



2010-2011 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 or those who have served on the appointments committee, students who are clerking, see the Career Advisor List)
- civil litigation (Prof. Knutsen, and instructors of advocacy and practice skills courses)
- constitutional, charter, aboriginal law (Associate Dean Stan Corbett, Associate Dean Mark Walters, Prof. Kahana, Prof. Lahey, Prof. Metcalf)
- corporate, tax, and commercial law (eg. Prof. Cockfield, Prof. Miller, Prof. Pratt)
- criminal law (Prof. Dufraimont, Prof. Manson, Prof. Stuart, Prof. Thorburn, Prof. Freedman)
- elder law, wills and estates planning, trusts (Prof. Freedman, Ms. Griesdorf)
- 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. Metcalf)
- 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. Robinson)
- intellectual property law and information 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 (jane.emrich@queensu.ca, 613.533.6000 ext 74283, Room 513) 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 BISC 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-JD should obtain advice about particular degree requirements for their programs.

Leeann Beggs, Career Services Director (leeann.beggs@queensu.ca, 613.533.6000 ext. 79197) can also assist with placement rate enquiries, licensing requirements and other career planning aspects of course selection.

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, how to choose the appropriate function, how the system works and if your computer is not meshing well with the system.

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/2010-2011UpperYearProgram/fall2010CourseOfferings.html> and <http://law.queensu.ca/students/jdProgram/2010-2011UpperYearProgram/winter2011CourseOfferings.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 to satisfy degree requirements. See the course information at <http://law.queensu.ca/students/jdProgram/2010-2011UpperYearProgram.html>.
3. Degree Requirements include the **residency requirement** (the first-year courses and a minimum of 28 of 59 upper-year credits must be taken on campus); **Civil Procedure**, a **practice skills** course, an **advocacy requirement** course, a **substantial term paper**, completion of the first-year mandatory curriculum and at least **59 upper-year credits**.
4. Bear in mind the requirements of provincial licensing processes:
In **Ontario**, see <http://rc.lsuc.on.ca/jsp/licensingprocesslawyer/index.jsp?language=en>.

For **Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba**, see the CPLED regional program:

<http://www.lawsocietyalberta.com/articling/cpledprogram.cfm>
<http://www.lawsociety.mb.ca/education/manitoba-cpled-program>
http://www.usask.ca/law/career_services/after_law_school.php

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>.

For **Prince Edward Island**, see

<http://www.lspei.pe.ca/students.php>

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.

5. 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>.
6. Check to make sure there are no conflicts in the timetable for your selections.
7. 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 an essay competition or present at a law student academic conference such as the one offered by the Faculty of Law at the University of Windsor.
8. Most students benefit from a blend of exam-based and paper-based courses and courses that are assessed by other exercises.
9. It is recommended that second-year students 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 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.
10. If you are interested in corporate law, then you should choose to take Law 440 Business Associations and Law 448 Securities Regulation in the fall term of second year, so that you will have the pre-requisites satisfied to take Law 459 Advanced Securities, Law 608 Advanced Corporate, Law 512 Corporate Finance and Law 691 Osler Business Lay Symposium in the winter term or in third year. This is particularly important for J.D.-M.B.A. students. Law 651 Advanced Topics in Insolvency and Business Restructuring also required a pre-requisite of Law 445 Creditors' Remedies.
11. If you are interested in tax law, make sure you take Taxation in second year, so that you can take Law 511 Corporate Tax, or Law 509 Taxation of Trusts and Estates in third year.
12. Students wishing to pursue litigation should give priority to taking Law 225 Civil Procedure and Law 320 Evidence in the fall term of second year. Law 320 Evidence and Law 404 Criminal Procedure are pre-requisites for Law 351 Appellate Advocacy and Law 361 Trial Advocacy. Both Law 404 Criminal Procedure and Law 320 are recommended as a foundation for a student wanting to register in Law 590 Clinical Litigation Practice, but are not pre-requisites. Civil

Procedure is a pre-requisite for Law 362 Trial Advocacy. Note also that Law 427 Administrative Law is a pre-requisite for Law

13. If you are interested in international law, then you should take Law 540 Public International Law as it is recommended, although not required as a foundation for Law 410 International Criminal Law, and Law 542 International Human Rights. Even if you plan an exchange in third year, our exchange partners have rich enough curriculum that you do not need to postpone taking Law 540 Public International Law.
14. If you are interested in Family Law, then you should take the foundation course Law 520 Family Law to prepare for Law 519 Children's Law, Law 521 Clinical Family and Law 525 Advanced Family
15. If you are interested in workplace law, then you should take Law 560 Labour Law (offered both terms) and Law 567 Employment Law (offered fall term only). MIR-JD students must take these courses, as well as Civil Procedure and Law 562 Collective Agreement and Arbitration in the second year of the combined program. Law 564 Pensions and the Law (fall term) would be relevant, and Law 681 Occupational Safety, Health and Workers' Compensation Law (winter term). Law 427 Administrative Law and Law 522 Human Rights would be considered related to this field of law too.
16. If you are interested in social justice issues, consider courses such as Law 522 Human Rights, Law 307 Health Law, Law 403 Mental Health Law, Law 575 Racism and Canadian Legal Culture, Law 471 Immigration and Refugee Law and our clinical programs. Since many tribunals are involved in the regulation of relevant issues, Law 427 Administrative Law and Law 435 Public Law Advocacy should be considered.
17. The Federation of Law Societies of Canada characterizes knowledge of legal ethics and professional responsibility as a foundational competency. Many of our instructors address issues of legal ethics and professional responsibility issues as part of their courses. Law 334 Legal Ethics is only offered in the fall term in 2010-2011.
18. If you have achieved academic success and aspire to a clerkship, consider completing a substantial term paper in second year, which you could use to support your application. Hone your skills in French by joining a French conversation group and reading Supreme Court of Canada judgments in French.

Appendix

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				