

## Notice of VLGS Amendment to the Academic Regulations

**Effective:** Thursday, March 14, 2024

**Students Effected:** Effective immediately upon approval by faculty.

**Amendment Type:** Next Gen Bar Exam Curricular Updates

**Academic Regulation:** Sections III.A.2.a, III.A.8.d, III.A.2.b.3, III.A.6.b.2, III.A.7.c, III.E.2.b, III.E.5.b, and X.A.2.c.

### Amendment Description:

#### NEW LANGUAGE

Amend academic regulation III.A.2.a with the changes in red below.

- a. Of the 87 semester hours required for the degree, satisfactory completion of the following courses is required: Appellate Advocacy; Civil Procedure ~~I and II~~; Constitutional Law; Contracts; Criminal Law; Legislation and Regulation; ~~Embedded Racism in the Law~~; Evidence; Professional Responsibility<sup>1</sup>; Legal Research and Writing, Legal Writing II: Theory and Practice, Property, and Torts<sup>2</sup>.

~~First year Foundational~~ classes are: Civil Procedure ~~I and II~~; Torts; Contracts; Legal Research and Writing; Legal Writing II: Theory and Practice; ~~Appellate Advocacy~~; Legislation and Regulation; ~~Constitutional Law~~; Property; and Criminal Law. These classes must be completed ~~within the first 60 credits by the of the student's fourth residential semester~~ as a Juris Doctor candidate.

Satisfactory completion of two of the following courses is also required: ~~Corporations Business Associations~~; Criminal Procedure (either Constitutional Criminal Procedure or Criminal Practice and Procedure); ~~Estates; Family Law~~; First Amendment Law; and Sales.

~~Effective for students entering after May 1, 2014,~~ ~~a~~All students shall be required to take at least six (6) experiential credits, as defined below. Experiential credits shall consist of credits in courses that are (i) clinics, ~~both on and off campus~~, (ii) ~~JD~~ externships, ~~including SiP offerings~~, and (iii) such other courses as may be expressly approved by the Curriculum Committee as appropriate for meeting this requirement. In helping students to meet this requirement, VLGS cannot guarantee any particular

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<sup>1</sup>-In the spring of 2014, the faculty approved a recommendation of the Curriculum Committee to also allow students to meet the Professional Responsibility requirement through courses that meet a Professional Responsibility Distributional requirement. As those courses are developed and approved by the Curriculum Committee, a list of those courses will be provided online at [vermontlaw.edu](http://vermontlaw.edu) under JD degree requirements in the academic catalog.

<sup>2</sup>-For students who matriculated before April 2013, the required coursework is as follows: Appellate Advocacy; Civil Procedure I and II; Constitutional Law I and II; Contracts; Criminal Law; Evidence, Legal Profession; Legal Analysis and Writing I, Legal Research; Legal Writing II; Theory and Practice; Property, and Torts. Students who matriculated before April 2013 and did not complete Constitutional Law I and II before the end of the 2012-2013 academic year will receive a waiver allowing them to satisfy the requirement through completion of Constitutional and Public Law, now known as Legislation and Regulation.

placement. Clinics, ~~both on and off campus~~, and externships taken for master's degree credit do not satisfy this requirement.

Except as noted in subsection c of this regulation and in regulations III.E.2.b., all other courses are elective.

Amend academic regulation III.A.8.d with the changes in red below.

d. The extended schedule course modifies the standard schedule as follows:

1. First Year: Torts; Contracts; Property; Criminal Law; Legal Research and Writing; and Legal Writing II.
2. Second Year: Constitutional Law; Legislation and Regulation; Civil Procedure ~~I and II~~; ~~Appellate Advocacy~~; ~~Embedded Racism in the Law~~; plus upper level courses.

Amend academic regulation III.A.2.b.3 with the changes in red below.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Advanced Legal Writing Requirement is to provide each student with an opportunity to enhance his or her writing skills on a more sophisticated project than is afforded in the ~~first-year Legal Research and Writing, Legal Writing II, and Appellate Advocacy courses~~ ~~writing programs~~, preferably in an area of law of his or her choosing, and with the assistance of detailed and individualized feedback from a member of the faculty. Close interaction between student and instructor is considered essential to the success of this requirement, the focus of which should include the substantive content of the student's work, the quality of his or her writing, and the process by which the student organizes and develops ideas, conducts research, and writes.

Amend academic regulation III.A.6.b.2 with the changes in red below.

A student may also extend this time period by requesting a leave of absence. Except as provided in regulation III.A.7.g. with respect to students in the Accelerated JD program, ~~and regulation [TBD] for the Online Hybrid JD program~~, the Registrar may grant leaves of absence, other than medical leaves of absence, for two semesters; all other requests for leaves of absence, other than medical leaves of absence, must be addressed to the Committee on Standards. The Vice Dean of Students may grant requests for medical leaves of absence upon submission of appropriate documentation from a health care professional. Under no circumstances will a request for a leave of absence, including a medical leave of absence, be granted that extends the period of study beyond seven years. A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first semester and who requests a leave of absence will be required to complete the second semester of ~~first-year foundational~~ JD courses, including Legal Methods, before taking upper division courses.

Amend academic regulation III.A.7.c with the changes in red below.

First Year Program: AJD participants who start in the summer must complete the ~~first-year~~ **foundational** curriculum during the fall and spring semesters following the first AJD summer session.

Amend academic regulation III.E.2.b with the changes in red below.

A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first semester is required to take Legal Methods in place of one doctrinal class in the second semester. A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first semester is also required to complete the second semester of JD courses, including Legal Methods, before enrolling in upper division courses. A student who is on academic probation at the end of the first, second or third semester is required to take the following courses to obtain the JD degree: ~~Corporations~~**Business Associations**, Criminal Procedure or Constitutional Criminal Procedure, and Bar Exam Skills and Tactics (BEST). Students shall take BEST during their last semester.

Amend academic regulation III.E.5.b with the changes in red below.

A student in EIS is required to take the following courses to obtain the JD degree: ~~Corporations~~**Business Associations**, Criminal Procedure or Constitutional Criminal Procedure, and Bar Exam Skills and Tactics (BEST). Students shall take BEST during their last semester. A student who is in EIS will be assigned a Faculty Mentor and must meet with the Faculty Mentor regularly until graduation. The exact meeting schedule and requirements will be determined by the Faculty Mentor.

Amend academic regulation X.A.2.c with the changes in red below.

Legislation and Regulation (~~32~~) or

Approved adopted date: March 14, 2024

Approved effective date: students matriculating in fall semester 2024.