

2009-10 Academic Advising Notes for Course Selection

To whom can students turn for advice?

Associate Dean Stan Corbett and faculty members teaching upper year courses can advise you about course selections relevant to areas of law in which you may be interested. Please make an appointment to see them at a time that is convenient to them or send an email to the faculty member.

- academic career (any of the professors, L.S.S. student representatives who those have served on the appointments committee, students who are clerking)
- civil litigation (Prof. Knutsen, Prof. Monestier, Prof. Pardy and instructors of advocacy and practice skills courses)
- constitutional, charter and aboriginal law (Associate Dean Stan Corbett, Associate Dean Mark Walters, Prof. Kahana, Prof. Kong, Prof. Lahey, Prof. Metcalf and Mr. Stratas)
- corporate, tax and commercial law (eg. Prof. Cockfield, Prof. Miller, Prof. Monestier, Prof. Pratt)
- criminal law (Prof. Dufraimont, Prof. Manson, Prof. Stuart, Prof. Thorburn,
- elder law, wills and estates planning, trusts (Prof. Freedman, Prof. Alexandrowicz)
- employment and labour law (Prof. Banks and the instructors of employment law)
- equality and human rights (Associate Dean Stan Corbett, Prof. Hanson, Prof. Kahana and Prof. Lahey)
- environmental law (Prof. Pardy, Prof. Alexandrowic)
- family and children's law (Prof. Bailey, Prof. Bala, Prof. Miklas)
- feminist legal studies (Prof. Amani, Prof. Dufraimont, Prof. Hanson, Prof. Lahey, Prof. Peppin)
- health law (Prof. Peppin, Prof. Hanson, Associate Dean Corbett)
- international law, immigration and refugee law, international development and poverty law (Prof. Aiken , Prof. Alexandrowicz, Prof. Katz, Prof. Robinson)

- intellectual property law and privacy law (Prof. Amani and Prof. Cockfield)
- legal ethics and professional responsibility (Prof. Weisberg)
- law librarianship (Prof. McCormack, Ms. Kaufman)

Assistant Dean of Students Jane Emrich (emrichj@queensu.ca , 613.533.6000 ext 74283, Room 200D) can assist you with developing short and longer term plans for satisfaction of degree requirements, licensing program requirements, planning for a term on exchange or letter of permission, early completion using ISC credits, options to take courses outside the Faculty of Law at Queen's. Students in the combined MPA-JD, MIR-JD, JD-MBA and M.A. Economics should obtain advice about particular degree requirements for their programs.

Nancy Somers, Manager of the Academic Program (somersn@queensu.ca , 613.533.6000 ext.75318, Room 512) can assist you with questions about patterns of enrolment in courses, course descriptions, timetabling questions, degree requirements, pre-reqs and co-reqs, processing of ISPs, moots, coordinating timetabling for part-time or combined program students completing first year and upper year courses.

Patti Evans, Registration and Admissions Assistant (evansp@queensu.ca , 613.533.6000 ext. 75132, Room 200) can assist you with the QCARD functions, which function to select and how the system works.

Other sources of advice are lawyers you may know who have been in practice in the fields of interest and other upper year students who have taken the courses previously.

Tips to prepare for the Course Selection Process

1. Fall and Winter course offerings are listed with enrolment caps in brackets beside the course number and name. See <http://law.queensu.ca/students/jdProgram/2009-2010UpperYearProgram/fall2009CourseOfferings.html> and <http://law.queensu.ca/students/jdProgram/2009-2010UpperYearProgram/winter2010CourseOfferings.html>. To see how fully enrolled previous offerings of the courses have been, check the grading distributions posted at <http://law.queensu.ca/students/jdProgram/grading.html>

2. Make short-term plans for each of the fall and winter terms, with alternatives and make a plan over the longer time period of the two upper years in the J.D. program.
3. Bear in mind the requirements of provincial licensing processes:
In **Ontario**, see <http://rc.lsuc.on.ca/pdf/licensingprocesslawyer/general/lpInfo.pdf>
For **Alberta**, see <http://www.lawsocietyalberta.com/membershipservices/studentinfo.cfm>.
For **B.C.**, see http://www.lawsociety.bc.ca/licensing_membership/pltc/about-compet.html.
For **Nova Scotia**, see <http://www.nsbs.org/barinfo.php>.
The requirements vary somewhat between provinces, but most assume that you have familiarity with the following upper year subjects: administrative and constitutional law, charter rights, equality and human rights law, including familiarity with aboriginal law, principles of statutory analysis and interpretation, legal ethics and professional responsibility, corporate and commercial law, civil and criminal procedure, evidence, family law, land transactions, trusts, wills and estate planning and skills training such as legal research skills, oral and written communication skills specific to law which may include advocacy and alternative dispute resolution skills.
4. Check to make sure that your selections meet the **co-requisite** and **pre-requisite** requirements and that there are no timetable conflicts each term before you go online. The timetables are at <http://law.queensu.ca/students/dates.html>.
5. Check to make sure there are **no conflicts in the timetable** for your selections.
6. Play to your strengths and interests. If you are good at writing papers, consider doing a substantial term paper in second year. If you do well on this paper, it could serve as a sample of your writing style to support job applications or to enter in an essay competition.
7. Most students benefit from a blend of exam-based and paper-based courses and courses that are assessed by other exercises.

8. Some second year students prefer to have a lighter course-load (i.e. 14 or 15 upper year credits) in the fall term of second year to help with the stress and time involved with OCI job recruiting processes in that term. On the other hand, students who are selected to compete in a winter term moot would rather have a lighter course-load in the winter term.

Sample Transcripts:

Below are some sample transcripts. Please bear in mind that you only need 59 upper year J.D. credits, but many students actually take more than the minimum to satisfy other academic and career goals.

Student interested in Corporate Law (heavier credit count than required)

Second year	Fall Term	Credits	Winter Term	
	Business Associations	4	Appellate Advocacy (Adv)	3
	Securities Regulation	3	Land Transactions	4
	Taxation	4	International Tax	3
	Employment Law	3	Corporate Finance	3
	APSC 400 TEAM	3	APSC 400 TEAM	3
		(17)		(16)
Third Year	Fall Term		Winter Term	
	Civil Procedure (DR)	4	Law and Economics	3
	Alternative Dispute Resolution (PS)	3	Advanced Securities	3
	Commercial Law	3	Corporate Taxation	3
	International Trade and Investment Law	3	Corporate Governance	3
	Environmental Protection Law (STP)	3	Bankruptcy Law	3
Total Upper Yr Credits: 64		(16)		(15)

Student Interested in Civil Litigation, Employment and Labour Law with ISC, but no fast tracking to early completion – heavier upper year credit count than required

First Year	Spring term ISC	Credits		
	International Law	3		
	International Criminal Law	3		
	International Human Rights Law	3		
Second Year	Fall Term	Credits	Winter Term	Credits
	Taxation (STP)	4	Administrative Law	4
	Law and Sexuality	3	Business Associations	4
	Labour Law	4	International Labour Law	3
	Employment	3	Occup'l Safety	3
Third Year	Fall Term		Winter Term	
	Evidence	4	Civil Procedure (DR)	4
	Advanced Legal Research (PS)	3	Law 474 ISP	2
	Trusts	3	Advanced Family Law	3
	Family Law	4	Conflict of Laws	3
			Collective Agreement & Arbitration (Advocacy – must be certified)	3
Total Upper Yr Credits: 66				

Student with Law Journal, general preparation for licensing requirements, some international law

Second Year	Fall Term	Credits	Winter Term	
	Administrative Law	4	Evidence	4
	Taxation	4	Commercial	3
	International Human Rights Law	3	Family	4
	European Union Law (STP)	3	Int'l Norms of Minority Rights	1
	Queen's Law Journal (Editor)	2	Queen's Law Journal	4
Third Year	Fall Term		Winter Term	
	Remedies	3	Civil Procedure (DR)	4
	Advanced Legal Research (PS)	3	Criminal Procedure	4
	Business Associations	4	Estate Litigation (Adv)	3
	Trusts	3		
	Queen's Law Journal	3	Queen's Law Journal	3
Total Upper Yr Credits: 62				