

# JURIS DOCTOR (JD)

## Vision and Mission

**Our Vision:** La Verne Law is an incubator for innovation in legal education, thought, and advocacy for individuals passionate about serving their communities and promoting access and justice.

**Our Mission:** The mission of the College of Law and Public Service is to guide our students in obtaining the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in the practice of law, public administration and management, or other related professional careers as civic and community leaders. Faculty are committed to creating a culturally relevant, innovative, and collaborative learning environment designed to develop the knowledge and skills relevant to achieving individual and professional success.

Our mission is grounded in the core values of the University of La Verne: life-long learning, ethical reasoning and decision-making, diversity and inclusivity, and community and civic engagement. Difference-making is our legacy.

Study at, or graduation from, the University of La Verne College of Law and Public Service may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be licensed to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek licensure to practice law outside of California at any time during their educational career should contact the admitting authority for information regarding its education and licensure requirements prior to enrolling at this law school.

Credits earned in non-JD courses will not qualify a student to take a bar exam or be eligible to be admitted to practice law in California or any other jurisdiction.

## Program Policies

All students admitted to the Juris Doctorate program at the University of La Verne College of Law and Public Service are expected to be familiar with and abide by the College's State Bar of California Approved and Accredited Program of Legal Education Manual of Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://law.laverne.edu/clps-mapp/>).

The College of Law and Public Service admits students into the JD Program in the fall for its full-time and part-time day program as well as for its part-time evening program. The College of Law and Public Service offers a January start for its part-time evening program. University of La Verne College of Law and Public Service reviews applications on a continual basis and accepts applications until the class is full. The priority application deadline for Fall consideration is July 31. The priority application deadline for Spring, which begins in January, consideration is December 1.

## Admission Requirements

- Complete application
- Bachelor's Degree recommended but not required. The Committee of Bar Examiners for the State Bar of California, in accordance with Rule 4.25, requires applicants to have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of college work. This completed work must be equivalent to at least half that required for a bachelor's degree from a college or university that has degree-granting authority from the state in which it is located; and completed with a grade average adequate for graduation. Applicants without a conferred bachelor's degree are required to submit an Application for Evaluation of Pre-Legal Education to The State Bar of California Office of

Admissions to request an evaluation of whether they have obtained the pre-legal education necessary before beginning law study. This is required by Section 6060 of the California Business and Professions Code. A copy of The State Bar of California Office of Admissions Evaluation Letter is required.

- Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended at the undergraduate and graduate level must be received no later than 45 days after the start of the term in the year to which the student was admitted.
- Applicants who have taken the LSAT are required to submit their scores. Students who have not taken an LSAT may submit another graduate test score such as the GRE, GMAT, MCAT, DAT, or request consideration of their file absent such a score based on demonstrated academic excellence or professional achievement. The Dean and the law school admission committee may choose to admit such a candidate or may notify the candidate that submission of a test score is required for consideration.
- One letter of recommendation is required. Two or more letters of recommendation are encouraged.
- Personal statement
- Resume
- Personal interview (invitation extended at Dean's discretion)
- Relevant addenda addressing issues pertaining to: Criminal background, academic background, and prior law school enrollment
- A letter of good standing is required for all transfer students or prior law students who voluntarily withdrew

## Instructions for International Students

- Transcripts and degree certificates: JD applicants bearing undergraduate/graduate coursework and degree(s) received from foreign institutions outside the U.S. (including its territories) and/or Canada should send their records to:

Law School Admission Council  
662 Penn Street, Box-2000M  
Newtown, PA 18940-0993.

- Alternatively, JD applicants may submit an official detailed credential evaluation from any NACES-recognized credentialing service. The review must be a detailed credential evaluation to include course title, grades, and credit hours. There is a fee for this service.
- English Language Proficiency: International applicants whose native language is not English must take either the Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet Based Test (TOEFL iBT), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the Duolingo English Test.
  - A passing TOEFL iBT score is: 100 or above with 20 or above in each section.
  - A passing IELTS score is: 7 or above with 7 or above in each band.
  - A passing Duolingo English Test score is: 120 or above
- Individuals who meet one of the following conditions are exempted from the English language proficiency requirement:
  - U.S. Citizens;
  - U.S. Permanent Residents;
  - International students who completed the entirety of their baccalaureate degree at a regionally accredited school located in the U.S.;

- International students who are native English speakers or hold a baccalaureate degree from an institution in which English is the primary language of instruction.

## Transfer Admission

The decision regarding a transfer application will be based on a review of the applicant's entire file, including a completed College of Law and Public Service application, LSAT scores, official transcripts from your prior law school(s), letters of recommendation, a personal statement, resume, and reasons for transferring. A decision to admit a transfer applicant is conditional, pending receipt of an official transcript and a letter of good standing from the applicant's current law school. An admitted transfer applicant must agree to all terms and conditions of admission, including those pertaining to which credits will transfer. See more information on transfer policies at: <https://law.laverne.edu/transfer/>

## New Student Orientation

The College of Law and Public Service organizes an annual Orientation for new and first-year law students during the first weeks of classes. Faculty conduct several workshops targeted at introducing students to basic skills that are fundamental to academic achievement. These workshops, which address topics like case briefing, case reading, time management, note taking, and course organization, are designed to give students an overview of the types of skills that they need to practice and develop during their law school career.

## Dual Degree Programs: JD/MPA, JD/MEd, JD/MBA

The University of La Verne College of Law and Public Service offers a combined Juris Doctor/Master of Public Administration (JD/MPA). Additionally, the College of Law and Public Service, in partnerships with the LaFetra College of Education and the College of Business offers dual degree opportunities in law and educational leadership (JD/MEd) and in law and business administration (JD/MBA). Applicants must meet the admission standards of each degree program and should check with each College for specific entrance requirements. Please consult the Registrar's Office at the College of Law and Public Service for details regarding these dual degree opportunities.

## Clinical Programs

La Verne Law currently has two campus-based, live-client clinics: the Justice and Immigration Clinic and the Misdemeanor Appellate Advocacy Clinic.

**The Justice and Immigration Clinic** provides *pro bono* legal representation to noncitizens. Law students represent clients before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in their applications for asylum, U visa, DACA, and other humanitarian forms of relief. Law students are assigned to teams that represent live clients under the supervision of Director Rodriguez-Campos. Students are responsible for client communication, including interviewing and counseling, case planning, and development of case strategy. They draft client declarations, gather evidence including witness statements and expert reports, conduct legal research, and write legal briefs. Immigration Law is a prerequisite/corequisite to enrolling in the JIC. Students must be in good academic standing and have completed their first year of study. Enrollment is subject to director approval. Students may enroll in the JIC for 1-4 semester hours per semester. Those who wish to complete their upper division writing requirement may do so by writing a case-related brief, but must have passed LAW II prior to their enrollment. Students must attend JIC classes Monday and Wednesday evenings, as well as weekly

meetings with the JIC director. For more information about the Justice and Immigration Clinic, please contact Director Rodriguez-Campos at (909) 460-2014 or [krdriguez-campos@laverne.edu](mailto:krdriguez-campos@laverne.edu). You may also visit: <https://law.laverne.edu/academics/>.

**The Misdemeanor Appellate Advocacy Clinic** provides students with an intensive appellate experience in the San Bernardino Superior Court. The Appellate Advocacy Clinic litigates appellate misdemeanor cases primarily before local Superior Court Appellate Panels. The clinic also considers drafting amicus briefs. The clinic selects cases that offer the highest pedagogical value for its students. The Appellate Clinic accepts between 8 and 12 students each semester. Students register for 1 – 4 units a semester. Students work closely with professors and paralegals in a law office setting. The work varies depending on the types of cases accepted. Cases include Driving Under the Influence, Assault, Theft and Domestic Violence. Students have the primary responsibility for reading and analyzing the case record, developing substantive legal positions, researching substantive issues, developing appellate strategies, drafting briefs, and presenting oral arguments. The Appellate Clinic includes a classroom component that meets 2 hours a week. Subjects for the weekly classes include law office management, reviewing an appellate record, organizing and drafting an appellate brief, and developing and presenting an appellate oral argument. For more information about the Misdemeanor Appellate Advocacy Clinic, please contact Co-Director Assael-Shafia at (909) 460-2023 or [massael-shafia@laverne.edu](mailto:massael-shafia@laverne.edu). You may also visit: <https://law.laverne.edu/academics/>.

## Externship Program

The La Verne Law externship program places students into various public and nonprofit agencies in which students gain practical experience under the supervision of a practicing attorney. The goals of the La Verne Law externship program are to enhance the student's understanding of the practice of law, inspire dedication to the needs of individual clients, and to value the promotion of justice carried out with integrity and civility. Student experiences may include research, conducting factual investigations and discovery, interviewing clients, counseling clients, drafting pleadings, assisting clients in preparing their pleadings, mediating a dispute, preparing an order or a memo of law for the judge or negotiating a resolution to a dispute. For more information, go to: <https://law.laverne.edu/academics/>.

## Licensing and Bar Preparation

### Bar Registration

Statutory requirements for Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of California are set forth in California Business and Professions Code Section 6060. The Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California examines all applicants for admission to the practice of law in this state and administers the requirements for admission to practice. The Committee certifies to the California Supreme Court admission to practice only those persons who fulfill the requirements for admission set forth in the Business and Professions Code and the Rules published by the Committee. Those persons who, upon graduation from law school, seek admission to practice in California must register with the Committee of Bar Examiners within three months after beginning their law studies. Registration forms are available at: <https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Requirements> (<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Requirements/>).

Students are responsible for insuring that these forms are properly completed and filed in a timely manner. Students who wish to practice in states other than California are cautioned to make their own

investigations into the rules for admission to practice in those states. Registration at the commencement of law school studies often is required.

Students starting their legal education at the La Verne College of Law and Public Service in Fall 2020 or thereafter will be admitted and enrolled in a program of study independently accredited and approved by the Committee of Bar Examiners for the State Bar of California. Such students will not be enrolled nor graduate from a program approved and accredited by the American Bar Association. Such students are hereby informed that graduation from the La Verne College of Law and Public Service may not qualify them to take the bar examination or be admitted to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek admission to practice outside of California should contact the admitting authority in that jurisdiction for information regarding its education and admissions requirements.

## CLPS Office of Student Success

The College of Law and Public Service's Office of Student Success provides general counseling for students who want to maximize their educational experience and learning outcomes for law school and the bar exam. The Office's staff maintains flexible weekly office hours and will schedule appointments outside of office hours upon request. The office has an open-door policy and we strongly encourage students to take advantage of the available resources as early and as often as possible, as they are designed to support your success. Moreover, the Office of Student Success offers a comprehensive range of services to support your academic and career journey. These include career counseling, resume/cover letter review, job/internship search assistance, mock interviews, and workshops.

## Bar Exam Review

To be licensed to practice law, each student must pass a state bar exam. The Capstone course, a graduation requirement for all JD students, offers comprehensive and targeted assistance, bar review, and preparation for law students during the final semester. This all-encompassing course is not a standalone bar review course, as it collaborates with other preparation vendors to ensure graduates are thoroughly prepared for the California State Bar Exam. For more information, go to: <https://law.laverne.edu/>

## Program Requirements

Total Program: 88 semester hours

### Full-Time Division

The course of study in the full-time division requires three academic years of study in residence. In the full-time program, students should expect to devote most of their time to the study of law. The curriculum usually includes five days of class time per week, 14-15 units per semester for a total of 88 units. Full-time students may be allowed and/or required to enroll in some classes offered in the evening and on Saturdays. The California Committee of Bar Examiners for the State Bar of California has accredited the University of La Verne College of Law and Public Service as a 3 year full-time Juris Doctor program and as a 4 year part-time Juris Doctor program. Students enrolled in the full-time 3 year JD program are not allowed to graduate early or with less than 3 academic years without prior approval from the Dean.

A typical three-year course of study would be as follows:

### 1L - Foundational Year

The Foundational (First) Year curriculum consists of the following four two-semester core courses: Contracts, Property, Civil Procedure, and Torts. In the first semester, students are also required to take a one semester Writing course; and in the second semester, students are required to take a one-semester Criminal Law course.

### 2L - Experiential Learning Year

During the second-year students are exposed to experiential learning opportunities with a focus on both litigation and transactional skills. Each semester consists of multiple courses with designated hours for credit which are graded independently. Adjunct professors who are judges and practicing attorneys teach coordinated components of the semester experience. They also review the students' participation in mock trial and mock negotiation sessions. Additionally, the Experiential Learning year incorporates academic success skills and legal writing.

### 3L - Enhancement Year

The Enhancement Year allows students to enhance their learning and expand their horizons by taking courses covering areas of personal interest as well as gaining valuable experience from clinics, externships, and other possibilities. It also incorporates a rigorous writing, academic success, and bar preparation curriculum. Collectively, the Enhancement Year serves to transition students from academic readiness to bar readiness, allowing them to build on what they have learned, become ready to pass the bar exam and enter the legal profession.

### Full-Time Division Schedule

Course	Title	Semester Hours
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
LAW 501	Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research	3
LAW 510A	Contracts	3
LAW 520A	Property	3
LAW 530A	Torts	3
LAW 540A	Civil Procedure	2-3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>14-15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
LAW 500A	Criminal Law	3
LAW 510B	Contracts	3
LAW 520B	Property	3
LAW 530B	Torts II	3
LAW 540B	Civil Procedure	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
LAW 503	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	3
LAW 590A	Constitutional Law	3
LAW 640A	Evidence/Proof of Facts	2-3
LAW 643	Trial Advocacy	2-3
LAW 675	Professional Responsibility	2
Electives		1-3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>13-17</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
LAW 560	Legal Analysis and Writing	2
LAW 590B	Constitutional Law	3
LAW 600A	Business Organizations	4
LAW 603	Sales	2-3
LAW 639	Transactional Workshop	1
LAW 640B	Evidence	2-3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>14-16</b>

Third Year		
Fall		
LAW 504	Criminal Procedure: Pre-Trial, Trial and Sentencing	2-3
LAW 514A	Remedies	2
LAW 522	Community Property	2
LAW 600B	Business Organizations	2
Electives		6-7
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>14-16</b>
Spring		
LAW 521	Wills and Trusts	3-4
LAW 575	Comprehensive Legal Education Capstone	4-5
Electives		8
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>15-17</b>
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>85-96</b>

## Part-Time Division

To accommodate the needs of working adults or others who cannot devote themselves to the full-time study of law, La Verne Law offers part-time flex day and evening programs. These programs are designed to provide flexibility and convenience, allowing students to balance their professional and academic commitments. The part-time programs require four academic years of study, with the option to complete the program within four years by enrolling and studying during the summer. In the part-time programs, students complete 8-10 units per semester. The Part-Time Day Flex program is designed for those who prefer to study during the day but will also have occasional night classes and will typically attend class three times per week. The Evening program, on the other hand, is ideal for those who work during the day, with classes typically held in the evening. Students may be required to attend class four times a week in some semesters. Saturday classes may also be required.

While the part-time program substantively mirrors the full-time program in terms of the required courses, experiential learning opportunities, and available electives, students should expect curricular adjustments with regard to timing and scheduling of the part-time programs. Full-time students may be allowed and/or required to enroll in some classes offered in the evening. The California Committee of Bar Examiners for the State Bar of California has accredited the University of La Verne College of Law and Public Service as a three year full-time Juris Doctor program and as a four year part-time Juris Doctor program. Students enrolled in the part-time four year JD program are not allowed to graduate early or with less than 4 academic years.

## Part-time Division Schedule

### Part-Time Fall Start Evening Program

Course	Title	Semester Hours
First Year		
Fall		
LAW 501	Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research	3
LAW 510A	Contracts	3
LAW 530A	Torts	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>
Spring		
LAW 500A	Criminal Law	3
LAW 510B	Contracts	3
LAW 530B	Torts II	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>
Summer		
LAW 560	Legal Analysis and Writing	2

LAW 675	Professional Responsibility	2
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>4</b>

### Second Year

Fall		
LAW 520A	Property	3
LAW 540A	Civil Procedure	2-3
LAW 590A	Constitutional Law	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>8-9</b>
Spring		
LAW 520B	Property	3
LAW 540B	Civil Procedure	3
LAW 590B	Constitutional Law	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>

<b>Summer</b>		
Electives		5
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>5</b>

<b>Third Year</b>		
Fall		
LAW 640A	Evidence/Proof of Facts	2-3
LAW 503	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	3
LAW 643	Trial Advocacy	2-3
Electives		3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>10-12</b>
Spring		
LAW 550	Negotiation	2-3
LAW 600A	Business Organizations	4
LAW 603	Sales	2-3
LAW 639	Transactional Workshop	1
LAW 640B	Evidence	2-3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>11-14</b>
Summer		
LAW 504	Criminal Procedure: Pre-Trial, Trial and Sentencing	2-3
Electives		2
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>4-5</b>

<b>Fourth Year</b>		
Fall		
LAW 521	Wills and Trusts	3-4
LAW 522	Community Property	2
LAW 600B	Business Organizations	2
Electives		3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>10-11</b>
Spring		
LAW 514A	Remedies	2
LAW 575	Comprehensive Legal Education Capstone	4-5
Electives		4
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>10-11</b>
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>89-98</b>

<b>Part-Time Spring Start Evening Program</b>		
Course	Title	Semester Hours
First Year		
Spring		
LAW 500A	Criminal Law	3
LAW 501	Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research	3
LAW 540A	Civil Procedure	2-3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>8-9</b>
Summer		
LAW 540B	Civil Procedure	3
LAW 560	Legal Analysis and Writing	2
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>5</b>

<b>Fall</b>			LAW 642	Adversarial Evidence Seminar	1-2
LAW 510A	Contracts	3	LAW 580	Appellate Advocacy	2
LAW 520A	Property	3	LAW 645	Animal Law	2
LAW 530A	Torts	3	LAW 543	Arbitration	2
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>	LAW 549	California Civil Procedure	2,3
<b>Second Year</b>			LAW 594	Civil Rights Law	2,3
<b>Spring</b>			LAW 690	Clinical Externship	1-4
LAW 510B	Contracts	3	LAW 647	Construction Law and Ethics	2
LAW 520B	Property	3	LAW 636	Discovery Techniques and Practices	3
LAW 530B	Torts II	3	LAW 653	Employment Law Seminar	2,3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>	LAW 611	Entertainment Law	2
<b>Summer</b>			LAW 523	Family Law	2
LAW 675	Professional Responsibility	2	LAW 523A	Family Law - Practice Workshop	1
Electives		2	LAW 624	Federal Income Taxation	2,3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>4</b>	LAW 663	Hearsay	1
<b>Fall</b>			LAW 655	Immigration Law	2,3
LAW 503	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	3	LAW 699	Independent Research	1,2
LAW 640A	Evidence/Proof of Facts	2-3	LAW 614	Insurance Law	2
LAW 643	Trial Advocacy	2-3	LAW 610	Intellectual Property Overview	2-3
Electives		3	LAW 538	International Law	2-3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>10-12</b>	LAW 595	Issues in Constitutional Law	2,3
<b>Third Year</b>			LAW 693	Journal for Law, Business and Ethics Seminar	2
<b>Spring</b>			LAW 694	Journal for Law, Business and Ethics Production	1-2
LAW 600A	Business Organizations	4	LAW 509	Jury Selection	2
LAW 603	Sales	2-3	LAW 692	Justice and Immigration Clinic	1-6
LAW 639	Transactional Workshop	1	LAW 648	Advanced Trial Techniques	2
LAW 640B	Evidence	2-3	LAW 695	Law Review Seminar	2,3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9-11</b>	LAW 697	Law Review Production	1-3
<b>Summer</b>			LAW 557	Lawyering Skills Practicum	3-10
LAW 504	Criminal Procedure: Pre-Trial, Trial and Sentencing	2-3	LAW 654	Local Government Law	2
Electives		2	LAW 529	Math and Physics for Lawyers	2
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>4-5</b>	LAW 546	Mediation	2-3
<b>Fall</b>			LAW 555	Mediation Practicum	4
LAW 522	Community Property	2	LAW 588	National Moot Court Competition Team	1,2
LAW 590A	Constitutional Law	3	LAW 620	Patent Law	2
LAW 600B	Business Organizations	2	LAW 550P	Plea Bargaining Practice Workshop	1
Electives		2	LAW 514C	Remedies - Practice Workshop	1
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>	LAW 586	Trial Team	1-2
<b>Fourth Year</b>			LAW 631	Video Game Seminar	3
<b>Spring</b>			LAW 658	Workers' Compensation	2,3
LAW 514	Remedies	3	LAW 521P	Wills & Trusts Practice Workshop	1
LAW 590B	Constitutional Law	3			
Electives		3			
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>9</b>			
<b>Summer</b>					
Electives		4			
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>4</b>			
<b>Fall</b>					
LAW 521	Wills and Trusts	3-4			
LAW 575	Comprehensive Legal Education Capstone	4-5			
Electives		1			
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>8-10</b>			
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>88-96</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Elective courses may not be offered every year.

## Electives <sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Semester Hours
LAW 650	Administrative Law	2,3
LAW 587	Advanced Appellate Advocacy	2
LAW 562B	Advanced Legal Research	2