuse or prescription and over-the-counter drugs, as well as the abuse of alcohol; and
4. A clear statement of the disciplinary sanctions that GGU will impose on employees and students who violate the standards of conduct.
  - a. Employees found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and/or corrective action, up to and including termination of employment.
  - b. Students who violate this policy may be subject to suspension or expulsion.
  - c. Employees or students who violate this policy (and concurrent California state statutes) may also be subject to criminal prosecution.

GGU encourages employees who suspect they have a substance abuse problem to seek assistance through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Students may seek assistance through the Wellness Resources in the Office of Student Affairs.

The Director of Human Resources oversees employee compliance with the GGU Drug and Alcohol Free Policy. Department heads and supervisors and managers are also responsible for faculty and staff awareness and compliance with this policy. The Dean for the Office of Student Affairs oversees student compliance with the GGU Drug and Alcohol Free Policy.

## **A. HEALTH RISKS OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

### **1. Alcohol**

Alcohol acts as a depressant, affects moods, dulls the senses and impairs coordination, memory, reflexes and judgment. Other effects of alcohol abuse may be behavioral changes and self-destructive urges. Central nervous system damage may include poor vision, memory loss, loss of sensation and coordination, brain damage, and seizures. Digestive tract damage may result in cancer of the mouth, irritation of the esophagus and stomach (nausea), stomach ulcers, inflammation/cancer of the liver, and cirrhosis of the liver. Heart trouble may include high blood pressure, irregular heartbeat, angina, or a heart attack. Malnutrition may also result from alcohol abuse.

### **2. Other Drugs**

The use and abuse of illicit drugs may result in damage to the lungs, immune system, reproductive system, loss of memory, seizures, coma, malnutrition, behavioral changes (that include violence) as well as damage to the heart, liver, and kidneys. Death may also occur with the use and/or abuse of these drugs. Further abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs may have similar physiological effects.

The following drugs may cause, but are not limited to, damage as listed:

#### ***Marijuana***

Damage to lungs, reproductive system and brain functions; impairment of memory; and inability to concentrate.

#### ***Cocaine***

Damage to lungs and immune system; malnutrition; seizures; increase in heart rate and breathing rate. Overdose may result in heart stops, coma, or death.

#### ***Heroin***

Overdose can cause coma and death.

#### ***Hallucinogens***

Sudden, bizarre behavioral changes that may include extreme violence. Memory loss can be permanent.

#### ***Amphetamines***

Sustained physical “high” that can lead to malnutrition, heart problems, and death.

#### ***Sedatives and narcotic pain pills (legal but considered controlled substance due to abuse)***

Liver and kidney damage.

#### ***Anabolic Steroids***

Cardiovascular and reproductive systems impairment; jaundice; sterility; heart attacks, and strokes.

## **B. BEHAVIORAL EDUCATION**

For employees, GGU has an Employee Assistance Program. Assist-U, GGU's employee assistance program vendor, provides confidential access to professional counseling services

for help in confronting personal problems, including alcohol and other substance abuse. The EAP is available to all employees and their immediate family members offering problem assessment, short-term counseling, and referral to appropriate community and private services. Assist-U also conducts on-site educational seminars and workshops. For employees and students, the Office of Student Affairs offers a regularly scheduled Alcohol Awareness Workshop.

### **C. GGU ALCOHOL AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY POLICIES**

Employees and students are subject to sanctions for conduct which constitutes a hazard to the health, safety, or well-being of members of the GGU community or which is detrimental to GGU's interest, whether such conduct occurs on-campus, off campus, or at GGU-sponsored events.

A chemically dependent person is dependent on alcohol or any other addictive substance (drugs). Chemical dependency causes behavioral problems or interferes with a person's health, work, or academic performance.

### **D. ALCOHOL**

Possession or consumption of alcohol on campus is permitted on the following condition:

At authorized GGU events, only wine, champagne, and beer may be served on GGU property. In the State of California, the legal age for the consumption of alcoholic beverages is 21 years. Those under 21 years of age are considered minors and therefore cannot be given, sold, or consume alcohol. The sale and service of alcohol is strictly regulated by the state Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) board. A "sale" of alcohol is broadly defined and includes any financial payment. When alcohol is served at any event, including meals, where tickets are sold, a permit is required from the ABC board.

In order to ensure that the service of alcoholic beverages is properly regulated at all GGU-sanctioned events, including events initiated by approved GGU student organizations, whether held on- or off-campus, the following conditions must be observed:

1. Alcoholic beverages shall not be served at GGU-sanctioned events unless prior written approval is obtained. (See "Obtaining Approval to Serve Alcoholic Beverages at a University-Sanctioned Event" of this policy.)
2. Consumption of alcoholic beverages shall not be the main focus or purpose of the event.
3. The individual or organization sponsoring the event is responsible for compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and GGU policies.
4. All individuals wishing to be served an alcoholic beverage may be required to present a valid identification card that includes birth date or age.
5. No person under 21 years of age shall be served an alcoholic beverage.
6. No person shall be served alcoholic beverages if that person is, or appears to be intoxicated.

7. No person under the age of 21 shall present any written evidence of his or her age that is false, fraudulent, or not actually his or her own to purchase or be served, or to try to purchase or be served, any alcoholic beverage or to gain access or to try to enter any event or activity at which any alcoholic beverage is being served.
8. No person shall in any way misrepresent the age of another person or help another person to misrepresent his or her age so that such person can be served or try to enter any event or activity in which alcohol is being served.
9. Non-alcoholic beverages must be available in equal or greater quantities, and featured as prominently as the alcoholic beverages.
10. Food items must be available in sufficient quantity for the number of persons attending the event and to serve as an alternative stimulus for social interaction.
11. Alcohol should not be the focal point of the event or the advertisement. The University reserves the right to deny the event and/or advertising of the event. If alcohol is to be advertised, the availability of non-alcoholic beverages must be noted in the same advertisement.

The Dean for the Office of Student Affairs, the Director of Human Resources, the Associate Dean for Law Student Support, and/or the Director of Business Services may impose whatever further condition(s) and/or restriction(s) they think necessary in order to ensure compliance with this policy.

#### **E. OBTAINING APPROVAL TO SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT A UNIVERSITY-SANCTIONED EVENT**

In order to obtain approval to serve alcohol at GGU-sanctioned events, whether held on- or off-campus, the following conditions must be observed:

1. Persons hosting or sponsoring University-sanctioned events where alcoholic beverages will be served must attend an Alcohol Awareness Workshop through the Office of Student Affairs. Students of the law school must attend the Alcohol Awareness Workshop through the Law Student Support office.
2. Persons requesting approval for serving alcoholic beverages at events sanctioned by GGU must complete and submit a ***Request for Approval to Serve Alcoholic Beverages at University and/or Law School Sponsored/Hosted Events***.
3. For University-sanctioned events where alcoholic beverages will be served and the attendees are predominantly or exclusively employees, approval must be obtained from the Director of Human Resources.
4. For University-sanctioned events where alcoholic beverages will be served and the attendees are predominantly or exclusively students, approval must be obtained from the Dean for the Office of Student Affairs. In cases where an event is initiated by students of the law school, approval must be obtained from the designee within Law Student Support.



5. The Dean for the Office of Student Affairs, the Associate Dean for Law Student Support, and/or the Director of Human Resources may impose whatever further condition(s) and/or restriction(s) they think necessary in order to ensure compliance with this policy.

## **F. CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY**

GGU believes chemically dependent persons can and should be effectively treated and rehabilitated. The University views this problem primarily as a disease that can be treated and not as reflective on the moral character of the employee or student. The primary goals are the restoration of the person to full physical and psychic health and their ability to function productively in personal and professional relations.

GGU encourages employees who suspect they have a chemical dependency problem, even in its earliest stages, to seek assistance through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Students may seek assistance through Wellness Resources in the Office of Student Affairs.

## **G. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

### **1. Standards of Conduct and Disciplinary Action for Employees**

The University strives to maintain a workplace free from the illegal use, possession or distribution of controlled substances (as defined in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 University States Code 912, as amended). Unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of controlled substances by University employees in the workplace or on University business is prohibited. In addition, employees shall not use illegal substances or abuse legal substances in a manner that impairs performance of assigned tasks.

The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D) requires that University employees directly engaged in the performance of work on a federal contract or grant shall abide by this policy as a condition of employment and shall notify the University within five (5) days if they are convicted of any criminal drug statute violation occurring in the workplace or while on University business. The University is required to notify the federal contracting or granting agency within ten (10) days of receiving notices of such conviction and to take appropriate corrective action, or to require the employee to participate satisfactorily in an approved drug-abuse assistance or rehabilitation program. Among the disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed on employees are: verbal warning, written warning, suspension, termination and referral for prosecution. The University may require completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program as a disciplinary sanction (See "Legal Sanctions").

### **2. Disciplinary Action Regarding Alcohol and Other Drug Use by Students**

The University has the authority to initiate disciplinary procedures that could result in suspension or expulsion from the University, loss of privileges, or any of a number of lesser sanctions for violation of the Student Code. The following conduct, as it relates to alcohol and other drugs, is prohibited on the University premises or at University-sanctioned events, wherever it may occur. (The same conduct, though occurring off University premises and not at University events may nonetheless be subject to University sanctions when it adversely affects the University, its educational mission or its community.)

Use, possession, sale, distribution or manufacture of, or the attempted sale, distribution, or manufacture of any drug – including alcohol – on University properties or at official University functions that is unlawful or otherwise prohibited, limited, or restricted by University policy or regulations.

GGU hearing proceedings do not preclude the referral of infractions to appropriate authorities for criminal investigation and prosecution. (See “Legal Sanctions”). Students of the law school who violate the GGU Alcohol Policy will be subject to the discipline process under the Standards of Student Conduct for the law school. Law students are encouraged to thoroughly review the misconduct section of the law school’s Standards of Student Conduct, as it further outlines prohibited behaviors that are often associated with the overindulgence of alcohol.

## **H. LEGAL SANCTIONS**

The federal and state laws cited below are valid at the time of the production of this document and are subject to change without notice.

### **1. Federal Laws**

Under federal law, the manufacture, possession, sale or distribution of illicit drugs, e.g., cocaine, methamphetamines, heroin, PCP, LSD, Fentanyl, and mixtures containing such substances, is a felony with penalties that include imprisonment, or imprisonment and severe fines. Federal laws also prohibit the trafficking of any of the above drugs, including marijuana, hashish, and mixtures containing such substances. Penalties include imprisonment and severe fines.

Special provisions apply to the possession of crack cocaine, which include enhanced prison terms and fines.

Distribution or possession with the intent to distribute a controlled substance on University property requires sentencing enhancement of up to twice the prescribed sentence for the original offense, and at least twice the prescribed amount of parole time.

Persons convicted of possession or distribution of controlled substances can be barred from receiving benefits from any and all federal programs (except certain long-term drug treatment programs), including contracts, professional and commercial licenses, and student grants and loans. Health care providers are barred from receiving federal insurance program payments upon conviction of a criminal offense involving distributing or dispensing controlled substances. Property, including vehicles, vessels, aircraft, money, securities or other things of value which are used in, intended for use in, or traceable to transactions that involve controlled substances in violation of federal law are subject to forfeiture to the government. Finally, aliens convicted of violating any state, federal or foreign law or regulation are subject to deportation and exclusion from entry to the United States.

### **2. California Laws**

No person may sell, furnish, or give, or cause to be sold, furnished, or given away, any alcoholic beverage to a person under age 21 or to any obviously intoxicated person. No person under age 21 may purchase alcoholic beverages or possess alcoholic beverages on any street or highway or in any place open to public view. It is illegal to sell alcohol without a valid liquor license or permit. It is unlawful for any person to drink while driving, to have an open container of alcohol in a moving vehicle, or for adults to drive

with a blood alcohol content (BAC) of 0.08% or higher. Drivers under age 21 are prohibited from operating a motor vehicle if they have a BAC of 0.01% or greater. It is also illegal to operate a bicycle, water vessel, water ski, or aquaplane while intoxicated. Penalties for a first drunk-driving offense include attending a 3-month alcohol/drug program, fines up to \$1,000 plus administrative costs, up to one year in jail, and driver's license suspension up to one year. Second offenses are punishable by fines up to \$5,000, imprisonment up to one year, driver's license revocation for three years, and a required drug/alcohol program of up to 30 months. Third and fourth offenses carry similar sanctions, plus three- to five-year revocations of driver's license. Driving privileges are suspended for one year for refusing to submit to a blood alcohol content test, for two years if there is a prior offense within seven years, and for three years with three or more offenses within seven years.

Under California law, first offenses involving the sale or possession for sale of amphetamines, barbiturates, codeine, cocaine, Demerol, heroin, LSD, Mescaline, Methadone, Methamphetamine, morphine, PCP, peyote, Quaalude, psilocybin, or over one ounce of marijuana are felonies punished by imprisonment in the state prison. Marijuana of less than one ounce is a misdemeanor punishable by six months to one year in the county jail. Manufacture of illegal drugs will result in more severe prison terms and fines. Penalties are severe for offenses involving manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs by convicted felons and for distribution within 1,000 feet of a school or university, including distribution near recreational facilities, to anyone under 18, or to someone in jail or prison. Personal property used in drug transactions is subject to seizure. The mere possession of most of these drugs is a felony carrying severe prison sentences.

## **I. REVIEW OF THIS POLICY**

This policy will be reviewed by the University biennially to determine the policy's effectiveness and implement changes to the program(s) if they are needed, and to ensure that the sanctions outlined in the policy are consistently applied.

## XXIV. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Following is a list of law school course descriptions. This list can also be found on the [Course Catalog](#) webpage. Not every course will be offered every year. Students should check the course schedule for a given term to determine whether a course will be offered. A tentative schedule of course offerings is available on the [Course Schedule](#) page.

**401(K) Plans - Tax & ERISA Issues (1 unit) LLM-340A**

This course examines the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code and Employees Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) rules for 401(k) plans and related issues. We focus on these requirements from the perspective of an employer who sponsors a 401(k) plan for its employees. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**401(K) Plans II - Tax & ERISA Issues (1 unit) LLM-340B**

This course examines the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code and Employees Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) for 401(k) plans, rules for defined contribution retirement plans and related issues. This class, which is a continuation of 401(k) Plans - Tax & ERISA Issues (LLM 340A), will focus in greater detail on the IRS and DOL correction programs for 401(k) plans, as well as ERISA's fiduciary requirements, and will focus on the review of the IRS model provisions for defined contribution plans. Prerequisite: 401(k) Plans - Tax and ERISA Issues. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Accounting for Lawyers (2 units) LAW-816A**

This introductory course gives students a basic understanding of the structure of an accounting system; the mechanics of accounting entries; and the related legal, tax and business ramifications of implementing various accounting conventions and methods. Course lectures and text include discussions and cases covering generally accepted accounting principles, financial statement analysis and disclosure, auditing, choice of entity issues, and the attorney's role in dealing with accountants, auditors, and other financial professionals.

**Administrative Law (2 units) LAW-811**

This course surveys the organization, authority, and procedures of administrative agencies in relation to rulemaking, adjudication, and judicial review of administrative rulings and decisions. The course examines both federal and state agencies.

**ADR for Children & Families (2 units) LAW-815F**

This course explores Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) for cases involving children and families arising in the juvenile, family and probate divisions of the court. The course will cover techniques such as mediation, arbitration, collaborative law and peer court alternatives in delinquency proceedings. It will also cover preparation and techniques for judicial recommendation and settlement conferences. This course will count toward the experiential learning requirement for graduation. Co-requisite: Family Law.

**Advanced Estate Planning (2 units) LLM-334A**

This course takes a comprehensive and detailed look into issues such as charitable organizations, valuation discounts, domestic partnerships, family limited partnerships, guardianships and

conservatorships, trust and estate litigation, representing high net worth clients, irrevocable trusts, and law office management. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Advanced Legal Research (2 units)**

**LAW-727E**

This course explains the structure and use of legal materials. The goal is research proficiency, especially in a virtual law library. Each student is responsible for using the various online research tools, theories, and strategies presented by the instructors to complete weekly exercises and compile a comprehensive research memorandum/guide. Hard copy and electronic resources will be compared to explore their relative strengths and weaknesses, so students can also expect to sharpen their research skills with traditional print materials. A 1-unit version of this course may be offered in the Fall or Spring term for students on Law Review or on the Environmental Law Journal (ELJ). This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement. This course is open only to upper division JD students.

**Advanced Trial Advocacy (3 units)**

**LAW-899F**

Persuasive trial and presentation skills are developed through repetition and experience. This course is designed to give students an opportunity for in-depth skills training beyond that covered in Trial Advocacy. Topics will include the development of trial narratives and story-telling skills for persuasive advocacy in opening statement and closing argument; complex direct and cross examinations using exhibits and technology; the use of experts at trial; motion practice; and jury selection. Every student will participate as counsel in at least two full trials. Outstanding students in this class may also be asked to represent the law school in mock trial competitions. This course (or competing in mock trial) is required for the JD Litigation Certificate. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisite: Evidence and either Trial Advocacy or Trial Evidence & Advocacy.

**Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 units)**

**LAW-815**

The purpose of this course is to help students learn approaches to negotiation and conflict resolution, and to understand various dispute resolution processes, principally mediation and arbitration. Students will be exposed to simulated negotiations and mediations and will be expected to participate in exercises and to act as advocates and/or mediators. Guest lecturers may include a hostage negotiator, an aikido master, a retired superior court judge now serving as a JAMS mediator, and prominent mediators and arbitrators. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisites: Civil Procedure I and II.

**Animal & Wildlife Law (3 units)**

**LAW-822B**

This course begins with a discussion of the ethical bases for legal protection of individual animals and wildlife populations, focusing on where different ethical premises create conflicts over animal protection. The course then reviews several wildlife protection laws, including the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and California's Fully Protected Species Statutes. Finally, the course reviews the legal protections available to individual animals, from their status of property to standing for animals to their ethical treatment in domestic, agricultural, and laboratory settings. Several of San Francisco's unique statutes protecting animals will be reviewed, as well as recent bills proposed in Sacramento pertaining to animal and wildlife law.

**Antitrust (3 units)**

**LAW-890A**

This study of the federal antitrust laws (and corresponding California provisions) has a particular emphasis on price fixing, boycotts, discriminatory dealing, and other marketing restraints. The course focuses on counseling for small businesses and on understanding antitrust pitfalls. Current issues, particularly those relating to health care and intellectual property, are highlighted.

**Appellate Advocacy (2 units)****LAW-732**

This course builds on the writing skills developed in the first year of law school. Students prepare appellate briefs and present oral arguments in a moot court program. Prerequisites: Writing and Research I and II.

**Bankruptcy Taxation (1 unit)****LLM-346W**

This course focuses on the basic rules for bankruptcy (corporate, partnership and individual) and the important interplay between taxes and bankruptcy. The course will cover the discharge of income and other taxes in bankruptcy, and analyze special tax rules applicable to bankruptcies, including tax rules for real property dispositions in bankruptcy, taxation of individual bankruptcy estates, net operating losses and relief of indebtedness income rules. Current bankruptcy-related legislation and events will be discussed. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Biotechnology Law (2 units)****LAW-839A**

This course examines the legal issues arising from the intersection of biology, technology, and intellectual property law (especially patent), focusing primarily on current topics of interest such as cloning, assisted reproduction, and genetically modified foods and crops. Topics are explored mainly through internet sources and guest lecturers. Students research, write, and present to the class a publication-quality paper on a biotechnology topic of their choice. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement. Prerequisite: High school level understanding of cellular and molecular biology. Some knowledge of patent law is a plus.

**Business Associations (4 units)****LAW-802A**

This course covers the formation, financing, structure, control, and management of business associations, including corporations, partnerships, and limited liability entities. The course also examines agency principles and uniform acts related to business associations and selected provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement.

**Business Bankruptcy (3 units)****LAW-826R**

This course examines the rights and remedies available to a failing business and its creditors when the business seeks to reorganize under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code. The course is structured as a "practicum," which tracks a single business through restructuring, and emphasizes practical and strategic lawyering skills. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Business Immigration Law (2 units)****LAW-842B**

This course is an in-depth review of the law, policies, and procedures regulating the entry into the United States of foreigners for business, employment, and investment purposes. Students examine the various strategies available to U.S. employers and to foreign individuals under existing law. Students further familiarize themselves with the federal agencies that regulate the dispensation of temporary and permanent immigration benefits in business, employment, and investment contexts, and develop insights into counseling and procedures for obtaining those benefits. The course also addresses related issues, such as employer compliance with federal employment eligibility verification requirements, and, to a lesser extent, export control issues, the impact of mergers and acquisitions, the intersection of immigration and employment law, and tax aspects of immigration.

**Business Negotiations (formerly Intl Business Negotiation) (3 units)****LAW-745N**

The course is a practical skills class which involves a semester-long simulated negotiation of a business transaction between a U.S. multinational pharmaceutical corporation and a company in a developing African nation which has a raw material necessary for a new drug. Although the fundamental purpose of the course is to convey practical lessons that are transferable to any business transaction, the course will involve a simulated negotiation between two groups of GGU students. Each team will "represent" one of the two fictional parties to the transaction for the entire semester. Teams of students will work together to produce written communications and lead live negotiations. Course instruction includes negotiations skills, possible structures for the transaction, and a financial analysis of the facts and how that information influences the structure and negotiation of the transaction. Previous or concurrent enrollment in Business Associations is required. This course counts toward the Certificates of Specialization for both Business Law and Intellectual Property Law.

**Business of Solo & Small Firm Law Practice (1 unit)****LAW-858D**

Many GGU law graduates enter civil practice in small firms or in solo practice. To be competent practitioners they must not only master the substantive and procedural aspects of law practice, they must also master the skills needed to own and operate a small law practice business. This one-unit course, offered all day on three consecutive Saturdays, aims to help develop those business administrative skills. Subjects covered will include: choosing a location; choosing technology for phones, networking, calendaring; insurance; client relations; hiring and staff relations; marketing; relations with other firms and attorneys; and file management. A take-home final exam will be given at the end of the course, which will present students with an opportunity to demonstrate understanding of the course materials through their application to a hypothetical law firm start-up scenario.

**California Election Law (2 units)****LAW-867B**

The ballot initiative is a process of participatory democracy that enables citizens to directly enact new legislation or repeal existing laws. Today, a wide variety of hot button topics such as criminal justice policy, civil rights, and environmental protections are debated and decided by voters via ballot initiatives and referendums on the local level in San Francisco, statewide in California, and in 25 other states across the country. The class will provide students with an understanding of election law related to the constitutional and legal framework for ballot initiatives in California and the U.S. Students will learn the practical skills necessary to draft, critically analyze, and defend ballot initiatives for government, non-profit, or private clients interested in sponsoring legislation or challenging existing laws. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**California Environmental and Natural Resources Law (3 units)****LAW-834H**

California boasts some of the nation's most spectacular environmental resources and some of its worst environmental problems. It also frequently sets national trends with its cutting-edge environmental and natural resource protection laws. This seminar examines some of the state's unique environmental problems and regulatory approaches. Topics covered include: the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the California Coastal Act and the California Coastal Commission; the California Forest Practices Act; the public trust doctrine; California Wild & Scenic Rivers protection; Stream Alteration Agreements; dams and fisheries passage under the California Fish & Game Code; the California Endangered Species Act, and farmland preservation pursuant to Williamson Act contracts and conservation easements.

**California Legal Research (2 units)****LAW-869**

This course demonstrates the structure and use of legal resources as they relate to California practice. The course goal is research proficiency, especially with electronic California legal materials. Each student is responsible for learning to use the electronic research tools, theories, and strategies presented by the instructors. Weekly exercises are assigned, and students may also be expected to complete either a semester research project or a shorter end-of-semester project to demonstrate a comprehensive grasp of research skills. Paper and online resources will be compared to reveal their respective strengths and weaknesses, so students in this class can also expect to hone their skills in researching California printed legal materials. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**California Property Tax (1 unit)****LLM-348B**

This course provides a foundation in the theory and practice of property taxation for California businesses. During this 5-week session, students will learn the basics of real and personal property taxation and discuss current and relevant legal issues, such as tax compliance issues affecting property valuations, audit administration issues, and tax saving strategies. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Characterization of Income & Expenditure (3 units)****LLM-330**

This course examines the fundamental concepts of federal income taxation, including gross income, business and investment deductions, personal exemptions, and the mechanics of capital transactions. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Children & the Law (2 units)****LAW-851A**

Children and the Law is a seminar that examines the unique status of children under our legal system, and explores the fundamental question of how the law allocates decision-making power and responsibility for children among the child, the family and the State. The course will focus on both the theory underpinning the child welfare and delinquency systems as well as the function of those systems in practice. Topics we cover include delinquency and juvenile justice; abuse and neglect; foster care and adoption; and the rights of children within the family. Unlike a course in family law, we will not focus on marriage, divorce, or reproductive rights. This course satisfies the JD upper division writing requirement.

**Cities Law & Policy Seminar (2 units)****LAW-866E**

In this innovative local government seminar, students will (1) learn the basics about the roles of cities, counties, and districts in California government, and (2) conduct original research and draft real-world law and policy memoranda for real city and county clients. Law and policy research will likely focus on labor and employment law, but may also include water rights, language translation, and other subjects. Students in this class must be intellectually curious and flexible, eager to serve public entity clients, and have the highest standards of professionalism. The student memoranda will satisfy GGU's upper-division writing requirement, and there may be an opportunity to publish them online.

**Civil Litigation: Depositions (3 units)****LAW-897C**

This course focuses on the practical and theoretical aspects of preparing for and taking depositions in civil cases. Over the course of the semester, students learn deposition strategies and questioning techniques using a variety of simulations to provide students with a wide array of contexts. Special emphasis is given to deposing hostile witnesses. The course is designed to give



students continual practice and feedback in order to maximize skill-development. Co-requisite: Evidence.

**Civil Litigation: Pretrial Phase (3 units) LAW-897A**

In this course, students handle every aspect of the pretrial preparation of a civil lawsuit. They proceed from the initial client contact, through formulating client representational strategy, to developing a case theory. They draft all the case pleadings as well as motions challenging the sufficiency of the pleadings. Students also engage in all aspects of fact investigation. The course ends with a pre-trial settlement conference. Prerequisites: Civil Procedure I and II.

**Civil Procedure I (3 units) LAW-700A**

This yearlong course (see Civil Procedure II) is a survey of the procedures regulating the litigation of civil disputes. Civil Procedure I covers personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction, venue, and choice of law.

**Civil Procedure II (3 units) LAW-700B**

This yearlong course (see Civil Procedure I) is a survey of the procedures regulating the litigation of civil disputes. Civil Procedure II covers elements of pleading, joinder of parties and claims, discovery, functions of court and jury, verdicts, post-judgment motions, and appeal. The main focus is the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure although comparisons will be made to the California Rules of Civil Procedure when they are materially different. Prerequisite: Civil Procedure I

**Combatting Financial Elder Abuse (1 unit) LLM-334I**

This course examines the different forms of elder abuse and their respective definitions. In this course, students will study the elder abuse reporting laws, laws that punish the abuser, fundamentals of surrogate decision maker laws, and relevant case law. Students will learn to draft a healthcare directive and durable powers of attorney. Students will also have the opportunity to listen to guest speakers from adult protective services and the court investigators office. Professor will provide complimentary 200 page desk reference. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Community Property (2 units) LAW-808A**

This course covers the law of California marital property. Topics include general principles of classifying marital property, management and control of community property, division of community property upon dissolution or death, and the property rights of putative or meretricious spouses. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement. Prerequisites: Property I and II (6 units) or Property (4 units).

**Comparative International Tax (2 units) LLM-301A**

This seminar compares current tax law in countries from all parts of the developed and developing world. The course will explore similarities and differences among countries' income and other tax systems and identify the implications for tax practice. Using a structural framework, the course materials include recent cases and commentaries. The seminar will also assess national tax regimes in light of international tax treaty requirements and models (OECD, UN, EU, WTO, etc.). (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Comparative Legal Systems (3 units) LLM-352**

This global approach to the study of legal systems in various parts of the world is designed to enable students to recognize and analyze legal problems that might confront lawyers dealing with

matters involving application of foreign law. The course focuses on the fundamental historical, institutional, and procedural differences between the common law and the civil law systems, with an emphasis on the code systems of continental Europe, and on their use as models for law reform in developing countries. References are also made to legal systems based on religious principles or socialist legal principles. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Competition: ABA National Appellate Advocacy (2 units) LAW-899K**

The ABA Law Student Division National Appellate Advocacy Competition (NAAC) emphasizes the development of oral advocacy skills through a realistic appellate advocacy experience. Competitors participate in a hypothetical appeal to the United States Supreme Court. The competition involves writing a brief as either respondent or petitioner and then arguing the case in front of the mock court. Enrollment in this course is limited to members of the Moot Court Board. Students may not enroll without explicit permission.

**Competition: Advanced Mock Trial (2 units) LAW-899J**

This course is open only to students who have been selected by the instructor to represent the law school in an inter-school mock trial competition. The number of mock trial competitions, and corresponding student competitors, varies from year to year. Selection to compete in mock trial competitions will be based upon an application and tryout open to all upper division students who have completed Evidence and have completed or are currently enrolled in Trial Advocacy. Consent of the instructor is required for registration in this course. Prerequisite: Evidence. Co-requisite: Trial Advocacy.

**Competition: Environmental Law Moot Court (1-2 units) LAW-899I**

Students participate in the annual National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition in New York City at Pace University School of Law. Students who participate in the mandatory qualifying round in the fall (in which the students who represent the law school are selected) receive 1 unit of credit; students chosen for the actual competition receive 2 units. Prerequisites: Appellate Advocacy and one introductory environmental law course; or permission of the instructor.

**Competition: Environmental Negotiation (2 units) LAW-899N**

In today's law practice, almost all civil cases settle before trial. Negotiation skills are essential. In this unique course, learn universally applicable methods for negotiating personal and professional disputes, such as learning to invent options for mutually beneficial gain and learning to separate interests from positions. These skills are learned to prepare for a one-day competition in which two-person teams will negotiate a simulated environmental dispute, judged by environmental lawyers, judges and professional mediators.

**Competition: IP Law Moot Court (1-2 units) LAW-899T**

Law students participate in the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition, which focuses on trademark law problems. Students are coached by faculty in basic trademark legal issues and in oral advocacy skills. The class is to be completed in two semesters in which students draft a brief in the fall term and compete in oral argument in the first half of the spring term.

**Competition: Jessup International Law Moot Court (1-2 units) LAW-899M**

The American Society of International Law sponsors this moot court competition, which enables students to argue timely questions of international law in regional and final competitions against teams from 150 law schools in 20 different countries.

**Competition: Mock Trial (2 units)****LAW-899G**

This course is open only to students who have been selected by the instructor to represent the law school in an inter-school mock trial competition. The number of mock trial competitions, and corresponding student competitors, varies from year to year. Selection to compete in mock trial competitions will be based upon an application and tryout open to all upper division students who have completed Evidence and have completed or are currently enrolled in Trial Advocacy. Consent of the instructor is required for registration in this course. Prerequisite: Evidence, Co-requisite: Trial Advocacy.

**Competition: National Veterans Law Moot Court (1 unit)****LAW-899O**

Law students participate in the Veterans Law Moot Court Competition, which focuses on veteran's law. Students are coached by faculty in oral advocacy skills, and are required to write a written case brief without the assistance of the Instructor. The competition will be held in Washington DC on November 14-15, 2015.

**Competition: Traynor Moot Court (2 units)****LAW-899E**

The Roger J. Traynor California Moot Court Competition is a prestigious interscholastic moot court competition open to California law schools. The competition is designed to provide students with a learning experience that reflects contemporary appellate practice in California, and uses an edited record from an actual California Court of Appeal case. A team of two or three students will prepare and submit an appellate brief representing one side, and present oral arguments representing both sides. Enrollment in this course is limited to members of the Moot Court Board. Students may not enroll without explicit permission.

**Constitutional Law I (3 units)****LAW-801A**

Constitutional Law I examines the American constitutional system with an emphasis on judicial review, the powers and responsibilities of the three branches of the federal government, the distribution of power between federal and state governments, and substantive due process.

**Constitutional Law II (3 units)****LAW-801B**

Constitutional Law II deals with individual rights, specifically equal protection of the law, freedom of speech, and religious freedom. Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I.

**Contracts I (3 units)****LAW-705A**

This yearlong course (see Contracts II) covers basic contract law, including contract formation and legal devices designed to police the bargaining process. It also covers problems of performance, excuses from performance, breach of contract, remedies, third-party beneficiary contracts, assignments, and delegation of contract rights and duties.

**Contracts II (3 units)****LAW-705B**

This yearlong course (see Contracts I) covers basic contract law, including contract formation and legal devices designed to police the bargaining process. It also covers problems of performance, excuses from performance, breach of contract, remedies, third-party beneficiary contracts, assignments, and delegation of contract rights and duties. Prerequisite: Contracts I

**Copyright Law of the U.S. (3 units)****LAW-823**

This in-depth analysis of U.S. copyright law includes the history of the law, from the first copyright statutes through the major revisions of the 1909 Act, the 1976 Act, and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998. Students explore legal issues relating to the registration process, defenses such as fair use and parody, and remedies for infringement. Terms for the licensing and/or transfer of copyright are also examined. Includes the impact of the use of digital

media and the growth of the Internet on copyright protection. Intellectual Property LLM students are required to take this course, Trademark Law of the U.S., or Patent Law of the U.S.

**Corporate Compliance & Ethics (2 units)**

**LAW-802J**

The number and scope of corporate ethical lapses continue to escalate, as do the record-breaking fines and penalties imposed by regulators. On what basis do judges decide to punish corporations and hold the executives liable for misconduct? How do corporations create an ethical culture that will prevent, detect and deter wrongdoing? In this course, we will explore the structure of an effective compliance and ethics program, using the U.S. Federal Sentencing Guidelines as our guide. We will review how corporations effectively mitigate hot risk areas such as False Claims, Government Contracting, Data Privacy, and Anti-Corruption. This course will also explore the unique ethical and social responsibilities compliance officers face in their multiple roles as stewards of the corporation, the voice of employees, and seekers of organizational justice. This course would be invaluable to any student considering a career in the booming field of corporate compliance. Prerequisite: Business Associations

**Corporate Governance (3 units)**

**LAW-802C**

This course will highlight the rising importance of corporate governance as evidenced by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the adoption of related rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the national securities exchanges and the national securities associations. It will focus on the impact of these regulatory initiatives on corporations, their executive officers, their directors, their auditors, and their attorneys. The course will also address the increasing importance of corporate governance on investor behavior and evaluate the evolving consensus on corporate governance best practices. Prerequisites: Business Associations.

**Corporate Taxation (3 units)**

**LLM-322A**

This course addresses tax treatment, planning techniques, and problems of transactions between corporations and their shareholders, transfers to a corporation, capital structure of corporations, dividends and other distributions, stock redemptions, corporate liquidations, and tax free reorganizations. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Court Ordered Estate Planning (1 unit)**

**LLM-334G**

This is a practice oriented course designed to train students in the different ways to utilize the Court's power to effect estate and other planning on behalf of a person with a mental or legal incapacity. Students will learn to: Do estate planning through the use of the "Substituted Judgment process" in Conservatorships; Do estate and financial planning for spouses through the use of the court process known as "Proceedings for a Particular Transaction" where one of the spouses lacks legal capacity and is not a conservatee; and Obtain court approval for the compromise of a minor's legal claim. Students will prepare pleadings based on fact patterns as the weekly assignments, such that when the class is complete students will have working examples for their practices.

**Criminal Law (3 units)**

**LAW-710**

This course focuses on the study of substantive criminal law. It examines the rules of conduct for major crimes against persons and property and the defenses to such crimes. The course also considers the development of and philosophical rationales for criminal law.

**Criminal Litigation (3 units)**

**LAW-898A**

This course affords students the opportunity to apply the skills learned in Trial Advocacy in the context of a criminal case. The class is divided into two-person teams. Each team is assigned

either the role of prosecution or defense counsel. The class usually begins with the staging of a mock crime. The crime is reported, a suspect is arrested, charges are filed, and the prosecution commences. The class proceeds, week by week, through major phases of a criminal case. The course concludes with the trial of the case, which is conducted in a local courthouse. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisites: Evidence, and either Trial Advocacy or Trial Evidence & Advocacy.

**Criminal Procedure I (3 units)**

**LAW-803E**

This survey of the basic constitutional issues underlying the criminal justice system focuses on the role of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments in regulating police practices such as search and seizure, confessions, lineups, and right to counsel.

**Criminal Procedure II (3 units)**

**LAW-825A**

Topics include bail and other forms of pretrial release, prosecutorial discretion, the preliminary hearing, grand jury, joinder and severance, speedy trial, discovery, guilty pleas and plea bargaining, double jeopardy, pretrial publicity, change of venue, sentencing, appellate review and harmless error, and habeas corpus. Prerequisite: Criminal Procedure I.

**Criminal Tax Investigation & Prosecution (1 unit)**

**LLM-341E**

Students will gain insight into how federal criminal tax cases are investigated, prosecuted, and defended. The seminar course overviews a criminal fraud case from lead source through sentencing, and provides an introduction to tax crimes including evasion, conspiracy, and filing false returns. We begin with a criminal referral and follow the case through prosecution, outlining the initial investigation and pinpointing potential issues and pitfalls. Get a first-hand look at fraud case development including, sufficiency of proof, methods of proof, potential defenses, and ethical issues. Learn to examine the strength of your evidence, understand the equities for-and-against prosecution, and learn to develop an effective trial strategy.

**Curricular Practical Training (JD) (0 units)**

**LAW-895A**

Qualified international students in valid visa status may obtain practical training by participating in clinical programs, legal internships and externships, and law clerk positions under the guidance of a faculty adviser. To qualify, students must demonstrate competence in legal writing and research and obtain written authorization from an international student adviser. May be taken a maximum of three times. Open only to upper division JD students. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Curricular Practical Training (LLM) (1-2 units)**

**LLM-395**

Qualified international students in valid visa status may obtain practical training by participating in clinical programs, legal internships and externships, and law clerk positions under the guidance of the program director and a faculty adviser. To qualify, students must demonstrate competence in legal writing and research and obtain written authorization from an international student adviser. May be taken a maximum of three times. Open only to students in LLM programs. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Curricular Practical Training (SJD) (1-2 units)**

**SJD-995**

Qualified international students in valid F-1 visa status may obtain practical training by participating in clinical programs, legal internships and externships, and law clerk positions under the guidance of the program director and a faculty adviser. To qualify, students must demonstrate competence in legal writing and research and obtain written authorization from an international student adviser. May be taken a maximum of three times. Open only to students in SJD program.

**Cyberlaw (3 units)****LAW-743**

This course covers the key issues in cyberspace law. Students explore the application of traditional legal principles to this technology and examine issues regarding regulation of access, the impact of code architecture on regulation of conduct, and jurisdictional issues (both domestic and international). This course also covers the basics of e-commerce, including digital certification/verification, UCITA, EDI, and EFI. Emphasis is placed on issues relating to privacy and indecent materials online.

**Directed Study (1-3 units)****LLM-399**

A Directed Study is an independent study project for LLM students done under the supervision of a faculty member or supervising attorney for academic credit. Directed Study can be taken for 1 to 3 units. The project should be on a topic that involves in-depth research and analysis of some particular complexity or conflict in the law with a well-reasoned and supported resolution that adds to the field of knowledge on the topic. The student is to submit a written request to the LLM program director identifying a focused topic and briefly explaining: the complexity or conflict to be covered; why the topic merits coverage; and what conclusion(s) should be reached regarding the topic. The next step is for the student to refine the topic, if necessary, with the guidance of the LLM program director. When the topic has been sufficiently focused the LLM program director will identify a faculty member or supervising attorney who agrees to supervise the project. Directed Study can be taken for a letter grade or for a Credit/No Credit grade and must be decided at the time of topic approval. All papers submitted under this program should reflect 70 hours of verifiable work per unit of credit.

**DOJ Internship (2-3 units)****LLM-307**

This is a competitive placement, one student is selected each semester by DOJ. The student will have the opportunity to complete an internship with the Department of Justice Tax Division office in San Francisco, working directly with attorneys on both civil and criminal tax cases. Interested students should contact the director of the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs, for more information. Prerequisite: Characterization of Income & Expenditures and Federal Tax Procedure. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students

**Domestic Violence Seminar (2 units)****LAW-837E**

This seminar studies the historical, cultural, and psychological aspects of domestic violence in addition to the civil and criminal changes in the law both nationally and internationally. Students are assigned a reader composed of relevant articles, cases, and legislation.

**Drafting Estate Plans (1 unit)****LLM-334J**

Students will have the opportunity to draft simple wills and the operative provisions of simple trusts (without significant tax implications), culminating in a basic estate plan. Students will engage in drafting based on written materials, and also based on information elicited from client interviews.

**Early Bar Prep (2 units)****LAW-863E**

In this course, students begin bar preparation early in their last semester of law school. A thorough review of three MBE topics (Civil Procedure, Contracts and Real Property) will be covered. Students will learn and understand the components that make up the bar exam (essay, MBE and PT) and develop a successful approach to studying for the bar exam. Upon completion of the course, students will have an in-depth review of the three subjects and therefore reduce the time needed to review these subjects during their post-graduation bar preparation period.

**eDiscovery (2 units)****LAW-819E**

E-Discovery or Electronic Discovery refers to the identification, collection and production of electronically stored information in response to a request for production in a law suit or investigation. The processes and technologies around eDiscovery are often complex because of the volume and dynamic nature of data. This course examines 1) the case law landscape following the 2006 amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure which were designed to foster cooperation and early discussion on issues involving electronically stored information; 2) the proposed new amendments to these same rules; and 3) the surrounding technologies and procedures required to preserve, collect, process, review and produce electronic evidence. The class will follow the chronology of the Electronic Discovery Reference Model, with interludes for guest speakers on Computer Forensics and Project Management. Prerequisite: Evidence

**Elder Law (2 units)****LAW-840**

Elders represent the fastest growing segment of our society, and confront unique legal and financial issues. Topics explored in this course include: elder physical, emotional, and financial abuse; capacity and undue influence; role of Adult Protective Services; civil remedies including EADACPA (the Elder and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act); Government benefits and programs for the elderly; nursing home and related facilities litigation; and end-of-life issues.

**Employment Discrimination (3 units)****LAW-832A**

This course examines the major federal statutes prohibiting employment discrimination based on race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, disability, citizenship status, national origin, and age. California law regulating employment is also briefly examined. In addition to covering the substantive law, the course critically examines the law's assumptions about the nature of the employment relationship, the definition of discrimination, and the role of the government in regulating employment.

**Employment Law (3 units)****LAW-831**

This course examines the relationship between employers and individual employees. Topics include hiring, wrongful termination, employees' duty of loyalty, restrictions on post-employment competition, workplace privacy and defamation, and protection against harassment and other abusive conduct in the workplace. The course covers substantive law and examines prevailing assumptions about the employment relationship. While the course covers some discrimination issues, it does not offer in-depth coverage of that area of law.

**Energy & Climate Law (3 units)****LAW-857A**

This course surveys the law and regulation of energy production, distribution, and use, with an emphasis on the legal and policy issues at the intersection of energy and environmental law. These issues are examined in the context of the electricity and natural gas industries, giving particular attention to the statutory and administrative framework governing public utilities and the wholesale and retail energy markets. The class provides an introduction to state and national energy policy, and compares local, regional, and global impacts of fossil-based and renewable energy sources on climate change and the natural environment. Students interested in environmental law, natural resources law, water law, administrative law, and international law should consider this course.

**Entertainment Law (3 units)****LAW-833**

An introduction to the complex legal issues arising in the areas of music sound recordings and publishing, motion pictures, television, theater, and literary publishing in the United States and internationally. Covers the drafting of contracts in the entertainment industry, as well as dispute

resolution alternatives. Students also study the roles of attorneys, agents and personal managers, as well as relevant legislation affecting the entertainment industry.

**Environmental Law & Justice Clinic (2-3 units) LAW-834C**

The Environmental Law & Justice Clinic (ELJC) is an in-house clinic, which provides students with intensive training and hands-on lawyering experience. Under close faculty supervision, students provide legal representation on matters addressing environmental justice, including enforcement of environmental laws and formulating energy justice policies. Clinic students are certified under State Bar of California rules to perform many of the tasks of an attorney: they interview clients, develop legal strategies, draft legal documents, and counsel clients. They may also appear at hearings and negotiate with opposing parties. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Co-requisite: Evidence. Special scheduling arrangements can be made on a case-by-case basis for night students.

**Environmental Law & Justice Seminar (2 units) LAW-834G**

The ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & JUSTICE SEMINAR explores law and policy issues central to the environmental justice movement, focusing on matters that recur in the Clinic's representation of clients who are disproportionately impacted by pollution; explores the role of lawyers and their ethical responsibility in representing clients from communities overburdened by pollution; and provides skills training that students must master to become effective lawyers, focusing on skills that are necessary for the Clinic's caseload. The seminar is a required companion course to the Environmental Law & Justice Clinic, but it may also be taken by LLM students who are not enrolling in the Clinic with permission of the instructor. Such permission may be denied if the Clinic's caseload is unsuitable for such an arrangement. Co-requisite: Environmental Law & Justice Clinic.

**Environmental Law & Policy (3 units) LAW-834F**

This course focuses on the fundamentals of Environmental Law, including the federal Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, Climate Change, the Endangered Species Act, Citizen Suits, Criminal Prosecution and the National Environmental Policy Act. Students explore federal regulatory strategies, including environmental justice, technology-based requirements, and enforcement methods, as well as alternatives to traditional regulation such as market-based mechanisms. Students also learn tools of statutory interpretation and other skills using PIC exercises and the problem method.

**Environmental Law Journal Assoc. Editor (1-2 units) LAW-862C**

This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Environmental Law Journal Edit. Board (1-2 units) LAW-862D**

This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Environmental Law Journal Writer I (2 units) LAW-862A**

This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Environmental Law Journal Writer II (1 unit) LAW-862B**

This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Essential Mindfulness for Lawyers (2 units) LAW-870D**

Essential Mindfulness for Lawyers will expose students to meditation and other contemplation methods through practice, reading and class discussion, to enable students to develop an



awareness of the way the mind works according to current scientific thinking and ancient meditation-based treatises. This will form the foundation for an exploration of what it means not only to think like a lawyer, but also to think like a human being. In class and for homework students will have sanctioned time for quiet and reflection, which will allow their minds to become more tranquil, focused and visionary. From that platform students will learn how the cultivation of tranquility, focus and vision can improve essential lawyering skills like speaking, listening, reading, writing, analysis, counseling, negotiation and advocacy. Students will also experience how these qualities of mind can lower stress and create greater access to inspiration and happiness in the study and practice of law, and in general. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Estate & Gift Taxation (3 units)**

**LLM-325**

This course provides an introduction to federal wealth transfer tax, including estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer taxes. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Estate Planning (3 units)**

**LLM-334**

This course includes a study of various estate planning topics such as the unified credit, marital deductions, charitable deductions, generation-skipping transfers, life insurance, trusts and their uses, and family limited partnerships. Emphasis is on practical skills needed to create a uniform estate plan. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Estate Planning Externship (2-3 units)**

**LLM-312**

The Estate Planning Externship is a course, providing students with the opportunity to assist estate planning law firms and practitioners while obtaining hands-on, practical experience working on estate plans, conservatorships, trust and probate administrations. The course consists of two components: class and field work. The instructors are estate planning attorneys. The class will meet approximately every other week, to discuss substantive questions and practical hurdles, arising from their field work. Students are required to maintain and share journals, chronicling their weekly experiences, questions, and concerns. The class culminates with a paper/presentation. In the field component, each student is placed with an estate planning law firm or with a practitioner in the greater San Francisco Bay Area and shall complete 90 hours (2 units) or 135 hours (3 units) of field work over the span of the 15 week semester. The field work involves working on active cases in the areas of estate planning, conservatorships, trust and probate administrations. Prerequisites for LLM students: None. Prerequisites for JD students: Wills & Trusts. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis and offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students.

**Estate Planning for the Blended Family (1 unit)**

**LLM-334B**

For estate planners representing blended families such as second marriages, same sex relationships, and families with difficult children, this one-unit course will explore and analyze technical and tax issues surrounding the marital deduction, discretionary trust distributions, retirement plan distributions, community property characterization, tax allocation and payment planning, post mortem planning, death versus divorce and the individual psychologies of the parties. This course will also address ethical conflicts and dissect some "typical" estate planning documents to show drafting modifications appropriate for the blended family. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Estate Planning Lab (1 unit)****LLM-334L**

This course uses exercises designed to illustrate the challenges and rewards of the estate planning attorney's professional life. Student participation in role plays and class discussion is required and will be graded. Highly experienced estate planning attorneys will be guest participants and lecturers. The course emphasizes the process of practice, including client communication skills, rather than technical substance or document drafting. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students. Prerequisites: Estate Planning; Estate and Gift Taxation.

**Estate Planning Practice Management (1 unit)****LLM-300B**

This course focuses on practical and tangible ways to achieve and build a successful estate planning practice. In this course, students will be exposed to "day to day" operations and tools for setting-up the infrastructure to help attain such a practice (e.g. effective marketing, social media, workshops, etc.). The "psychology" behind growing one's practice and implementation of specific tangible methods shall also be shared and discussed. The course shall be interactive and student participation is required through the use of instructional exercises and role-plays. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Ethical Prosecutions (2 units)****LAW-876E**

The number of wrongful criminal convictions is staggering. This course will explore the behavior of prosecutors and emphasize their unique ethical and social responsibilities in their multiple roles as advocates for the community, officers of the court, and seekers of justice. Exploring the unique role of the prosecutor includes investigative, pre-trial and trial responsibilities of the prosecutor. Students will experience, throughout the course, the prosecutor's interactions with law enforcement agencies, supervisors, defense counsel, victims and their families, as well as the charging decisions, witness preparation, case evaluation and re-assessment, and societal pressures of working in a government office. Ethical prosecutions (and prosecutors) too will reduce the number of wrongful convictions and travesties in our criminal justice system. This course would be invaluable to any student considering work as a prosecutor and informative for any student intending to become a criminal defense attorney.

**Evidence (4 units)****LAW-804**

This course is a survey of the principles of law and rules governing the admissibility of proof at criminal or civil trials, including direct and cross-examination of witnesses, impeachment of credibility, expert testimony, hearsay, privileged communication, and documentary proof. Prerequisite: Civil Procedure I, Corequisite: Civil Procedure II

**Evidence in the Courtroom (2 units)****LAW-804C**

The rules of evidence dictate the manner of criminal and civil trials. Understanding evidence impacts the questions attorneys will ask, the exhibits and testimony that the jury will consider, the quality of the advocacy and, even, the outcome at trial. This course connects the rules of evidence and evidentiary determinations with the skills of trial advocacy. Students will learn how arguments under the rules of evidence and evidentiary rulings play out in the courtroom. Students will write and argue motions in limine, make offers of proof, conduct examinations, argue evidentiary objections and render decisions on evidence as trial judge. This course will focus on advocacy skills rooted in understanding evidence, such as motions in limine, evidentiary foundations, modes of impeachment and making a record for appeal. This course will not cover the aspects of trial advocacy that do not relate significantly to the rules of evidence, such as trial preparation and organization, themes and theories, voir dire, opening statements and closing

arguments. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement.  
Prerequisite: Evidence

**Executive Compensation (1 unit) LLM-335**

This course considers nonqualified retirement plans including stock option plans, top hat plans, excess benefit plans, and related issues. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Externship: Advanced Legal Clinic (2-5 units) LAW-896M**

Open to students who have completed one or more Externship clinics in prior semesters and who wish to work again in the same field of law. The class will meet four times during the semester. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Externship: Civil Field Placement (2-4 units) LAW-896A**

Students work in private or non-profit law offices, government agencies, or business legal departments as law clerks, working on civil litigation or engaging in transactional work. Students also attend seminar class meetings. Students may work in a wide variety of areas such as civil rights, corporate law, entertainment law, family law, intellectual property law, international law, and personal injury law. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Application form and consent of instructor required.

**Externship: Consumer Rights (2 units) LAW-896R**

The Consumer Rights Clinic focuses on representation of clients facing debt collection lawsuits and related issues. Students learn interviewing skills, issue spotting and assist attorneys to provide advice, counseling and limited legal representation to clients including drafting letters and basic pleadings such as answers and claims of exemption. To enroll in this clinic, students must be able to attend the Bar Association of San Francisco's legal clinics, on selected Wednesday evenings and also on the last Saturday of the month. For times and locations see the course section scheduling note or the instructor's syllabus. With instructor approval, students seeking a third unit, and certified by the State Bar, may be able to perform additional limited client representation, such as drafting and arguing motions in court. During Priority Registration enrollment in this course will be restricted to evening-part time students. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement and is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Externship: Criminal Litigation (2-4 units) LAW-896F**

Students intern with prosecuting attorneys or public defenders on criminal cases in trial or appellate courts in the state or federal system. Students also attend a concurrent seminar covering relevant criminal justice issues. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Corequisites: Evidence. Strongly Recommended: Criminal Procedure, Trial Advocacy. Also Recommended: Criminal Litigation. Consent of instructor required. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Externship: Criminal Litigation (Summer) (2-4 units) LAW-896U**

Students intern with prosecuting attorneys or public defenders on criminal cases in trial or appellate courts in the state or federal system. Students also attend a concurrent seminar covering relevant criminal justice issues. Students are recommended to take Evidence concurrently.

Consent of instructor required. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. This course is offered only in the summer term.

**Externship: Family Law (2-4 units)**

**LAW-837D**

This externship is designed to address a vastly underserved population: low income persons and families with urgent family law issues. Students will work with non-profit organizations, government agencies, and private attorneys specializing in Family Law, to handle all aspects of Family Law cases at all stages, from client interview to representation at court hearings, assisting in trials, and writing legal briefs. Students are responsible for obtaining their own placement. For help in finding a placement, please contact Law Career Services, the Externship Director, or the professor well in advance of the start of classes. Eligible students may become certified to argue cases in court. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Corequisites: Students should have taken either Community Property, Family Law, or Family Law Practice, or be taking one of these courses contemporaneously with this externship. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Externship: Judicial (2-13 units)**

**LAW-896C**

In this field placement program, students work in selected courts under the supervision of a judge. Students must complete 45 hours of work for each unit. A full-time externship can require up to 13 units; most students take 3 to 5 units at a time. Arrangements are made on an individual basis with the externship director. In addition to working at the court placement, students must attend a mandatory seminar, the first day of which is just before the start of the term. Students who enroll in this course in a summer session are limited to 8 units of credit. Prerequisite: Students must have completed three terms and have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for state trial court and 2.75 for appellate and federal court externships. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisite: Evidence. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Externship: Legal Clinic (2-13 units)**

**LAW-896B**

This externship clinic is available to students who are otherwise eligible to enroll in an externship clinic and have obtained an approved placement outside of the Bay Area. Consent of the Director of Externship Programs, or the clinic instructor, is required. In lieu of attending a seminar at the law school, students are required to meet with the instructor prior to leaving the Bay Area, to set up a communication plan with their instructor for the term away from the Law School. Students will create a professional development plan, respond to journal prompts on a regular basis, and complete mid-semester and final evaluations. The course may be taken for 2 to 8 units in the summer or 2 to 13 units in fall or spring.

**Externship: Legal Services for Children (5-8 units)**

**LAW-896K**

The goal of this course is to provide students with the lawyering skills, substantive legal knowledge, and training in non-legal areas to prepare them to be attorneys for children and other vulnerable populations. The course consists of a seminar and a supervised practicum, both of which will be held at Legal Services for Children (LSC). Although the work will focus on lawyering for children and youth, the skills and non-legal trainings will be relevant for any student with an interest in pursuing a career in public interest. The weekly seminar will be led by Exec. Director Trillin, who has been representing children since 1995. Topics include discussion of specific cases, substantive legal training in education, foster care, guardianship and immigration, and additional training in non-legal topics relevant to attorneys working with children and other vulnerable populations, focused on advocacy for clients who have been impacted by trauma. The practicum component will include participation in LSC's warmline (a free and confidential help line), school expulsion hearings, guardianship proceedings, and immigration matters. Students will also assist on LSC policy/advocacy projects. Students will

improve their skills in interviewing, issue spotting, case presentation and trial techniques, as well as gain familiarity with administrative hearings, state court hearings, federal immigration proceedings and policy work.

**Family Law (3 units)**

**LAW-837A**

This analysis of public and private regulation of the formation, maintenance, and dissolution of the de facto and de jure family unit includes the respective custody, support, and property rights and obligations between mates and between parents and children. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement. Prerequisite: Property I (3 units) or Property (4 units).

**Family Law Practice (2-3 units)**

**LAW-837F**

This course focuses on the skills necessary to carry on a basic family law practice in California. Students prepare and argue motions, learn trial skills, and practice using the most popular computer programs for setting child support according to the detailed provisions of the Family Code. Students also develop parenting and child visitation plans, calculate spousal support, and learn various methods of dividing community property. Priority is given to graduating students. Prior completion of Family Law and Community Property is recommended, but not required, and may also be taken concurrently. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement.

**Federal Income Taxation (3 units)**

**LAW-838B**

This study of the law of federal income taxation of the individual taxpayer covers the nature of income, statutory and regulatory exclusions from gross income, income splitting, personal and business deductions, at-risk and passive-loss rules, capital gains and losses, and elementary tax accounting. Prerequisites: Property (4 units) or Property I & II (6 units).

**Federal Income Taxation of Limited Liability Companies & S Corporations (2 units) LLM-346H**

This course explores the tax treatment, problems, and planning techniques involving LLCs and S corporations, including eligibility, election, revocation, termination, and accounting rules. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Federal Tax Procedure (3 units)**

**LLM-319**

This course provides an overview of federal tax procedures, including Internal Revenue Service practices and policies and the correlative rights and privileges of taxpayers. Coverage includes the regulatory process, the audit and administrative appeals process, choice of litigation forum, and assessment and collection practices. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Foreign Acct. Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) (1 unit)**

**LLM-319A**

This seminar is a broad overview of the recently implemented Foreign Account Compliance Tax Act (FATCA) reporting regime. This course will cover the origin and genesis of the law, the key provisions of the law, who is required to report, what taxpayers are required to report, how taxpayers are required to report, and the consequences of failing to report (accurately). Additionally, attention will be directed to how businesses, trusts, and other entities are planning to comply with FATCA, as well as possible ramifications of the law. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Gender, Children & International Law (2 units) LLM-364G**

This seminar will examine key legal issues related to women and children within the international context and the relevant responses designed by international law. Each week we will look at current international issues such as gender discrimination, violence against women, women's violence, religious or traditional practices, including female genital cutting and forced child marriages, abortion, sex trafficking and prostitution, women in peace building, women's land and property rights, child labor, child soldiers as well as other war crimes affecting women and children in hostilities. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Generation Skipping Transfer Tax (1 unit) LLM-324**

This course studies the generation-skipping transfer tax rules that focus on direct skips, taxable distributions, taxable terminations, and their exceptions, including exceptions for grandfathered trusts. Emphasis is on understanding the statutory provisions, applicable regulations and strategies to minimize or to avoid the impact of the tax. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Graduate Legal Writing & Research (2 units) LLM-396**

This course provides students with an overview of U.S. legal research tools and techniques, along with an introduction to writing a memorandum of law. The first ten class sessions are devoted to learning about U.S. legal resources, including practice materials, court rules, and computer-assisted legal research. The last few class sessions will provide students with an opportunity to learn how to write a memorandum of law. This course is required for US Legal Studies LLM students. Students in the International LLM program may enroll with the professor's permission if space is available.

**Guerrilla Lawyering (1 unit) LAW-824G**

This seminar focuses on lawyering for social change. It teaches the art of using guerrilla fighting techniques in the legal arena. Guerrilla lawyers are characterized by limited resources and by an alternative vision of the dominant culture. The class first explores the lawyer-client relationship, then moves on to unmasking legal dogma. Through role-playing students learn how to use the law as an organizing tool. There will be two class sessions in an actual courtroom at the federal building where each student will argue a bail motion or sentencing hearing. Students will learn how to exert power in formal legal settings. The course emphasizes merging political/legal theory with practical lawyering. There will be a short final paper, but no final exam in this course.

**HLP Client Representation (formerly HLP Skills Lab) (2 units) LAW-809B**

This course applies the law of Evidence and Constitutional Law II to practical problems. This course is open only to students in the Honors Lawyering Program (HLP).

**HLP Independent Study (1 unit) LAW-884H**

Students have the opportunity to do independent research under direct faculty supervision in areas of special interest. They may enroll in the project on a letter-grade or credit/no-credit basis after making arrangements to work with a faculty member and after receiving the approval of the associate dean for student services. Students must complete 60 total hours of research and writing for each unit.

**HLP Lawyering Skills (2 units) LAW-824B**

Students learn counseling, interviewing, and negotiating skills in class simulations, then work with real clients. Training is provided in both lawyering skills and substantive law. Under the

professor's supervision, students act as advocates for clients in a variety of settings. This course is open only to students in the Honors Lawyering Program (HLP).

**Immigration & Refugee Policy Seminar (3 units) LAW-842D**

This course will focus on U.S. and national asylum law and procedure, international refugee protection law and procedure, and significant debates regarding these topics. Students will become familiar with the process involving USCIS, US ICE, Immigration Courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and the federal courts of review. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Immigration Law (3 units) LAW-842A**

This introduction to immigration and naturalization law and procedure examines major immigration policies and covers immigration and naturalization statutes, regulations, major administrative and court decisions, and constitutional rights as affected by alienage.

**Income Taxation for Estate Planners (1 unit) LLM-330E**

This course introduces the income taxation concepts frequently encountered in estate planning. In this course, students will learn the fundamental principles of income recognition; expenses incurred in an active trade or business; determination of basis in assets; capital gains and losses; non-recognition provisions of the Internal Revenue Code; involuntary exchanges and sales of principal residences; and loss limitation rules relating to amounts at-risk and passive activities. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Income Taxation of Trusts & Estates (2 units) LLM-344**

This course analyzes the income taxation of trusts and estates, their creators, beneficiaries, and fiduciaries, including computation of distributable net income, taxable net income, taxation of simple and complex trusts, grantor trusts, and income in respect of a decedent. The course will focus on federal income tax issues, although state taxation of estates and trusts will also be addressed. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Independent Study (1-2 units) LAW-884**

Students have the opportunity to do independent research under direct faculty supervision in areas of special interest. They may enroll in the project on a letter-grade or credit/no-credit basis after making arrangements to work with a faculty member and after receiving the approval of the associate dean for student services. Students must complete 60 total hours of research and writing for each unit. Unit value for the work is determined in conference with the supervising faculty member. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement. Petition for Independent Study forms, and appropriate registration forms, are available from the registrar's office or on the law school website.

**Intellectual Property Law Survey (3 units) LAW-823E**

An introduction to the U.S. law of copyright, trademark, and patent, this course explores state law of trade secrets, unfair competition, and the role of IP protection of computer programs. The course is designed for students interested in focusing on IP law or in simply getting a basic understanding of the key legal principles of IP law.

**Intellectual Property Litigation: Copyright and Trademark (2 units) LAW-823D**

This course takes students through the various stages of an intellectual property litigation case, focusing on the issues specific to litigating trademark cases and copyright cases. Infringement and

breach of contract situations form the basis for study and analysis. Litigation strategies, discovery techniques, and settlement negotiation issues are also addressed. This course counts toward completion of the JD Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**International Business Transactions (3 units) LLM-360**

This three (3) unit course will provide students with an introduction to the main multilateral and international rules, regimes and organizations governing international business transactions, international trade and international investment. By understanding the principles of international law and why States have established regimes and intergovernmental organizations and why States have adhered to these legal principles, students will gain a thorough appreciation of the important role these organizations, rules and regimes play in shaping and determining the flow of international business and investment. The students will acquire knowledge on how these regimes and organizations govern relations among States, how they function, the roles of member governments and secretariat officials, how decisions are made and their consequences and how disputes are resolved. As a result, students should be able to identify how and why an international organization or regime can contribute to the resolution of specific problems faced by governments, firms, or NGOs as a result of international trade and investment. The course will use a problem/case-study approach in dealing with legal issues arising in international commercial transactions, international trade, and international investment. Students will gain an appreciation for the intersection of conflicting national legal norms that must be negotiated in order to complete cross-border transactions. Students will also gain an awareness of the international treaties that provide the background for these transactions while becoming familiar with some of the documents that are typically used in international trade.

**International Estate Planning (1 unit) LLM-351**

This course addresses estate, inheritance, gift, and income taxation of trusts and estates as they relate to U.S. citizens living abroad, foreign nationals in the United States, and nonresident aliens. Analysis includes comparative law, estate and gift tax treaties, conflicts of law, and choice of law in selected jurisdictions. Recommended: Income Taxation of Trusts & Estates; International Taxation. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**International Human Rights Seminar (3 units) LLM-364**

This course begins with a brief historical introduction to the concept of international human rights and their antecedents. Selected international human rights instruments, including U.N. documents, regional instruments, U.S. reservations, U.S. legislation, and war crimes documents, are then examined in detail with appropriate classifications of human rights in accordance with their contents or substance and the chronological and generational stages of their development. This course counts toward the Upper Division Writing requirement.

**International Investment Law (3 units) LLM-360A**

This course examines the law regulating international investment, exploring the range of issues practitioners deal with, including different bodies and mechanisms set up for the settlement of investment disputes, as well as selected international instruments at regional, interregional, and multilateral levels. This course counts toward completion of the JD Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**International Law - Annual Survey (1-2 units) LAW-848A**

Students who have been selected to edit articles for the Annual Survey of Comparative & International Law may sign-up for this 1-2 credit class with instructor approval in the spring semester of their second or third year of law school. LLM and SJD students are eligible to apply



to work on the Annual Survey for credit as well. Students will edit articles submitted by outside and student authors. The production editor may receive 2 credits and all other student editors will receive 1 credit for editing articles. The course includes some mandatory orientation and training sessions at times to be determined early in the spring semester. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**International Organizations (3 units) LLM-378**

This survey of international organizations includes the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as institutions for dispute resolution. This course counts toward completion of the JD Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**International Taxation (3 units) LLM-321N**

This course provides a broad survey of the common international tax planning issues faced when the U.S. income tax system is applied to cross-border transactions, focusing on both the U.S. tax rules and the underlying tax policy. It will cover "in-bound" transactions - the taxation of non-resident aliens and foreign corporations investing and/or doing business in the U.S., as well as "out-bound" transactions - the taxation of U.S. citizens and resident aliens investing and/or doing business in foreign countries. Recommended: Corporate Tax. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**International Trade Regulation (3 units) LLM-322**

This survey of the international regulation of trade in goods and services emphasizes the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Other topics include the role of regional economic arrangements (such as NAFTA and the EC), the relationship of U.S. trade law to the international trading regime, the role of specialized U.N. agencies, and the position of developing countries in the global trading system.

**Internet Law & Digital Asset Inheritance (1 unit) LLM-334K**

This course will provide an overview of Internet Law as it applies to the estate planning and administration profession. The course will also cover a sampling of digital assets and applicable intellectual property concepts and valuation theories along with possibilities and emerging practices for post death transfer of digital assets. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Intra-State Conflict & Peace Building (2 units) LLM-383A**

This course aims to introduce students to the theories of intra-state conflicts and international practices of resolving them at the very basic level. Students will explore sources and causes of conflicts, ongoing conflicts, successful resolution practices, peace building, relevant international law and the role of international and regional organizations in resolving intra state conflicts. General knowledge of or familiarity with international law required. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Introduction to Islamic Law (2 units) LAW-817B**

This course introduces students to the basic concepts of Islamic law and their applicability in contemporary legal systems. Throughout the course students will learn the history and evolution of Islamic law, development of different schools of thought, an overview of the substantive principles and comparative analyses with existing legal principles in the world. Students will also have an opportunity to explore Islamic legal systems in diverse communities, the impact of colonialism and modernity on Islamic law, and to examine the presence of Islam in today's

western societies. This course counts toward completion of the JD Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Introduction to the US Legal System (3 units) LLM-350**

Students study the US legal system, including the structure of the court system, binding and persuasive precedent, and how to read cases. They study the substantive law, in survey form, of Constitutional Law, Torts, Contracts, and Civil Procedure. They learn basic legal terminology and principles of the common law as well as statutory analysis. They complete four written assignments: a case brief, an IRAC exercise, an outline; and a memorandum of law. They also take a final essay exam. This course is open to LLM and SJD students whose first law degree is from a non-US Law School.

**IP Practicum: Trademark & Copyright Transactions (2 units) LAW-823P**

This course focuses on the primary legal and procedural requirements for registering, maintaining, exploiting, and enforcing trademarks and copyrights under federal law. The course is designed to introduce students to the main legal doctrines of trademark and copyright transactional practice, as well as the strategic considerations underlying the lawyering process in these areas of intellectual property law. A core component of this course is the use of simulations that require students to complete both written and oral assignments that emulate actual legal practice in trademark and copyright prosecution, and before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and the U.S. Copyright Office. Students will receive extensive feedback on assignments in order to enhance active learning of legal skills, legal writing skills, and professional development. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement.

**IRS Internship (3 units) LLM-309**

This is a competitive placement as an unpaid law clerk with the Internal Revenue Service Office of Chief Counsel in San Francisco or San Jose. Selected students will work directly with IRS counsel on pending Tax Court, collection and other current cases. The placement may be with either SB/SE and LMSB divisions. An IRS background check is required before beginning the internship; interested students should submit a resume and cover letter to the Associate Dean of the Tax LLM Program at the beginning of the semester prior to semester in which the student seeks the internship. Recommended: Federal Tax Procedure; Characterization of Income and Expenditures. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students.

**IRS Litigation Clinic (1-3 units) LLM-306C**

The IRS Litigation clinic provides the opportunity to defend the Internal Revenue Service before the United States Tax Court. Students will be assigned cases (with the supervision of IRS attorneys) under the Small Case Procedures of the Tax Court which are set for a trial session toward the end of the semester. The trial preparation work may include communicating and meeting with taxpayers (or their representatives), drafting court documents and identifying litigation hazards for settlements. The culmination of the course is the representation of the IRS in Tax Court. Courtroom work may include presenting settlements, arguing motions, or a trial. The clinic is for CR/NC. There are no course prerequisites however, Federal Tax Procedure and/or Tax Litigation is recommended. US Citizenship, a criminal background check, and a tax compliance check are required, with applications due approximately one month before the start of the semester. Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director. JD students are required to concurrently register for LAW 896A Externship: Civil Field Placement. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students.

**Law Firm Practice (2 units)****LAW-805P**

This course is designed to develop your abilities to succeed as an extern and a first year attorney by simulating typical assignments and providing extensive professor feedback of your work. This course will focus on written and verbal communication skills to help you advance more quickly in your legal career and familiarize you with the types of work typically assigned to new lawyers. The professor feedback will assist you to meet and exceed the expectations of future employers. This course is a Practice Intensive (PIC) course which provides two credits towards the experiential learning requirement.

**Law of International Armed Conflict (3 units)****LLM-383**

Students explore the body of law governing the actions of nations and individuals during a state of armed conflict. Topics include the use of force between states, rules of international armed conflict, war crimes and war crimes tribunals (including applications to ongoing conflicts), international humanitarian law, the Geneva Conventions, arms control and disarmament, torture, collective security, women in armed conflict, child soldiers, the United Nations and U.N. peacekeeping efforts, and the applicability of the laws to national and international terrorism. This course counts toward completion of the JD Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Law Review Associate Editor (1-2 units)****LAW-861C**

Required of all Law Review members during their second year on Law Review (2 units/Fall, 1 unit/Spring). (Not applicable to Law Review Board members, see LAW 861D). In the Fall term, 12 hours of mandatory seminar sessions will be scheduled. During the course of the two semesters, each member will edit and cite check the work of various first year Law Review members or work on selected articles from outside authors. The total of 3 credits will be awarded at the end of the Spring term. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Law Review Board (1-2 units)****LAW-861D**

Required of all Law Review Board members during the Fall and Spring terms. Outlines of the requisite responsibilities of the board members are found in the Law Review Bylaws. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Law Review Writer (1-2 units)****LAW-861A**

Required of all Law Review members during their first year on Law Review (2 units/Fall, 1 unit/Spring). Over the course of the two semesters, each student will write a scholarly casenote or comment. During the Fall semester, 12 hours of mandatory seminar sessions will be scheduled. The total of 3 credits will be awarded at the end of the Spring term. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Enrollment is limited to persons invited to join the Law Review. Membership on Law Review is determined in two ways: by first-year grades (top 10%) or through a writing competition that is held during the middle of the second semester of the first-year.

**Lawyering: Child Abuse & Dependency (2 units)****LAW-706S**

In this course, students are introduced to the child welfare system, including the laws that govern the reporting and investigation of abuse and neglect, and state action following investigation. In particular, the focus is on dependency court - a unique forum involving multiple parties and participants where judges make decisions affecting the fundamental rights of parents and their children. Students will explore the life of a case from the moment a child becomes a "dependent" under the court's jurisdiction through case dismissal triggered by the establishment of a permanent placement or emancipation.

**Lawyering: Environmental Law (2 units)****LAW-706C**

This course will explore the legal issues relating to private, non-governmental persons or entities seeking to enforce federal environmental laws prohibiting air pollution. Students will become familiar with constitutional and statutory requirements for federal enforcement, the core substantive strategies in the federal clean air act and various litigation skills. The course will utilize readings of cases and federal statutes and regulations as well as various exercises to develop practice skills including the drafting of legal documents, alternative dispute resolution and advocacy. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: Ethics in Criminal Justice (2 units)****LAW-706D**

This course explores the minefield of ethical dilemmas facing prosecutors and defense attorneys in practice. Initially we will study the rules governing the conduct of prosecutors and defenders in their respective roles which set an ideal standard of behavior for lawyers in criminal practice. We will then examine some of the real world pressures that affect the practice (e.g. race and cultural barriers; the competitive nature of trial work; limited resources) through the lens of a realistic fact pattern. Students will identify some of the major flaws of the criminal justice system, and will learn how those problems challenge a lawyer's twin obligations to be both effective and ethical. Working in teams of prosecutors and defenders (and switching roles at various points in the semester), students will integrate their theoretical understanding of the issues through various mock trial exercises in which they will hone their interviewing, counseling and negotiation skills. The values of the profession that this course examines are: the provision of competent representation and concepts of justice, fairness and morality. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: Hot Topics in Business Bankruptcy Practice (2 units)****LAW-706B**

A business has been a center of its community for decades, but now it's struggling - global competition, a defective product, a faltering economy, changes in management, have taken a toll. Thousands of jobs hang in the balance. Will the company survive? In this course, students will be introduced to the options and strategic decisions that a business entity facing financial stress may encounter. The course will have four components: first, we will explore basic concepts of business finance in an effort to recognize financial distress; second, negotiations among the students will determine whether the business can survive outside of bankruptcy; third, a simple drafting exercise; and fourth, oral argument will introduce the students to the bankruptcy court's fast-paced motions practice and help determine whether the business can survive in bankruptcy. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: International Law (2 units)****LAW-706I**

This course explores the international law system, and in particular the human rights system, from a critical perspective. It focuses on the challenges and dilemmas faced by the different actors who participate in these systems, including victims, witnesses, judges, lawyers, and representatives of national institutions, international organizations, NGOs and civil society organizations. Over the course of the semester, students will confront realistic but simulated situations and problems faced by the different actors; and they will conduct simulated lawyering exercises assuming the roles of lawyers working for the organizations involved.

**Lawyering: Landlord-Tenant Law (HLP) (2 units)****LAW-706V**

San Francisco faces a stark housing crisis, with apartment rental prices soaring to unprecedented heights. For some property owners, this means enormous financial temptation to unlawfully displace tenants. Lower-income tenants are most vulnerable to these tactics, and if they lose their homes, they can no longer afford to live in the area. In some cases, the result can be homelessness. This course will teach students substantive landlord-tenant law, as well as core

client-representation skills such as interviewing and counseling clients, developing case strategies, gathering evidence, drafting demand letters and complaints, and negotiating with opposing counsel. These skills are universally applicable regardless of your eventual legal practice area. This training will form the foundation of your HLP client work this summer, where each student will represent an actual client from start-to-finish in a housing dispute. In undertaking these important cases, HLP students often resolve the disputes through negotiation, but occasionally must draft complaints and argue the merits in court. This course is open only to 1L students who are selected for the Honors Lawyering Program.

**Lawyering: Pre-Trial Civil Litigation & Employment Law (2 units)                      LAW-706P**

This course is designed to acquaint students with pretrial litigation practice in a typical Employment Law dispute. The focus will be on giving students a practical and conceptual understanding of those lawyering skills fundamental to conducting the Fact Investigation phase of a civil lawsuit. After getting an overview of the doctrinal framework of Employment Law protections afforded to California employees, students will receive a case simulation that will guide them through various practical lawyering exercises, some of which will be video-recorded. Through those exercises, students will learn how to gather facts, analyze those facts, and develop legal case theories; they will learn questioning strategies and techniques useful for interviewing clients and deposing hostile witnesses; and they will be exposed to other aspects of the litigation process, such as settlement negotiation.

**Lawyering: Securities Enforcement & Government Investigations (2 units)                      LAW-706N**

This course will introduce students to the federal securities laws and the Securities and Exchange Commission's enforcement program. Students will learn the laws behind many of today's headline-grabbing enforcement actions such as insider trading rings, accounting and offering frauds, and Ponzi schemes. Through a simulated fact pattern, students will learn how the SEC conducts investigations, including the tools at its disposal and the challenges it faces. Students will have the opportunity to experience the basic process of government investigation: case intake, conducting witness interviews, drafting and serving subpoenas, and coordinating with other law enforcement agencies. Students will also confront typical challenges faced in government investigations, including legal limitations, ethical considerations, and privilege issues. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: Tax Issues Confronting Individuals & Businesses (2 units)                      LAW-706G**

Tax issues touch everything! This course will show two sides of a tax law practice: litigation and transactional work. For the first half of the course, we will examine the mechanics of litigating a Tax Court case involving the deductibility of gender identification surgery as a medical expense. This portion of the class will involve issues of statutory construction, litigation procedure, negotiation of settlements, client interactions and preparation for (mock) trial. In the second half of the course, we will examine all of the issues raised in starting a new business venture, including choice of entity, debt and equity structures, ownership, and negotiating and drafting agreements. Students will work in teams representing various sides of the transaction -- investors, owners, employees, etc., and work to arrive at a business structure that meets all of the goals of the participants, including minimization of tax liabilities. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: Trade Secret Protection & Litigation (2 units)                      LAW-706T**

Trade secrets are an important-yet often overlooked-type of intellectual property that are important to virtually all businesses, especially in the Bay Area's high-technology and biotechnology industries. This course will introduce students to the substantive law, procedure, lawyering skills, strategies, and ethics involved in a typical trade secret misappropriation case.

Students will gain experience in evaluating whether a valid trade secret exists, drafting a Complaint and Answer in a litigation proceeding, conducting pretrial discovery (including depositions), and drafting and arguing a pretrial dispositive motion in a simulated case. Throughout the course, students will be guided to develop practical and critical thinking skills in performing tasks (and creating work product) typical in a trade secret misappropriation case in state or federal court. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: US Supreme Court Litigation (2 units) LAW-706U**

This course will introduce students to the skills associated with working in judicial chambers and with Supreme Court advocacy. Students will learn the laws behind a select number of today's headline-grabbing Supreme Court cases and will explore the processes by which decision-making occurs at the Court. Using actual certiorari petitions, real appellate briefs and the recordings of oral argument from the current term of the United States Supreme Court, students will practice the skills used by clerks, judges and advocates. Assignments will include writing a bench memo or one section of a judicial opinion, preparing an oral argument memorandum, conducting appellate argument as both an advocate and a justice, and attending an oral argument. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Lawyering: Youth Law (2 units) LAW-706J**

This course will introduce students to youth law in California with an emphasis on the intertwined systems of dependency, delinquency and education. Topics will include the competing interests of the State, parents and juveniles whenever children and families interact with government systems and institutions, and the sources of law and procedure governing those interactions. The course is meant to present a realistic picture of how attorneys, judges, and other professionals become involved in the lives of children as well as the myriad ethical issues arising in representation of juveniles. Students will explore each of the major phases of a typical representation including initial client interviews, negotiations, oral argument, and document drafting. This course is open only to first-year JD students.

**Legal Analysis (2 units) LAW-801E**

This course covers the elements of legal reasoning and problem solving, with an emphasis on analytical writing. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Legal Methods (2 units) LAW-863C**

This course re-examines a subject from the first year curriculum, exploring it in a small seminar setting with an emphasis on problem solving and analytical writing. Admission is by invitation only. See instructor for details of subject matter to be covered. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Legal Profession Seminar (2 units) LAW-805L**

This course provides an overview of the US legal profession and the historical, economic, and sociological forces that shape the profession and the practice of law. A central focus of this course is to examine the everyday realities of the practice of law and explore what it means to be a lawyer--a "professional"--in a variety of the many contexts in which lawyers work, including big-firms, small firms and solo practices, and government law offices. Class reading and critical discussion will examine such topics as the history of the American legal profession, the changing social structure of the bar, the business of practicing law, public interest and "cause" lawyering, the realities of legal ethics in everyday law practice, gender issues in the practice of law, and the future of legal practice and the legal profession. The course requires seminar participants to actively participate in class and to complete several analytic memos and brief essays throughout the semester.

**Legislation & Public Policy (2 units)****LAW-865P**

This course will help students to build capacity to do advocacy and policy-related work. Students will learn to draft legislation and do what it takes to get it passed. The course will provide students with advocacy skills in the areas of legislative research; drafting bills, and building politically powerful support or opposition to proposed legislative vehicles. It will also help students understand California's policy landscape, including State legislative, budget and administrative policy processes. The course will require students to work in teams on practical exercises building toward their final project.

**Litigating in Probate Court (2 units)****LLM-334H**

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to understand types of litigation handled in Probate Court; be proficient in oral argument for Petitions and Motions typical in Probate Court; understand discovery tools and prepare a discovery plan for Probate Court Litigation; direct and cross examine witnesses; understand evidence for proof in Probate Court and proper objections, and; be proficient in preparing written Petitions and Objections to Petitions. Recommended: Probate Procedure. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (2-3 units)****LLM-397I**

The Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) is offered through the Justice and Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco. The LITC provides assistance to low-income individuals who are in controversy with the IRS. This includes a broad range of services from stopping levies to negotiating collection alternatives to full scope representation at the U.S. Tax Court. The LITC also organizes a Day of Docket Program which provides free legal advice by experienced tax professionals on the morning of the Tax Court's calendar call to self-represented petitioners. Applicants must have completed at least some course work in tax law. To Apply: Send a cover letter, resume, and writing sample limited to 5 pages to [mwhitley@ggu.edu](mailto:mwhitley@ggu.edu) with "LITC Externship" in the subject line. Please include the number of hours desired, the date range for which you are available, as well as any scheduling restrictions in your cover letter. Accepted students will receive permission to register for JD/LLM credit. This course meets the Experiential Learning requirement for JD students.

**Mediating Trust & Estate Disputes (3 units)****LLM-334D**

Trust and estate practice is filled with actual and potential conflicts among close and distant family members and other interested persons. Effectively identifying and addressing these unique types and causes of conflicts are essential to a successful trust and estate practice. This course will enable the practitioner to sharpen his/her existing skills in dealing with these conflicts and disputes and equip the practitioner with new tools and methods for creative non-adversarial resolution. The students will learn by using real case scenarios in an interactive classroom setting that includes dispute resolution role-play. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director. This course meets the Experiential Learning requirement for JD students.)

**Mergers and Acquisitions (3 units)****LAW-744**

The course focuses on the multitude of legal and nonlegal issues confronting lawyers handling mergers and acquisitions of entities. Issues include corporate, securities, tax, and antitrust issues. In a part-lecture, part-workshop approach, the course analyzes the lawyer's diverse role in managing a complex business restructuring. Public and private company mergers and other restructurings are considered, as are the various M&A roles played by directors, senior officers, investment bankers, accountants, and others.

**Negotiating and Drafting Contracts in the Entertainment Business (2 units)      LAW-833D**

This advanced course in entertainment law focuses on the drafting and negotiation of the numerous agreements involved in entertainment projects. Sound recording and publishing contracts in the music business and licensing agreements for the online distribution of music and audiovisual works are examined in detail. Students get hands-on experience in drafting these agreements. They also analyze negotiation points and discuss negotiation tips and strategies with experienced practitioners in entertainment law. Prerequisite: Entertainment Law.

**Negotiation (3 units)      LAW-815G**

In practice and in our lives - negotiation is a critical skill. This course is an introduction to the theory and practice of negotiation. Students will acquire a systematic framework for understanding negotiations, develop negotiation skills to create and distribute value through simulation exercises and discussion, and develop awareness of their strengths and opportunities for growth as a negotiator. There will be required readings for each class and a number of short written assignments related to particular classes and simulation exercises. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisites: Civil Procedure I and II.

**Partnership Taxation (3 units)      LLM-328**

This course concerns tax issues of the organization and operation of partnerships, including contributions, distributions, withdrawal of a partner, dissolution, and sales or exchanges of partnership interests. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Patent Law of the US (3 units)      LAW-875**

This course provides students with an overview of US patent law and the policies underlying it. Students will learn how to obtain a patent, how to understand the patent document and interpret patent claims, and how a patent is enforced. The course highlights important policy considerations and patent law's impact on current events. Global patent law issues are introduced for a comparative perspective. In addition to class discussions of the cases and statutes, patent law principles are applied in a practical manner in graded student projects. A technical background is not required. Intellectual Property LLM students are required to take this course, Copyright Law of the US, or Trademark Law of the US.

**Patent Litigation (2 units)      LAW-875C**

This course takes students through the various stages of preparing a patent infringement or validity challenge case through trial. Litigation strategies, discovery, and pre-trial motions are covered.

**Poverty Law (2 units)      LAW-829A**

The primary objective of this course is to introduce students to the unique legal issues of the poor and how the legal system deals with access to justice and indigency. We will review historical and contemporary challenges facing public interest lawyers, legal problems and policy choices regarding poverty, and effective advocacy strategies. These themes will then be traced through three areas of substantive discussion: government benefit programs, housing law and homelessness, and family law. We will conclude the course with an examination of new trends in legal services. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.



**Practical Legal Writing (2 units)****LAW-863**

Starting bar review preparation early with a targeted purpose and approach is essential for exam success. Practical Legal Writing (PLW) is the first of two bar preparation classes students are encouraged to take in their final year of law school. In this course, through an introduction to the Performance Test section of the California Bar Exam, students will begin to develop the analytical and writing skills needed for success on the bar exam as a whole. Students will learn how to organize and write the various documents frequently tested via weekly simulation and review. Individual feedback is provided at several points in the semester to ensure progress and improvement. In addition to PLW, students are encouraged to take Early Bar Preparation (EBP) in their final semester for an in-depth substantive review of three MBE subjects with an emphasis on essays and multiple choice questions. Students who have taken both PLW and EBP will be familiar with each component of the bar exam and enter their winter or summer bar review equipped with the framework and skills necessary to ensure a productive study period.

**Privacy Law (3 units)****LAW-743B**

This course explores the genesis of and current state of the area of law commonly known as 'data protection' or 'privacy' law. We will compare approaches and requirements of various countries and regions (including where there are tensions between and among such laws), focus on privacy issues across various industry sectors, and explore options for national and international compliance, including with respect to surveillance by companies, in the workplace, and by government. We will also consider various uses of and protections as applied to privacy policies, email/spam, and children online. Students examine new and pending Internet and privacy-related legislation and its impact on business and technology. Recommended co-requisite: Cyberlaw

**Privacy Law & Technology (2 units)****LAW-743C**

This course explores the current and rapidly evolving state of the area of privacy law. We will concentrate on privacy issues raised by developments in technology and explore a range of legal approaches and responses, evaluating their effectiveness, consistency, and practicability. Students examine current and emerging technologies as well as attempts at regulation to determine the effectiveness and the impact on business and technology. No prerequisites, but Cyberlaw & Privacy (Law 743B) is recommended.

**Privacy, Defamation, and Other Relational Torts (2 units)****LAW-720G**

This course is an intensive examination of relational torts, including privacy, defamation, interference with economic relationships, interference with family relationships, and abuse of the litigation process. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement. Prerequisite: Torts (4-units).

**Pro Bono Tax Clinic: Sales & Use Tax (1-3 units)****LLM-306B**

The Sales and Use Tax Clinic is a hands-on clinic where students will gain real world experience, allowing them to apply what they are learning in the classroom to actual client cases. Under the supervision of an attorney, students will represent clients who are appealing Sales and Use Tax assessments issued by the Board of Equalization (BOE). Students will have the opportunity to gain practical legal skills including: client interview and counseling, gathering evidence, preparing legal briefs, performing case strategy, as well as negotiating with auditors and settlement attorneys from the BOE. Furthermore, when necessary, students will have the opportunity to represent clients in a litigation setting at Appeals Conferences (informal hearings) and Oral Hearings (similar to a court trial). And although the cases involve tax issues, students do not need to be focused on tax law to participate. This course is graded credit/no credit. Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.

**Pro Bono Tax Clinic: State Income Tax (1-3 units)****LLM-306A**

Under supervision of an attorney from the Board of Equalization's Taxpayer Rights Advocate Office, students assist taxpayers with state income tax disputes against the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB). Students receive legal practice skills training, including gathering and identifying evidence, drafting legal briefs, and representing clients/taxpayers in negotiations with the FTB and at oral hearings before the BOE. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.

**Probate Court Externship (2-3 units)****LLM-393**

This is a competitive placement as an unpaid law clerk with the Probate Department of the California Superior Court. Selected students will work directly with the probate judge, probate examiners, court investigators, and courtroom staff on pending estate, trust, and conservatorship cases. The externs will get hands-on Probate Court experience from the judicial perspective. The course provides invaluable insight for future estate planners. Recommended: Wills & Trusts or Probate Procedure. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Offered through the LLM in Taxation Program. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students.

**Probate Procedure (3 units)****LLM-334C**

The course will cover the types of proceedings within the Probate Departments of the California courts. Students will learn how to handle post death transfers that do not need probate administration, including summary administration and non-probate transfers. All aspects of estate and trust administrations will be studied. In addition, the most common probate protective proceedings involving elders, minors, and the disabled members of society will be covered, including conservatorships, guardianships, special needs trusts, and powers of attorney. Students will learn best practices guides and techniques. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Professional Presentation & Persuasion (2 units)****LAW-855**

This course teaches performance skills related to the use of voice, body, and movement in the context of the courtroom. It is designed for law students who want to improve their presentations as trial and appellate advocates or to simply be more effective in ordinary lawyer communications. The premise of the instructors is, "Lawyers don't have a constitutional right to be boring!" This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Professional Responsibility (2 units)****LAW-805A**

This course examines the attorneys responsibility to the client, the profession, and society, as well as the structure and operation of the U.S. legal profession. Both ABA and California rules are discussed.

**Professional Responsibility for Tax Practitioners (2 units)****LLM-300**

This course considers tax practice issues including tax attorney regulation and ethical considerations. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Professional Responsibility for Trust & Estate Practice (2 units) LLM-300A**

This class concentrates on the ethical and practical considerations that an estate planning and probate attorney faces in his or her day-to-day practice. Focus is given to client meetings/interactions, including potential pitfalls when representing multiple clients and generations and clients with diminished capacity. This class pays particular attention to scope of representation, conflicts of interest, confidentiality, attorney-client privilege, work-product, and setting reasonable fees. The class is practice based and very interactive.

**Property (4 units) LAW-715**

This survey of interests in land covers possession versus ownership, forms of ownership, modern landlord-tenant law, restrictions on the use of land through easements and restrictive covenants, regulation of land use, and fair housing law. The course also considers constitutional issues such as taking property without just compensation, infringements on freedom of association, and exclusion of minorities and the poor.

**Public International Law (3 units) LLM-366**

This basic course introduces the progressive development of international law, which primarily regulates the relations between states but also governs the rights and obligations of subjects other than states, namely, international organizations and individuals. Sources of international law are examined. Substantive topics for study include jurisdiction, territories and responsibility of states, the law of treaties, and international liability of states for injurious consequences of acts not prohibited by international law.

**Real Estate Development (3 units) LAW-882D**

This advanced course covers legal problems that arise out of the development of real property. Topics include an overview of real estate investment analysis, selection of the acquiring entity, issues in the acquisition of real estate, land use problems, environmental issues, financing, and leasing. The orientation of the course is from the developer's point of view. Prerequisites: Property I and II (6 units) or Property (4 units) and Real Estate Transactions. Recommended: Real Estate Finance, Federal Income Taxation.

**Real Estate Practice (3 units) LAW-883R**

This course is a skills-based course that will provide students with numerous opportunities to learn about many of the common areas of real estate transactions and litigation practice such as residential and commercial leases, commercial unlawful detainers; co-ownership agreements, quiet title and partition; purchase and sale contracts, breach of sales contracts; broker commissions; broker malpractice claims; drafting loan documents, CC&Rs and easements, zoning and variance application; judicial and non-judicial foreclosures, receiverships, and injunctions against foreclosure; construction contracts drafting and construction defects and mechanics' liens; land use and real estate development; drafting of various pleadings, motions, discovery and trial. 3 Units - Satisfies the Experiential Learning requirement Prerequisite: Property (4 units);

**Real Estate Taxation (3 units) LLM-326**

This course explores the tax advantages of owning real property, acquisitions, operations, sales and exchanges, conversions and abandonments, aspects of financing, leasing, and forms of entity ownership of property. Recommended: Corporate Taxation. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Real Estate Transactions (2 units)****LAW-715C**

The purchase of a home represents the most important financial transaction in their lives for most Americans. (It is also one of the topics most frequently covered on the bar exam.) This course goes through the steps of a real estate "deal" from beginning to end, covering the roles of brokers and attorneys, drafting of contracts, dealing with physical and title defects, closing of escrow, priorities (i.e., ranking of claims against the property), title insurance, mortgage financing, and income tax consequences. The course is a prerequisite for Real Estate Finance. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement. Prerequisite: Property (4 units)

**Remedies (3 units)****LAW-806**

This survey of the legal and equitable remedies available to litigants based on their substantive rights emphasizes the type and extent of damages awarded in different legal settings. Also covered are specific performance, injunctive relief, and restitutionary remedies. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement. Prerequisites: Constitutional Law I, Constitutional Law II and either Property II (3 units) or Property (4 units).

**Reproductive Rights & Justice (2 units)****LAW-839R**

Going beyond *Roe v. Wade* and its progeny, this course aims to develop students' understanding of the interrelationship of legal rules, politics, ideology, and socio-economic realities that shape reproductive rights and justice. In this seminar, students will be introduced to the meaning behind "reproductive rights" and "reproductive justice" and explore a wide spectrum of related topics, including the types of abortion restrictions upheld since *Roe* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, access to contraception and reproductive health services, implications of new assisted reproductive technologies, the intersections between criminal law and reproductive autonomy, and the U.S. government's role in reproductive rights.

**Review of Legal Principles (2 units)****LLM-388B**

This course is designed to give LL.M. students an opportunity as part of their academic curriculum to learn specific topics that are most heavily tested on bar examinations. This class covers miscellaneous "bar" subjects, which may include Contract Law, Criminal Law, Evidence, Real Property, Torts, and more. (Students should check the current syllabus to verify which topics are taught this semester.) Some of the sessions will be dedicated to a substantive review of the subject matters, taught by specialized lecturers (including other professors from the law school). We will spend one to two sessions per subject, including instruction on the structure of the bar examination and various techniques to apply both in law school and on the bar examination. The class is not a substitute for a full bar review course. Periodic one-hour exams may be scheduled to test students' knowledge through practical application. This class is open only to LL.M. students (and SJD by permission).

**Sales (2 units)****LAW-740**

Students examine Uniform Commercial Code article 2, which governs the domestic sale of goods, and survey law governing the international sale of goods. Topics include warranties, manner, time and place of performance, buyers' and sellers' remedies for breach of contract, and limitations on freedom of contract. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement. Prerequisites: Contracts I and II.

**Secured Transactions (3 units)****LAW-803B**

This course introduces students to the Uniform Commercial Code (article 1 and article 9), to essential concepts of borrowing and lending in a credit economy, and to the ways in which lenders reduce the risk of non-payment by obtaining an interest in business and consumer

borrowers' personal property. It is strongly recommended for anyone planning to represent lenders, businesses or consumers in commercial transactions.

**Securities Regulation (3 units)**

**LAW-802B**

This course will provide an overview of United States federal securities laws as they relate to the issuance and trading of securities in US capital markets. In particular, we will review the broad arc of the securities laws as they have evolved from Great Depression/New Deal roots through the Boesky/Milken/greenmail scandals of the 1980's, the Enron/WorldCom crises of the 1990s and the Global Financial Crisis of 2008. Students that prepare, attend and participate will learn how and why the securities laws (1) dictate the structure of many capital raising transactions (such as private venture capital financings and initial public offerings) and M&A events, (2) regulate trading in public markets such as the NYSE and Nasdaq, and (3) influence modern corporate governance, control and strategic planning. Prerequisite: Business Associations.

**SJD Additional Residency (0 units)**

**SJD-911**

This course is for SJD students who require an extra semester of residency before sitting for their qualifying oral exam. Tuition effective Fall 2012 is US\$1000 each term and all other fees apply.

**SJD Candidacy (Local) (0 units)**

**SJD-920**

This course is for SJD students who have advanced to candidacy and will continue work on their dissertation in the San Francisco Bay Area at GGU. Tuition effective Fall 2012 is US\$1000 each term and all fees apply.

**SJD Candidacy (Non-US) (0 units)**

**SJD-922**

This course is for SJD students who have advanced to candidacy and will continue work on their dissertations outside of the United States. Tuition is US\$0 and only the "Registration" fee applies.

**SJD Candidacy (US non-local) (0 units)**

**SJD-921**

This course is for SJD students who have advanced to candidacy and will continue work on their dissertations in the United States but not in the San Francisco Bay Area. Tuition is US\$0 and only the "Registration" fee and applicable "international student" fees apply.

**SJD Dissertation Seminar (3 units)**

**SJD-931**

The purpose of this seminar is to provide collaborative support, intellectual and scholarly context, and useful direction and practical assistance to students in the Doctor of Juridical Sciences (SJD) program. Students pursue their own research with readings, discussions and workshop activities in the seminar complementing each candidate's ongoing tutorial relationship with thesis supervisors, advisers, and committee members. At the end of the seminar each student will be expected to complete a revised proposal, or draft chapter of his or her dissertation, which will be graded. In addition the final two seminar sessions will be devoted to individual presentations to the class. This seminar is required for all students in the SJD program.

**SJD Residency (0 units)**

**SJD-910**

This course is for the first and second of the required two semesters of residency. Tuition effective Fall 2013 is US\$18,000 for each semester and all fees apply.

**Social Venture Workshop (1 unit)**

**LAW-816C**

This course provides participants with skills needed to successfully launch social ventures and organizations, and to provide feedback on the development of a business plan and/or seed money fundraising pitch. Legal Social ventures and organizations vary significantly in structure, legal strategy. The course is designed to coach participants in developing a social venture capital / seed

money / partnership proposal to secure backing for an innovative, public interest legal organization. The participants' final project will be the drafting of such a proposal for an entrepreneurial program of their design. Class meetings are designed to give participants baseline capacity in skills necessary to launch an entrepreneurial project. Participants will develop skill in: conducting needs assessment; program design and evaluation; establishing corporate or non-corporate structures for social organizations that structurally further the organization's goals; creating an organizational decision-making map; strategic collaboration and formalization of memorandum of understanding, co-counsel agreements, principals of movement building and other collaborative contracts; developing systems of organizational development and oversight (including board development, financial management, and program evaluation); fund development; law practice management; staff management; branding; and spokespersonship and messaging mapping.

**Sports Law (2 units)**

**LAW-873**

This survey of the complex legal relationships found in major professional teams and leagues includes contracts, antitrust, labor law, torts, workers compensation, and gender discrimination brought to bear on current issues in the sports industry. Practical guidance in representing athletes is stressed.

**State & Local Taxation (2 units)**

**LLM-368**

This course provides an overview of state and local taxation with an emphasis on federal constitutional limitations on state and local taxation, the jurisdiction to tax, apportionment and allocation of the tax base, and an introduction to multistate business taxes, sales and use taxes, corporate income taxes, and individual income taxes. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning Programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Street Law (3 units)**

**LAW-886**

The Street Law Project operates in conjunction with approximately 25 Bay Area high schools and several middle schools and their respective school districts. Law students, working under faculty supervision, serve as student instructors and teach a course entitled "Street Law" which annually reaches 2,000 predominately inner-city school students. The program seeks to promote legal literacy among young people to ensure that they possess that minimum amount of practical, legal knowledge needed to understand the system as a whole and how it can work in their behalf. Law student instructors deliver units in Housing, Consumer, Family, Criminal, and Constitutional Law at their assigned school sites. They also participate in weekly seminars and research and develop additional material on California law to be used in their classes. Prerequisite: completion of first-year courses. Street Law is taught by the University of San Francisco School of Law, with classes meeting at their campus. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. Students must have approval from the associate dean for student services to enroll in this course.

**Tax Aspects of Charitable Giving (2 units)**

**LLM-325A**

This course will provide an in-depth analysis of income, estate, and gift tax issues arising in the context of gifts to charity. Basic rules of charitable giving, including analysis of contributions that will and will not give rise to tax benefits, permissible beneficiaries, limitations based on adjusted gross income and other considerations, valuation and substantiation will be presented. In addition, charitable giving techniques will be discussed, including charitable lead trusts, charitable remainder trusts, and bargain sales. Specific giving situations relevant to estate planning will also be covered. Recommended: Estate and Gift Taxation. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Tax Exempt Organizations (2 units) LLM-331**

This course provides an overview of the laws governing tax-exempt organizations, focusing on federal tax laws affecting charitable and educational organizations. Topics covered include charitable planning, charity formation and application for exemption, operational requirements, executive compensation, private foundation excise taxes and prohibitions, unrelated business income, and other interesting tax issues. The course will also include discussion of relevant state law formation and governance issues as well as charitable trust restrictions, using California as a model. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Tax Fieldwork (1-3 units) LLM-397**

Clinical fieldwork in a tax practice may be performed under the supervision of a practicing attorney. Students must petition to program director for approval. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.) This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement for JD students.

**Tax Litigation (2 units) LLM-341D**

After analyzing litigation procedures and rules, students apply them to model cases through pleadings, discovery, pretrial motions, settlement conferences, stipulations, trial strategies, briefs and memoranda, oral arguments, evidentiary hearings, Prerequisite or Corequisite: Federal Tax Procedure. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Tax Research (1 unit) LLM-317A**

This course acquaints students with resources available for tax research, including legislative processes, the Internal Revenue Code, judicial and administrative interpretations, reference services, and electronic research. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Taxation of Mergers & Acquisitions (2 units) LLM-339A**

This course will provide students with a practical understanding of many of the critical tax considerations associated with acquisitions and dispositions. Topics will include structuring considerations for taxable and tax-free transactions, including tax structuring aspects of asset sales, stock purchases, and mergers, tax due diligence, and drafting and review of acquisition agreements. Recommended: Corporate Taxation. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Taxation, Politics & the Law (2 units) LLM-340**

This course considers utilization of the tax system to achieve public policy goals, including assumptions, problems, and social impacts of alternative public taxation policies. Taxation policy will be examined in light of current political theories and electoral proposals. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism (2 units) LLM-383T**

The word "terrorism" has a complex connotation in International Law. This course will examine the differences between terrorism, insurgency, and armed conflict, as well as the effectiveness of existing counter-terrorism laws. This course will explore the origin of terrorism and motivations

behind terrorist acts, introduce students to the efforts by the United Nations and its member States to combat terrorism by state and non-state actors, evaluate the international obligations, duties and sanctions imposed on terrorist organizations, and examine the effectiveness of counter-terrorism laws. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Thesis (4-6 units)**

**LLM-386**

A thesis is an independent study project for LLM students done under the supervision of the LLM Program Director. Thesis can be taken for 4-6 units. The thesis can be on any topic agreed to by the student and the Program Director. Thesis can be taken for a letter grade or for a Credit/No Credit grade and must be decided at the time of topic approval. All papers submitted under this program should reflect approximately 70 hours of work per unit of credit.

**Timing of Income & Expenditure (2 units)**

**LLM-338**

This course analyzes problems of allocation income and deduction items to the proper taxable year, including annual accounting concept, tax year selection, accounting methods, and the time value of money. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Torts (4 units)**

**LAW-720**

This introductory course considers the elements of and defenses to intentional torts, negligence and strict liability, including liability for defective products. The legal principles in each subject area and the policies underlying them are extensively analyzed and explored.

**Toxics & Brownfield Law (2 units)**

**LAW-894D**

This course is intended to provide students with an overview of the laws, policies and issues regarding the introduction of hazardous chemicals and pesticides into the marketplace, and the subsequent handling and release of hazardous chemicals and storage and disposal of solid and hazardous wastes. The course will also study the investigation and remediation of chemical releases, including examining cleanup and redevelopment of "Brownfields." Students will also review how these environmental issues impact purchase and sale of real property and how proper due diligence and allocation of liability can be handled in transactions involving contaminated property.

**Trade Secrets Law (2 units)**

**LAW-823T**

This course will provide students with an introduction to a specific discipline of Intellectual Property Law that has experienced spectacular growth with the advances in digital technology and the proliferation of technological entrepreneurship. The course will provide students with an understanding of what trade secrets are and why they are crucial to a business enterprise. Students will gain some practical experience in how trade secrets are protected and managed in order to facilitate their understanding of the concept of misappropriation of trade secrets. Finally, the course will allow students to become familiar with trade secret litigation (tactics and defenses), remedies for misappropriation of trade secrets, and the criminal consequences of trade secret misappropriation. The course will use a problem/case-study approach in dealing with the basics of trade secret law and the legal issues arising from the misappropriation of trade secrets. This course stresses the practical aspects of trade secret law by giving students the opportunity to produce meaningful deliverables in the same manner as they would as a junior associate in a law firm.



**Trademark Law of the US (3 units)****LAW-891**

This course covers US trademark law and the role trademark protection plays in interstate commerce. Students explore the legal issues arising from the registration process with special attention to the business perspectives on trademark protection. The course also examines the interaction between domain names and trademarks and the general impact of the Internet on trademark law. Intellectual Property LL.M. students are required to take this course, Copyright Law of the US or Patent Law of the US.

**Transfer Pricing I (1 unit)****LLM-321D**

Transfer pricing involves transfers of tangible products, intangible products and services between related parties. The field has evolved to become one of the largest, most complex, and most contentious areas of international tax, finance and economics. This course provides an in-depth analysis of case law, regulations and guidelines governing transfer pricing in the US. and abroad. By the end of the course, students will have mastered the basic legal principles and economic methods governing intercompany pricing of intangible property, services and tangible goods among multinational corporations. A background in economics, finance, or accounting is not required or necessary.(Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Transfer Pricing II (1 unit)****LLM-321F**

This course picks up where Transfer Pricing I left off, with a detailed analysis of transfer pricing issues that arise with transfers of intangible property among related parties. We will examine recent case law, regulations and international guidelines relating to the following five issues in particular: the treatment of stock option expenses; the best method analysis for valuing intangible property; the definition and nature of intangible property in the context of multinational transfers; the evolution of the US cost sharing regulations; and policy debates regarding transfers of intangible property from US multinationals to their affiliates abroad. Prerequisites: Transfer Pricing I. (Offered through the LLM in Taxation and Estate Planning programs. JD students seeking to enroll must obtain the approval of the program director.)

**Transnational Courts (2 units)****LLM-366D**

The focus of this course is to examine the theory, law and practices of transnational courts. The rapid proliferation of these new international courts constitutes one of the most remarkable changes in international law. Although traditional international courts have served the regions well in the past, new regional integration agreements demand these new specialized courts to ensure uniformity, a predictable economic climate, and adherence to the rule of law. Factors such as increased cross-border movement of goods and services, financial interdependence, and instant communication necessitates familiarity with their various legal practices. Students will examine the expanding judicial roles these new international courts are called upon to play and their influence in reshaping states behavior. Students will also acquire knowledge of the institutional and procedural aspects of these courts, and assess their advantages and disadvantages.

**Trial Advocacy (3 units)****LAW-899B**

This is the entry course for the litigation program, and it teaches the basic skills needed by every lawyer going to court: conducting a direct examination of a witness, introducing documents and physical evidence, cross-examining witnesses, making and answering objections, and preparing opening statements and closing arguments. Much of the students' work is videotaped. The final examination for this course is a full trial conducted in a local courthouse. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisite/Corequisite (depending on the instructor): Evidence.

**Trial Evidence and Advocacy (5 units)****LAW-804T**

Specifically-designed for the Summer Trial and Evidence Program (1st STEP), this course combines the courses of trial advocacy and evidence in the courtroom, as well as presentation and acting techniques from a theater instructor. In the trial advocacy part, students learn the basic skills needed by every lawyer going to court: conducting a direct examination of a witness, introducing documents and physical evidence, cross-examining witnesses, making and answering objections, and preparing opening statements and closing arguments. In the evidence in the courtroom part, students learn that the rules of evidence dictate the manner of criminal and civil trials. Students will learn how arguments under the rules of evidence and evidentiary rulings play out in the courtroom. This course connects the rules of evidence and evidentiary determinations with the skills of trial advocacy. The final examination for this course is a full trial. Corequisite (within 1st STEP): Evidence. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement.

**Urban Environmental & Land Use Law (3 units)****LAW-856C**

Urban Environmental and Land Use Law focuses on the application of environmental and land use laws in the urban context, where the majority of Californians live and where much of California land development takes place. The first part of the course will introduce the concepts of metropolitan sprawl, smart growth and urban infill, and will focus on general planning, zoning and redevelopment law and how constitutional "takings" provisions (requiring just compensation when the government takes private property) affect urban land use regulation. The second part of the course will focus on urban case studies involving the federal Clean Water Act (Los Angeles River navigability determination), the federal Endangered Species Act (San Diego County's multi-species habitat conservation plan), the California Environmental Quality Act (climate change and general plans), brownfields (Uniform Environmental Covenants Act), California water supply law (SB 221 and the Urban Water Management Planning Act), urban open space and parkland (Cornfield State Park and Alameda Point), and climate adaptation/resiliency (New York City's response to Hurricane Sandy).

**Value Added Tax (1 unit)****LLM-347C**

Students will master and understand fundamental concepts and practices regarding Value Added Taxes (VAT) and the administration of such taxing systems in major industrialized countries. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the economic and social implications of VAT and similar taxing initiatives. Students will participate in learning exercises designed to develop and deepen their knowledge of VAT applications and implications in differing economic and political environments.

**Venture Capital Business Transactions (3 units)****LAW-827B**

Using the venture capital financing of a start-up company as a transactional model, this class focuses on the practical mechanics of how a business transaction is structured and implemented from term sheet to closing. The purpose of the course is to convey practical lessons that are transferable to any business transaction. Coursework covers the documentation, legal issues, business issues, and mechanical process of closing a preferred stock financing on behalf of a venture-backed start up. Previous or concurrent enrollment in Business Associations is required; Recommended: prior securities law class advisable but not required. This course counts toward the Certificates of Specialization for both Business Law and Intellectual Property Law.

**Veteran's Benefits Clinic (1-4 units)****LAW-776A**

Students in this multi-disciplinary clinic will learn veterans disability law and procedure and will aid military veterans in the filing, adjudication, and appeal of their disability claims with the Veterans Administration. Students will engage in client interviews and factual investigations,

draft and submit motions and briefs, and advocate for their client both in writing, and, possibly, in person before administrative boards and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Students will also work on military discharge upgrade applications, on administrative appeal and in U.S. District Court, including other-than-honorable discharges of service members discharged under the military's repealed don't ask, don't tell policy and those who have suffered military sexual assault and undiagnosed PTSD. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Application form and consent of instructor required. Co-requisite: LAW 776D Veterans Legal Advocacy Seminar.

**Veterans Law & Policy Seminar (2 units)**

**LAW-776L**

Student will enhance their knowledge of legal issues confronting military veterans and service members. Students will also enhance their research and writing skills through deconstructing existing law review articles in this area as well as engaging in in-depth research on their topic. Topics have been selected based on input from practicing attorneys who assist veterans and service members and focus on potential law and policy changes that could result in better services and support for these populations. This course counts toward completion of the Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Veterans Legal Advocacy Center (2-4 units)**

**LAW-776C**

Students in this multi-disciplinary on campus program will learn and practice veterans disability law and procedure and represent actual clients before the Department of Veterans Affairs. Under attorney supervision, students will engage in client interviews, attorney-client communications and relationship, evidence gathering, factual investigation, legal research, case strategy, and objective and persuasive legal writing. Students will gain practical experience in veterans and administrative law. Through direct client services, students are exposed to many issues facing indigent clients beyond their interactions with the military. Students are expected to be thoroughly prepared and zealously represent their client. After completion of the course, students will have practiced and experienced many aspects of attorney-client representation, and the undertaking of a legal matter from its initial beginnings to completion. This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Previous or concurrent enrollment in LAW 776D- Veterans Legal Advocacy Seminar required.

**Veterans Legal Advocacy Seminar (2 units)**

**LAW-776D**

The Veterans Legal Advocacy Seminar provides the skills necessary to understand the practice of law, and the theory of veterans' law. The course will supplement a student's legal education by teaching the practical skills necessary to succeed as an attorney in multiple legal areas, while working with real life situations and clients. The course will explore what it means to be an attorney while dealing with actual clients. It teaches students the skills necessary to undertake a legal matter from the initial client meeting to the completion of the case. Skills covered include: client interviewing, attorney-client communications and relationship, evidence gathering, factual investigation, legal research, case strategy, and objective and persuasive legal writing. In class, students will engage in discussions and potential solution to veterans' legal issues, and think critically about policy issues surrounding veterans' disability law and military discharge upgrades. After completion of the course, students will have sharpened their legal skills and obtained the confidence and ability to represent actual clients in a variety of legal settings.

**Veterans Legal Collaboration (1 unit)**

**LAW-776E**

This course will cover the field of military veterans benefits law, including service connected disability claims, health care, education, insurance, family benefits, and military discharge upgrades. Students will also learn the applicable administrative law for these areas, including the appeals procedure. At the end of the semester each student will have a clear understanding of the

law that applies to military veterans benefits, how a veteran is able to obtain benefits, and how an attorney can help a veteran obtain benefits. In addition to the substantive law portion of the course, students will also learn practical skills involved in effective client advocacy, dispute resolution, and litigation. This course provides skills training that students must master to become effective lawyers from initial factual intake to technical aspects of representation during the appeals process. This course is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.

**Water Law (3 units)**

**LAW-871W**

This class provides an overview of the legal framework and principles governing the ownership, use, and distribution of water. It covers topics that are national in scope, but it also emphasizes laws and issues unique to California. The class covers: surface water and ground water rights, riparian and appropriative water rights, California and federal water agencies, the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) and the California's State Water Project; interstate water compacts and international water allocation treaties, Native American water rights, instream flow requirements, the public trust doctrine, and California's water supply-land use legislation (SB 221 and SB 610). This course counts toward completion of the JD Upper Division Writing Requirement.

**Wills and Trusts (4 units)**

**LAW-807**

A study of nontax estate planning devices, this course explores intestate succession; restrictions on the power to dispose of property; the execution and revocation of wills; and the nature, creation, modification, and termination of trusts. Future interests and perpetuities problems are also discussed. This course counts toward completion of the California Bar Subject Requirement. Prerequisites: Property I and II (6 units) or Property (4 units).

**Wills and Trusts Drafting (1 unit)**

**LAW-807D**

In this course, students will have the opportunity to draft simple wills and the operative provisions of simple trusts (without significant tax implications). Students will engage in drafting based on written materials, and also based on information elicited from client interviews. Pre- or Co-requisite: Wills & Trusts

**Women's Employment Rights Clinic (2-3 units)**

**LAW-885B**

Students represent low-income clients with employment-related problems in areas including unpaid wages, discrimination and harassment, pregnancy disability, family and medical leave, and unemployment benefits. The clinic operates as a law office, with students practicing under direct faculty supervision. Clinic students must simultaneously enroll in the Women's Employment Rights Seminar (LAW-885S). This course counts toward completion of the Experiential Learning Requirement. Prerequisites: All first-year courses. Corequisite: Evidence. Consent of the instructor is required for Clinic enrollment.

**Women's Employment Rights Seminar (2 units)**

**LAW-885S**

The Women's Employment Rights Seminar is a required companion course for students enrolled in the Women's Employment Rights Clinic (LAW-885B). The course addresses employment law issues affecting low wage workers, focusing on both California and federal law. Substantive law areas include: overview of employment discrimination law, workplace harassment, wage and hour law, pregnancy discrimination, Family and Medical Leave Act, unemployment insurance benefits, disability discrimination, ethical issues in employment law, and wrongful termination. The seminar includes skills training components on client interviewing and counseling, case theory development, and administrative filing and hearing practice. The seminar is open to second and third-year students.

**Writing and Research I (2 units)**

**LAW-725A**

In this process-based course, students begin working with the basic legal research resources. They become familiar with legal citation, legal reading and legal analysis. They develop their ability to formulate research plans and to analyze legal issues as they research and write predictive memoranda responding to specific legal problems.

**Writing and Research II (3 units)**

**LAW-725B**

The second semester of Writing and Research continues to focus on the predictive memo as the vehicle to further develop research and analytical skills. The memo problems are more complex, requiring more in-depth research. Prerequisite: Writing and Research I

**Wrongful Convictions: Causes & Remedies (2 units)**

**LAW-876A**

Since 1989, more than 200 wrongfully convicted people have been exonerated by DNA testing. (One of that number, Peter J. Rose, exonerated in 2004-2005, was represented by Professors and students from GGU.) This 2-unit seminar course gives students the opportunity to do law reform work. Students investigate the factors that contribute to wrongful convictions by studying flaws in our criminal justice system and, working in conjunction with the national Innocence Project, propose remedies.

# APPENDIX A

## **POLICY ON ABSENCES DUE TO MEDICAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND STUDENT REQUESTS FOR DISABILITY-RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS IN ATTENDANCE OR CLASS PARTICIPATION**

*Adopted by Faculty 3.11.08*

### **Absences Due to Medical Circumstances**

If a student misses a class due to a medical appointment or other medical circumstance and would like to request that the absence be excused, that student should provide relevant documentation of such occurrence to Law Student Support. Once documentation is received, Law Student Support will email the student's instructor(s) confirming receipt of documentation. Instructors are not required to excuse medical absences and may choose to apply their standards for attendance to all absences.

### **Student Requests for Disability-Related Accommodations in Attendance or Class Participation**

It is the law school's policy that enrolled students who have disabilities shall be provided reasonable accommodations and auxiliary aids and services to the extent necessary to comply with state and federal laws. For each student, these accommodations and auxiliary aids and services will specifically address those functional limitations of the disability that adversely affect equal educational opportunity. Furthermore, these adjustments or accommodations will be provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the student's needs.

While the law school will strive to accommodate students as fully as possible, reasonable adjustments or accommodations do not include measures which fundamentally alter the academic program of the law school.

Students with physical or mental disabilities may request accommodations such as modification of course attendance or class participation requirements. This policy addresses how faculty should address disability related requests for such accommodations.

Included below are (1) the procedural steps that students must take with Law Student Support and (2) background information for faculty on the standards to apply in assessing whether a reasonable accommodation can be provided. Each request for accommodation must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, using a "deliberative process" and considering the disability involved and the nature of the course requirements.

### **Procedural Steps for Approving Attendance- or Participation-Related Accommodations**

If a student contacts a faculty member requesting accommodation in attendance or class participation requirements, the faculty member should direct the student to request the accommodation promptly with Law Student Support at [lawds@ggu.edu](mailto:lawds@ggu.edu). The procedures for addressing such an accommodations request are as follows:

1. As soon as the student thinks he or she may need an accommodation in the form of an alteration in the course attendance or class participation requirements, the student must submit medical documentation to Law Student Support, explaining the need for the requested accommodation.

2. Law Student Support will confirm that the student has provided sufficient documentation of disability and requested accommodation from an appropriate professional, and that the disability directly affects or is likely to affect the student's ability to attend or participate in class on a regular basis.
3. The student will provide a list of professors to contact. Law Student Support will email the listed professors, identifying the student and the requested accommodation(s). The letter will inform the professors of the obligation to keep the student's information confidential. Professors shall participate in a deliberative process with Law Student Support about the request and how best to address it, considering appropriate factors, including factors identified by the US Office of Civil Rights.
4. From the date of the letter to the professors, professors have ten days to inform Law Student Support of their decisions regarding accommodations. However, professors are encouraged to communicate a decision as soon as possible to minimize limitation of students' enrollment options. These decisions should be in writing and shall specify the maximum number of absences that will be allowed as accommodation and/or what modification of class participation requirements will be provided. The decision shall clearly describe any supplemental work that will be required in response to alterations in attendance or class participation requirements. If the accommodation is denied, the reasons for denial of the accommodation request shall be explained.
5. Law Student Support will inform the student of the professors' decisions within two working days of receipt of the response.
6. If the student has any questions about or disagreements with the decision, the student can request a meeting with the Associate Dean for Law Student Support and the professor(s). This meeting will take place within two weeks of the request for meeting.
7. If an agreement cannot be reached, the student may file a grievance pursuant to the Grievance Policy in the Disability Support section of the *Student Handbook*.

### **Factors That Professors Should Consider In Evaluating Requests for Accommodation**

Once Law Student Support informs the professor(s) that a student has a documented disability that directly affects or is likely to affect the student's ability to attend or participate in class as required, the professor(s) should consider the factors below in determining whether the attendance and course requirements can be modified to accommodate the student. The professor(s) should engage in a deliberative process and consider whether the requested accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration of the educational program.

Each professor should consider the following factors, identified by the U.S. Office of Civil Rights (OCR), to help determine whether attendance or class participation is fundamental to the course in question:

- Is there classroom interaction between the instructor and students, and among students?
- Do student contributions constitute a significant component of the learning process?
- Does the fundamental nature of the course rely upon student participation as an essential method for learning?
- To what degree does a student's failure to attend constitute a significant loss to the educational experience of other students in the class?
- What does the course description and syllabus say?
- What is the method by which the final course grade is calculated?
- What are classroom practices and policies regarding attendance?

In some cases, attendance is fundamental to course objectives. For example, students may be required to interact with others in the class, to demonstrate the ability to argue critically, or to

participate in group projects. In other instances, faculty may determine that students can master course content despite some or many absences, and that alternatives are available to students needing accommodation. Alternatives might include individual meetings with the professor or teaching assistants, taping of classes, time controlled email procedures in lieu of class participation, or use of other remote learning tools available to the disabled student. Rarely, faculty may decide that students do not need to attend classes at all.

Cases which have reached the OCR or the courts have generally upheld a university's determination that, in certain professional programs, class attendance and interaction were essential to the teaching program and the university was not required to lower or effect substantial modifications of academic standards by automatically excusing disability related absences as an accommodation. (See, e.g., *Maczarczyj v. New York*, 956 F.Supp. 403, 11 NDLR ¶ 59 (W.D.N.Y. 1997) (upholding the requirement of in-person residency and finding that participation by phone constituted fundamental alteration of program.); *Metropolitan State College (CO)*, Case No. 08-98-2013, 15 NDLR ¶ 92 (OCR Region VIII 1998) (upholding the accounting department's refusal to relax attendance policy after engaging in deliberative process and concluding such would result in fundamental alteration based on program); *Cabrillo Community College (CA)*, Case No. 09-96-2150 (OCR Region IX 1996) (essentiality of attendance decided on case-by-case basis in light of class requirements and methodology; when attendance is not essential, college should consider taping classes).

There are, however, situations in which it may be appropriate to alter attendance or class participation policies.

Example 1: A first year student in a large lecture-based class has a speech impairment which is intensified when speaking in front of large groups. His disability makes it difficult to successfully participate in class discussions and to be assessed in a similar way to other students. Because this class is a large lecture, his participation will not largely impact his classmates' learning. In this situation, it is important that the instructor consider the purpose of classroom participation and how frequently and for how long the average student participates. Based on the function and frequency of participation, the instructor may decide that the student should visit the instructor several times during the term to discuss course content for a specified amount of time, or that the student write half page summaries of one aspect of the reading several times during the term. In contrast, if this student were enrolled in Trial Advocacy, the accommodation of one-on-one discussions or written responses might fundamentally alter the nature of the course. It might be possible to accommodate the student's disability creatively in this class with other assignments such as drafting written witness preparation questions and written direct and cross examination questions, but most likely, Trial Advocacy is a class for which the requested accommodation—waiving the public speaking requirement—could not be granted because of the content of the course and the necessity for students' participation to educate one another.

Example 2: A student has a seizure disorder which flares up infrequently. Although the student does not expect to be absent from class more than the standard number of allowable absences, it is important the instructor decide how she will to address this situation if it should arise. The student can sense the seizure before it comes on and will stay home in a safe environment if she is aware of a seizure coming on. This student is taking a class that involves both lecture and discussion but the class has more than 30 students enrolled. It will not negatively impact the other students' education for this student to be absent. The professor feels that, if the student maintains the reading and receives a copy of course notes from the classes missed, the student will be able to stay on top of the work. For all classes missed, the student must write a short response to a discussion question provided by the instructor or tape record a discussion response.



Accommodation requests must be evaluated on a case by case basis. While there need not be a uniform policy of excusing attendance and/or participation, genuine efforts should be made to find alternatives that ameliorate attendance and participation issues for students with demonstrated need for accommodation. The OCR's approach implicitly recognizes that disability related absences do not necessarily need to be excused, but it also indicates that faculty must be prepared to justify why class attendance or participation are integral to the pedagogic process. In considering requests for changes in attendance requirements, faculty should also review ABA Standard 311 (see Attachment).

Faculty should pay careful attention to possible claims of differential treatment. Occasionally, a professor has a strict attendance policy on paper but has modified it for others. It is important that professors look beyond the course syllabus and consider actual practice and any exceptions the professor may have made, either to his or her own policy or that of the law school, especially for non-disabled students.

Regardless of the outcome, the deliberative process should be well-documented, so that others who were not involved in the process can understand the alternatives considered and the reasons for the final decision.

## Attachment to Appendix A

### **ABA Standard 206 DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

(a) Consistent with sound legal education policy and the Standards, a law school shall demonstrate by concrete action a commitment to diversity and inclusion by providing full opportunities for the study of law and entry into the profession by members of underrepresented groups, particularly racial and ethnic minorities, and a commitment to having a student body that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity.

(b) Consistent with sound educational policy and the Standards, a law school shall demonstrate by concrete action a commitment to diversity and inclusion by having a faculty and staff that are diverse with respect to gender, race and ethnicity.

#### ***Interpretation 206-1:***

*The requirement of a constitutional provision or statute that purports to prohibit consideration of gender, race, ethnicity or national origin in admissions or employment decisions is not a justification for a school's non-compliance with Standard 206. A law school that is subject to such constitutional or statutory provisions would have to demonstrate the commitment required by Standard 206 by means other than those prohibited by the applicable constitutional or statutory provisions.*

#### ***Interpretation 206-2:***

*In addition to providing full opportunities for the study of law and the entry into the legal profession by members of underrepresented groups, the enrollment of a diverse student body promotes cross-cultural understanding, helps break down racial, ethnic, and gender stereotypes, and enables students to better understand persons of different backgrounds. The forms of concrete action required by a law school to satisfy the obligations of this Standard are not specified. If consistent with applicable law, a law school may use race and ethnicity in its admissions process to promote diversity and inclusion. The determination of a law school's satisfaction of such obligations is based on the totality of the law school's actions and the results achieved. The commitment to providing full educational opportunities for members of underrepresented groups typically includes a special concern for determining the potential of these applicants through the admission process, special recruitment efforts, and programs that assist in meeting the academic and financial needs of many of these students and that create a favorable environment for students from underrepresented groups.*

### **ABA Standard 207 REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

- (a) Assuring equality of opportunity for qualified individuals with disabilities, as required by Standard 205, requires a law school to provide such students, faculty and staff with reasonable accommodations consistent with applicable law.
- (b) A law school shall adopt, publish, and adhere to written policies and procedures for assessing and handling requests for reasonable accommodations made by qualified individuals with disabilities.

#### ***Interpretation 207-1:***

*Applicants and students shall be individually evaluated to determine whether they meet the academic standards requisite to admission and participation in the law school program. The use of the term "qualified" in the Standard requires a careful and thorough consideration of each*

*applicant and each student's qualifications in light of reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are those that are consistent with the fundamental nature of the school's program of legal education, that can be provided without undue financial or administrative burden, and that can be provided while maintaining academic and other essential performance standards.*

#### **ABA Standard 311 ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

- (a) A law school shall require, as a condition for graduation, successful completion of a course of study of not fewer than 83 credit hours. At least 64 of these credit hours shall be in courses that require attendance in regularly scheduled classroom sessions or direct faculty instruction.
- (b) A law school shall require that the course of study for the J.D. degree be completed no earlier than 24 months and, except in extraordinary circumstances, no later than 84 months after a student has commenced law study at the law school or a law school from which the school has accepted transfer credit.
- (c) A law school shall not permit a student to be enrolled at any time in coursework that exceeds 20 percent of the total credit hours required by that school for graduation.
- (d) Credit for a J.D. degree shall only be given for course work taken after the student has matriculated in a law school. A law school may not grant credit toward the J.D. degree for work taken in a pre-admission program.

#### ***Interpretation 311-1***

- (a) *In calculating the 64 credit hours of regularly scheduled classroom sessions or direct faculty instruction for the purpose of Standard 311(b), the credit hours may include:*
  - (1) *Credit hours earned by attendance in regularly scheduled classroom sessions or direct faculty instruction;*
  - (2) *Credit hours earned by participation in a simulation course or law clinic in compliance with Standard 304;*
  - (3) *Credit hours earned through distance education in compliance with Standard 306; and*
  - (4) *Credit hours earned by participation in law-related studies or activities in a country outside the United States in compliance with Standard 307.*
- (b) *In calculating the 64 credit hours of regularly scheduled classroom sessions or direct faculty instruction for the purpose of Standard 311(b), the credit hours shall not include any other coursework, including, but not limited to:*
  - (1) *Credit hours earned through field placements and other study outside of the classroom in compliance with Standard 305;*
  - (2) *Credit hours earned in another department, school, or college of the university with which the law school is affiliated, or at another institution of higher learning;*
  - (3) *Credit hours earned for participation in co-curricular activities such as law review, moot court, and trial competition; and*
  - (4) *Credit hours earned by participation in studies or activities in a country outside the United States in compliance with Standard 307 for studies or activities that are not law-related.*

***Interpretation 311-2***

*Whenever a student is permitted on the basis of extraordinary circumstances to exceed the 84-month program limitation in Standard 311(c), the law school shall place in the student's file a statement signed by an appropriate law school official explaining the extraordinary circumstances leading the law school to permit an exception to this limitation. Such extraordinary circumstances, for example, might include an interruption of a student's legal education because of an illness, family exigency, or military service.*

***Interpretation 311-3***

*If a law school grants credit for prior law study at a law school outside the United States as permitted under Standard 505(c), only the time commensurate with the amount of credit given counts toward the length of study requirements of Standard 311(b). For example, if a student has studied for three years at a law school outside the United States and is granted one year of credit toward the J.D. degree, the amount of time that counts toward the 84 month requirement is one year. The student has 72 months in which to complete law school in the United States*

# APPENDIX B: POLICY ON SERVICE ANIMALS

## A. DEFINITIONS

1. **Service Animal:** GGU adopts the definition of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which defines a service animal as “. . . any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual’s disability. However, the crime deterrent effects of an animal’s presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks.” (28 C.F.R. § 36.104)
2. **Approved Service Animal:** An approved service animal is a service animal that has been approved as an accommodation for a specific student by Law Student Support after review of documentation submitted by the student.
3. **Emotional Support Animal:** An animal that provides emotional support, well-being, comfort or companionship but does not perform work or tasks for a person with a disability. (See number 1, above.) Emotional support animals do not qualify as service animals under state or federal law.

## B. POLICY

Visitors to the University who have disabilities may be accompanied by their service animals in all areas of the University to which the general public is invited.

A student who wishes to request the use of a service animal in classes and elsewhere on campus as an accommodation for a disability is required to request and receive approval pursuant to the procedure for requesting disability accommodations described in the Disability Services section of this *Handbook*.

An approved service animal is allowed to accompany a student at all times and in all campus locations, except where service animals are prohibited due to health or safety restrictions or where they may be in danger. Exceptions to restricted areas may be granted on a case-be-case basis by contacting Law Student Support, which will make the final decision.

Because they are not service animals under state or federal law, emotional support animals do not qualify as and will not be approved as an accommodation.

## C. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A SERVICE ANIMAL AS AN ACCOMMODATION:

To request approval for a service animal as an accommodation, a student must follow the procedure for requesting all accommodations, as described in the “Disability Services”

section of this *Handbook*. The student must also provide proof that the service animal is properly vaccinated and licensed, pursuant to local and state laws.

**D. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PERSONS WHO BRING SERVICE ANIMALS TO THE GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS:**

1. Care for and supervise the service animal. GGU is not responsible for the care or supervision of service animals. (28 C.F.R. § 36.302(c)(5))
2. Maintain control of the animal. Service animals must have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless the handler is either unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks. In such case, the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means). (28 C.F.R. § 36.302(c)(5))
3. Ensure the clean-up of all animal waste.
4. Ensure that each service animal has all legally required vaccinations.
5. Take financial responsibility for any property damage caused by the service animal. (28 C.F.R. § 36.302(c)(8))

**E. REMOVAL OF SERVICE ANIMALS**

A person with a disability can be asked to remove his or her service animal from the premises if the animal is out of control and the animal's owner does not take effective action to control it, or if the animal is not housebroken. (28 C.F.R. § 35.136(b)) If the behavior persists, the person with a disability may be told to refrain from bringing the animal onto University property until the problem is remediated. Service animals that are in ill health and/or pose a health and safety risk to others are not permitted on University property.

## **APPENDIX C: REQUIRED COURSE LISTS FOR JD PROGRAMS**

The following pages contain checklists of courses necessary to complete the JD degree for both full-time and part-time students who entered law school in the fall of 2016. In conjunction with the Academic Evaluation tool on GGU4YOU and academic advising available from Law Student Support, JD students should refer to these lists throughout their law school careers to plan their courses each term and to stay on track for graduation.

Note: As stated in the Academic Standards section of this handbook, these requirements are subject to change. These checklists are designed as a helpful tool, but it is always the student's responsibility to ensure that she or he has met the requirements for graduation.

## JD Student Required and Recommended Course List Full-Time Program (2016 Matriculants)

All students must complete 88 units to graduate. In addition to the requirements listed here, students will take approximately 25 units of electives. Electives include additional units from the lists below and other classes on a variety of subjects listed in the course schedules each term.

### First Semester Courses – 15 units

- Civil Procedure I (3)
- Contracts I (3)
- Criminal Law (3)
- Torts (4)
- Writing & Research I (2)

### Second Semester Courses – 15 units

- Civil Procedure II (3)
- Contracts II (3)
- Property (4)
- Writing & Research II (3)
- 1L Elective (2)

### Second Year Required Courses (12-16 units per semester)

- Appellate Advocacy (2) [spring]
- Constitutional Law I (3) [fall]
- Constitutional Law II (3) [spring]
- At least 4 “Additional Upper Division Required Course” units

### Additional Upper Division Required Courses – 9 units

- Criminal Procedure I (3)
- Evidence (4) [recommended for fall of second year]
- Professional Responsibility (2)

### California Bar Subject Courses – At least 8 units

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business Associations (4)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Community Property (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Privacy, Defamation, and Other Rel. Torts (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Transactions (2)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Remedies (3) [only after Con Law I and II]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sales (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Wills &amp; Trusts (4)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

### Upper Division Writing Courses – At least 2 units

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Legal Research (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> California Legal Research (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Environmental Law Journal</i> (3)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Independent Study (1-2)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Law Review</i> (6-7)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Additional writing courses as identified in the course schedule</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

### Upper Division Experiential Courses – At least 6 units with a minimum of 3 “non-simulation” units

#### **Non-Simulation Courses:**

- Environmental Law & Justice Clinic (2-3)
- Externship (2-13)
- HLP Client Representation (2)
- Pro Bono Tax Clinic (1-2)
- Veterans Legal Advocacy Center (2-4)
- Women’s Employment Rights Clinic (2-3)
- Additional externships, clinics, or field placements as identified in the course schedule

#### **Simulation Courses:**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution (3)
- Civil &/or Criminal Litigation (3)
- Family Law Practice (3)
- IP Practicum (2)
- Negotiation (3)
- Trial Advocacy &/or Advanced Trial Ad. (3)
- Additional simulation courses as identified in the course schedule

Course information and schedule planners may be found on the Registrar’s Office website and in the *Student Handbook* available online. All students are encouraged to schedule academic advising appointments by visiting Law Student Support (suite 2333) or calling 415.442.6615.



## JD Student Required and Recommended Course List

### Part-Time Program (2016 Matriculants)

All students must complete 88 units to graduate. In addition to the requirements listed here, students will take approximately 25 units of electives. Electives include additional units from the lists below and other classes on a variety of subjects listed in the course schedules each term.

#### **First Fall – 9 units**

- Contracts I (3)
- Torts (4)
- Writing & Research I (2)

#### **First Spring – 8 units**

- Contracts II (3)
- Writing & Research II (3)
- 1L Elective (2)

#### **First Summer – 5 units**

- Civil Procedure I (3)
- Prof. Responsibility (2)

#### **Second Fall – 9 units**

- Civil Procedure II (3)
- Constitutional Law I (3)
- Criminal Law (3)

#### **Second Spring – 9 units**

- Appellate Advocacy
- Constitutional Law II (3)
- Property (4)

#### **Second Summer – 4 units**

- Evidence (4)

#### **Additional Upper Division Required Courses – 3 units**

- Criminal Procedure I (3)

#### **California Bar Subject Courses – At least 8 units**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business Associations (4)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Community Property (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Privacy, Defamation, &amp; Other Rel. Torts (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Transactions (2)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Remedies (3) [only after Con Law I and II]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sales (2)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Wills &amp; Trusts (4)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

#### **Upper Division Writing Courses – At least 2 units**

- Advanced Legal Research (2)
- California Legal Research (2)
- Environmental Law Journal* (3)
- Independent Study (1-2)
- Law Review* (6-7)
- Additional writing courses as identified in the course schedule

#### **Upper Division Experiential Courses – At least 6 units (3 “non-simulation” are strongly encouraged)**

##### **Non-Simulation Courses:**

- Environmental Law & Justice Clinic (2-3)
- Externship (2-13)
- HLP Client Representation (2)
- Pro Bono Tax Clinic (1-2)
- Veterans Legal Advocacy Center (2-4)
- Women’s Employment Rights Clinic (2-3)
- Additional externships, clinics, or field placements as identified in the course schedule

##### **Simulation Courses:**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution (3)
- Civil &/or Criminal Litigation (3)
- Family Law Practice (3)
- IP Practicum (2)
- Negotiation (3)
- Trial Advocacy &/or Advanced Trial Ad. (3)
- Additional simulation courses as identified in the course schedule

Course information and schedule planners may be found on the Registrar’s Office website and in the *Student Handbook* available online. All students are encouraged to schedule academic advising appointments by visiting Law Student Support (suite 2333) or calling 415.442.6615.

# **APPENDIX D: ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND TUITION & FEES SCHEDULE**

The following pages contain the Academic Calendar and the Tuition & Fees Schedule for the current year. Always check the online versions for any possible updates or changes.



## 2016-2017 Academic Year

### **Fall 2016 Semester**

Priority registration begins	Jun 20
First-year orientation	Aug 9 - 11
Instruction begins	Aug 15
Last day to register/add	Aug 19
Payment deadline	Aug 26
Last day to drop course w/o tuition charge or "W" grade	Aug 26
Labor Day holiday*	Sep 05
Mid-term examination days	Oct 1, 2, 8, 9
First-year mid-term examination days	Oct 1, 2
60% Point of Term (applicable to Federal Student Aid)	Oct 25
Veterans Day*	Nov 11
Labor Day make-up day (Monday classes meet)	Nov 21
Veterans Day make-up day (Friday classes meet)	Nov 22
Instruction ends	Nov 22
Study period	Nov 23 - 29
Thanksgiving holiday*	Nov 24 - 25
Examination period (includes Saturdays & Sundays)	Nov 30 - Dec 11
Midyear Recess	Dec 12 - Jan 8

### **Spring 2017 Semester**

Priority registration begins	Nov 07
Instruction begins	Jan 09
Last day to register/add	Jan 13
Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday*	Jan 16
Payment deadline	Jan 23
Last day to drop course w/o tuition charge or "W" grade	Jan 23
President's Day holiday*	Feb 20
President's Day makeup (Monday classes meet)	Feb 21
Mid-term examination days	Feb 25, 26 Mar 4, 5
Spring recess	Mar 6 - 10
60% Point of Term (applicable to Federal Student Aid)	Mar 25
Martin Luther King, Jr. make-up day (Monday classes meet)	Apr 24
Make-up day for Tuesday, Feb 21 (Tuesday classes meet)	Apr 25
Instruction ends	Apr 25
Study period	Apr 26 - 28
Examination period (includes Saturdays & Sundays)	Apr 29 - May 10
Commencement (Graduation) Ceremony	May 12



## 2016-2017 Academic Year

### Summer 2017 Session

Priority registration begins	Mar 20
HLP and 1st Step program instruction begins	May 22
Memorial Day holiday*	May 29
Instruction begins (standard session)	May 30
Memorial Day make-up (Monday classes meet)	Jun 02
HLP and 1st Step program last day to drop course w/o tuition charge or "W" grade	Jun 05
Last day to register/add	Jun 05
Payment deadline	Jun 12
Last day to drop course w/o tuition charge or "W" grade	Jun 12
60% Point of Term (applicable to Federal Student Aid)	Jul 01
Independence Day holiday*	Jul 04
Independence Day make-up (Tuesday classes meet)	Jul 07
Instruction ends (standard session)	Jul 14
Study period	Jul 15 - 18
Examination period (except LLM Taxation)	Jul 19 - 22

*\*The School of Law will be closed on these dates.*



**2016 - 2017 Academic Year Tuition & Fees Schedule  
(Fall 2016 through Summer 2017)**

**TUITION**

<b>JD, LLM &amp; SJD TUITION</b>	
JD & LLM Tuition	\$1,600 per unit
SJD Tuition	\$19,300 per residency semester for two semesters; up to \$1,000 per semester thereafter
Visiting Scholar	\$5,000 per semester (fees included)

**RECURRING MISCELLANEOUS FEES**

<b>FEES PER SEMESTER</b> (Non-refundable after instruction for term begins)	
Registration	\$40
Materials (see note 1)	
JD Students (Fall & Spring only)	\$60
JD Summer Session	\$20
LLM & SJD Students	\$20
Student Bar Association (JD & SJD Int'l, LLM Int'l & LLM US Legal; Fall & Spring only)	\$50
JD Public Interest Program (Fall & Spring only)	\$15

<b>FEES PER OCCURRENCE</b>	
Application for Admission:	
JD Students	\$60
LLM & SJD students (see note 3)	\$60
Acceptance Deposit (applied to tuition):	
JD Students	\$300
JD Admission Deferment	\$300
LLM Tax Program	\$200
Deferred Payment Plan Fees:	
Installment Payment Fee	\$55
Corporate Reimbursement Payment Plan Fee	\$100
Late Payment Fee	\$40
Late Payment Finance Charge (per month)	1.5%
Late Registration Fee (see note 2)	\$100

Returned Check Service Charge	\$25
<a href="#">Technology Fee</a> (per semester; reversible according to applicable <a href="#">withdrawal policy</a> )	\$85
Transcript Express Delivery Fee - U.S. Address	\$20
Transcript Request - Online through the <a href="#">National Student Clearinghouse</a> (per copy + \$2.25 per address)	\$10
Transcript Request - Offline (per copy)	\$15
JD Transfer Out Package	\$20
Duplicate Diploma Fee	\$50
Student ID Replacement Fee	\$10

<b>INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS</b>	
International Student Services Fee (per term)	\$275

## PERMANENT SPECIAL MATERIALS FEES

<b>FEES PER COURSE</b> (Non-refundable after instruction for term begins)		
<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Fee</b>
LAW 899K	Competition: ABA National Appellate Advocacy	\$25
LAW 899J	Competition: Advanced Mock Trial	\$25
LAW 899I	Competition: Environmental Law Moot Court	\$25
LAW 899N	Competition: Environmental Negotiation Competition	\$25
LAW 899T	Competition: IP (Saul Lefkowitz) Moot Court	\$25
LAW 899M	Competition: Jessup International Law Moot Court	\$25
LAW 899G	Competition: Mock Trial	\$25
LAW 899S	Competition: Outer Space Moot Court	\$25
LAW 899E	Competition: Traynor Moot Court	\$25
LAW 899W	Competition: Williams Institute Nat'l Sexual Orientation Moot Court	\$25
LAW 898A	Criminal Litigation	\$25
LAW 815G	Negotiation	\$42
LAW 863	Practical Legal Writing	\$100
LAW 863E	Early Bar Prep	\$150

## NOTES

1. Special Materials Fees will also be assessed in courses that require an excess amount of duplicated materials, use of audio-visual equipment, or rental of off-campus facilities. These fees will be announced prior to general registration each semester.
2. Law students who submit their registration forms late will be charged a Late Registration Fee of \$100\* in addition to the \$40 Registration Fee. Courses that start after the first week of the term may be added prior to the second class meeting without the instructor's approval and without incurring a Late Registration Fee. Students whose registrations are cancelled due to non-payment, and who are later re-registered after fulfilling their payment obligations are assessed the Late Registration Fee.
3. Waived for current Law School students and alumni.