



**CATALOG AND  
STUDENT HANDBOOK  
2021-2022**

**ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF LAW**

# ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

## CATALOG AND STUDENT HANDBOOK 2021-2022

St. Thomas University College of Law reserves the right to change, without notice, statements in this handbook concerning rules, policies, fees, curricula, or other matters. Statements in this handbook should not be construed as the basis of a contract between an applicant or a student and the College of Law or the University.

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## THE MISSION OF ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

St. Thomas University is an urban, student centered, Catholic university with rich cultural and international diversity, dedicated to developing leaders who contribute to the economic and cultural vitality of the regions they serve.



## THE MISSION OF THE COLLEGE OF LAW

St. Thomas University College of Law trains and graduates lawyers capable of applying legal principles to address and solve problems of an increasingly complex and changing society. The rigorous academic program of the College of Law emphasizes lifelong learning and scholarship, in a personalized and caring environment, under Catholic auspices, with a diverse student body and faculty. To this end, the College of Law remains committed to teaching, scholarship, service, fostering a public order of human dignity, training lawyers sensitive to the needs of the region's underrepresented communities, and expanding access to professional opportunities; which includes active partnerships with business, government, and the South Florida Community.

## THE ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY STORY

St. Thomas University, a Catholic institution, was founded in 1961, as Biscayne College. Encouraged by Miami's first Archbishop, Augustinian friars established a liberal arts college on the present site of the campus. Following years of steady growth, Biscayne College was renamed St. Thomas University. St. Thomas is the only archdiocesan-sponsored university in the state of Florida.

St. Thomas University is located on a 140-acre campus in northwest Miami-Dade County. In addition to traditional undergraduate programs, the University offers a variety of post-baccalaureate degrees, including programs in accounting, business administration, elementary education, counseling, management, sports administration, and pastoral ministries. The University and the College of Law offer joint degree programs in business administration, sports administration, and criminal justice.

In 1984, the St. Thomas University College of Law was founded. The College of Law is located on the main campus of the university and includes a multi-level library, a moot court amphitheater, faculty and administrative offices, a computer lab, classrooms, and offices for student organizations. The architectural combination of buildings and breezeways provides a comfortable setting for the study of law.

The College of Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools. The College of Law embraces the duties and obligations of the Judeo-Christian ethic, and endeavors to instill the values and ethics of that tradition and of the Catholic Church in its students. As a Catholic law school, St. Thomas University College of Law has a fundamental duty to impart these values and ethics through the teaching of law.



## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2021-2022

### Fall 2021

MON - THU	AUGUST 9 - 12	FIRST-YEAR ORIENTATION/REGISTRATION
MONDAY	AUGUST 16	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES - 1L AND LL.M. STUDENTS
WED - THU	AUGUST 18 - 19	IMMIGRATION CLINIC ORIENTATION
MONDAY	AUGUST 23	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES - 2L AND 3L STUDENTS
MON - FRI	AUGUST 23 - 27	ADD/DROP PERIOD
FRIDAY	AUGUST 27	PROFESSIONALISM DAY - 1L STUDENTS
MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 6	HOLIDAY (LABOR DAY)
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 10	1L LEGAL SKILLS COURSE
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 25	EMD - Emergency Make-up Day <i>(If Necessary)</i>
MON - FRI	SEPT 27 - OCT 1	GRADUATION REGISTRATION (December)
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 1	1L LEGAL SKILLS COURSE
MON - FRI	OCTOBER 4 - 8	1L MIDTERMS (2L, 3L, AND LL.M. CLASSES MEET)
SATURDAY	OCTOBER 9	EMD - Emergency Make-up Day <i>(If Necessary)</i>
FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 5	1L LEGAL SKILLS COURSE
SATURDAY	NOVEMBER 13	EMD - Emergency Make-up Day <i>(If Necessary)</i>
MONDAY	NOVEMBER 22	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
TUES - MON	NOV 23 - 28	READING DAYS
MON - FRI	NOVEMBER 24 - 26	FOUNDER'S DAY/THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS
TUES - THURS	NOV 29 - DEC 9	FINAL EXAM PERIOD
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 10	DEGREES POSTED

### Spring 2022

THURSDAY	JANUARY 6	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES - 1L
THURS-FRI	JANUARY 6 - 7	1L LEGAL SKILLS COURSE
MONDAY	JANUARY 10	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES - 2L, 3L, AND LL.M. STUDENTS
MON - FRI	JANUARY 10 - 14	ADD/DROP PERIOD
MONDAY	JANUARY 17	HOLIDAY (MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY)
MON-FRI	FEBRUARY 4 - 11	GRADUATION REGISTRATION
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 4	1L LEGAL SKILLS COURSE
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 21	HOLIDAY (PRESIDENT'S DAY)
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 22	MONDAY CLASSES MEET
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 25	1L LEGAL SKILLS COURSE
MON - FRI	MARCH 7 - 11	SPRING BREAK
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 30	FRIDAY CLASSES MEET
FRIDAY	APRIL 8	1L SKILLS COURSE
THURS - FRI	APRIL 14 - 15	EASTER BREAK
THURSDAY	APRIL 28	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
FRI - SUN	APRIL 29 - MAY 1	READING DAYS
MON - THU	MAY 2 - MAY 12	FINAL EXAM PERIOD
FRIDAY	MAY 13	DEGREES POSTED/COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

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Summer 2022

WEDNESDAY	MAY 25	FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
WED - FRI	MAY 25 - 27	ADD/DROP PERIOD
MONDAY	MAY 30	HOLIDAY (MEMORIAL DAY)
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 1	MONDAY CLASSES MEET
MONDAY	JULY 4	HOLIDAY (INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED)
THURSDAY	JULY 7	MONDAY CLASSES MEET
THURSDAY	JULY 14	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
FRI - TUES	JULY 15 - 19	READING DAYS
WED - WED	JULY 20 - 27	FINAL EXAM PERIOD
FRIDAY	AUGUST 5	DEGREES POSTED

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## **PROGRAM OF STUDY**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for admission to the law school, a candidate must have earned a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university or the foreign equivalent of a Bachelor's degree. All official transcripts must be submitted prior to the anticipated date of enrollment. The College of Law Admissions Committee evaluates each applicant's potential for excellence in the study of law. The Law College Admission Test (LSAT) score is one of several factors used in the admissions process. Consideration is also given to other relevant factors such as the undergraduate record and grade point average, undergraduate institution, course of study, any graduate degrees or course work, work experience, honors and/or awards, extra-curricular activities, community service, the personal statement, and the letter(s) of recommendation.

St. Thomas University College of Law conforms to all applicable laws prohibiting discrimination and is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex, gender (including identity and expression), sexual orientation, marital status, age, race, color, disability, religious affiliation, national origin, ancestry, or social condition in its educational programs, admission policies, employment policies, financial aid, and other school-administered programs and activities.

St. Thomas University College of Law has been ranked as one of the most diverse law schools among ABA-accredited law schools. The College of Law is committed to a policy of enhancing the diversity of its student body and strongly encourages applications for admission from minorities, women and individuals of differing backgrounds and experiences.

### **GENERAL PROCEDURES**

First-year students are admitted in the fall and spring, on a full-time basis or flex-time (minimum of 9 credits). Transfer students are considered for admission in any semester. An online application for admission is available through the Law College Admissions Council's website at [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org).

The applicant is responsible for ensuring that the following application materials are received by the Office of Admissions: a completed and signed application for admission; an application fee of \$40.00; a typed personal statement, a resume, and a letter of recommendation. The applicant must have a current and complete Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report at the time of application. An application will not be considered by the Admissions Committee until all required materials are received.

All applicants are required to present a recent score from the Law College Admission Test (LSAT) and to subscribe to the CAS, both of which are services of the Law College Admission Council. The LSAT must have been taken no more than five years prior to the date of the application for admission. In the event of multiple LSAT scores, St. Thomas will use the highest of all test scores taken within the past five years. All undergraduate, graduate, and professional College transcripts must be sent directly to

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LSAC. Letters of recommendations should also be sent directly to LSAC. The CAS Report includes an evaluation of the undergraduate record, all LSAT scores, and copies of all transcripts and letters of recommendation. Graduates of foreign colleges and universities must submit official transcripts to LSAC for evaluation. Information and registration for the LSAT and CAS Report may be obtained from the Law College Admission Council, Box 2000, Newton, PA 18940; (215) 968-1001, [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org).

Applications for transfer are considered from students who attended another law College and are in good academic standing at that law school. Credits earned at another law College may transfer so long as a grade of “C” or better was obtained. Grades do not transfer. In addition to the required application materials outlined above, a transfer applicant must submit an official law College record, including transcripts, an updated CAS Report, and a letter from the Dean stating the applicant’s class rank, and that the applicant is in good standing.

*Applications from students who have previously been dismissed from law College will be considered only if the applicant presents evidence that the prior disqualification does not indicate a lack of capacity to complete a program of legal education. A previously dismissed applicant will be considered if the applicant can show that the prior disqualification does not indicate a lack of capacity to successfully complete the program of legal education.*

The Admissions Committee will consider only the materials in the applicant’s file when evaluating an application for admission. It is important that the applicant include in the personal statement, or a supplemental statement, pertinent information which would otherwise not be available to the committee. *No reconsideration of an admission decision will be granted unless it is based on new information that was not previously available to the Admissions Committee.* Applicants are advised to submit their applications and supporting materials as early as possible since the number of seats in each class is limited.

If offered admission, an applicant is required to submit a *non-refundable deposit* to reserve a seat in the class. The deposit of \$500 is due on the date set out in the acceptance letter. The deposit will be applied toward tuition for the first semester.

Prior to matriculation, students must ensure that official, final transcript(s), *showing the award of a degree(s)*, is submitted to LSAC from the Registrar of the undergraduate and graduate institution(s) attended. *If the transcripts, reflecting the degree was conferred, is not received by October 15<sup>th</sup>, the student will be withdrawn from classes.*

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE J.D. DEGREE**

To be eligible for the degree of Juris Doctor (J.D.), a student must have:

Successfully completed 90 credits with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0;

Attended as a “full time” student or “flex time” student (as defined below);

Completed all required courses and academic requirements within five years of initial matriculation, unless a written extension of this period is granted by the Academic



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Standing Committee or the Dean;

Completed the 50-hour *pro bono* requirement (as defined in this handbook).

"Full-time" study requires completion of 12 or more hours per fall or spring semester. A "flex-time student" must take at least 9 credits in any fall or spring semester. A student may be a "flex-time" student only with approval of either the Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Scholarships or the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. A student may not enroll in more than 15 hours in any fall or spring semester without the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or her designee. Any student may take any number of credits (but not to exceed 18) in his or her last semester if he or she obtains prior approval from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or her designee. A student may take no more than 30 online credits that will count towards his or her J.D. degree. (During the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, this limitation may be waived.) No student is required to take classes any summer term. No student may take more than 7 J.D. credits in any summer term, without express approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

When a student is out from College for any reason (for example leave of absence, dismissal, visiting other schools), he or she will be obligated to meet the requirements in place at the time the student is readmitted to the Law School.

Degrees are ordinarily conferred upon students who meet the prescribed academic requirements. The College of Law reserves the right, however, to withhold a degree whenever it appears that a student's character, conduct, or the quality of work completed will prevent acceptable representation of the College or compromise the standards of the legal profession.

St. Thomas University considers the graduation ceremony to be an academic event. There is a formal graduation ceremony only in the spring semester each year. Only students who have completed all requirements for graduation prior to the date of the ceremony, and those students who have registered for the summer session to complete 9 or fewer credits remaining toward graduation, will be allowed to participate.

Please note that requisites for graduation are subject to change by the faculty. Students must meet the requisites for graduation in existence in the semester in which they would otherwise graduate.

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# REQUIRED CURRICULUM

## FIRST-YEAR PROGRAM

Civil Procedure	4 cr.	Constitutional Law	4 cr.
Contracts	4 cr.	Criminal Law	3 cr.
Torts	4 cr.	Property	4 cr.
Legal Analysis, Writing and Research	3 cr.	Advanced Legal Research and Writing {S}	4 cr.
Legal Skills	.5 cr.	Legal Skills	.5 cr.

Note: For students beginning law College during the Spring semester, the required first-year courses are the same, but in a different order, and the course entitled Legal Methods and Essay Writing is also required.

## SECOND AND THIRD YEAR REQUIRED COURSES

Appellate Advocacy	2 cr.	Evidence	4 cr.
Business Associations	4 cr.	Seminar (Intensive Writing Requirement)	3 cr.
Skills Requirement	6 cr.	Professional Responsibility (Third-Year)	3 cr.
Bar Prep Skills I (Third-Year)	4 cr.		

### **FOUR CREDIT HOURS** from the following:

- Bar Prep Skills II (2 credits)
- Legal Methods and Essay Writing (2 credits)
- Advanced Legal Skills (4 credits)
- Civil Procedure Focus for the Bar (1 credit)
- Constitutional Law Focus for the Bar (1 credit)
- Contracts Focus for the Bar (1 credit)
- Evidence Focus for the Bar (1 credit)
- Florida Fundamentals Focus for the Bar (1-2 credits)
- Property Focus for the Bar (1-2 credits)
- Any other new "Focus for the Bar" course

At least two of the four required credits must be fulfilled by Bar Prep Skills II, Legal Methods or Essay Writing, or Advanced Legal Skills. At most, only 2 credits of the "Focus for the Bar" courses will count towards the required four credit hours. Students may take any or all "Focus for the Bar" courses, but only 2 credits will count towards this menu.

\* Students are required to satisfy the Professional Skills Requirement prior to graduation. The Professional Skills Requirements may be satisfied by taking at least six credits of clinics, externships, internships, and courses designated as "Skills" courses. The "Skills" designation appears in the course description as an "{S}" and in the course title on the schedules published for registration. Advanced Legal Research and Writing satisfies 3 credits of the Skills Requirement.

For more information please be sure to visit:

<https://www.stu.edu/law/academics/jd-program-requirements/>

## J.D. COURSE CATALOG

A comprehensive list of course offerings and description of each course and information about prerequisite and co-requisite requirements is provided at the end of this Catalog and Handbook. The J.D. Course Catalog is also available at:

<https://www.stu.edu/law/faculty-staff/staff/student-affairs/coursecatalog/>

The College of Law cannot guarantee that each course or seminar listed below will be offered during a student's residence at the school. This list of courses and seminars is subject to change without individual notice. Some courses have variable credit hours (as indicated) depending on the coverage and class hours indicated at the time of registration. In addition to the courses listed for the J.D. program, J.D. students may take any of the courses listed in the Intercultural Human Rights LL.M. Program as elective courses. An "{S}" designation after the course name indicates that the class can be used to satisfy the skills requirement. (See Skills Instructions.)

### PREREQUISITES AND CO-REQUISITES

Certain designated courses, externships, and clinics have prerequisite and/or co-requisite requirements. A prerequisite is a course that must be successfully completed prior to the beginning of the designated course or clinic. A co-requisite is a course that either must have already been successfully completed or that will be taken simultaneously with the designated course or clinic. Prerequisites and co-requisites are deemed by the faculty as essential to provide the student in the designated course or clinic skills or knowledge necessary for that course or clinic. In *exceptional* cases a student may obtain a waiver from a prerequisite and/or co-requisite when both the professor of the designated course and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs determine that it is necessary and appropriate for such student to obtain such waiver. A determination by either the professor of the designated course or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs that a waiver will not be requested or granted is final and not subject to appeal.

### INTENSIVE WRITING COURSE REQUIREMENT

The Intensive Writing Course requirement is satisfied by successful completion (i.e. a passing grade) of a Seminar Course.

All Seminar Courses will require the completion of one or more writing assignments that involve legal research, appropriate citations, independent thought, critical thinking, and legal analysis on the part of the student writer. The professor will have the academic freedom to tailor the writing assignments to his or her seminar's subject matter and course objectives. A student may not satisfy this requirement without completing a seminar course.

Independent Study cannot satisfy the Intensive Writing Course Requirement

Seminar Courses are only taught by full-time faculty or adjuncts approved by the faculty.

## SKILLS INSTRUCTION

The educational objectives of the clinical programs at St. Thomas are to the following:

- To serve the public;
- To explore career possibilities in various areas of legal practice;
- To gain first-hand insight into the strategic and ethical dimensions of the profession; and
- To acquire valuable legal skills in a supportive educational environment.

All students are required to satisfy the Professional Skills Requirement prior to graduation. The Professional Skills Requirements may be satisfied by taking at least six credits of courses designated as “Skills” courses. The “Skills” designation appears in the course description found in the J.D. course catalog as an “{S}” and in the course title on the schedules published for registration.

Courses meeting the Skills requirement include simulation courses (such as Trial Advocacy Practice), clinics (such as the Immigration Clinic), and externships (such as Criminal Practice Externship).

In addition to skills instruction that takes place in classes, St. Thomas has a broad range of clinical and externship opportunities. This variety allows for a wide range of student substantive interests and opportunities for experiencing law in many different practice contexts. Keep in mind that clinical deadlines are generally several months before regular course registration. This is to allow for required background checks and orientation programs.

To view a comprehensive list of the Clinics and Externships available, please visit:

<https://www.stu.edu/law/academics/clinics/>

## PRO BONO REQUIREMENT

In furtherance of St. Thomas University College of Law’s mission to provide service to the community, the College of Law students must meet the mandatory pro bono requirement. Each student is required to perform a minimum of fifty (50) hours of pro bono before graduation. Two types of pro bono work will satisfy the graduation requirement: legal pro bono and community-based pro bono. All students must complete, at a minimum, twenty-five (25) hours of legal pro bono toward the required fifty (50) hours of pro bono for graduation. First-year law students may not begin their pro bono graduation requirement until the summer after their first semester of law school. Pertaining to legal pro bono work, students work under the supervision of lawyers in a variety of non-profit legal service organizations, government agencies, and law firms. This requirement instills a long-term pro bono ethic among law students and provides them with practical legal experience. The Office for Career Development coordinates the pro bono program, developing a variety of sites where students can fulfill their pro bono requirement, and maintains the records of students’ pro bono work. A comprehensive guide explaining the pro bono program, listing the organizations, and containing the reporting forms can be found in the Office for Career Development, or online under the “Careers” tab.

## **TRANSFER STUDENTS AND ADVANCE STANDING STUDENTS**

A student admitted as a transfer student from another law College or admitted as an "Advance Standing Student" may be given credit for courses completed in another program of legal study. The student's transcript will be evaluated by the Admissions Office and the student will be notified of the number of credits and the courses taken that will count towards the graduation requirements of St. Thomas University College of Law.

An "Advance Standing Student" is a student who has completed the course of study and obtained the terminal degree that allows the student to practice law in a foreign (non-United States) jurisdiction.

Any credits given to a transfer student or advance standing student for courses taken at another institution do not factor into the student's grade point average.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE BAR**

A number of states require that a law student who intends to sit for the bar examination register with the appropriate state agencies prior to or during his or her legal studies. Students who desire admission to the bar of a particular state should contact that state's Board of Bar Examiners to learn more about the state's requirements for admission to the bar. It is important that this be done upon entering law College to prevent delaying admission to the bar. Admission to The Florida Bar is administered by the Florida Board of Bar Examiners ("FBBE"). The requirements for admission are contained in the "Rules of the Supreme Court of Florida Relating to Admissions to the Bar." (See <https://www.floridabarexam.org/web/website.nsf/52286AE9AD5D845185257C07005C3FE1/F8FE824E0EECACE885257C0B00672021>.)

In summary, these rules require that a prospective applicant to the bar possess the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence from a College that is approved by the American Bar Association. An applicant must also possess a Bachelor's degree from a college or university approved by a regional accrediting association or the Florida Supreme Court. The latter requirement may be waived for those applicants possessing a foreign law degree. Additional requirements relating to the character of the applicant must be met in order to be admitted to The Florida Bar.

Please be aware that the Florida Bar of Board Examiners (and other state bars) engage in a comprehensive investigation regarding character and fitness issues. Past criminal behavior or allegations, incidents suggesting substance abuse, lack of financial responsibility, and incidents suggesting a lack of candor or truthfulness may act as impediments to admission to the bar. Full, candid, and early disclosure is in the applicant's best interests.

The FBBE will compare your law College admissions application to your application for

admission to the Florida Bar. If there are discrepancies, the FBBE may question you and your application may be delayed. Thus, you should amend your application for admission to law College if it comes to your attention that it is incomplete or incorrect in any way. (See College of Law Application, below.)

If you have questions concerning character or fitness issues, you should see the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or the Associate Dean for Professionalism. You may also consider discussing the matter with an attorney who specializes in bar admission issues.

For a full explanation, refer to the "Rules of the Supreme Court of Florida Relating to Admissions to the Bar." Individuals with specific questions may contact the Florida Board of Bar Examiners, 1891 Eider Court, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1750, (850) 487-1292 or visit their website at [www.floridabarexam.org](http://www.floridabarexam.org).

## AMENDMENTS TO COLLEGE OF LAW APPLICATION

All law students were required to complete a comprehensive application when they applied for admission to the Law School. That application includes a signed certification of accuracy. The College of Law will be required to provide a copy of the College of Law application to the bar examiners from the respective state to which a student applies to sit for the bar examination. Bar examiners typically review the bar application and the College of Law application for consistency and completeness. Therefore, it is essential that the Law College application be in conformity with the bar application. Students are specifically directed to the following questions on the College of Law application:

Question:

*"Have you ever been accused of a violation of an honor code or student conduct code, warned, placed on academic scholastic, or disciplinary probation, suspended, requested or advised to discontinue your studies, dropped, expelled, or requested to resign or otherwise subject to discipline by any college, law school, or other post-secondary institution? If yes, provide a complete statement of the circumstances surrounding each such occurrence, including the name and address of the institution, the date of the occurrence, the course, or event, the sanction and all relevant information related thereto."*

Question:

*"In your entire life have you ever been arrested, detained or restrained, taken into custody or accused formally or informally of a felony whether or not the charge was later reduced to a misdemeanor or other lesser charge? If you answer yes, for each instance, (a) provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances, including the date(s), the charge, the arresting agency, city and state of the arrest, and the subsequent action taken by the authorities; (b) explain whether there are any pending charges against you, and whether you are currently serving or subject to any kind of probation, deferred prosecution program, or reporting for community service obligations associated with any criminal matter; and (c) attach a copy of the arresting or charging document, police investigation reports, and the disposition order."*

Also, students were required to list all places of employment and all colleges, universities and professional schools attended. It is important that these matters be completely and honestly disclosed on the College of Law application. The fact that records were sealed or expunged does not justify non-disclosure of the underlying

incident. Students have a continuing duty to amend their College of Law application for incidents that occur after the application was filed and prior to graduation.

To amend an application, to correct incomplete or inaccurate information, or to include an incident that occurred after the application was filed, the student must submit to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, in writing, an Amendment to the application.

The Amendment must state:

What is being amended/corrected.

Why the amendment/correction is necessary (i.e. explain why the correct information was not included in the original application).

A complete explanation of the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident that is the subject of the Amendment.

A complete explanation of the disposition of the matter.

The nature of any official documentation generated regarding the incident (a copy of the documentation should be attached).

The Amendment should be submitted by use of the form available at the St. Thomas Law website. See <https://www.stu.edu/law/students/law-school-application-amendments/>. The Amendment must be submitted in a timely manner. The Amendment will then be considered and the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs will decide whether to accept the Amendment. Failure to have provided an accurate application or to timely amend an application may be the basis for an honor code violation and may cause the law College to revoke admission, dismiss the student, revoke or withhold the granting of the *Juris Doctor* degree or take any other action necessary to protect the integrity of the Law School. Disposition of an amendment is handled by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Acceptance of an amendment may be conditioned on the student providing additional information or updates, completing additional *pro bono* hours or other requirements.

If the amendment provided is not “accepted” by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs because he finds that the nature and content of the amendment may have led to the student not being offered admission or arose from conduct after the filing of the original application that call into question the student’s fitness and character to remain a student, or an amendment filed very late that eliminates the feasibility of any modification of the terms and condition of the student, the Amendment will be referred to the Honor Council for disposition.

If a matter is not referred to the Honor Council for disposition and the student filing the amendment disagrees with the disposition of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, the student can appeal that disposition to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs who may consider the matter *de novo*. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may also refer any appealed disposition of an amendment to the Honor Council.

## EMAIL AND OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

All students are assigned STU email accounts upon entering the Law School. The email address is generally the student’s first initial then last name (and sometimes a number) @stu.edu (e.g. jdoe@stu.edu). Students are required to access their STU email account

regularly. (During the pandemic, it is even more imperative to access your STU email account frequently.)

All official notices are sent via STU email accounts and students are charged with the responsibility for accessing such notices. Notices regarding class information, attendance issues, financial aid status, scholarships, employment information, and other matters germane to the College of Law are disseminated by use of STU email.

## **SUMMER SCHOOL/SUMMER ABROAD PROGRAMS**

The purpose of summer school is to provide students with an opportunity to take additional courses during their law school careers, and also to enable them to lighten their normal course loads in the fall and spring semesters. Students may accelerate graduation by attending summer sessions, provided that they have complied with all other requirements necessary for graduation. A student may not enroll in more than seven hours in a summer session without the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or her designee. Students are generally not allowed to visit at the regular summer term of other local schools.

Please be advised that students who attend summer school in the summer after their third year of law school, and otherwise complete the requirements for graduation in summer school, will not be certified to sit for the July Bar examination. Since summer school grades are not due until after the July Bar Examination, the Registrar will not be able to certify summer graduates to take the July Bar. This means the earliest Bar a student completing the requirements for graduation in the summer term can take will be the following February's Bar.

## **SUMMER-IN-SPAIN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM**

*Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, St. Thomas University College of Law was forced to cancel its annual Summer-in-Spain Program for the summer of 2020. It is too early to predict whether the Summer-in-Spain Program will operate in the summer of 2021.*

St. Thomas University College of Law offers a Summer-in-Spain Program. The venue for the Spain Program is El Escorial, located in the beautiful foothills of the Guadarrama Mountains, about 25 miles northwest of Madrid. With an elevation of 3,432 feet, the area enjoys a pleasant year-round temperature.

The Summer-in-Spain program is A.B.A. approved. St. Thomas students, along with students from other law schools, can study various subjects in International and Comparative Law. Grades from St. Thomas Summer-in-Spain program will count in the St. Thomas Law students' grade point average and the Summer-in-Spain program counts toward the residency requirement.

## **NETHERLANDS WATER COURSE**

Organized in partnership with the Florida Earth Foundation (FEF), the weeklong water law course, led by FEF Executive Director, Stan Bronson, and St. Thomas Law Professor



Keith Rizzardi, allows students to study water management as experienced in a nation situated below sea-level. Among other opportunities, students will attend lectures at the United Nations Institute for Water Education; learn about Dutch and European Union legislation; and gain a deeper understanding of the historic context and the magnitude of the future challenges and solutions. Field trip destinations include the historic windmills at Kinderdijk, the Flood Disaster Museum in Zeeland, and the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

## **OTHER SUMMER ABROAD PROGRAMS**

A St. Thomas law student desiring to attend an accredited law program for a summer session, at another U.S. law school or a summer abroad program, must comply with the following requirements and procedures:

The student must obtain the written approval of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs prior to registering for the course(s).

Requests must be in writing, accompanied by a description of the program and courses to be taken.

The program must be approved by the ABA.

The student must be in good standing, both academically and financially, at St. Thomas University College of Law.

To receive credit, the student may only take courses that are not required for graduation at St. Thomas; a maximum of seven elective credits will be accepted per year.

The course(s) must offer direct law faculty interaction with the student throughout the course. Remote placements offered through another law school presumptively do not fulfill this requirement.

In order to transfer credits earned, grades of "C" or better must be obtained in each of the courses attempted; credits earned will be recorded on the transcript but will not be included in the computation of the cumulative grade point average. No credits will be given for any course, internship or clinic graded on a pass/fail basis.

A letter of good standing will be furnished by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs directly to the particular program authorizing the participation of the student.

Credits earned at summer abroad programs from ABA-accredited schools may be counted toward residency requirements.

A letter will be written to the student, with a copy of the student's file, specifying the terms and conditions of approval to attend the program.

Students must request that the program transcript be sent directly to the St. Thomas University College of Law Registrar as soon as the program is completed.

## **AUTHORIZATION TO VISIT ANOTHER SCHOOL**

A St. Thomas law student may under some circumstances visit another ABA accredited law school. Students can generally visit any ABA-approved study abroad program. But a student may not visit at any other law school during his or her first year or third year. Generally, students cannot visit any local law school.

Students may be allowed to visit a law school in another state or locale if there are circumstances warranting the need to take classes elsewhere. The student must obtain the written approval of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs prior to registering for any courses. The student must submit a written request to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Students are not allowed to visit in their last two (regular) semesters except upon showing of exceptional circumstances and with the express approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

The student must be in good standing, both academically and financially, at St. Thomas University College of Law. He or she will be allowed to transfer a maximum of 15 elective credits per semester (7 credits in the summer). Students can only take elective course credits while visiting at another school. All required courses must be taken at St. Thomas University College of Law. In order to transfer the credits earned, the student must receive a grade of "C" or above (pass/fail is not sufficient) in each of the courses attempted. The credits earned will be recorded on the transcript, but they will not be included in the computation of the grade point average.

A letter of good standing will be furnished by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs directly to the school authorizing the student to take courses at their institution. A letter of authorization will be provided to the student, with a copy to the school the student will be visiting specifying the terms and conditions of approval to visit the other law school. Students must request from the visiting school that transcripts be sent directly to the St. Thomas University College of Law Registrar as soon as the semester has ended.

Please be advised that if under any circumstances a student is visiting a law school in his or her last semester that unless that school submits all grades to the Law College Registrar for that student prior to the graduation date set by St. Thomas University College of Law in that semester, that student will not be able to actually graduate until the following semester. This may affect the student's ability to sit for the Bar examination in that he or she will be deemed to have graduated in the subsequent semester.

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### **Intercultural Human Rights Law Review**

The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is an annual journal of intercultural human rights scholarship. Committed to exploring new directions and perspectives in the struggle for Human Rights, Justice, and Equality, it publishes cutting-edge articles and essays in the field authored by academics, practitioners, and students. It strives to be a useful resource for all scholars, policymakers, and practitioners from around the globe. The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is run jointly by J.D. and LL.M. students. A student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible to be a member.

### **International Moot Court Board**

Members of the International Moot Court Board compete in international competitions, including the Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition. The Jessup Competition, sponsored by the American Society of International Law and the

International Law Students Association, attracts participants from well over one hundred countries. Students form teams and conduct legal research, write an appellate brief and present oral arguments. Only members of the Board can represent St. Thomas in international competitions. International Moot Court Board may be taken for credit as described under the course descriptions. A student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible to be a member.

### **Journal of Complex Litigation**

The Journal focuses on a number of complex litigation topics, including mass torts, class actions, multi-district litigations, electronic discovery, and civil procedure issues. The mission of the Journal is to publish relevant and thought-provoking articles to ensure that the Journal is known as a leading resource for legal practitioners and judges alike who frequently practice in this area of the law.

The Journal is published electronically. Each article is edited by St. Thomas University law students; however, the faculty advisor, Professor Patricia Moore, plays an integral role in the selection of publishable articles. A student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible to be a member.

### **Trial Team**

The purpose of the Trial Team is to promote excellence in litigation and trial advocacy skills. Students participate in state, regional and national advocacy competitions, vying for team membership through tryouts. St. Thomas University College of Law trial teams have achieved prominence in numerous competitions. Trial Team may be taken for credit as described under the course descriptions. A student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible to be a member.

### **Moot Court Board**

The Moot Court Board is designed to promote excellence in legal research and written and oral advocacy. Board membership is open to second- and third-year students. Participants prepare a brief and present oral arguments based upon a simulated appellate record containing issues that require in-depth research and analysis. Students compete in an intramural moot court tournament judged by faculty and members of the local bench and bar. The Board selects national and regional competitions each year for participation by its members. Moot Court Board may be taken for credit as described under the course descriptions. A student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible to be a member.

### **St. Thomas Law Review**

The St. Thomas Law Review is a student-operated scholarly journal publishing articles submitted by faculty and members of the bench and bar nationwide. Membership is determined on the basis of academic excellence and/or demonstrated writing ability. A publishable comment or note must be completed for membership. The Law Review provides students with extensive writing, editing and managing experience. Law Review may be taken for credit as described under the course descriptions. A student must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to be eligible to be a member.

## **THREE PLUS THREE BA/JD PROGRAM**

The St. Thomas University 3 + 3 B.A./J.D. program combines a quality undergraduate and law College education that is a great path for high-achieving students who are eager to begin their career in law as early as possible. This program offers a combined Bachelor's degree and Juris Doctor degree. The B.A./J.D. program allows students to complete their B.A./J.D. in six years, instead of the typical seven years. Students in the B.A./J.D. program must meet the following requirements:

1. Applicants must have a high College grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and an ACT minimum score of 25, or a combined SAT score of 940 in Critical Reading and Math.
2. The program is also open to Sophomore students who have maintained at least a 3.0.
3. Applicants must maintain a 3.0 undergraduate GPA and have a minimum LSAT score of 150 to enter the law College portion of the program.
4. A formal application to the B.A./J.D. Program must be completed.

### **How it Works**

All B.A./J.D. students take several courses designed to provide a solid foundation for their years of law study. The B.A./J.D. student takes 90 credits as an undergraduate, fulfilling the major and general education requirements. The student then takes the remaining 30 credits during the first year of law study at St. Thomas University College of Law. Upon successfully completing the first year of law study, students are awarded the Bachelor's degree in their chosen major.

Acceptance into the 3+3 program does not guarantee acceptance to St. Thomas Law. Students must still satisfy the admission requirements of the law school. Students are encouraged to sit for the LSAT (Law College Admissions Test) no later than February of their junior year. Upon successfully completing their first year of law study, students are awarded the bachelors degree in their chosen major.

Students must fulfill all the criteria for admission into the law school. Presently, disciplines such as business administration, natural sciences, computer information systems and education do not enable students to participate in this joint degree program.

### **Pre-Selection Criteria for Admission to the Law School**

1. Candidates must have completed 90 credits of undergraduate work, including all requirements towards their degree, before they may enter the law school.
2. The student's academic record should be reviewed periodically to ensure that the student is making satisfactory progress towards meeting the undergraduate degree requirements and the College of Law entrance requirements. An assessment will be made after the completion of 30, 60 and

75 credits to determine the student's ability to meet the conditions of the joint degree.

3. A letter from the Academic Advisor or appropriate University official, stating that the candidate has fulfilled all requirements and that the academic department agrees to accept the College of Law credits, must accompany the law College admission application.
4. Candidates who have been subject to disciplinary or academic action may not be considered for admission to the College of Law without special justifying circumstances.
5. Candidates must be registered with LSAC, and participate in the Credential Assembly Services (CAS).
6. Candidates should take the LSAT no later than February of the student's junior year.
7. Candidates must have at least a 3.0 undergraduate GPA and a 150 LSAT score.

### **Application Procedures**

Students selected for this program must meet the admissions requirements set forth by the College of Law.

1. Complete and submit the College of Law Application for Admission. The application fee will be waived for St. Thomas University B.A./J.D. applicants.
2. Provide two letters of recommendation from faculty members.
3. Submit a personal statement.
4. Request an official transcript.
5. Submit a resume.

### **Selection Criteria**

1. The College of Law Admissions Committee will review all applications. An application is considered complete when all of the items listed above in the Application Procedures section have been received at the College of Law Office of Admissions.
2. Applicants with the strongest academic records, aptitudes and abilities, and who are active participants in student activities and/or service in the University or community will be selected for interviews.
3. An interview will be required before a final decision is made on the applicant.

### **Tuition and Fee Costs**

The charges will be based on the student's enrollment status. For the first three years of undergraduate studies the student will pay the regular undergraduate rates. Once the student begins law school, the student will be charged the applicable College of Law

tuition and fee costs. All students admitted as part of the B.A./J.D. program, will be offered a \$5,000.00 scholarship for each of the three years of law school.

### **Financial Aid and Scholarship Eligibility**

As undergraduates, students are eligible to apply and be considered for all federal aid programs, i.e., Pell Grant, student loans, college work-study, as well as state aid and undergraduate scholarship programs. Upon enrolling at the College of Law, students are considered graduate/professional students and hence are no longer eligible for federal and state grants. As law students, both federal loans and private loans are available to qualified students. Students who successfully enter St. Thomas University College of Law through the B.A./J.D. program will automatically receive a \$5,000 scholarship for each year of law study. Candidates will also be considered for merit-based scholarships. Eligibility for College of Law scholarships is based on the LSAT score and undergraduate GPA.

### **Withdrawal from the Program**

A student may withdraw from the first-year law program only under the term and conditions in which he or she would otherwise be approved for a leave of absence. In the event the student withdraws from the College of Law prior to completion of the first-year, credits earned while in law College may be applied towards the undergraduate degree but will only count towards elective credits.

## **JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS**

The faculties of the College of Law and the Graduate College work in close collaboration to offer four exciting, joint-degree programs: the J.D./M.S. in Sports Administration, the J.D./M.B.A. in Sports Administration, the J.D./M.B.A. in International Business, and the J.D./M.A. in Criminal Justice.

These programs offer St. Thomas Law students the opportunity to complete both the Juris Doctor and the Master's degrees in the three years it typically takes to complete the Juris Doctor degree. The respective graduate College and the College of Law have agreed to accept credits from courses taken at the other school, thereby reducing the total number of credits needed for both degrees. Participants thus complete both degrees, receiving a diploma for each, in a reduced period with reduced overall costs.

Joint degree students generally enter and complete their first year of law College prior to taking any masters level courses. However, a student may begin one of the applicable master's programs prior to starting law school. Upon admission to the College of Law he/she will be required to take the entire first year law College curriculum (and no master's level courses.) A student can be given credit only for the master level courses taken after matriculating into the law school. Law students will not be given credits for any master level course taken before matriculating into the College of Law nor will they be given any credit toward the J.D. for courses taken other than at St. Thomas University.

## ADMISSION

All St. Thomas University College of Law students who are in good standing at the completion of their first year of law College are eligible for admission into any of the joint degree programs. Students must meet all admission requirements for St. Thomas University graduate programs.

A law student wishing to matriculate into one of the joint degree programs must file an application for admission before March 1<sup>st</sup> of Spring Term of their first year. Applications may be accepted later for some of the joint degree programs at the discretion of the graduate program director. After filing the application, the student must meet with the degree program director from the graduate College to which they seek admission. The degree program director of the graduate College will ensure that the degree program will meet the educational objectives of the student and ensure that the degree program student has the requisite background and skills in the areas of study of the graduate degree program to successfully compete in the graduate degree program. Upon approval by the degree program director of the respective graduate College program and completion of the first year of law school, the student will be admitted into the joint degree program. Students then begin to undertake study in the respective graduate program and the College of Law (simultaneously) beginning in the first summer term following the first year of law school.

Students in all the joint degree programs must complete a total of 78 J.D. credits, a combination of required classes and elective hours. Students in the joint degree program cannot register for more than 21 credits (combined) in any J.D. term. The joint degree students must complete all other requirements of the “regular” J.D. program (except for the reduction in credit hours), including the senior writing requirement, *pro bono* hours, the skills course requirement and the residency requirement.

## GRADING

For College of Law and Graduate College courses, joint degree students will be graded on the respective grading scales applicable to them at the College of Law and Graduate School.

## ACADEMIC STANDING

J.D. students must remain in “good standing” in their J.D. program to be eligible to continue to take non-J.D. classes as part of one of the joint degree programs. Joint degree students shall remain in good academic standing. Those who fall below the minimum levels required for good standing at either College are placed on academic probation, subject to the rules governing academic probation and dismissal at the respective schools at which they are on probation.

Except in exceptional circumstances in which a student is granted a leave of absence, students admitted into a joint degree program must take classes continuously upon admission into the program until completion of all required courses. Failure to satisfactorily complete all required courses in the graduate College will preclude the student from obtaining the graduate College degree and the J.D. Failure of the student

to complete all required courses in the College of Law will likewise preclude the student from obtaining a J.D. degree or the respective graduate degree.

The entire required graduate College curriculum serves to replace elective credit hours the law student would otherwise have to take to acquire the J.D. degree. However, individual graduate course credit hours are not transferable to the J.D. degree. Accordingly, students must complete all required graduate school courses in order to meet graduation criteria for the J.D. degree. In the event the student does not satisfactorily complete all required courses in the respective graduate school the student will then be required to take elective courses in the J.D. program sufficient to satisfy graduation requirements and the student will not be given J.D. credit for the graduate degree courses. Likewise, in the event the student does not successfully complete the required J.D. program, the respective graduate school will not count any of the College of Law courses toward degree requirements in the respective graduate school and the student would have to acquire sufficient credit hours in the respective graduate College to qualify for the respective graduate degree.

### **COST**

Upon admission to the joint degree program, students pay the applicable graduate tuition rate per credit for the courses taken in the respective graduate school and the applicable College of Law tuition rate per credit hour for courses taken in the law school. In the summer, students pay the regular summer school rate for J.D. classes. Students are responsible for all other fees and costs applicable to law and/or graduate students.

### **WITHDRAWAL FROM PROGRAM**

Students may withdraw from the graduate school component of the joint degree program at any time. However, upon withdrawal, none of the credit hours earned in the respective graduate school are credited toward the J.D. degree and the student must complete all J.D. requirements to receive his or her J.D. degree.

Students who withdraw from the College of Law component of the joint degree may continue with their graduate school degree. However, credits earned in the College of Law may not transfer to the respective graduate school. Students must meet the graduation requirements of the respective graduate school to qualify for the graduate degree.

### **FINANCIAL AID**

Participation in a joint degree program does not affect the student's eligibility for scholarships or financial aid otherwise available from the law school. Student loans and other sources of funds may be available through government unsubsidized loan programs. Students must comply with the applicable rules and procedures for obtaining such loans.

### **HONORS**

Participants in the joint degree programs must meet the same criteria otherwise applicable to J.D. students to graduate with honors in the J.D. program and must meet



the same criteria otherwise applicable to graduate with honors in the graduate degree program.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Students in the joint degree programs must follow all administrative procedures for registration as required by both the College of Law and the respective graduate school. The Assistant Dean for Student Affairs from the College of Law and the joint degree program director of the respective graduate program shall serve as advisors to the Joint Degree students. In the event of a student requiring special consideration or deviation from the requirements contained herein, both the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs of the College of Law and the joint degree program director of the respective graduate school must agree to such modification or deviation.

### **ELECTIVE COURSES**

Students in any of the joint degree programs must take all the designated, required courses. In addition to the required courses, a menu of elective courses is also provided for each program. Students may take any J.D. course as an elective (including courses in study-abroad programs) with permission of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

## **JOINT DEGREES IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION**

People who know sports administration know St. Thomas. The University was a pioneer in the sports administration field. The program was started in 1973 and today offers one of the most highly esteemed programs in the country.

Students interested in working as a student athletics compliance officer, sports agent, commissioner of sports leagues or conferences, or any number of other sports-related legal and business careers, should consider the J.D./M.S. in Sports Administration and J.D./M.B.A. in Sports Administration programs. Students will receive a first-rate legal education through the College of Law, while taking specialized sports administration classes toward their respective Master's degree. Classes in sports administration will provide students with the unique skills necessary for success in this area through courses in sports financial management, sports marketing and promotions, and sports media and public relations. These programs are designed to qualify joint-degree graduates to compete for positions in top sports-related legal fields.

### **J.D./M.S. IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION**

#### **J.D. CLASSES AND CREDITS**

LAW	600A	Civil Procedure	(4)
LAW	610A	Contracts	(4)
LAW	650A	Torts	(4)
LAW	635	Legal Analysis, Writing and Research	(3)
LAW	630A	Legal Skills	(1)
LAW	620	Criminal Law	(3)
LAW	681A	Constitutional Law	(4)
LAW	690A	Property	(4)
LAW	705	Advanced Legal Research and Writing	(3)
LAW	685	Appellate Advocacy	(2)
LAW	968	Bar Prep Skills	(4)

LAW 745	Sports Law	(2)
LAW 813	Business Associations	(4)
LAW 826	Evidence	(4)
LAW 840	Wills and Trusts	(3)
LAW 850	Professional Responsibility	(3)
LAW 819	Alternative Dispute Resolution	(2) = 58
Seminar (To satisfy the Intensive Writing Course)		(2)
A Skills Class, Internship, Externship or Clinic		(various hours)
<i>(Used to satisfy the skills hours requirement)</i>		

*Four credits from the following:*

LAW 711B1	Advanced Legal Skills	(4)
LAW 968A	Bar Prep Skills	(2)
LAW 615A	Civil Procedure Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW 958D	Constitutional Law Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW 848B	Contracts Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)

Other J.D. credits such that the student takes a minimum of 78 J.D. credits.	78
Credits allocated from graduate courses	<u>12</u>
TOTAL J.D. Credits	90

\*Students who matriculated into the J.D. Program prior to August 2016 have different requirements. Please go to the St. Thomas Law Website.

#### **M.S. GRADUATE SCHOOL CLASSES AND CREDITS\*\***

##### Required Courses

MAN 503	Applied Research Methods	(3)
SPO 717	Seminar and Principles of Sports Administration	(3)

*Five from the following:*

SPO 540	Sports Media and Public Relations	(3)
SPO 543	Sports Financial Management	(3)
SPO 544	Sports Marketing and Promotions	(3)
SPO 546	Facility and Event Management	(3)
SPO 547	Principles of Leisure Services Management	(3)
SPO 548	Sports Psychology	(3)
SPO 549	Athletic Fund Raising	(3)
SPO 551	Negotiations in the Sports Industry	(3)
SPO 552	Governance of Intercollegiate Athletics	(3)
SPO 719	Legal Aspects of Sports Administration	(3)
SPO 750	Issues in Sports Administration	(3)
SPO 755	Special Topics in Sports Administration	(3)
SPO 790	Supervised Internship I	(3)

Total Graduate Credits	24
Credits allocated from J.D. Program**	<u>6</u>
TOTAL MS Credits	30

\*\* Six (6) credits from the student's law program courses will transfer to the M.S. in Sports Administration. LAW 745 (Sports Law) will replace SPO 719 (Legal Aspects of Sports Administration) as a regular course. LAW 819 (Alternative Dispute Resolution) will replace a SPO elective.

## J.D./M.B.A. IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION

### J.D. CLASSES AND CREDITS

LAW	600A	Civil Procedure	(4)
LAW	610A	Contracts	(4)
LAW	650A	Torts	(4)
LAW	635	Legal Analysis, Writing and Research	(3)
LAW	630A	Legal Skills	(1)
LAW	620	Criminal Law	(3)
LAW	681A	Constitutional Law	(4)
LAW	690A	Property	(4)
LAW	705	Advanced Legal Research and Writing	(3)
LAW	685	Appellate Advocacy	(2)
LAW	819	Alternative Dispute Resolution	(2)
LAW	968	Bar Prep Skills	(4)
LAW	745	Sports Law	(2)
LAW	813	Business Associations	(4)
LAW	826	Evidence	(4)
LAW	840	Wills and Trusts	(3)
LAW	850	Professional Responsibility	(3) = 58
Seminar Course (to satisfy the Intensive Writing Requirement)			(2)
A Skills Class, Internship, Externship or Clinic (Used to satisfy the skills hours requirement)			(various hours)

*Four credits from the following:*

LAW	711B1	Advanced Legal Skills	(4)
LAW	968A	Bar Prep Skills	(2)
LAW	615A	Civil Procedure Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW	958D	Constitutional Law Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW	848B	Contracts Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
LAW	826A	Evidence Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW	884B	Florida Fundamentals Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
LAW	647	Legal Methods and Essay Writing	(2)
LAW	747	Property Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)

Other J.D. credits such that the student takes a minimum of 78 J.D. credits.	78
Credits allocated from graduate courses	<u>12</u>
<b>TOTAL J.D. Credits</b>	<b>90</b>

\*Students who matriculated into the J.D. Program prior to August 2016 have different requirements. Please go to the St. Thomas Law Website.

### M.B.A. GRADUATE SCHOOL CLASSES AND CREDITS\*\*

#### Preparatory Courses\*\*\*

ACC	530	Essentials of Accounting	(3)
BUS	724	Foundation for Business Studies	(3)
BUS	532	Statistical Analysis for Management	(3)

\*\*\*These courses may be waived depending on undergraduate preparation.

#### Required Courses

ACC	770	Managerial Accounting	(3)
BUS	777	Data Analytics	(3)

BUS	775	International Business	(3)
BUS	704	Policy, Planning and Strategy Systems	(3)
BUS	750	Strategic Marketing Management	(3)
FIN	751	Financial Management	(3)
MAN	700	Organizational Behavior	(3)
SPO	717	Seminar and Principles of Sports Administration	(3) =24

*Two courses from the following:*

SPO	540	Sports Media and Public Relations	(3)
SPO	543	Sports Financial Management	(3)
SPO	544	Sports Marketing and Promotions	(3)
SPO	546	Facility and Event Management	(3)
SPO	547	Principles of Leisure Services Management	(3)
SPO	548	Sports Psychology	(3)
SPO	549	Athletic Fund Raising	(3)
SPO	551	Negotiations in the Sports Industry	(3)
SPO	552	Governance of Intercollegiate Athletics	(3)
SPO	719	Legal Aspects of Sports Administration	(3)
SPO	750	Issues in Sports Administration	(3)
SPO	755	Special Topics in Sports Administration	(3)
SPO	790	Supervised Internship I	(3) = 3

Total Graduate Credits	30
Credits allocated from J.D. Program**	<u>6</u>
TOTAL MBA Credits	36

*\*\*Three (3) credits from the student's law program courses will transfer to the M.B.A. in Sports Administration. LAW 745 (Sports Law) will replace SPO 719 (Legal Aspects of Sports Administration) as a regular course. Student who began the program before August 2018, have different requirements.*

### **J.D./M.B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**

Students in the joint J.D./M.B.A. program in International Business earn both degrees in three years, instead of the traditional four and a half years. They learn the skills necessary for success in today's rapidly changing, global business environment through courses such as International Economics, International Finance, International Business Transactions, and Regional Business Environment. Miami, one of the world's most active commercial hubs, is an opportune venue for the program.

#### **J.D. CLASSES AND CREDITS**

LAW	600A	Civil Procedure	(4)
LAW	610A	Contracts	(4)
LAW	650A	Torts	(4)
LAW	635	Legal Analysis, Writing and Research	(3)
LAW	630A	Legal Skills	(1)
LAW	620	Criminal Law	(3)
LAW	681A	Constitutional Law	(4)
LAW	690A	Property	(4)
LAW	705	Advanced Legal Research and Writing	(3)
LAW	685	Appellate Advocacy	(2)
LAW	711B1	Advanced Legal Skills	(4)

LAW	968	Bar Prep Skills	(4)
LAW	700	International Law	(3)
LAW	813	Business Associations	(4)
LAW	826	Evidence	(4)
LAW	840	Wills and Trusts	(3)
LAW	850	Professional Responsibility	(3) = 57
Seminar (to satisfy Intensive Writing Requirement)			(2)
A Skills Class, Internship, Externship or Clinic			(various hours)
<i>(Used to satisfy the skills hours requirement)</i>			

*Four credits from the following:*

LAW	711B1	Advanced Legal Skills	(4)
LAW	968A	Bar Prep Skills	(2)
LAW	615A	Civil Procedure Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW	958D	Constitutional Law Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW	848B	Contracts Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
LAW	826A	Evidence Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW	884B	Florida Fundamentals Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
LAW	647	Legal Methods and Essay Writing	(2)
LAW	747	Property Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)

Other J.D. credits such that the student takes a minimum of 78 J.D. credits.	78
Credits allocated from graduate courses	<u>12</u>
TOTAL J.D. Credits	90

\* Students who matriculated into the J.D. Program prior to August 2018 have different requirements. Please go to the St. Thomas Law Website.

### **MBA GRADUATE SCHOOL CLASSES AND CREDITS**

#### Required Courses

MAN	510	Management Ethics	(3)
ACC	770	Managerial Accounting	(3)
BUS	777	Data Analytics	(3)
BUS	775	International Business	(3)
BUS	704	Policy, Planning and Strategy Systems	(3)
BUS	750	Strategic Marketing Management	(3)
FIN	751	Financial Management	(3)
MAN	700	Organizational Behavior	(3) =21

*Three courses from the following:*

BUS	672	Multinational Mar. Concepts & Strategies	(3)
FIN	772	International Finance and Banking	(3)
BUS	774	Issues and Applications in Import/Export	(3)
BUS	771	International Business**	(3)
BUS	789	Graduate Project	(3)
BUS	792	Business Internship I	(3)
BUS	795	International Management	(3) = 9

Total Graduate Credits	30
Credits allocated from J.D. Program**	<u>6</u>
TOTAL MBA Credits	36

\*\*Three (3) credits from the students' law program courses will transfer for the MBA in International Business. If a student in the joint degree program with the MBA specialization in International Business takes LAW 700 (International Law or LAW 832 (International Business Transactions), he/she should not take BUS 771 (International Business Law). Students who began the joint program before August 2018 have different requirements. Students who begin the program after July 2021 must satisfy the above program requirements.

## J.D./M.A. IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The J.D./M.A. in Criminal Justice program combines the legal knowledge and procedural skills needed for the practice of law, and especially criminal law, with the theoretical, research based scientific teachings that explain the behavior of criminals as well as those who work in the criminal justice system, including the police, judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and correctional officers. Successful students in the joint degree program will not only be able to identify the elements of various crimes and the working of the common law tradition of our justice systems, but they will be able to address crucial extra-legal factors that influence our legal systems. Criminal Justice is inevitably filtered through a culture that exposes each individual member to norms, values, beliefs, bio-physical conditions, and attitudes that shape the law, give it meaning, stability, and at times encourage it to change.

### J.D. CLASSES AND CREDITS

LAW 600A	Civil Procedure	(4)
LAW 610A	Contracts	(4)
LAW 650A	Torts	(4)
LAW 635	Legal Analysis, Writing and Research	(3)
LAW 630A	Legal Skills	(1)
LAW 690A	Property	(4)
LAW 620	Criminal Law	(3)
LAW 681A	Constitutional Law	(4)
LAW 705	Advanced Legal Research and Writing	(3)
LAW 685	Appellate Advocacy	(2)
LAW 711B1	Advanced Legal Skills	(4)
LAW 968	Bar Prep Skills	(4)
LAW 813	Business Associations	(4)
LAW 826	Evidence	(4)
LAW 819	Alternative Dispute Resolution	(2)
LAW 808	Criminal Procedure	(3)
LAW 850	Professional Responsibility	(3) = 56

Seminar (to satisfy the Intensive Writing Requirement)	(2)
A Skills Class, Internship, Externship or Clinic (Used to satisfy the skills hours requirement)	(various hours)

*Four credits from the following:*

LAW 711B1	Advanced Legal Skills	(4)
LAW 968A	Bar Prep Skills	(2)
LAW 615A	Civil Procedure Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW 958D	Constitutional Law Focus for the Bar	(1)
LAW 848B	Contracts Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
LAW 826A	Evidence Focus for the Bar	(1)

LAW 884B	Florida Fundamentals Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
LAW 647	Legal Methods and Essay Writing	(2)
LAW 747	Property Focus for the Bar	(1 or 2)
Other J.D. credits such that the student takes a minimum of 78 J.D. credits.		78
Credits allocated from graduate courses		<u>12</u>
TOTAL J.D. Credits		90

\*Students who matriculated into the J.D. Program prior to August 2016 have different requirements. Please go to the St. Thomas Law Website.

**GRADUATE SCHOOL CLASSES AND CREDITS**

CJA 651	Quantitative Research Methods	(3)
CJA 630	Juvenile Crime and Justice	(3)
CJA 660	Advanced Criminological Theory	(3)
CJA 775	Comparative International Criminal Justice Systems	(3)
CJA 710	Globalization and Terrorism	(3)
CJA 630	Economics of Crime	(3)
CJA 780	Issues and Problems in Criminal Justice	(3)
CJA 715	Cybercrime and its Control	(3)
Total Graduate Credits		24
Credits allocated from J.D. Program**		<u>12</u>
TOTAL MA Credits		36

## CERTIFICATES

These programs are designed for students who want to focus on a particular area of practice while in law school. To qualify for a certificate the student takes a number of classes and in some cases takes continuing legal education courses in the area of focus and/or performs *pro bono* work in the area of focus.

The certificate programs allow the student to gain greater insight into a particular area of the law. If the student completes all the certificate requirements then, upon graduation, the student is provided a certificate and would have greater familiarity with that area of practice which the student might then continue to explore in practice or post-J.D. education. The College of Law requires students to declare a certificate program at least one semester prior to completion of degree requirements for the Juris Doctor program.

St. Thomas Law offers the following certificates:

- Admiralty and Maritime Law Certificate
- Business Law Certificate
- Criminal Litigation Certificate
- Elder Law Certificate
- Environmental Sustainability Certificate
- Immigration Practice Certificate
- Intellectual Property Law Certificate
- Intercultural Human Rights Certificate
- Real Estate Law Certificate
- Tax Law Certificate

The requirements for each of the certificates and applications for the certificates can be found below:

<https://www.stu.edu/law/academics/certificate-programs/>

## THE MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE PROGRAMS LL.M. in Cybersecurity Law & Policy

The completely online program provides students the option to pursue an LL.M. in the fast-growing field of cybersecurity. The LL.M. Program is supported by the College of Law, which recognizes the importance of cybersecurity for our nation and the global community. Whether a desire to pursue a career in law firms, government, private sector, or military, the LL.M. help students prepare for this challenging field. The innovative graduate program provides a wide perspective, integrating law, policy, and technology.

This online program is designed to be completed in one year and is designed to meet the needs of working professionals, as well as traditional students, seeking a flexible opportunity to advance career goals. All sectors of society are increasingly vulnerable to



surreptitious network intrusions that threaten data integrity, personal privacy, and national security.

### **Admission and Application Requirements**

Enrollment for the LL.M. program is open to holders of a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree or similar foreign qualifications in the field of law. An applicant must have a first law degree (J.D., LL.B. or the equivalent) from a foreign or ABA accredited law school. Admission may also be granted to holders of a bachelor's degree or its foreign equivalent, who have a desire to develop an understanding of legal and policy principles of cybersecurity. Admission to the LL.M. program is competitive. In evaluating applications, the Graduate Program Committee takes into consideration the applicant's grades, university studies, letter of recommendation, occupational interests, professional, personal accomplishments, and other factors. Students may apply for full time or part-time status.

### **Who Should Apply?**

The program is designed for candidates interested in issues of law, policy and developing risk management skills expressly to create the next generation of cybersecurity's legal professionals. This online program is designed to be completed in one year and is designed to meet the needs of working professionals, as well as traditional students, seeking a flexible opportunity to advance career goals. The program will offer a comprehensive approach to cybersecurity law and policy, and will address the legal ramifications of cyber-threats in the aerospace field, especially at the present moment of increased concerns with widespread cyber-attacks.

### **Application Requirements**

Applications require a completed application form, including a personal statement; a resume or curriculum vitae; previous American college and university transcripts and/or certified copies of foreign transcripts, diplomas or certificates; and two letters of recommendation, preferably from a recent professor or employer; and the application fee. The program requires electronic applications via the Law School Admission Council.

### **Tuition and Fees**

Our tuition is one of the most competitive among ABA-Law Schools. The program's tuition is fixed at \$30,264.00, and its fees at \$125. The LL.M. is a 26-credits program at \$1,164.00 per credit hour.

Government-subsidized student loans are available to qualifying U.S. persons, and private loans are available to non-U.S. persons who have a qualifying U.S. loan-guarantor. Limited scholarships are available.

### **Student Status**

#### *a. Full-time Students*

The first semester requires that students complete 12-credits of required introductory courses. The second semester includes 12-credits of specialized courses, and a seminar. Students are required to earn 2-academic credits by engaging in a faculty-supervised

research and writing project and electives will be offered from which to choose for their remaining 2 credits. Students will be expected to complete their degrees within 36 months of initial enrollment in the College of Law.

*b. Part-time Students*

Applicants may be admitted to the program as part-time students. Upon consultation with, and approval by, the Program Director, they may select their courses and complete them over a period of up to four years. If changes to the curriculum occur during this period of time, the Program Director will determine, in consultation with the student, which classes of the amended LL.M. curriculum the student will have to enroll in order to attain the full complement of 26 academic credits. In order to apply for financial aid, part-time students must enroll in at least six credits in any one semester.

### **Attendance**

The College of Law's attendance policy applies to all courses of the LL.M. Program. The Director of the Program may, in his discretion, excuse non-attendance for compelling reasons.

### **Examinations and Grading**

Required courses of the LL.M. Program are tested via take-home examinations. The text of final examinations is handed out to the students by the end of each class, and each student has to return the completed examination by a specified date and time. Individual faculty retains the right to allocate a certain percentage of the grade for projects and/or paper written in the course. Professors may upgrade students by half a grade-point for outstanding classroom performance.

All other College of Law regulations regarding examinations apply unless inconsistent with the procedures mentioned above.

### **Graduation Requirements**

Graduation from the LL.M. Program in Cybersecurity Law and Policy requires the completion of 26 academic credits in the LL.M. course of study, including all the required courses, and needed elective seminar. The student needs to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to graduate. If the student's cumulative GPA falls below that standard at the time of graduation, he/she may take classes related to the program as indicated by the Program Director and try to obtain the cumulative grade point average of 2.0, but only within a maximum period of two academic years starting from the date of his/her initial enrollment in the program.

The Law School's Grade Replacement Policy also applies to LL.M. students. In addition to this option, if the student has received an "F" in any required course, the student may write a paper in substitution of the failed course requirement, carrying the same number of credits as the failed course. In substance and format, this paper has to fulfill the standards of an independent research project under the supervision of the Program Director or the instructor of the class in which the student received the failing grade. This paper is graded by the supervising professor; it is not subject to approval by the Curriculum Committee or the Dean.

Additionally, students have to write a paper in a qualifying seminar offered by the College of Law (2 credits). Qualifying seminars have to be approved ahead of their offering by the Program Director as consonant with the LL.M. Program.

Instead of the seminar, qualified students may write a thesis specifically for the LL.M. Program. For two credits, the student who chooses to prepare a LL.M. Cyber Thesis must write a significant analytical paper in the field of cybersecurity law and policy consisting of at least 15,000 words, and reflecting substantial legal research, original thought, proper writing style, and correct citation form. The paper should satisfy the above mentioned criteria and earn a passing grade. A full-time student must finish and submit the LL.M. Cyber Thesis to his/her supervisor within the deadline established by the program administration, in the same academic year he or she started.

### **Required Courses**

#### **Cybercrime Law**

LLMC 302 3 credits

This is a graduate-level distance-learning course. The course will examine the legal and policy issues related to cybersecurity, including the history and complex nature of computer-related crime and how societies have attempted to respond. Students will discuss the different types of cyber-criminals, including motives, rationale, and methods of attack. The course will evaluate the technology landscape in this dynamic area and will provide students with opportunities to discuss cutting-edge issues at the intersection of law, technology, and policy. Students will be presented with the challenge of a fast pace technological environment to highlight the tools necessary to identify problems in the world arising from the existing and perceived vulnerabilities. At the end of this course, participants should be able to, and offer informed opinions and potential solutions.

#### **Cyber Ethics**

LLMC 302A 3 credits

The Cyber Ethics course is designed to provide students with an in-depth look at potential social and moral costs associated with the rise of new and emerging technology in a cybersecurity environment. Designed around current case and practical themes, Cyber Ethics explores up-to-date legal and philosophical perspectives, coupled with discussion and debate over best practices governing the use of cybersecurity models, developing meaningful cybersecurity policy, as well as providing effective guidance and resources to both public and private sector entities within the cyber domain. Topics covered in this course will include, an introduction to Cyber Ethics, digitizing ethical standards, Gate keepers and the government's use of emerging technology, privacy concerns versus data integrity, ethical best practices, resolving ethical dilemmas in cybersecurity, and the future and final frontier of cyberspace related concepts. The accompanied reading in this course will provide students with a current synopsis of trends and patterns developing in the field of Cyber Ethics. Additional and accompanying materials and articles will be provided by the instructor to expand current and meaningful dialogue related to Cyber Ethics challenges facing the modern professional. This course is designed as an essential learning element for individuals entering or continuing a career in Cybersecurity Law and Policy.

#### **Cyber Privacy Law**

LLMC 304 3 credits

How does digital surveillance influence power and privilege? This course dissects how domestic digital surveillance, including video and GPS surveillance measures, identification systems, social networking, online advertising, health records, big data, data mining analytics, revenge pornography, and the war on terror have all shaped a patchwork of State, Federal, and International regulations concerning digital privacy.

### **Cybersecurity Corporate Practices**

LLMC 303 3 credits

This is a graduate-level distance-learning course. The course discusses the various impacts of information security risks on corporate practices, preparing students for tomorrow's market as legal counsels or other similar business advising position. Specifically, this course is divided into three parts which can be simplified as the *what*, *who*, and *how* of cybersecurity corporate practices as it relates to their legal aspects. The *what* covers the sources of legal obligations and/or concerns for corporations; the *who* discusses the entities and individuals that are held accountable; and the *how* articulates the notions reviewed in this course into a specific case study. This course will feature prominent guest speakers discussing top of the market technologies and methodologies, while providing real-life examples from their practices.

*Professor Vanessa Henri, Lawyer, Emerging Tech, Fasken, a global law firm, Montreal, Canada*

### **Cybersecurity Law & Policy**

LLMC 300 3 credits

This is a graduate-level distance-learning course. The course will examine the social and legal processes developed by governments, the private sector, and civil society to secure the Internet. The course is intended to introduce students to an evolving area of the law. Our society depends on a stable and safe Internet, and there is growing concern about the misuse of cyberspace. News of large-scale cybersecurity threats and cyber-attacks overshadow the daily life of governments, corporations, and individuals. The challenge at hand is one that threatens the peaceful utilization of cyberspace. With the increasing proliferation of mobile technologies and the growing real-time border-less exchange of information, cybersecurity has become a vital subject with international connotations that requires a global approach to find a solution. Cyber-attacks are a personal threat to all users of cyberspace, and impose great dangers to nation-states. The course will also examine the role played by nation-states and other stakeholders. The seminar will also consider the concept of cyber-power and cyber-war.

*Professor Dr. Roy Balleste, Director, LL.M. Program in Cybersecurity Law & Policy, St. Thomas University*

### **Incident Response and Crisis Management**

LLMC 307 3 credits

This course is intended as a Capstone for students who have completed Risk Management, Business Continuity and Crisis Management. The course is divided into three modules, each corresponding to a distinct scenario: (1) a data breach involving personal information; (2) the cyber misappropriation of trade secrets and (3) an attack on a critical infrastructure involving both the compromise of IT systems and physical impacts. Students will be required to produce documents, negotiate with cyber criminals, work with forensic teams, and manage internal issues through simulations. This is a practical course, allowing students to gain confidence through real-life

situations and to exchange with various experts as students embark on a new journey as general counsels in charge of navigating these difficult situations. In each of the scenarios, professors will play the roles of management, and students, acting as General Counsel (“GC”), will be expected to interact and inform management of what actions should be taken.

### **Information Security Compliance**

LLMC 308 3 credits

Laws and regulations requiring information security and data privacy protections are created according to industry sector. That means that organizations must review their business operations and the laws and regulations that apply to those operations in order to determine the appropriate data protection requirements that apply to the organization, rather than simply protecting everything in the same way. Laws and regulations may require different protections for the same types of information, which can be difficult to implement. This course will teach the different sources of information security requirements that organizations face, how to pick the correct information security rules applicable to your organization, and how to assure that the organization is complying with those rules.

### **Introduction to Cybersecurity**

LLMC 300A 3 credits

This course provides an introduction to the field of cybersecurity. History, characteristics and models of information and computer security are explored. Topics such as risk management, logical and physical security, continuity, cryptography, and architecture are discussed. The National Institute of Science and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework is introduced as are information security terminology and concepts. Additional areas of study include infrastructure security, cryptography, and operational and organizational security as it relates to network hardware, software and data. Topics include authentication, attacks, intrusion detection, cryptography, disaster recovery and computer forensics regarding networked systems. Also covers identifying an organization’s information assets and the development, documentation and implementation of policies, standards, procedures and guidelines that ensure confidentiality, integrity and availability of those assets. Prepares students to understand the planning, organization and roles of individuals involved in security, to develop security policies, and to utilize management tools to identify threats, classify assets and rate vulnerabilities.

### **Risk Management, Business Continuity and Crisis Management**

LLMC 305A 3 credits

In this practical course, students will be introduced to risk management activities in which legal knowledge can be combined with other expertise to significantly improve organizations’ preparedness for crisis, such as ransomware attacks. Students will benefit from an interdisciplinary approach which will combine legislative knowledge with information security expertise to exemplify how lawyers can significantly contribute to protect their organization by playing a proactive role, including by establishing legal privilege strategies over risk mitigation exercises. In the second part of these courses, students will discover some principles of crisis management, should an incident occur. This course is intended to provide practical knowledge, and students should expect to complete and participate in hands-on activities. Each course includes reading, and

online videos which complete the readings with additional content.

**Seminar Elective(s)** 2 credits

Students will have seminar electives from which to choose for their remaining 2 credits. For purposes of the LL.M., the seminar will require a scholarly research paper of at least 30-pages. Qualifying seminars have to be approved ahead of their offering by the Program Director as consonant with the LL.M. Program.

**Honors**

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 will receive the LL.M. degree *cum laude* (with honors); students with a cumulative GPA of 3.4 will receive the LL.M. degree *magna cum laude* (with high honors); and students with a cumulative GPA of 3.7 will receive the LL.M. degree *summa cum laude* (with highest honors).

**Transfer of Credit**

Generally, the LL.M. Program in Cybersecurity Law and Policy does not accept transfer credits.

The program may accept transfer credits earned in another program offered by an ABA-Accredited Law School. Applicants for admission to the LLM program should request a review of their transcript during the application process.

A maximum of 6 transfer credits may be transferred to the LLM degree, subject to the following conditions:

- All transfer credits are awarded at the sole discretion of the program faculty and the number of transfer credits accepted and applied will be provided in writing prior to enrollment at St. Thomas University.
  - All transfer credits must be for courses relevant and appropriate to the LL.M. Program in Cybersecurity Law and Policy.
  - The grade earned in each course must have been a B or better.
  - Pass/Fail courses are not eligible for transfer credit.
  - The credit(s) sought to be transferred must not have counted toward the completion and award of the JD degree.
  - The applicant must submit an official transcript and description of each course sought to be transferred.
  - Transfer credits must have been earned within 3 years of application for admission to the LLM program.
- Grades for transfer credits will not be reflected in the student's GPA in the LLM program.

**Interruption of Studies and Readmission**

LL.M. students who interrupt their studies may return to continue the program within a maximum period of two years. After that period has expired, their LL.M. student status is terminated. Such students may apply for readmission and may receive credit for their prior studies in the LL.M. program, but only up to a maximum of 12 credits.

## **Administration**

George Perera is the Assistant Director of the Graduate Program in Cybersecurity Law and Policy. He can be reached by e-mail at [gperera2@stu.edu](mailto:gperera2@stu.edu). You may also contact the Admissions Office at (305) 623-2310.

## **LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights**

Anchored in the mission of St. Thomas University and its College of Law, the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights is designed to provide students with top-level knowledge and expertise in the conception, prescription and application of human rights from an intercultural perspective. Means to achieve this goal are (1) a curriculum encompassing foundational courses such as international law in policy-oriented perspective, introduction to human rights law and its ethical moorings, human rights and religion, as well as specialized classes in all areas of human rights law, ranging from universal civil and political rights to economic and social rights, the rights of particularly vulnerable groups such as women, children, and refugees, issues such as international economic law and human rights, international environmental law and human rights, the right to water, international criminal law, humanitarian law, integral human development, human rights lawyering, and the theory and practice of established regional human rights systems in Europe, the Americas and Africa; (2) a global faculty of highest scholarly renown and practical expertise in the field, often hailing from intergovernmental human rights decision-making bodies both at the United Nations and regional levels; and (3) hands-on practical experience in the form of internships.

The program offers 15 courses in human rights specifically developed for the LL.M. program. Most of these courses are concentrated into one week of intensive classes in four evening sessions. Students can also choose from a rich variety of courses in the J.D. curriculum. The LL.M. degree is generally earned in one academic year. It requires completion of 24 academic credits. For details of curriculum, faculty, course calendar as well as program requirements, application forms and procedures, see the program's website at [www.stu.edu/human-rights](http://www.stu.edu/human-rights).

### **Entrance Requirements**

Enrollment for the LL.M. degree is open to holders of a J.D. degree or similar foreign qualifications in the field of law.

On a highly selective basis, admission may also be granted to holders of a bachelor's degree or its foreign equivalent, who have shown an outstanding commitment to the cause of human rights and human dignity. Non-lawyers participating in this program are advised that the program does not prepare for or qualify its students to engage in the practice of law.

The option of taking thirteen elective credits from a variety of domestic law courses offered in the J.D. curriculum as recognized by the Program allows particularly foreign lawyer students to prepare themselves to sit for the bar in various jurisdictions of the U.S.



## **Application Requirements**

Applications require a completed application form, including a personal statement; a resume or curriculum vitae; previous American college and university transcripts and/or certified copies of foreign transcripts, diplomas or certificates; and two letters of recommendation, preferably from a recent professor or employer; and the application fee. All foreign credentials must be evaluated by an approved U.S. Foreign Credentials Evaluation agency.

## **English Language Proficiency**

Regardless of citizenship, applicants whose first language is not English must generally take a TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE exam and meet the minimum scores indicated below.

Exceptions to this policy will be granted to applicants who:

1. Hold a first degree in law from an institution where English is the language of instruction and an official language of the country in which the university is located is English (see complete list of countries eligible for exception below), or
2. Hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from an institution that is accredited by a U.S. regional accrediting agency.

English language test scores may not be more than two years old. Please visit the sites below to arrange for a test date or to request scores to be sent to St. Thomas University School of Law:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The institution code for St. Thomas University School of Law is 5076 and the department code is 03.
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS)
- Pearsons Test of English (PTE)

## **English Language Minimum Scores**

To be considered for admission, the minimum required scores are as follows:

- TOEFL 84 ibt or 563 paper based
- IELTS 6.5
- PTE Academic 56

Please note: The scores above are the minimum scores for admissions consideration. Meeting the minimum score requirement does not guarantee admission to the program.

Countries Eligible for Exception from the above listed requirements:

Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, Cameroon\*, Canada\*, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Micronesia, Montserrat, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Uganda, United Kingdom, Zimbabwe

*\*Applies to applicants whose post-secondary degree is from a university in which English is the language of instruction.*

Alternatively, the Program Administration may assess the English language proficiency of an applicant through personal interviews and writing samples.

### **Costs**

Tuition is \$28,752 per year, equaling \$1,198 per credit. Annual fees for books and materials total \$1,200. Other fixed fees, including the library and student services, total \$500 per year.

Government-subsidized student loans are available to qualifying U.S. persons, and private loans are available to non-U.S. persons who have a qualifying U.S. loan-guarantor. Limited scholarships are available.

### **Student Status**

#### *a. Full-time Students*

A full-time student is defined as one who is enrolled in at least six credits in any one semester. Usually, students will be admitted as full-time students (enrolled in 12 credits per semester) in order to complete the program in one academic year.

#### *b. Part-time Students*

Applicants may be admitted to the program as part-time students. Upon consultation with, and approval by, the Program Directors, they may select their courses and complete them over a period of up to four years. Extensions of this period may be granted in exceptional cases by the Dean of the School of Law. If changes to the curriculum occur during this period of time, the Program Directors will determine, in consultation with the student, which classes of the amended LL.M. curriculum the student will have to enroll in order to attain the full complement of 24 academic credits. In order to apply for financial aid, part-time students must enroll in at least four credits in any one semester.

#### *c. International Students*

International students are defined as students in need of a student visa, i.e. not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. International students have to fulfill the same admissions criteria as U.S. students. In addition, they have to receive an I-20 document from the Office of International Student & Scholar Services, in general, have to obtain proper student visa status prior to entering the country. They may work at the University for a time not exceeding 20 hours a week and are eligible to apply for optional practical training subsequent to completion of their studies in the LL.M. program. Students interested in this option are advised to apply for government approval with the Director of the University's Office of International Students.

### **Attendance**

The School of Law's attendance policy applies to all courses of the LL.M. Program. The Directors of the Program may, in their discretion, excuse non-attendance for compelling reasons. The student asking for such an excuse must submit the compelling reasons in

writing and provide documentation support. Online delivery of classes is governed by the same rules of attendance as the in-person/ on-campus delivery.

### **Examinations and Grading**

Required courses of the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights are generally tested via take-home or online examinations. The text of final examinations is handed out to the students by the end of each class, and each student has to return the completed examination by a date and time certain. Individual faculty retains the right to require in-class examinations.

Professors may give students a paper option in lieu of the examination, or they may allocate a certain percentage of the grade for a paper written in the course. Professors may upgrade students by half a grade point for outstanding classroom performance.

The School of Law's grading curve for electives applies; thus the average of grades for each required and elective class in the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights must range between 2.5 and 3.25.

All other law school regulations regarding examinations apply unless inconsistent with the procedures mentioned above.

### **Graduation Requirements**

Graduation from the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights requires the completion of 24 academic credits in the LL.M. course of study, including all the required courses, and needed elective courses. The student needs to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to graduate. If the student's cumulative GPA falls below that standard at the time of graduation, he/she may take classes related to the program as indicated by the Program Directors and try to obtain the cumulative grade point average of 2.0, but only within a maximum period of two academic years starting from the date of his/her initial enrollment in the program.

The Law School's Grade Replacement Policy also applies to LL.M. students. In addition to this option, if the student has received an "F" in any required or elective course, the student may write a paper in substitution of the failed course, carrying the same number of credits as the failed course. In substance and format, this paper has to fulfill the standards of an independent research project under the supervision of any of the Program Directors or the instructor of the class in which the student received the failing grade. This paper is graded by the supervising professor; it is not subject to approval by the Curriculum Committee or the Dean. This grade replacement policy is a one-time option only. Should the student receive multiple failing grades, the student will still have the option of writing a paper as indicated above, but the failing grade "F" remains in student's transcript in addition to the grade that the students receives in the paper.

There are 11 required credits of course work. Additionally, students have to write a paper in a qualifying seminar offered by the School of Law (2 credits) and enroll in up to 11 credits of LL.M. elective courses or other courses offered by the School of Law to reach the minimum of 24 academic credits overall to earn the LL.M. degree. Qualifying seminars and courses have to be approved ahead of their offering by the Program Directors as consonant with the LL.M. Program.

Instead of the seminar, qualified students may write a thesis specifically for the LL.M. Program. For three credits, the student who chooses to prepare a LL.M. IHR Thesis must write a significant analytical paper in the field of human rights consisting of at least 15,000 words and reflecting substantial legal research, original thought, proper writing style, and correct citation form. The paper should satisfy the above-mentioned criteria and earn a passing grade. A full-time student must finish and submit the LL.M. IHR Thesis to his/her supervisor within the deadline established by the program administration, in the same academic year he or she started.

### **Honors**

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 will receive the LL.M. degree *cum laude* (with honors); students with a cumulative GPA of 3.4 will receive the LL.M. degree *magna cum laude* (with high honors); and students with a cumulative GPA of 3.7 will receive the LL.M. degree *summa cum laude* (with highest honors).

### **Transfer of Credit**

Students who enrolled in classes of the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights as part of St. Thomas University's J.D. program will receive credit for their classes in the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights with full quality points. The Program Directors may allow other pertinent classes of the St. Thomas Law curriculum to be recognized this way as well. In any event, no more than 12 credits will be given for any St. Thomas J.D. classes taken prior to matriculation into the LL.M. program. Recognition and transfer of credits from institutions outside of St. Thomas University School of Law is limited to a maximum of 6 credits.

If a foreign lawyer taking the LL.M. program successfully satisfies the writing requirement for the LL.M. program in one of the approved seminar classes and then *subsequently* gets admitted into the J.D. program, when the transfer credits from the LL.M. Program are accepted towards the J.D. program, the student will also be considered to have satisfied the "Intensive Writing Requirement" for the J.D. program. He or she will not be required to take another seminar. This rule does not apply to LL.M. students without a prior law degree.

To the extent allowed by ABA standards, rules, and policy, any successfully completed course taken as part of this program as a J.D. or LL.M. student will be accepted by St. Thomas University School of Law for credit toward the J.D. degree.

### **Interruption of Studies and Readmission**

LL.M. students who interrupt their studies may return to continue the program within a maximum period of two years after the end of their last semester of enrollment. After that period has expired, their LL.M. student status is terminated. Such students may apply for readmission and may receive some credit for their prior studies in the LL.M. program. The number of credits recognized will depend on the length of time since last matriculation as well as any changes in the curriculum. In any event, such credit will be limited to a maximum of 6 credits.

## **Administration**

*Professor Siegfried Wiessner* is Professor of Law and the Director of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights. He also serves as the Academic Director of the St. Thomas University Human Rights Institute. He can be reached by e-mail at [swiessner@stu.edu](mailto:swiessner@stu.edu), by phone at (305) 623-2305, and by fax at (305) 474-2413.

*Professor Roza Pati* is Professor of Law and the Executive Director of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights. She is also the Founder and Director of The John J. Brunetti Human Trafficking Academy. Professor Pati administers the LL.M. Program from admission until after graduation. She can be reached by e-mail at [rpati@stu.edu](mailto:rpati@stu.edu), by phone at (305) 474-2447, and by fax at (305) 474-2413.

*Mrs. Haydee Gonzalez* is the Program Manager of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights. She provides administrative support for all functions of the program, including interaction with students from the stages of inquiry and application to acceptance, education and graduation, as well as record-keeping and interdepartmental coordination. She also serves as liaison with the Administration and with the Office of International Student & Scholar Services. She can be reached by e-mail at [hgonzalez@stu.edu](mailto:hgonzalez@stu.edu), by phone at (305) 474-2403, and by fax at (305) 474-2413.

## **Curriculum**

The Master of Laws in Intercultural Human Rights degree program is completed in 24 credits over two semesters, and offers a wide variety of courses for students to choose from. Four required LL.M. courses comprise eleven of these 24 credits; eleven other elective one-week courses were developed specifically for the LL.M. program. In addition, students have to fulfill a writing requirement generally completed by enrolling in a 2-credit J.D. seminar approved by the Program Directors, and they may take up to eleven elective credits from a variety of international and domestic law courses offered in the J.D. curriculum as recognized by the Program Directors, allowing foreign lawyer students, if they so desire, to prepare themselves to sit for the bar in various jurisdictions of the U.S.

## **FALL 2021 REQUIRED COURSES**

### **International Law**

LLM 700 (LAW 700) 3 Credits

This is a general course in public international law. It focuses on the process of making and implementing lawful international decisions. The emphasis is on the sources of international law - treaties, customary international law and general principles of law -- and the many roles of the nation-state, its establishment, transformation and termination, as well as the regulation of protection and control of resources, as well as persons, via the mechanisms of nationality and human rights. The subject-matter of this course will be delivered through lectures *ex cathedra* and applications of the Socratic style, power point presentations and practice exercises. International law is too vast a field to cover comprehensively in one course, but this class will familiarize you with the basic concepts of international law and will serve as springboard for those who, later, will need or might wish to explore in greater depth areas such as international criminal law, international environmental law, international corporate practice, the law of the sea, etc. It is a dynamic field that intersects ever more with other fields of law. Living in

an increasingly inter-connected world, whether your career goals include working for the government, inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, or being a local prosecutor, a corporate attorney or a civil rights activist, you must have a thorough grounding in international law. This course will help you identify the concepts and acquire the skills necessary for influencing future decisions in the range of arenas in which international lawyers must operate--parliamentary, diplomatic, business, criminal and civil litigation, judicial and arbitral practice -- nationally and internationally.

*Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati, Professor of Law and Executive Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights; Director, Human Trafficking Academy, St. Thomas University*

### **The International Bill of Rights**

LLM 411A (LAW 411A) 3 Credits

This introductory course on the International Law of Human Rights provides an overview of the standards, structures, and procedures designed to effectuate the international protection of human rights. The course primarily addresses the sources and processes of making international human rights law, encompassing universal and regional legal systems of human rights protection. The International Bill of Rights is commonly defined as encompassing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and the twin Covenants on Civil and Political Rights as well as Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966. Starting from this normative framework, the scope of the Covenant rights as well as the duties of the States parties will be discussed. The course will also analyze the distinction between United Nations treaty bodies entrusted with monitoring and enforcing human rights obligations under various conventions, and United Nations Charter bodies, including the Human Rights Council, with its procedure of universal periodic review, as well as the Security Council and the issue of humanitarian intervention. An overview will be given of international criminal law, humanitarian law and their crossroads with the international law of human rights as well as the roles played by nation-state governments, non-governmental organizations and individual actors.

*Professor Dr. iur. Siegfried Wiessner, Professor of Law and Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights, St. Thomas University*

*His Excellency Ambassador Ahmed Fathalla, Chair (2019-2020), United Nations Human Rights Committee\* (The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights)*

*The Honorable Virgínia Brás Gomes, Chair (2018), United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights\* (The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)*

## **FALL 2021 LL.M. CORE ELECTIVES**

### **Ethical Moorings: Philosophical and Religious Foundations**

LLM 420 (LAW 420) 1 Credit

This course explores the religious and philosophical roots of the development of human rights, ranging from natural law in the Aristotelian, Thomist and Kantian tradition to more pragmatic philosophies designed to bring about a public order of human dignity.

*Professor John Makdisi, S.J.D., Ph.D., Professor of Law Emeritus, St. Thomas University*

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\* Guest Lecturer

\* Guest Lecturer

### **International Economic Law and Human Rights**

LLM 405 – 1 Credit

The principal objective of this course is to analyze the process of transformation of international economic law and to assess what has been achieved in light of ever more important concerns relating to the effective protection of human rights. Special emphasis will be put on the World Bank, the IMF, the WTO, the OECD, and the EU. Economic freedoms such as the freedoms of establishment, movement of persons, goods, services, and capital will be discussed, just as the content and impact of economic, social, labor as well as civil and political rights.

*Professor Craig Hammer, Program Manager, Development Economics & Secretary, Development Data Council, The World Bank*

### **Human Rights Lawyering {S}**

LLM 423 (LAW 423) 1 Credit

This course will provide students with hands-on instruction in the representation of victims of human rights abuses, the litigation of pertinent issues, and the public advocacy and litigation of human rights concerns.

*The Honorable Robert R. Lung, District Court Judge, 18th Judicial Circuit of Colorado, Chair (2018-2020) and Member of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, Castle Rock, Colorado*

### **Human Rights and Religion**

LLM 401 (LAW 401) 1 Credit

This course will explore the parameters of the essential norms of religious human rights -- liberty of conscience, religious pluralism and equality, free exercise of religion, nondiscrimination on religious grounds, autonomy for religious groups. Individual religious rights include the right to change one's religion, to proselytize, and to reject one's religion; allied rights include freedom of speech, association, and travel. While these are civil and political in nature, the rights of religious minorities are social and cultural (and possibly economic). These norms will be explored from various religious and nonreligious perspectives with a view to understanding the religious rights of men, women and children individually as well as the rights of religious groups in the formation and protection of a cultural heritage.

*Professor Gordon Butler, Professor of Law, St. Thomas University*

## **SPRING 2022 REQUIRED COURSES**

### **Armed Conflict and Individual Liability**

LLM 416A (LAW 416A) 2 Credits

This course explores issues of humanitarian law, i.e. the law of armed conflict, faced by professionals of war, relief workers, humanitarian organizations and others working in complex emergencies. Students will explore and analyze emerging and controversial aspects of law and policy. With the proliferation of conflicts around the globe, humanitarian organizations are being forced into new and unfamiliar territory. Increasingly, humanitarian professionals are attempting to provide relief in settings of diminished security and are grappling with the growing involvement of non-state actors - from rebel groups to private corporations to humanitarian organizations themselves - in situations of armed conflict.

This course also explores novel issues of criminal liability under international law, resulting from war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, and the crimes of aggression. It examines substantive elements of such crimes; jurisdictional elements of domestic and international law over international criminal activities; the implications of international cooperation in criminal matters, such as extradition and mutual legal assistance; and the history, practice, and impact of international war crimes tribunals, including the International Criminal Court under the Statute of Rome.

*Professor Toni Pfanner, Ph.D. (Econ.),\* Visiting Professor, College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium; former Chief Legal Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross;*

*Professor Dr. Fausto Pocar,\* Professor of International Law, University of Milan, Italy; Member, Appeals Chamber, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (since 2000); President, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (2005-2008); Member, United Nations Human Rights Committee (1984-2000)*

*Professor Dr. iur. Siegfried Wiessner, Professor of Law and Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights*

### **Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection**

LLM 421 (LAW 421) 3 Credits

This course will provide students with an introduction to the substantive norms of human rights in the inter-American, the European and the African systems of human rights protection, the main theoretical issues concerning the nature and scope of rights that appear in conventional instruments, and the diverse procedures available at the regional level for defense and protection of human rights.

#### ***a) The Inter-American System of Human Rights Protection***

This part of the course will provide students with an introduction to the substantive norms of human rights in the Inter-American system, the main theoretical issues concerning the nature and scope of rights that appear in conventional instruments, the diverse procedures available at the regional level for defense and protection of human rights, and the ways in which policymakers in the countries of the Western Hemisphere attempt to reconcile the demand for enforcement of human rights with current foreign policy objectives.

*Professor Viviana Krstičević, Executive Director, Center for Justice and International Law, Washington, D.C.*

#### ***b) The European System of Human Rights Protection***

This part of the course will give an overview of the 1950 European Convention on Human Rights and its procedural as well as substantive guarantees. The Convention is applied by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France. In the last half-century the Court has developed its own rich jurisprudence. Its doctrines cover the right to life, the prohibition of torture, slavery and forced labor, criminal procedure and the principle of legality, privacy and family law issues, freedoms of speech, of press, of assembly and association, equal protection,

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\* Guest Lecturer

\* Guest Lecturer



right to property, prohibition of death penalty, right to free elections, etc.

*Professor Federico Lenzerini, \* Professor of Law, University of Siena, Italy, and Consultant to UNESCO, Paris*

### ***c) The African System of Human Rights Protection***

This part of the course will examine the practice of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) regarding the review of individual and NGOs complaints, with a case study of the implementation of the right to a fair trial, since it has developed an important case law on this guarantee. The course will also deal with the development of in-site investigations and thematic procedures, especially those relating to the mandates and work of the Special Rapporteur on extra-judicial, summary and arbitrary executions and of the Special Rapporteur on the conditions of prisons in Africa. The course will conclude with an evaluation of the work done by the ACHPR under its protective mandate and a consideration on its future role in the context of the establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

*Professor Abadir Ibrahim, J.S.D., Associate Director, Human Rights Program, Harvard Law School.*

## **SPRING 2022 LL.M. CORE ELECTIVES**

### **Human Rights and the Environment**

LLM 418 (LAW 418) 1 Credit

This course looks at the linkages between human rights and the environment, how such linkages can assist efforts to protect both human rights and the environment, and what further collaboration between these two fields might be pursued. This includes discussion of specific human rights that implicate the environment and the cases interpreting such rights, the use of the United Nations and regional human rights systems, as well as national courts, for enforcing human rights to protect environmental interests, and how human rights may be applied directly to corporations to protect the environment.

*Professor Cosmin Corendea, Professor of Law & Vice Dean, O.P. Jindal University School of Environment and Sustainability, Delhi, India*

*Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati, Professor of Law and Executive Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights; Director, Human Trafficking Academy, St. Thomas University*

### **Women's Rights and the Rights of the Child**

LLM 422 (LAW 422) 1 Credit

This course explores issues arising from the universal and regional legal instruments designed to protect the rights of women and the rights of the child, including, but not limited to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as their various protocols.

#### ***a) Women's Human Rights***

While human rights law has become a staple in legal discourse, women's human

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\* Guest Lecturer

rights still lack this universal recognition. Human rights violations of women tend to be recognized only if such violations resemble those of men. Women who are tortured for their political beliefs are granted the same protections as men in the same position. However, if the abuse takes other, gender-specific forms, such as rape and forced impregnation, involves non-political, i.e., social and economic rights, or is inflicted by private rather than governmental actors, human rights protections are being disregarded. In part this is a function of the universal subjugation of women; in part it is a function of the current human rights system which values male-identified rights, i.e., political rights, above others and focuses on abuses by governmental actors. Because of the general disregard of women's rights it is important to highlight the particular issues women face which involve violations of human rights. Such violations occur in the United States as well as internationally. In some cases women are treated differently even though there is no justifiable gender-based reason; in others women are treated the same as men even though unequal treatment would be more appropriate; in a third group of cases women are treated (un)equally because of a perceived gender difference.

### ***b) Human Rights of the Child***

This part of the course will consider issues and problems affecting children in light of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child and related protocols, its background, and its normative policy dimensions. It considers the identification of the child as the holder of certain rights, with the grant of procedural status to assert these rights in appropriate domestic judicial and administrative proceedings. It treats the substance of the Convention alongside implementation of its provisions and the guiding principles of interpretation and construction of the child's "best interests", the "evolving capacities of the child", and equality in treatment (non-discrimination). It also addresses a variety of situations identified by the human rights community as making children especially defenseless, and discusses the child's means of international protection.

*Professor Nora V. Demleitner, former Dean and Roy L. Steinheimer, Jr. Professor of Law, Washington & Lee University School of Law*

### **The Right to Integral Human Development**

LLM 411B 1 Credit

This course analyzes the right to development as a human right, the notion of sustainable development, and the search for a new model of development that integrates, links and promotes dialogue amongst various social systems in order to achieve a development that is "founded on the dignity and freedom of every human person, to be brought about in peace, justice and solidarity." Integral human development includes the idea of development as freedom, affording the material and spiritual resources that allow every human being to flourish.

*Dr. Christine Jeangey, Dicastery for Integral Human Development, The Vatican\**

*Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati, Professor of Law and Executive Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights; Director, Human Trafficking Academy, St. Thomas University*

### **The Right to Water and Sanitation**

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\* Guest Lecturer

### LLM 418A 1 Credit

This course addresses water as the source of life, considering that the right to drinking water and sanitation is unquestionably a human right, without distinction of any kind: race, color, sex, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. The human right to water is inextricably linked to the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as to the right to life and human dignity, and constitutes a prerequisite for the realization of other human rights and integral human development.

*Dr. Tebaldo Vinciguerra, Dicastery for Integral Human Development, The Vatican\**

*Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati, Professor of Law and Executive Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights; Director, Human Trafficking Academy, St. Thomas University*

### **Human Rights in States of Emergency**

#### LLM 416B 1 Credit

The COVID-19 crisis has created an unprecedented disturbance in the enjoyment and the realization of human rights. Rights of the individual have been curtailed on account of a national emergency, to pursue the legitimate aim of securing public health. International human rights law foresees limitations on rights under very strict criteria. However, many times there is a clash between rights. This course addresses human rights in extreme situations, real or claimed, that pose a threat to a country's or its people's survival. This involves situations such as war and other man-made attacks, natural disasters and pandemics. The issues are whether, and to what extent, the peacetime structure and content of human rights survive the actual and claimed fundamental crisis. The course will draw a comparison of standards and their application through examples including inter-state war, terrorism, earthquakes, with a particular emphasis on the present COVID-19 crisis.

*Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati, Professor of Law and Executive Director, Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights, St. Thomas University*

### **LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights Thesis**

#### LLM 424 3 Credits

Instead of taking a two-credit seminar, students may write a three-credit thesis specifically for the LL.M. Program, on a topic of his or her choice in the field of human rights. The thesis should consist of a minimum of 15,000 words. Students arrange the supervision of their papers with one of the members of the law faculty who have indicated their willingness to serve as supervisors.

### **LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights Externship**

#### LLM 425 3 Credits

This is a single semester externship which, in 12 hours per week, provides opportunities for students of the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights to observe and participate in the activities of organizations dedicated to the fostering of human rights. Typical placements are NGOs, other organizations, or university or state and local governmental entities set up to promote the public interest. Participation in this program will provide students with the opportunity to contribute directly to making a positive social impact in disadvantaged communities and for vulnerable people. Students will work either directly in educational programming, or in operations of the

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\* Guest Lecturer

organization. Supervision is provided by experienced attorneys in the field, who will also measure and grade the student's performance.

For the course calendar and other information, please visit the program's website at <http://www.stu.edu/humanrights>; or contact the Program Manager by e-mail at [humanrights@stu.edu](mailto:humanrights@stu.edu), by phone at (305) 474-2403, or by fax at (305) 474-2413.

## J.S.D. IN INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS

The J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights aims at providing a premier opportunity for promising human rights scholars to make a lasting contribution to the dynamic and action-oriented field of human rights through researching, analyzing and offering solutions to pertinent cutting-edge issues both globally and domestically. In particular, the J.S.D. program will be a powerful tool in meeting the diverse interests and career aims of the top quality students.

As any thesis-based doctoral degree, the J.S.D. in Intercultural Human Rights is the capstone academic achievement indicating ultimate academic specialization and original contribution in the chosen field. Its emphasis is on the imparting, analysis, elaboration and dissemination of knowledge about human rights in the world social process, and the development of recommended solutions to societal problems through interdisciplinary, problem- and policy-oriented research. Intercultural dialogue facilitates this research; it is enhanced by the diversity conspicuous not only in the student body, but also the program faculty as established in the residential LL.M. IHR Program.

### Eligibility

Students must have graduated with honors from St. Thomas University's LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights, i.e. with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0. In rare cases, outstanding scholars from other institutions who hold an LL.M. degree in the field may be admitted as well, conditional upon enrollment in, and completion of, certain specified courses of the LL.M. IHR program. Candidates for the J.S.D. program need to prove to the School of Law's J.S.D. Committee that they are outstanding scholars at or near the top of their class who are capable of producing a publishable thesis that adds to the knowledge in the field, and who are capable of doing so within the time frame of the J.S.D. program.

At least two terms of full-time work must be spent in residence at the School. This requirement may be satisfied by residence as an LL.M. candidate. In these cases, at least two additional years must be devoted to the preparation and revision of the dissertation. These additional years may be passed in residence or off campus, including outside of the United States. J.S.D. students admitted from other institutions have to spend at least one academic year in residence at St. Thomas University School of Law, and they have to enroll in, and pass, a minimum of twelve (12) credits, up to a maximum of twenty-two (22) credits, from among the required classes of the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

The J.S.D. degree in Intercultural Human Rights is conferred upon successful completion of a dissertation, the passing of the *rigorosum*, and proof of publication of the dissertation.

### Admissions Process

Applicants for admission to the J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights need to submit the following documents:

- (1) Completed J.S.D. Application Form

- (2) For St. Thomas LL.M. Graduates: LL.M. IHR Transcript
- (3) For non-St. Thomas LL.M. Graduates: Official transcripts from all college/university and/or certified foreign diplomas or certificates are to be sent directly from the issuing institution to St. Thomas University School of Law, LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights. All foreign diplomas and transcripts should be translated into English and certified or notarized. All foreign credentials must be evaluated by a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) [www.NACES.org](http://www.naces.org) or the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC), at:

<http://www.lsac.org/jd/applying-to-law-school/cas> .

- (4) Writing Sample (e.g. LL.M. thesis, seminar paper)

- (5) Doctoral Dissertation Proposal consisting of:

- a. Outline of the chosen topic; issues to be explored
- b. An articulation of the topic's novelty
- c. An initial bibliography
- d. Methodology to be employed
- e. A time frame for the stages and places of research as well as the estimated date of completion of the manuscript
- f. Length: at least five (5) pages

- (6) Letter of Acceptance of Candidate and Topic by Supervising Faculty Member

Note:

- a. it is the applicant's responsibility to find and contact the potential supervisor, either one from the list we have provided or another scholar with expertise in the field of the student's dissertation topic, and who has already earned a doctorate degree him- or herself. The supervisor's doctorate can be a J.S.D., S.J.D., Ph.D., Dr. iur. or equivalent.
- b. The potential supervisor must have approved the topic and the dissertation proposal, before it can be submitted to the J.S.D. Committee.

- (7) One Letter of Recommendation

- (8) \$100 Non-Refundable Application Fee

The Director of the Program reviews all the completed applications. All eligible applications will be submitted for decision to a J.S.D. Committee formed by the Director and the Executive Director of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

### **Additional Requirement for Non-St. Thomas Applicants**

In the case of non-St. Thomas applicants, the potential applicant is expected to consult with the Directors of the Program, in person or telephonically, prior to submitting his/her application, to determine whether the program meets the applicant's needs, whether the nature of the program fits the applicant's profile, and whether the applicant's academic background and experience fit the program's requirements. Admitted non-St. Thomas applicants must satisfy the one-year residency requirement and take a minimum of 12 and a maximum of 22 credits of course work.

### **Admissions Decisions**

The applicants with the most original proposals, strongest academic records and

promise of achievement are admitted to the Program.

Upon the decision of the J.S.D. Committee, an admission letter signed by the Director of the Program is mailed to the admitted students. Students who are not admitted to the program receive a letter denying their admission.

### **Enrollment Process**

A student who has been advised of his/her admission receives a Registration Form. Information regarding requirements to establish and maintain J.S.D. student status, deadlines for registration, and deadlines for pertinent payments is also included in this communication.

### **Students**

A J.S.D. student is defined as one who is enrolled in a J.S.D. thesis course for a minimum of two (2) years, and a maximum of five (5) years. In exceptional cases, the Directors of the Program can extend this period to six (6) years; for an extension beyond six years, the approval by both the Directors of the Program and the Dean of the College of Law is needed.

### **Registration**

J. S.D. students with no outstanding balance from the previous semester are automatically registered in the following semester, upon certification by the supervisor that the student has made sufficient progress toward completing the thesis.

It is the student's responsibility each end of semester:

- 1. to obtain the certification of progress by the supervisor*
- 2. to make sure they have cleared any and all financial obligations to St. Thomas University.*

Failure to enroll continuously in this program at any time and in any semester before its completion will be deemed a resignation from the J.S.D. program. Leaves of absence are not to be granted.

The J.S.D. thesis course is valued at nine (9) credits per semester (fall and spring only). This course is pass/fail. In order to receive a passing grade in this class, the thesis supervisor needs to submit a statement to the Registrar's Office that the J.S.D. IHR student has made sufficient progress toward completion of his/her thesis. Insufficient progress will result in student's dismissal from the program. Students who have to satisfy the residency requirement will also be registered for respective course work in addition to the J.S.D. Thesis course. All course work is graded.

### **Termination and Withdrawal**

A student intending to resign from the program must express such intent in writing before the semester starts, by submitting a letter of withdrawal to the Program Director. Failure to submit the resignation request before the semester starts does not remove the student's financial responsibility for that semester.

Students who have failed to obtain the declaration of progress by their supervisor or

who have failed to clear their financial obligations to St. Thomas University by the end of the semester are automatically excluded from registration for the subsequent semester, and their student status is terminated.

Should a student be terminated on the above grounds, the student will have to re-apply for admission to the J.S.D. program, and if admitted will be subject to all rules and policies as a first-time admitted student would.

### **Tuition and Fees**

The application fee is \$100. The program's tuition has been fixed at \$3,850 and its fees at \$250 per semester. Once their thesis is completed and submitted, students are charged a submission fee of \$4,000 designed to cover the costs of the two opinions on the thesis as well as the *rigorosum*. Students are responsible for the publication of the dissertation, as well as the costs thereof, in a format and venue approved by the J.S.D. Admissions Committee. If the student submits the dissertation after a semester has started, the regular semester charges will apply, and the submission fee of \$4,000 will be charged to the student's account in the semester immediately following the submission of the dissertation.

### **Academic Evaluation**

Towards completion of the requirements, the J.S.D. candidate has to submit a publishable manuscript of no less than 75,000 words on his/her chosen topic (the dissertation) to his or her supervisor. Footnotes are included in this word count. The format of this paper should be in Times New Roman font, size 12, and 1.5 spacing, with one inch space left on both left and right margins. It must include a cover page and a Table of Contents. All footnotes must comply with The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citations. Upon approval of the draft by the supervisor as final, the student will submit two bound copies of the manuscript to the Directors of the Program.

**First Evaluation:** The supervisor will submit a substantive report on the dissertation, including the determination of a grade from a slate ranging from *summa cum laude* (highest honors), to *magna cum laude* (high honors), to *cum laude* (honors), to *rite* (pass), and *insufficienter* (fail). Upon completion of the review, the supervisor will forward his/her evaluation and the dissertation to the Directors of the J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

**Second Evaluation:** The Directors of the J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights will appoint a second evaluator who will appraise the thesis on its academic merit, submit a substantive evaluation report, and assign a grade from the range of *summa cum laude* to *insufficienter*. The supervising professor, the second grader of the dissertation as well as the members of the *rigorosum* committee should hold the academic equivalent of a J.S.D., S.J.D., Dr. iur. or Ph.D. degree.

The substantive reports of both the first and the second evaluator should point out concretely the degree of mastery of the subject-matter by the student, the exhaustiveness *vel non* of his/her research, his/her analytical depth, his/her style, but most importantly, the novelty of the contribution made by the dissertation to the knowledge in the field.



**Rigorosum:** Upon receipt of the second opinion, and both evaluators agreeing that the thesis merits at least a passing grade, the J.S.D. Committee will schedule a *rigorosum*. The *rigorosum* is about one-hour defense of the thesis before a committee of three qualifying faculty. In this defense, not just issues pertaining to the topic of the dissertation, but all issues relating to the field of human rights law and policy constitute legitimate subject-matters of questioning. The *rigorosum* committee, in its discretion, may extend the time of questioning beyond one hour. The *rigorosum* committee will determine the *rigorosum* grade from the range of *summa cum laude* to *insufficenter*.

The grades of the first and the second evaluator as well as the *rigorosum* must all be *rite* (pass) or above. They each count one-third toward the final grade, i.e. the grades of each of the three parts of the evaluation will be added up and divided by three to arrive at the final grade for the J.S.D. degree. To facilitate this count, the J.S.D. grades are given the following numerical values:

<i>summa cum laude</i>	=	5.0	(denoting an exceptional academic performance)
<i>magna cum laude</i>	=	4.0	(denoting a very good performance)
<i>cum laude</i>	=	3.0	(denoting an above average performance)
<i>rite</i>	=	2.0	(denoting a passing performance)
<i>insufficenter</i>	=	0.0	(denoting a failing performance)

In line with the J.D. program, grades can only be changed by the Dean or Associate Dean of the College of Law in case of arithmetical error by a faculty member, upon that faculty member's request.

**Timeframe:** The Evaluation Process may take up to two semesters from the semester when the student has submitted the dissertation as final, and the supervisor has accepted it as such.

### Readmission

The J.S.D. candidate has to enroll in a J.S.D. thesis course for a minimum of two (2) years, and a maximum of five (5) years. Failure to enroll in this continuing course at any time and in any semester before the completion of the program, *OR* receipt of a failing grade in any semester due to lack of sufficient progress toward the completion of the thesis *OR* the unauthorized failure to fulfill the financial obligations toward St. Thomas University before the end of the semester in which they are currently enrolled will be deemed a resignation from the J.S.D. program. Once such a resignation has occurred, the candidate may reapply for admission, which will be decided upon by the J.S.D. Admissions Committee. If admitted, the student will be bound by the two-year minimum/five year maximum rule, as all newly admitted students.

### Graduation Requirements

- (a) The candidate must pass the two evaluations as well as the *rigorosum* and have a final grade.
- (b) The dissertation must be published. In order of preference, the best venue of publication is a recognized academic publisher or a university press with global or national reputation and distribution. The next venue would be publication by a commercial press. The least preferable venue would be ProQuest or a similar

recognized academic venue which would receive a PDF version of the final edited version of the thesis as approved by the Directors, but manufacture copies only upon prepayment or on demand.

- (c) The Directors have to approve a candidate's planned publication venue prior to its being chosen. If that prior approval is not secured, the degree may not be granted.
- (d) Upon approval of the publication venue, and in the case of publication with a recognized academic publishing house, a university press, a commercial publisher, or ProQuest, publication is considered proven by the submission of a signed and binding publication contract.
- (e) The final publication must contain a reference to St. Thomas University in the first page at "Acknowledgments." The suggested language is as follows: "*This book is an edited and updated version of my J.S.D. thesis in Intercultural Human Rights at St. Thomas University in Miami, Florida.*" This acknowledgment constitutes a condition on the publication attached to the granting of the J.S.D. degree, and if violated, the J.S.D. Committee may revoke the degree.
- (f) Regardless of what publication venue is being chosen, candidates have to submit, within two months of publication, five printed copies of the published book to the J.S.D. Committee. If this condition is violated, the J.S.D. Committee may revoke the degree.

### **Teaching and Research Methodology**

Every student admitted to the J.S.D. program will be supervised by a qualifying faculty member, who agrees, in advance, to this assignment. The supervising professor should hold the academic equivalent of a J.S.D., S.J.D., Dr. iur. or Ph.D. degree him- or herself. The supervising professors will be either qualifying St. Thomas University College of Law professors or select faculty outside of St. Thomas University willing to serve, if appropriate, as supervisors/graders of J.S.D. theses in Intercultural Human Rights.

In-house professors will be available as supervisors as agreed upon with J.S.D. candidates. Outside professor-supervisors will come to Miami at least once a year, as they often teach in the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights, enabling students in Miami to get in touch with them at our place of instruction. As the usual time of completion of thesis is three years, the students would thus meet personally with their supervisor at least three times. Also, modern means of communication such as e-mail, Zoom, Internet chat, fax, and telephone allow for constant and even instantaneous academic exchanges. The crowning task of the doctoral candidate will be the defense of his/her thesis against the challenges of a three-member faculty committee, including the supervisor, in a one-hour oral interchange, i.e. the *rigorosum*. The *rigorosum* may also test the candidate on his knowledge of the general field of human rights law and policy.

The law library with its extensive holdings in the fields of international law and human rights is available for use by the students. With regard to materials needed to be online for the benefit of graduate IHR students, St. Thomas University College of Law has made arrangements to provide access to the electronic databases that are normally used in its J.D. program.

## Administrative Oversight

In terms of University structure, the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights is a program of the College of Law and its faculty. The J.S.D. program is one component of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

The Directors of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights, **Professor Dr. iur. Siegfried Wiessner** and **Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati** oversee and implement the program. A full-time Program Manager, **Mrs. Haydee Gonzalez**, complements the administration.

## Faculty

The Faculty of the J.S.D. program has been carefully chosen for its unique combination of academic credentials and expertise with the practical experience in the field. Every student admitted to the J.S.D. program will be supervised by a qualifying faculty member, who has to agree, in advance, to this assignment. As far as qualifying faculty is concerned, the core of it is the faculty and guest lecturers of the LL.M. program. The supervising professor should hold the academic equivalent of a J.S.D., Dr. iur., or Ph.D. degree him- or herself.

**Professor W. Michael Reisman**, Myres S. McDougal Professor of Law at the Yale Law School, distinguished scholar of international law and jurisprudence, has published more than 20 books and more than 200 articles. He is one of the co-founders of the policy-oriented approach to law, which inspires this program. Professor Reisman has also served as President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. He has given overall guidance and will provide continued support to the J.S.D. program.

*Key faculty and potential supervisors include:*

**Professor Emeritus Dr. iur. Eckart Klein** of the University of Potsdam, Germany law faculty, is the leading German scholar in the field of human rights and a past member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

**His Excellency Judge Dr. Fausto Pocar** is Professor of International Law Emeritus, University of Milan, Italy and a former Member of the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. He also served as President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) (2005-2008) and Chairman of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (1984-2000). He is the Guest Lecturer on *International Criminal Law* within the class on *Armed Conflict and Individual Liability*.

**Professor Toni Pfanner, Ph.D. (Econ.)**, Visiting Professor, College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium, is the former Chief Legal Advisor to the ICRC, a key actor in the implementation of international humanitarian law, and the former Editor of the *International Review of the Red Cross*. He has, inter alia, taught courses in the UN/UNITAR International Law Fellowship Programme at The Hague. He is the Guest Lecturer on *Humanitarian Law* within the class on *Armed Conflict and Individual Liability*.

**Craig Hammer, S.J.D.**, is Program Manager at the World Bank, and Secretary of the

World Bank's Development Data Council. He specializes in evidence-based governance reforms, with particular emphasis on open government and open data initiatives. His work at the World Bank has included strengthening institutions, laws, policies, and technical capacity focused on data-driven decision-making for pro-poor public service delivery in more than 30 countries around the world. He holds an S.J.D. degree from the University of Maine and a J.D. degree from the University of Florida. He is the Guest Lecturer in the class on *International Economic Law and Human Rights*.

**Professor Dr. iur. Markus Krajewski** is Chair of Public Law and International Law at the Friedrich Alexander University Faculty of Law and Economics in Erlangen, Germany. Prof. Krajewski is one of the programme directors of the MA in Human Rights and chairperson of the Interdisciplinary Research Centre for Human Rights Erlangen-Nürnberg (CHREN). He also chairs the Board of Trustees of the German Institute for Human Rights and is Secretary-General of the German Branch of the International Law Association. He was a Guest Lecturer in the class on *International Economic Law and Human Rights*.

**Professor Tiyanjana Maluwa, Ph.D. (Cantab.)** is the H. Laddie Montague Chair in Law & Associate Dean for International Affairs, Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law. He previously worked as the legal counsel of the OAU (now African Union) and, subsequently, as Legal Adviser to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. He has been teaching the class on *The African System of Human Rights Protection*.

**Professor Adeno Addis, J.S.D.** is the W. Ray Forrester Professor of Public and Constitutional Law at Tulane Law School. He has widely published in the fields of international law and legal theory.

**Professor Cosmin Corendea, S.J.D.** is Professor of Law and Vice-Dean, School of Environment and Sustainability at O.P. Jindal Global University (Delhi, India) and Professor of Law of the United Nations University of Peace in San José, Costa Rica. He also served as Associate Academic Officer and Legal Expert at the Institute for Environment and Human Security, United Nations University, and Legal Officer for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. His publications focus on the consequences of climate change for global migration in the general context of human rights. He is the Guest Lecturer in the class on *Human Rights and the Environment*.

**Professor John Makdisi, S.J.D., Ph.D.** is Emeritus Professor of Law and the former Dean of St. Thomas University College of Law, under whose direction the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights was established. He has written extensively on Islamic law and American property law. His book-length article on *The Islamic Origins of the Common Law*, 77 N. CAR. L. REV. 1635 (1999), offers a startling new theory for connections between Islam and the West. He also has an expertise in moral theology. His Ph.D. dissertation on THE OBJECT OF THE MORAL ACT: UNDERSTANDING ST. THOMAS AQUINAS THROUGH THE WORK OF STEVEN LONG AND MARTIN RHONHEIMER (Proquest 2017) offers new insights into moral action theory. Professor Makdisi served as dean of The University of Tulsa College of Law (1991-1994), Loyola University New Orleans School of Law (1996-1999), and St. Thomas University School of Law (1999-2003). He teaches the class on *Ethical Moorings*.

**Professor Alfred Light, Ph.D.** is Emeritus Professor of Law at St. Thomas University. He has published numerous books and articles in the areas of federalism and intergovernmental relations, constitutional law, and environmental law. He is active in various bar associations and currently serves as the liaison of the American Bar Association's Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources to its Standing Committee on Specialization. He has been teaching the class on *Human Rights and the Environment*.

**Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati** is a Professor of Law at St. Thomas University College of Law, Executive Director of its LL.M./J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights, and Founder and Director of The John J. Brunetti Human Trafficking Academy. She is a former Member of Parliament and Cabinet Member -- Secretary of State for Youth and Women -- in the Government of Albania, and is a Member of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development at The Vatican. She has written in the field of international law, international criminal law, human rights law and human trafficking law. She teaches *International Law, Human Trafficking Law & Policy, International Cybersecurity Law, and Human Rights Law*.

**Professor Amy Ronner, Ph.D.** is a Professor Emerita of Law at St. Thomas University. She is the creator, and has been, till 1999, also the Director of the St. Thomas University College of Law's Appellate Litigation Clinic. She is well-published in her field with several books and articles.

**Professor Dr. iur. Siegfried Wiessner** is a Professor of Law and the Director of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights. He has published widely in the fields of international law, constitutional law and jurisprudence; he lectured in the UN/UNITAR International Law Fellowship Programmes at The Hague and Tehran. With W. Michael Reisman, he has published the leading casebook on INTERNATIONAL LAW IN CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVE (Foundation Press, 2004). Recently, he published GENERAL THEORY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW (BRILL-Nijhoff 2017). He teaches *Constitutional Law, The First Amendment, The International Bill of Rights* and seminars on the *Rule of Law and International Law in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.

#### **Other Potential Faculty**

Applicants also have the right to choose a supervisor from outside the list provided above. The chosen supervising professor must be a scholar and expert in the field of applicant's topic of dissertation, and he/she should hold the academic equivalent of a J.S.D. or Ph.D. degree him- or herself. The J.S.D. Committee must approve the chosen supervisor. The applicant must submit a C.V. of the potential supervisor, his/her declaration of acceptance of supervision, and his/her contact information.

### **HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE**

In 1988, the President of St. Thomas University proposed the creation of an International Human Rights Institute at the University, as a demonstration of its "willingness to transform its values and beliefs into action and service to the world community."

The “St. Thomas University Human Rights Institute” was created in November of 1991; it was launched formally on March 18, 1992, with the critical help of financial support received from the Metro-Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners.

The mission of the St. Thomas University Human Rights Institute is to promote the dignity of every human being from conception to natural death through research and education on human rights issues, social advocacy, and direct service to individuals and families whose human rights are threatened or have been violated.

From its founding, the Institute has conducted immigration policy analysis. In 1994, based on research conducted in previous years, and supported by local (and later state, county, and other) grants, the Institute began to provide free (*pro bono*) direct legal services to immigrants and indigent members of the community. Since that time, the Institute has served over 100,000 individuals. Throughout its existence, the Institute has conducted research and consultancies for both government and non-governmental organizations in South Florida and beyond. The Institute also provides placement for students in the *pro bono* component of the Juris Doctor program. Currently, the Institute is expanding the scope of its work to include other areas, such as anti-trafficking and anti-slavery efforts.

The Institute often receives support from partners in the community to fulfill its mission. Current and past community partners include the American Friends Service Committee, the Black Lawyers Association, the Coalition of Florida Farmworkers Organizations, the Florida and Dade County Bar Associations, Legal Services of Greater Miami, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the National Immigration Law Center, Sant La-Haitian Neighborhood Center, the Sovereign Order of Malta, and the Yale Law College Lowenstein Human Rights Clinic.

In 1997, the Institute was awarded the first legal services contract funded by the State of Florida. It has received grants from many community and government organizations including the Dade Community Foundation, the Miami-Dade County Government, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement, and administered by the Florida Department of Children and Families. It also has received in-kind support from the National Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

The Institute has won many awards for its service. In 1995, it received the “Peace and Unity Award” from the St. Martín de Porres Association. In 2001, it received the ARETE Award from the Miami-Dade County Commission of Ethics and Public Trust as the “Program of the Year.” In 2003, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners proclaimed December 10<sup>th</sup> as “St. Thomas University Human Rights Institute Day.”

For more information, contact Christine Reis, Esq., Director of the Human Rights Institute, at telephone (866) 491-6737.

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

The Academic Success program consists of two distinct, yet complementary, components: Law School Academic Success and Bar Success.

### Law School Academic Success

The study habits and skills that were adequate in undergraduate may not be sufficient for success in law school. Law school requires more than just reading of assignments, memorization and restating memorized facts on exams. The First Year Academic Support Program teaches skills essential to excelling in law school including: time management, efficient and effective study techniques, critical reading, case briefing, outlining, legal analysis, taking multiple choice exams, effectively writing law school essay exams.

The First Year Academic Success Program teaches these skills to first-year students through workshops led by the Academic Success Program professors (ASP professors) and student fellows (ASP fellows). ASP fellows are second- and third-year law students who have been successful in law school.

The First Year Academic Success Program consists of required and optional programming.

### Introduction to Legal Studies:

Introduction to Legal Studies is a two-week, non-credit summer program offered to incoming students. It is optional for some students and required as a condition of acceptance for others. In the past almost all entering students have participated in the program. St. Thomas Law's Introduction to Legal Studies Program provides students an opportunity to develop an accurate picture of the realities, rewards, and challenges of being a law student before beginning law school. Students study two law topics taught in a law school format, augmented with sessions in law school skills building. Throughout the Program, students will:

- Gain a comprehensive grounding in fundamental legal concepts and techniques;
- Enhance foundational academic and legal skills;
- Learn firsthand about different aspects of the law from law school professors.

### Enhanced Orientation:

As part of the required 1L Orientation, all first-year students are required to participate in a two day, academic program led by a recognized expert in academic success that introduces students to the basic skills and processes they need to succeed in law school. Students are taught how to read and briefcases, take notes, create outlines and answer law school examinations.

### Legal Skills:

Legal Skills is a mandatory course for first-year students. It consists of several onsite workshop sessions held throughout the fall and spring semesters. 1L Students improve learning and analytical abilities while continuing to lay the groundwork for future development of problem-solving and analytical skills through: (1) instruction; (2)

exercises; and (3) debriefing. The course builds and refines fundamental lawyering skills, including reading comprehension, rule mastery, issue spotting, outlining, and the mechanics of essay writing. Students are provided individual attention and feedback to improve. This course is required for graduation.

#### 1L ASP Workshops:

In addition to the legal skills required workshops, ASP professors present a series of optional workshops targeted to specific critical skills such as time management, outlining, issue spotting, matching facts to legal rules and elements, the “IRAC” essay writing format, essay writing skills, and multiple-choice strategies. The Academic Success team schedules multiple presentations of each workshop to accommodate all first-year schedules. Dates and times of the sessions are provided to all students at the beginning of each semester.

#### ASP Fellows:

Each student is assigned an ASP Fellow at the beginning of the 1L year. ASP Fellows are second- and third-year students who have been successful at STU Law. Each student's ASP fellow is available for help with developing the above skills to succeed in first-year courses.

#### Legal Methods & Essay Writing:

This is an elective course that focuses on providing students with the knowledge and understanding of substantive and procedural law; legal analysis and reasoning; written and oral communication; and other professional skills needed for competent and ethical participation as a member of the legal profession. Students will receive ongoing formative assessment feedback on a regular basis.

#### Bar Success

The second component of our Academic Support Program focuses on assisting St. Thomas Law second- and third-year students, and recent graduates, in enhancing their study and test taking skills for the bar examination.

#### Bar Prep Skills I:

Students take Bar Prep Skills I in their third year. This is a course required to be taken in one of the student's last two semesters of school. It provides an overview of fundamental concepts covered in Federal Constitutional Law, Federal Civil Procedures, Evidence, and Real Property. Students are required to demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of law in those areas and to apply those principles in both essay writing and multiple-choice questions.

#### Bar Prep Skills II:

This is an optional course designed to be taken in the student's last semester. It provides an overview of Torts, Contracts, Criminal Law, and Criminal Procedure. Students have to demonstrate an understanding of the key legal principles in these areas and an ability to answer Bar-style multiple choice questions.

#### Bar Review Workshop Series:

After graduation, and while the students are studying for the bar, St. Thomas Law presents a series of interactive bar review workshops that are open to St. Thomas Law



graduates. Multiple sessions are offered by recognized bar experts and faculty that cover substantive review, as well as strategies to employ in studying for and taking the bar exam. St. Thomas Law graduates are also provided individual assistance on examination techniques and substantive law by faculty and alumni mentors.

#### Commercial Bar Preparation Program

In addition to the bar review classes and programs provided by the College of Law all St. Thomas Law J.D. graduates are provided a free, commercial bar review program provided by Themis Bar Review. If a student elects not to receive the Themis Bar Review program, he or she is not entitled to any refund or credit for not participating.

## STUDENT ADVISING

The Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs works to ensure that all J.D. students are provided academic advisement. Students, at their discretion, can meet with any of: the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, the Associate Dean for Professionalism, the Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Scholarships, the Assistant Dean for Alumni Relations, the Assistant Dean for Career Development, the Associate Dean for Administration, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to discuss course offerings, curricular planning, clinical experiences, satisfaction of the senior writing requirement and any other questions regarding completion of the J.D. program, preparation for the Bar examination and guidance with regard to career path options. If a J.D. student is unsure who to meet regarding these matters, the student can contact the office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs for assistance.

The Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs also refers students to Professors, Adjunct Professors and Career Counselors in the Office for Career Development who can provide specific information and guidance with regard to areas of practice and guidance on career path options.

All students are required to meet with the Office for Career Development at least once per year. Students will be notified as to the dates for these meetings via email each year. At their individual appointments, First and Second-year students will discuss career goals, interviewing strategies, and applications for summer internships. Students who do not comply with this requirement will be precluded from registering for classes. Third-year students will meet with the Assistant Dean for Career Development who will conduct an Exit Interview. Students who do not comply with this requirement will not be eligible to graduate.

LL.M. students and J.S.D. students should consult with the Director of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights or the Executive Director of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights for Academic Advisement and guidance.

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs is responsible for class scheduling and meets with students who wish to discuss their course and scheduling preferences.

First-year students are introduced to the law school culture and academic requirements during the orientation program. The Law College Student Handbook and website set

out all course and academic requirements. All full-time law faculty have an “open door” policy and mandatory office hours. Advance placement students and transfer students meet with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs for Enrollment and Scholarship. Students in one of the joint degree programs meet with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

## COLLEGE OF LAW REGISTRATION

Registration is a formal procedure that represents both an academic and financial commitment. To be officially enrolled at the Law School, students must register online or by submitting a drop/add form to be manually processed by a staff member of the Law College Registrar’s Office. Students must complete the financial part of registration before each term’s classes begin.

Attending class by itself does not constitute an official registration. All prior balances must be cleared before students are permitted to register for the current term. The financial obligations that a student incurs through registration remain unless the registration is cancelled by the Law School, or, the student officially withdraws from school during the refund period. If a student withdraws during the refund period, he or she is entitled to a refund based on the effective date of the withdrawal.

## COURSE AND SCHEDULE CHANGES

Students who decide to add, drop, or change their course schedule must do so via Web Advisor by the end of the add/drop period. Students can access MyBobcat online at the St. Thomas Law website. If problems occur while accessing the website, or in processing the add/drop transaction, the student will need to contact the Registrar’s Office. Students enrolled in the J.D. program must be enrolled full-time (12 credits minimum during the fall and spring semesters), unless the student is designated as a “flex” student in which case he or she must register for at least 9 credits.

The add/drop period for the fall and spring semesters is scheduled during the first week of class. In the summer, the add/drop period is the first three days of class. Discontinuing class attendance does not constitute official withdrawal. *Once the add/drop period has passed, students may only add or drop individual courses upon receiving written approval from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Students who are authorized to withdraw from any class after the add/drop period remain financially responsible for the course from which they withdraw.* Students authorized to withdraw must submit the written approval to the Registrar’s Office for processing. A “W” grade will be entered on the transcript. Students who fail to submit the written approval from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs to the Registrar’s Office will receive a grade of “F”.

Students who completely withdraw from the Law College must return all borrowed books to the libraries, pay any fines due, and clear all outstanding accounts with the Law College and/or the University.

## ATTENDANCE

### CLASS ATTENDANCE

The Standards for Approval of Law Schools of the American Bar Association require regular and punctual class attendance.

The Law College is required to certify that bar applicants were in regular attendance and have successfully completed the course of instruction required by the College for the J.D. degree. The Dean has charged each professor with noting absences.

### ATTENDANCE AND ENROLLMENT

Attendance at classes is mandatory. A student may enroll in a course after the first week of classes only with the permission of the instructor and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Prior to enrolling in a course for which credit is obtained, a student must complete all prerequisites for that course, unless prior approval has been granted by the instructor and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Attendance and preparation for class may be considered in determining students' grades in courses. A student may be requested to leave a class for being unprepared.

During the first full academic year of residence at the Law School, a student is required to maintain enrollment in all first year required courses unless the student obtains prior administrative approval from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or the Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Scholarships. In subsequent years, a student may drop a course during the first week of classes, provided that the student remains enrolled in 12 or more credit hours. After the first year, students are required to enroll in not less than twelve credit hours of courses each semester, unless he or she obtains prior permission to take fewer credits (but no less than 9) from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Scholarships.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

This attendance rule is designed to help enforce a 20 percent limit on class absences in a fair and consistent manner and to emphasize the importance of class attendance by precluding students from sitting for the final exam who have missed too large a portion of a course — *for whatever reasons* — to have mastered the course material. In relevant part, the rule states: No absences are considered "excused." All absences for whatever reason are counted for purposes of the rule.

Term	Class Frequency	Maximum Absences
Fall/Spring	Three times a week	8
Fall/Spring	Twice a week	5
Fall/Spring	Once a week	2
Summer	Three times a week	4
Summer	Twice a week	2
Summer	Once a week	1

For classes that meet on another class schedule, the number of absences permitted is the

number of classes that do not exceed 20% of the total class time.

The required amount and method of contact for online or partially online classes will be set out in the syllabus provided by the professor for the class to ensure that students work regularly and consistently over the term of the class.

Missing any part of a class may be counted as missing the entire class. "Make-up" classes count as if a regular class session.

A student shall receive a grade of "F" (an "Administrative F") for a course and shall not receive academic or residency credit for the course if the student's absences exceed those outlined above.

This rule does not preclude instructors from also imposing their own, more demanding attendance requirements. This rule also does not preclude a student from petitioning the administration prior to the beginning of the exam period to voluntarily withdraw from law school and receive a "W" in the class(es) in which the student was enrolled at the time. The College of Law does not guarantee that students will be notified when they are near the applicable limit of absences in a course. No appeal of the rule's sanction to the administration or faculty is permitted.

[Adopted by the Faculty, effective Fall 1996.]

## **CREDIT HOUR POLICY**

In preparing a course syllabus and planning the work required in the course, faculty must keep in mind the Law School's credit hour policy, which complies with Standard 310 of the ABA Standards for Rules and Procedures of Approval of Law Schools:

A "credit hour" is an amount of work that reasonably approximates:

Not less than fifty minutes of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours (120 minutes) of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks (including one week for a final examination), or the equivalent amount of minimum total classroom or direct faculty instruction and out-of-class student work over a different amount of time; or

At least an equivalent amount of work as required in 1.a. for other academic activities, including Independent Study, simulations, externships, field placements, clinical, law reviews or journals, advocacy teams, and other academic work for which units of credit are awarded.

## **WITHDRAWAL IN LIEU OF ADMINISTRATIVE F**

In exceptional cases, if a student has exceeded the 20 percent limit on absences from a course, and he or she provides evidence of exigent circumstances, and in the judgment of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, the absences have resulted from exigent circumstances beyond the student's control, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs may direct the Registrar to enter a "W" (indicating withdrawal) for the course on the student's official transcript.

An "exigent circumstance" is one that arises due to serious illness or injury to the

student, death of an immediate family member, or a call to active duty in the military.

It is not an exigent circumstance if a student has taken on a workload that exceeds the workload he or she contemplated at the time of registration. A student cannot withdraw from a class (even an elective class) due to inconvenience or scheduling conflicts.

Even when a student is allowed to withdraw (receive a “W”) from a class, he or she may remain financially responsible for the class.

Students should also be aware that being allowed to withdraw from a class (or all classes) may have a negative impact on the student’s ability to qualify for financial aid.

[Adopted by the Faculty, effective Spring 2002.]

#### *Attendance at LL.M. Program*

The College of Law’s attendance policy also applies to attendance by J.D. students in all courses of the LL.M. Programs in Intercultural Human Rights. The Director of that Program may excuse non-attendance in individual cases for compelling reasons.

## **COURSE CANCELLATION**

From time to time, a course will draw insufficient enrollment and must be cancelled. Make-up classes will be scheduled for any cancelled class and attendance at any make-up class shall be treated as a “required” class, as set forth above. No professor may schedule a make-up class that conflicts, with any other required class.

## **ON-LINE PARTICIPATION IN CLASS**

Attending classes virtually is a substitute for attending class in person. Students are expected to adhere to principles of professionalism. The Law College has adopted the following rules:

Students must arrive on time. Professors have the option of disallowing students into the class or treating a student as absent if the student does not “arrive” for the virtual class on time.

Students must be prepared for class. Just as with in-person classes, the professor can ask a student to leave and/or mark a student absent if the student is not prepared for class.

Students must have an operational camera that can show their face and torso. The camera must be on at all times during the class. Each student must have an operational microphone, but it should be muted unless the student has been called upon to speak. Students must dress as they would for a live class. Each student needs to be dressed appropriately. Students should avoid shirts with deep necks that expose their chest. Students should not wear pajamas or other sleepwear. Students should not wear hats or scarves; unless it is due to a student’s observance of religious beliefs. For skills classes, a student should dress as if the student were engaged in the activity in the real world.

Students must place themselves in a neutral, professional setting. Whether the student is

using a real background in the real or a virtual background it should be neutral and look professional. A student's background should not be distracting. If a student is using a virtual background, the student should not change it during the class session.

Students should consider where and how the camera is projecting the student's image to others in the class. The camera image should include nothing more than a student's head and torso. A student should not project an image where the student is reclined, laying in a bed, sitting somewhere with your feet up, etc.

When the student is in class, the student should not be doing anything else. The student should not be attending to parents, spouses, children, or pets. The student should not be brushing their teeth or hair, doing their nails, or any other personal hygiene activities. The student should not be eating. The student should not be working. The student should not be listening to music, watching television, texting, chatting, or otherwise engaged in conversation, unless directed to do so by the professor.

Follow the professor's directions for how each student will be recognized to speak in class. Do not just shout out answers or make comments.

If a student is not sure whether some behavior is professional, do not do it.

## GRADES

The unit of credit at St. Thomas University College of Law is the semester hour. Credits may be earned in the regular fall and spring semesters or in a summer session. A student's performance in courses and seminars is evaluated with letter grades which translate into quality points according to the scales below:

### GRADES AND GRADE POINTS

A	=	4.0
B+	=	3.5
B	=	3.0
C+	=	2.5
C	=	2.0
C-	=	1.5
D	=	1.0
F	=	0.0
P/NP	=	Pass/No Pass (grade points are not applicable)
P/NC	=	Pass/No Credit (grade points are not applicable)

St. Thomas University College of Law uses letter grading for course evaluation purposes and the semester system for its calendar. No transfer credits are used in calculating the St. Thomas University College of Law grade point average (GPA).

## GRADING CURVE

Students are required to maintain a 2.0 grade point average to be considered in good standing. First-year classes have a mandatory grading curve such that the average grade for each first-year course must fall between a 2.25 and 2.5. Required upper-level courses have a mandatory grading curve of 2.25-2.75. In each first year and upper-division required course, at least 15% of all grades assigned shall be higher than C+ and at least 15% of the grades assigned shall be lower than C. Elective courses have a mandatory grading curve of 2.50-3.25. The current range of means requirement for electives (2.25-3.00) does not apply to Summer-in-Spain, seminars, clinics, nor skills courses. Elective courses with an enrollment of ten or less are exempt from the mandatory curves.

A student's grade point average for any given period is determined by dividing the total quality points earned by the number of graded semester hours attempted during the period. The total quality points for any given period is derived by multiplying the numerical value of the grade earned in that period by the number of semester hours of the course and then adding the sums derived for each course in the given period.

An "F" grade or "NP" grade remains on a student's permanent record and the credit attempted is not counted toward residency requirements. Both the failing grade and the grade earned when the course is repeated are computed into the grade point average.

The University's administrative database maintains a complete record of each student's progress, which includes the grades earned, hours attempted and completed, semester grade point averages, and cumulative grade point averages. Students may access their grades online at the St. Thomas College of Law website under "Students". Unofficial transcripts for printing can should be accessed online at <http://www.flvc.org>. No official transcript, letter of good standing, Dean's certificate, certificate of completion, diploma, or leave of absence will be granted to any student until all financial obligations to the Law College and/or the University have been met.

## GRADE REPLACEMENT POLICY

A law student may replace a poor grade earned in one class during law College by retaking the class.

If a student earned a C-, D, F, NP, or NC in a class, he or she can retake the class and whatever he or she makes on the retake will replace the earlier grade. Students can do this only once for one class. The "new" grade replaces the earlier grade (so the student gets the "new" grade, not the higher grade). Also, this only applies to the exact same class (with the same course number). So if a student is unable to retake a class due to the fact that it is not offered, he or she is not able to take advantage of this opportunity.

The student is charged for the new class (if he or she is paying by the credit hour) when he or she retakes it. However, since full-time J.D. students do not pay by the credit hour it may not lead to an additional cost. Upon completion of the course the second time, the student's grade from the earlier class is replaced with an asterisk on the transcript that indicates that the course was retaken for improvement of grade. The student loses the credit hours associated with the class from the first time he/she took it. The

transcript will show the class when it was retaken and the grade and credit from the retake will be included.

Please note that the student's grade point average will not be retroactively adjusted, but the grade replacement will be used in any ranking going forward from the time of the replacement. So, the previous grade no longer factors in the student's grade point average and the replacement grade becomes a component of the student's grade point average.

## **CLASS STANDING/RANK**

Class standings are computed approximately three weeks after all grades are submitted at the end of each fall and spring semester by percentile rank. Students are not ranked upon conclusion of the summer term. Also, no adjustment is made to ranking due to grade changes that occur after the rankings are published.

If any student receives advanced standing credits to be applied towards the Juris Doctor degree those credits will not be applied toward the J.D. degree until the last semester in which the student is scheduled to graduate. So those credits (and grades if applicable) will not be used for purposes of ranking registration.

## **RANKING POLICY FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS**

After a transfer student completes one semester at St. Thomas University College of Law, the student will then be ranked in accordance with the Law College policy. Only St. Thomas University College of Law quality points will be considered in assigning the rankings. A transfer student is not eligible for a Merit Scholarships (based on class ranking) until he or she has completed two regular semesters and the regular class rankings have been computed.

## **CUMULATIVE WEIGHTED AVERAGE**

A student's grade point average for any given period is determined by dividing the total quality points earned by the number of graded semester hours attempted during the period. To be considered for graduation, a student must successfully complete at least 90 semester hours of course work. A student is only eligible for graduation if he or she is in good standing. Therefore, students must have a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 or above.

## **ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS**

### *Dean's List*

The names of students who complete at least 9 hours in the fall or spring semester and achieve a grade point average of 3.0 in the work undertaken in that semester will be recorded on the Dean's List.

### *Graduation with Honors*

A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 will qualify for a degree *Cum Laude*, a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 will qualify for a degree *Magna Cum Laude*, and a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 will qualify for a degree *Summa Cum Laude*.



### *Graduation Speaker*

The student with the highest, cumulative grade point average, going into his/her last semester, is designated as the class graduation speaker. If two or more students are tied, then the student with the highest grade point average for the required courses will be designated as the class graduation speaker.

### **ST. THOMAS ACHIEVEMENT (“BOOK”) AWARD**

To recognize scholastic achievement, the College of Law grants an award to the best performing student in each course or seminar. The College of Law participates in the CALI program and provides a certificate designated by the professor. In each course or seminar, each semester, the Professor may (at his or her discretion) designate an outstanding student. This is generally the student with the highest grade in the class. Each spring at the Law Day Luncheon students selected as outstanding students in one or more courses from the previous school year are recognized and presented certificates.

### **EXAMINATIONS**

Under no circumstances should students ever write their names anywhere on the blue books, or otherwise identify their exams by name or any other way before, during, or after an exam. Students are required to use only their AGN (Anonymous Grading Number).

There are certain take-home exams/papers that will require students to use their name instead of the AGN, this is the only exception.

Students are not allowed in the faculty office area during the reading period when exams are being prepared, or during the exam period, unless instructed by a professor to submit a paper to the faculty secretaries.

### **COMPUTER USE ON FINAL EXAMS**

Students are generally provided the option of using a personal computer to generate an answer on essay-style examinations. This option is facilitated by the use of a software program known as “Exam4.” Exam4 allows the student to use his or her personal computer as a word processor; however, it blocks access to the internet and all other software programs. Exam4 also does not make available spell check, grammar check, or other corrective features.

Exam4 is compatible with personal computers and with Apple operating systems. Students must provide their own computer for use on examinations.

Students must follow the directions provided by the Registrar to enable Exam4 prior to the start of his or her first exam. A student may elect to handwrite any one, or more, of his or her examinations even if he or she registered for Exam4.

### **PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF EXAMINATIONS**

Each student will be issued a different examination number for each semester. These numbers will be available in the Registrar's Office. An announcement will be sent out

by email and posted on the registrar's bulletin board when the numbers are available. The faculty, with the assistance of the Registrar's Office, is responsible for the administration of examinations. Students, under the provisions of the Code of Academic Integrity, are responsible for ensuring that examinations are fairly conducted and for reporting violations of examination procedures.

The day, time, and room assignments of examinations are posted prior to exams on the Registrar's bulletin board and each classroom door. Students are required to take exams in assigned rooms. Assignments are made using the anonymous examination number selected by the Registrar on a random basis prior to exams, and rooms cannot be changed.

Each professor should issue detailed instructions regarding: the time, written materials, and number of bluebooks allowed; the importance of writing the anonymous examination number on all bluebooks and the examination; and the proper securing and numbering of bluebooks, i.e., 1 of 3, 2 of 3, etc. If two rooms are to be used for the same exam, students need to ascertain that they are in the correct room by checking the anonymous grading numbers posted on the doors of the classrooms.

During examinations, proctors will enter classrooms, restrooms, and hallways and report any problems that may occur. Students must follow all directions of the proctors any problems or disagreements are to be resolved by the Registrar. Students are allowed to bring into the classrooms only those written materials explicitly allowed by the faculty member. Students are not allowed to take any written materials into the restrooms or the hallways while taking exams. Improper conduct during an examination should be reported directly to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Materials that are allowed into the testing room may be limited. Students are responsible for being aware of what is and what is not allowed in a testing room.

When students complete exams, they will check off their exam numbers in the "sign-out" book provided in the classrooms and leave their exams in the designated boxes. Each room will have a supply of bluebooks and paper clips so that the books and exams may be secured properly. At the end of the exam period, all exams must be "signed out" and placed in the designated boxes in the classrooms. The professor or monitor will pick up the box of bluebooks at the end of the exam and deliver them to the Registrar's Office for processing.

Thereafter, the Registrar's Office will provide professors with the bluebooks and a grading sheet listing the anonymous examination numbers.

### **POLICY ON ABSENCE FROM FINAL EXAMINATION OR FAILURE TO SUBMIT FINAL EXAMINATION**

1. Students shall appear for final examinations at the date, time, and place specified in the posted exam schedule.
2. Students shall appear for and hand in examinations. Students will be excused from complying with these requirements only in rare instances and for an extraordinary

cause. No student shall be excused from his or her failure to hand in a final examination at the designated time and place unless both of the following conditions are met:

- a. The student establishes, to the satisfaction of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, that "extraordinary circumstances" exist(ed) which would warrant exempting the student from the requirement of taking the examination at the designated time; and
- b. The student has given timely notice of the extraordinary circumstances to the Law School.

Notice is "timely" only if given to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs as soon as practical after the student becomes aware of the circumstances. If such circumstances arise during the taking of an examination, the student must inform the exam monitor.

3. If the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs determines that extraordinary circumstances have been sufficiently established, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs will set a rescheduled examination. The content of the rescheduled examination may differ from the content of the regularly scheduled examination. A student who takes an examination at any time other than the regular scheduled time may be required to waive anonymity in the grading of the exam.

4. A student shall not exit an examination with the examination or fail to turn in all components of the examination.

5. A student may not bring into a testing room or have on his or her person any devices or material not allowed in the room.

6. A student may not take from the testing room any of the testing materials.

## **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH EXAM RULES / PROCEDURES**

Failure to comply with the examination rules and procedures set forth herein or in the examination itself may lead to the examination being deemed invalid and the student being given an "F" (or zero) for the applicable exam.

## **EXAMINATION REVIEW POLICY**

1. The examiner, a member of the faculty, is not permitted to change an examination grade.

2. It is recommended that faculty members provide written comments on student examination papers and, where clarification of these comments is required, faculty members should give personal interviews to students, by appointment.

3. All students are permitted to view their examination(s). Students will do so by contacting the professor directly or by appointment with the secretaries to the faculty. The College of Law retains examination papers for one academic year following the examination in question.

4. The anonymous examination number is required to review an examination and must be given to the professor or faculty secretary in order to review the examination in question.

5. In the event of an alleged arithmetical or administrative error in grading, the faculty member concerned will promptly refer the matter to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs with his or her recommendation for determination.

6. Only the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may change a final grade reviewed for arithmetical or administrative reasons.

## **STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARD (ID)**

The STU Identification (ID) card is the official STU identification card. STU students are expected to correctly identify themselves at all times and present this information courteously upon request by a University official, Resident Assistant, Public Safety or by a law enforcement officer. An STU ID card is to be used only by its owner. This card may not be loaned, sold, fabricated, altered or transferred. The possession, use, manufacture or sale of falsified government issued or altered identification cards are strictly prohibited.

The STU ID combines a multitude of features and uses, including access to campus; fitness center access; copier usage; library privileges; meal plans; Identification purposes; use of the bobcat shuttle; discounts at participating vendors.

Any lost or stolen ID must be reported to the Student Success Center immediately. There is a \$10 replacement fee.

## **PRINTING/PHOTO COPYING POLICY**

### **1.0- GENERAL**

St. Thomas University has implemented the Pharos Print solution to provide a "green", student-friendly approach to printing and photocopying on campus. The system increases student functionality to a wide range of services to meet ever-evolving document needs. At the start of each semester, each law student is given \$75.00 worth of print credit which is equal to 1500 pages/per semester. This can be used for both printing and photocopying in the Law Library. A student may replenish his/her account by going to <http://www.stu.edu/print> with a minimum purchase of \$5.00/100 pages using a credit card. The 1500 credit is replenished at the start of each semester for each student; any "unused" credit does not roll over from the previous semester.

### **2.0- FREE PRINT CREDITS**

2.1- Students are given a standard number of free printing/photocopying credits each semester. This allows printing and photocopying.

2.2- At the beginning of each semester students will be credited with 1,500 pages. This allocation can be used both to print and to make photocopies.

2.3- A "page" consists of a single sheet of paper, regardless of whether the student prints on one side or both sides. Because of this, students can make the most of their print credits by selecting double-sided and printing on both sides.

2.4- At the end of each semester all credits will be set to zero and new print credits will be issued at the beginning of the semester as described in 2.2 above.

2.5- Students can check their available print/photocopying credit balance at any of the Konica Minolta printers in the law library by swiping their student ID card at the terminal or by signing in as well. Students can also check their balance online at <http://www.stu.edu/print>.

2.6- The print/photocopying credit has no cash value; there are no refunds, carryovers or transfers for unused print credits, whether the unused print credit is free or paid.

### 3.0 PAID PRINT CREDITS

3.1- After students exhaust their free printing/photocopy balance, they have the option to purchase additional pages online at <http://www.stu.edu/print>

3.2- Additional printing/photocopy credit is sold in five-dollar (\$5.00) increments of one hundred (100) pages.

3.3- Additional printing credit purchased may not be credited to the student's printing account until the next business day. Therefore, it is incumbent upon each student to monitor his or her balance and plan accordingly.

3.4- At the end of each semester all credits will be set to zero and new free print credits will be issued at the beginning of the semester as described in 2.2 above.

### 4.0 SUPPORT

4.1- Students in need of technical support should contact the Help Desk via email at [helpdesk@stu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@stu.edu) or by calling (305)628-6610.

4.2- Students are encouraged to visit the Office of Information Technology (OIT) website at <http://www.stu.edu/print> for the latest updates regarding student printing on campus.

## DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Disabled students are directed to contact the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in order to request reasonable accommodations upon submission of adequate documentation of the disability. The College of Law may require that the student be tested, at his or her expense, by a qualified professional. Students seeking accommodations for classroom or examination conditions should consult the Disability Guidelines Handbook available from the Office of Student Affairs and also available online at St. Thomas College of Law website under "Students". Students must make a request for accommodations and provide documentation in a timely manner.

Any student who has previously received special accommodations in an educational setting and or on standardized testing (e.g., the L.S.A.T) should consult with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs about the policies and procedures regarding special accommodations. Generally, professors are not consulted, advised, or informed of a student's request for accommodations and consultations remain confidential.

Any student suffering from a physical injury or illness that may impact his or her ability to take examinations under ordinary circumstances should consult the Assistant Dean

for Student Affairs as soon as practical to address the potential need for accommodations.

Students are provided special accommodations within the parameters of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students taking examinations with an accommodation must check with the Registrar to verify the time and place of their examinations. A student's failure to arrive timely for his or her examinations may lead to a termination of accommodations.

## **STUDENTS SERVING IN MILITARY**

Students serving in the military, including the guard or reserve components of the Armed Forces, may at times receive orders causing the student to miss classes or examinations. In general, the requirements associated with attendance, successful course completion, and total credit hours will not be waived. Students called for routine and short-term drill duty, for example, should manage their schedules and assignments on their own. However, if the military orders involve longer durations, if test dates are affected, or if other circumstances arise, students are encouraged to contact the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, to determine whether accommodation of the military service is required or otherwise available.

## **WITHDRAWALS**

An enrolled student who wishes to withdraw from the Law College entirely must submit a withdrawal form or a written request for approval to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Withdrawals will only be granted upon a showing of extraordinary circumstances. A student who fails to satisfy financial obligations to the College of Law or the University will not be granted a withdrawal. Students authorized to withdraw from the College of Law during a semester or a summer session, but prior to the beginning of an examination period, will receive a "W" as the recorded grade on his or her transcript. After the examination period begins, grades will be assigned in accordance with the Law School's grading policy. Discontinuing class attendance does not constitute a withdrawal. Any student who drops out of law College without obtaining the prior written approval of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs will be deemed to have been dismissed from the College of Law and will receive an "F" in any classes he or she was taking. Unless the Honor Council finds otherwise, any student who is expelled or dismissed for an Honor Code violation receives a "W" in all classes in which he or she was registered at the time of the dismissal or expulsion and the dismissal or expulsion are noted on the student's transcript.

A student cannot "withdraw" from any class after the drop/add period without the authorization of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Withdrawing from a class is only allowed under "exigent circumstances." See "Withdrawal in Lieu of Administrative F" in this handbook for a description of "exigent circumstances."

A student wishing to withdraw from the University permanently with a grade point average below a 2.0 will be academically dismissed.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

An enrolled student who wishes to take a leave of absence must submit a written request for approval to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. In the case of a student who has not yet completed the first-year program, a leave of absence will be granted only for serious medical or personal reasons. A student who fails to meet any of the conditions of the leave of absence must reapply for admission. A student who has failed

to satisfy financial obligations to the College of Law and/or the University will not be granted a leave of absence. Students granted a leave of absence from the Law College during a semester or summer session, but prior to the beginning of an examination period, may do so with no grades recorded. After the examination period begins, grades will be assigned in accordance with the Law School's grading policies. A student out from College for any reason will be obligated to meet the requirements in place at the time of readmission to the Law School.

## TUITION AND FEE SCHEDULE

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

### J.D. PROGRAM

Tuition	20,530.00 per semester
Registration Fee	60.00 per semester
Student Activities Fee	25.00 per semester
Parking Fee	25.00 per semester
Library Fee	165.00 per semester
Materials Fee	190.00 per semester
University Service Fee	190.00 per semester
Administrative Fee	525.00 per semester
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Total	\$21,711.00 per semester

Health Insurance (Annual) Fee*	1,857.00 per year
Late Registration Fee	150.00 (after 1 <sup>st</sup> week)

Any (Fall or Spring) semester in which a J.D. student is authorized to take less than 12 credit hours	\$1,711.00 per credit
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Summer 2020 Tuition	\$1,636.00 per credit
Student Service Fee	250.00 per semester

### JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS (2LS & 3LS)

Tuition - Law courses (Fall & Spring)	\$1,711.00 per credit
Tuition - Graduate courses	800.00 per credit
Health Insurance Fee*	1,857.00 per year
Student Service Fee	1,180.00 per semester

### LL.M. IN INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Tuition	\$1,198.00 per credit
Student Service	250.00 per semester
Book Fee	600.00 per semester
Late Registration Fee	150.00 (after 1 <sup>st</sup> week)

### J.S.D. IN INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Tuition	\$3,850.00 per semester
Student Service Fee	250.00 per semester



## **LL.M. IN CYBER SECURITY**

Tuition	\$1198.00 per credit
Student Service	250.00 per semester
Late Registration Fee	150.00 (after 1st week)
Technology Fee	150.00 per semester

### *ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE*

*\*The health insurance fee will be waived upon timely submission of proof of private coverage prior to the end of the deadline established for submitting said documentation.*

*\*\*Minimum health insurance required of all students (will not be waived).*

## **PAYMENT PLANS**

Students may choose to enroll in the Tuition Payment Plan for Fall and Spring semesters. There are 2 options: a (10) month installment annual plan for the academic year and a monthly installment plan for one semester. The application fee to join both plans is \$75. This fee is non-refundable and is not applied toward student account balances. Applications for Tuition Pay are online via [www.ecsi.net/stu](http://www.ecsi.net/stu). Any student inquiries should be directed to (866) 927-1438.

## **PAYMENT OF STUDENT ACCOUNTS**

### **DUE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

Please note that letters of good standing, transcripts, certificates of completion, Dean's certificates, and diplomas are not released, and leaves of absence or withdrawals are not allowed, until all financial obligations to the College of Law and the University have been met. A student may not sit for examinations unless his or her tuition is fully paid prior to examinations and on a date set by the College of Law administration, unless acceptable arrangements have been made for payment. Students are encouraged to pay their fees on the website, by logging onto the St. Thomas Law website under "MyBobcat". Payments can also be made in person at the Business Office in Mimi Dooner Hall or mailed to:

St. Thomas University  
Attn: Business Office  
16401 NW 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Miami Gardens, FL 33054

#### Normal Hours of Operation:

Monday – Thursday      9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Friday                      9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## **REFUNDS**

The effective date of withdrawal is the date on which a completed official withdrawal form is received by the Office of the Law College Registrar; the percentage of credit will

be determined by this date. The term begins on the first day of classes for that session, not the student's first day of attendance. Refunds for students who have withdrawn are based on tuition only. *Fees and deposits are non-refundable.* If a student has been awarded financial aid, the financial aid programs from which the funds were disbursed will be refunded in accordance with the formula required by federal law. Tuition refunds are calculated as follows:

Fall & Spring Term	% Deducted From Account	% You Owe
Up to the 8 <sup>th</sup> day of term	100%	0%
After the 8 <sup>th</sup> day of term	0%	100%

Summer Term	% Deducted from Account	% You Ow
Up to the 1 <sup>st</sup> class day of term	100%	0%
No refund after 1 <sup>st</sup> class meeting	0%	100%

Refunds will be processed within 14 business days after credit appears on student accounts pursuant to the Federal Department of Education regulations. Students are required to enroll in direct deposit. Students who are due a refund and have not enrolled in direct deposit will be emailed to enroll. Additionally, Students that wish to make changes to their account on file must complete another direct deposit authorization form. Refunds via direct deposit are directly deposited to students' checking or savings accounts. During high volume refund periods, refunds will be processed according to the schedule provided by the Business Office.

Refunds of room and board charges for resident students who withdraw (or are dismissed) from the College of Law are calculated by the Office of Residential Life. Unused portions of security deposits will be refunded upon the approval of the Housing Office. If the student owes a balance to the University, the deposit will be applied to the outstanding balance.

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The College of Law has an in-house Director of Law Student Financial Services. His office is located in the Student Affairs suite on the first floor of the law school, across from the College of Law Registrar's counter. The guidelines for Federal Financial Aid are set out below. The Director of Law Student Financial Services processes all law student loan applications, provides on-going training and information sessions regarding the financial aid process, financial aid planning, and financial literacy programs. Please note that disbursements are made from the University Business Office, therefore it is essential that students timely complete all financial aid forms and provide all needed information to allow for timely payment of tuition and receipt of disbursements.

To assist students with the cost of their education, St. Thomas University College of Law

offers financial assistance to eligible law students in the form of scholarships, federal student loans, and part-time employment. A law student at St. Thomas may receive a financial assistance packet combining aid from more than one of these sources. Aid from all sources may not exceed the cost of attendance.

St. Thomas University College of Law has a program that provides merit scholarships to incoming students based upon admissions criteria established by the Dean. Students may earn a merit scholarship in their second and/or third year based upon their class ranking.

In addition to merit scholarships, there are a number of scholarships made available due to the generosity of donors and alumni. These scholarships are competitive, and selection is based on criteria established by the donor.

Inquiries regarding law scholarships should be made to the College of Law Office of Admissions. Inquiries regarding other financial aid programs should be directed to the Director of Law Student Financial Services. The guidelines for Federal Financial Assistance are set out below.

### **GENERAL ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID**

To be considered for Federal Financial Assistance programs, a student must:

Be a citizen, national or eligible non-citizen of the United States.

Have a valid Social Security Number.

Be Registered with Selective Service (if required by law).

Be accepted and enrolled in the JD program at least half-time (6 credits fall/spring; 3 credits summer).

Maintain satisfactory academic progress (as determined by the College of Law and the Financial Aid Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress).

Not owe a refund or be in default of any Title IV funds.

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and all other required forms within designated deadlines.

### **APPLYING FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Students interested in applying for federal student aid may do so only after they have submitted their application for admission to St. Thomas University College of Law. A student may complete financial aid forms prior to being accepted to the College of Law at St. Thomas University. However, no offer of financial aid will be awarded until the student has been officially accepted for admission to the College of Law and all required financial aid documents have been received. Financial aid is not available for audited or minimester courses.

To be considered for federal financial assistance through the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Direct Student Loan Programs, the student must:

Request a Federal Student Aid Identification (FSA ID) at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). FSA ID is used to electronically apply for federal student aid and access your federal student aid records online. Your FSA ID serves as your electronic signature. Be sure to keep your

FSA ID in a safe place.

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). The result of your FAFSA is called the Student Aid Report (SAR) and it summarizes the data you reported on your application. You will receive your SAR via e-mail confirmation. Please be sure to read and review this information carefully for accuracy. Should you need to make corrections you may do so electronically by submitting a FAFSA correction online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). St. Thomas University's Federal School Code is 001468.

Complete Loan Entrance Counseling online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Federal regulations governing the borrowing of Federal Student Loans require that all students receiving a Federal Direct Student Loan complete a Loan Entrance Counseling. If you are borrowing a Direct Stafford or Graduate PLUS Loan for the first time as a student of St. Thomas University's College of Law, you must complete an Entrance Counseling before your loans can be disbursed. You will only be required to complete the Loan Entrance Counseling once.

All federal student loan borrowers are required to complete an Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). The Acknowledgement must be completed each year you accept a new federal student loan, and is intended to better assist borrowers in understanding the financial responsibilities of borrowing a federal student loan. Your loans will not be disbursed until this and all other federal student loan eligibility requirements have been met.

Complete a Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). You must have an MPN on file with the U.S. Department of Education before your loans can be disbursed. If you are borrowing a Direct Stafford Loan for the first time as a student of St. Thomas University's College of Law, you must complete a Direct Unsubsidized MPN before your loans can be processed. You may be eligible to borrow up to \$20,500 per academic year through the Stafford Loan program. These loans are unsubsidized so interest will begin accruing at disbursement at a fixed rate of 5.28%\*. This loan is subject to a 1.057%\* federal loan fee deducted at the time of disbursement. There is no credit check required and no payments are required while you are in school at least half-time. Several repayment options are available.

Complete a Direct PLUS Loan MPN for Graduate/Professional Students. In some cases, it may be necessary for you to request more than the maximum loan limit under the Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program. The Direct PLUS Loan program may allow you to borrow up to your cost of attendance minus all other forms of financial aid you will be receiving. This loan is subject to credit approval by the U.S. Dept. of Education. Interest on this loan will begin accruing at disbursement at a fixed rate of 6.28%\* and a 4.228%\* federal loan fee will be deducted at disbursement. Although the Direct PLUS Loan enters repayment immediately after the loan is fully disbursed, you are not required to make payments while you are in school at least half-time. To apply for a Direct PLUS Loan for Graduate/Professional Students you must complete a Grad PLUS MPN online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). You must have an MPN on file with the U.S. Department of Education before your loans can be disbursed. This loan is subject to credit approval based on criteria established by the U.S. Department of Education. If your application is declined due to adverse credit, you may be given the option to appeal the credit decision or apply with an endorser. Should your loan be approved,

with a successful appeal or obtaining a credit-worthy endorser, you will be required to complete a PLUS Loan Counseling session at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) prior to your loan being disbursed. To learn if your loan will be approved for credit, you may complete the "Apply for a Direct PLUS Loan" Process (this is a credit check) online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

In addition to the items listed above, you may be required to submit other forms of documentation such as proof of U.S. citizenship or permanent residency, income verification, copies of a valid Driver's License or Social Security Card, proof of Selective Service Registration, and/or proof of non-default. Be sure to review your Student Aid Report (SAR) carefully to determine if you should submit any additional documentation to the Office of Law Student Financial Affairs. Your financial aid file can only be processed once you have submitted all required documents.

Please be sure to read all documents carefully and complete each item in its entirety. Incomplete applications will delay the processing of your Financial Aid file.

*\*Rates and Fees are subject to change. For more information on the Federal Direct Student Loan Programs please visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).*

For more information on the Federal Direct Student Loan Programs please visit [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov).

## **VIEWING AND ACCEPTING YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD**

A student can check on the status of his or her award, and accept, decline, or reduce the award online via your STU MyBobcat Account's Financial Aid Self-Service portal. Once St. Thomas University's Office of Financial Aid receives and reviews the results of the FAFSA and all required documents are submitted to process the file, an estimated Financial Aid Award notification will be prepared for you based on full-time enrollment. The award may include Scholarships awarded by the College of Law as well as a Direct Stafford *Unsubsidized* Loan, Direct Graduate PLUS Loan and/or a Private Loan. Keep in mind this is only an estimated award notice, final eligibility for loans will be determined by the Financial Aid Office, U.S. Dept. of Education, or the lender. By accepting a loan as part of a financial aid package, you will incur a binding obligation to repay the loan in full, including interest and any applicable fees. It is essential when a student plans their educational costs that they also plan for future repayment of any amounts borrowed.

## **DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REFUNDS**

Any funds applied to your student account in excess of your tuition, fees, and other direct costs will be refunded to you via Direct Deposit to your personal bank account within 14 business days of the funds being received by the University's Student Accounts Office. If you are requesting financial aid funds in excess of your anticipated costs, you will be required to complete a Direct Deposit Form at least 15 business days in advance of receiving your refund. To complete the Direct Deposit Form, please go to [www.stu.edu/law/admissions/financial-aid/forms](http://www.stu.edu/law/admissions/financial-aid/forms). You will need to provide the name of your financial institution, along with their routing number and your personal

account number. Should your bank information change, you will need to submit updated Direct Deposit information to the University by submitting a new Direct Deposit Form. For further information or assistance, please contact the University's Student Accounts Office at (305) 474-6977.

## STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS

### Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program

As a law student you may be eligible to borrow up to \$20,500 per academic year (Fall-Spring) through the Stafford Loan program, if you are a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, and meet all other eligibility requirements for Federal Student Aid. These loans have a fixed interest rate of 5.28%\* and interest will begin accruing at disbursement. This loan is also subject to a 1.057%\* federal loan fee deducted at the time of disbursement. There is no credit check required and you will not be required to make payments on this loan while you are in school at least half-time. Your total aggregate borrowing limit under the Stafford Loan program is \$138,500 (including undergraduate loans).

### Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Program for Graduate/Professional Students

In addition to the Stafford Loan, law students needing to borrow more than \$20,500 per academic year (Fall-Spring) may be eligible to borrow additional funds through the Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan program. The Direct Grad PLUS Loan may allow you to borrow up to your Cost of Attendance minus all other forms of financial aid you will be receiving. Interest on this loan will begin accruing at disbursement at a fixed rate of 6.28%\* and a 4.228%\* federal loan fee will be deducted at disbursement. Although the Direct PLUS Loan enters repayment immediately after the loan is fully disbursed, you are not required to make payments while you are in school at least half-time. This loan is subject to credit approval based on criteria established by the U.S. Department of Education. If your application is declined due to adverse credit, you may be given the option to appeal the credit decision or apply with an endorser. Should your loan be approved, with a successful appeal or obtaining a credit-worthy endorser, you will be required to complete a PLUS Loan Counseling session at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) prior to your loan being disbursed. To learn if your loan will be approved for credit, you may complete the "Apply for a Direct PLUS Loan" Process (this is a credit check) online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) after May 1<sup>st</sup>.

*\*Rates and Fees are subject to change. For more information on the Federal Direct Student Loan Programs please visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).*

### Private Loans

Private or Alternative Loans are non-federal student loans typically borrowed by students who are not eligible for Federal student loans, or otherwise chose not to borrow from the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Direct Student Loan Program. Private loans are subject to credit approval by your lender of choice. In some cases, you may be required to apply with a credit-worthy cosigner. Although the private loan may allow you to borrow up to your total Cost of Attendance (COA), you should borrow only what you need. In most cases, these loans have variable interest rates and repayment terms may vary between lenders. International students may be required to apply with a credit-worthy United States citizen as a co-signer/borrower. In some cases, the lender may require that you submit additional information along with your application such as proof of U.S. citizenship or proof of income. It is strongly suggested that students consider borrowing through the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Direct Student

Loan Programs before pursuing any private or alternative loan programs. If your total COA has been met by other forms of assistance (scholarships, grants, federal loans, etc.) you will not be eligible for a private/alternative loan. Private loans cannot be consolidated with your federal loans, and repayment options and incentives may vary from those offered by the U.S. Department of Education.

#### Bar Study Loans

Bar Study Loans are credit-based private loans (not a federal loan) that may be borrowed to assist JD graduates with costs related to the Bar Exam. Students may apply for a Bar Study Loan in their last year of law school. The funds from the Bar Study Loan are disbursed directly to the student from their lender of choice. Most Bar Study Loans have variable interest rates and the borrower benefits may vary between lenders. Because Bar Study Loans are private loans they cannot be consolidated with your federal loans, and repayment options and incentives may vary from those offered by the U.S. Department of Education. In most cases, lenders will require the school to certify your graduation date before funds can be disbursed.

### **FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN EXIT COUNSELING**

In accordance with federal regulations, all students who have received a Federal Stafford and/or Grad PLUS Loan while attending the University must complete Loan Exit Counseling prior to leaving the University or graduating, whichever comes first. The purpose of the Loan Exit Counseling is to advise the borrower of the amount of indebtedness, deferment, forbearance, and consolidation provisions related to loan repayment. The student can complete the Loan Exit Counseling online by visiting the U.S. Department of Education's website at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov).

### **HOW TO BORROW WISELY**

Don't borrow without looking into alternate methods of financing your education (i.e. scholarships, fellowships, savings, family assistance, etc.)

If you must borrow a private loan, carefully compare loan terms, including interest rates, loan fees, and repayment incentives.

Repay your debts as soon as possible, the longer you owe, the more you will pay.

To help secure your financial future, don't borrow more than what you will be able to afford to repay.

Try to borrow as little as possible. Borrow ONLY what you need.

### **STANDARDS OF SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS**

The federal regulations governing the student financial assistance programs stipulate that in order to continue to be eligible for Title IV funds (i.e. Direct Stafford Loans, Direct PLUS Loan, Federal Perkins Loans, and Federal Work Study) students must maintain satisfactory academic progress towards a degree. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) will be reviewed at the end of each semester. To maintain satisfactory academic progress, students must achieve both a minimum grade point average (GPA) and complete a minimum number of credit hours as defined below.

#### Qualitative Measure (GPA):

All Law students are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

Quantitative Measure (PACE):

All law students are required to complete a minimum of 67% of all credit hours attempted.

Maximum Time Frame:

Law students are eligible to receive financial aid up to 50% over and above the maximum number of credit hours required to obtain his/her law degree as defined in the University's Catalog.

Additional information regarding the Financial Aid Standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress may be found online at [www.stu.edu/law/financial-aid](http://www.stu.edu/law/financial-aid).

Merit Scholarships and other Institutional Awards may be subject to other measures of Satisfactory Academic Progress determined by the College of Law.

### **DEFICIENCIES/PREREQUISITES**

Students who are admitted with deficiencies and/or prerequisites will have those credits added to their minimum degree requirements.

### **TREATMENT OF PUNITIVE AND NONPUNITIVE GRADES AND COURSES**

All courses applicable to a student's major (whenever taken, including academically forgiven courses and grade replacements) are included in evaluating a student's satisfactory academic progress. Audited courses are not considered in awarding financial aid; therefore, they will not be counted in the determination of satisfactory academic progress. Incomplete (I) grades will be calculated as failing grades for GPA and Credit Hour Completion until the course has been satisfactorily completed. For the purposes of Federal Financial Assistance, students granted Academic Amnesty will have all credits attempted and all grades prior to re-starting at the College of Law included in the calculation of Satisfactory Academic Progress.

### **NOTIFICATION OF SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STATUS**

Before issuing an award, the Director of Law Student Financial Services will review the applicant's eligibility based on the student's academic performance at the end of each semester. Students who have not met the minimum standards of satisfactory academic progress will be placed on Financial Aid Warning for one semester. Students who have not met the minimum standards of satisfactory academic progress at the end of two consecutive semesters will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension. Students placed on Financial Aid Suspension will not be eligible to receive additional federal student aid funding (including federal loans).

### **REINSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY**

A student may regain eligibility by:

- Achieving the required GPA and Credit Hour Completion as outlined above.
- Appealing the financial aid decision as described below.



## APPEAL PROCESS

A law student who does not meet satisfactory academic progress standards and is able to document extenuating circumstances may appeal the suspension or termination of financial aid eligibility.

1. To appeal, the student must submit the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form (available from the College of Law's Student Financial Services Office) with proper documentation to the Director of Law Student Financial Services.
2. Provide in writing a one-page "academic plan" on how he or she plans to regain satisfactory academic standards.
3. The student will be notified of the decision within 15 business days of the receipt date.

More information on the Federal Financial Aid Appeal Process is available online at [www.stu.edu/law/admissions/financial-aid](http://www.stu.edu/law/admissions/financial-aid).

Note: All charges incurred during any period of time for which a student's aid is denied/suspended are the sole responsibility of the student.

## DROPPING/WITHDRAWING

Federal student aid is subject to the U.S. Department of Education's Return of Title IV funds policy which states that when a student completely drops or withdraws from school during a semester in which he/she received federal student aid (including loans), the school must calculate, according to formulas defined by the U.S. Department of Education, the portion of aid the student earned for the time he/she was enrolled in school. If a student completely drops or withdraws from school prior to completing at least 60% of the semester, you (the student) and/or the school may be required to return all or a portion of the aid awarded to you, and you may incur a balance with the University. To avoid any unnecessary financial hardship, you should consult with the Director of Law Student Financial Services prior to dropping or withdrawing.

Financial aid is refunded based on the date of withdrawal from St. Thomas University. Refunds to the federal student financial aid programs must be made prior to issuing a refund to the student. The order of distribution of refunds is as follows:

1. Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan
2. Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan
3. Federal Perkins Loan
4. Direct PLUS Loan for Graduate/Professional Students
5. Other Title IV Programs
6. Other non-federal financial aid
7. Student

Your ability to drop or withdraw from a class and the procedures for doing so, are set out in the section of the Handbook entitled "Withdrawals".

## **RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

As a student you have the right to:

- Information regarding application procedures, cost of attendance, aid availability, financial need, awarding criteria, and disbursement information.
- Information regarding tuition and fees as well as refund policies and procedures (available in the Business Office Handbook).
- Information regarding the terms and conditions of student loans (provided by your student loan lender).
- Information regarding how academic progress is determined (available in the school's catalog or website).
- Make Inquiries regarding the status of your financial aid application.
- Accept or decline all or any portion of the financial aid being offered to you.

As a Student you are Responsible for:

- Submitting valid financial aid applications in a timely manner for each academic year for which you are seeking financial assistance.
- Providing all documentation, verification information, and corrections as requested by the Office of Financial Aid, Federal Processor, or your lender/servicer.
- Reading and responding, if necessary, to all materials sent to you from the Office of Financial Aid, Federal Processor, or your lender/servicer.
- Knowing and complying with rules governing the aid you are receiving including enrollment requirements and satisfactory academic progress.
- Knowing the conditions and repayment terms of any loans you borrow as well as completing the Loan Entrance Counseling prior to receiving any disbursements of a Direct Stafford or Direct Grad PLUS Loan.
- Completing a Loan Exit Counseling prior to graduation or separation from school.
- Paying any tuition, fees, room, and board, or other expenses not covered by your financial aid.

## **PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT**

First-year students and any student taking more than 9 credits are strongly discouraged from any outside employment during the academic year. First-year students are not authorized for work-study to be research assistants or other university-sponsored employment.

## **WORK STUDY PROGRAMS**

### LEGAL RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Students who have completed the first year of law school may be eligible for positions as research assistants. Research assistants work a maximum of 20 hours per week. Research assistants are selected by faculty members and are generally students who have demonstrated strong research and scholastic abilities.

### WORK STUDY

This is a limited need-based program providing on-campus jobs for second- and third-

year students. The application process is similar to that for federal financial aid. The average work-study award is \$2,000 per semester.

### ACADEMIC SUCCESS FELLOWS

Upper-level law students who have demonstrated excellence in their academic careers may be selected to serve as Academic Success Fellows. Academic Success Fellows work a maximum of twenty hours per week.

## **VETERAN BENEFITS**

St. Thomas University is approved for undergraduate, graduate, and law educational benefits for veterans and eligible dependents under current public law. Students who may be eligible for educational benefits under any Veterans Administration program should contact:

Veterans Administration Regional Office  
PO Box 100022  
Decatur, GA 30031-7022  
(800) 827-1000  
[www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

### Chapter 33 Yellow Ribbon

St. Thomas University College of Law is proud to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program established by the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008. Beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, students who are eligible for Chapter 33 benefits at the 100% rate will receive up to \$26,042.81 and up to an additional \$10,000 in Yellow Ribbon Match per academic year (August 1-July 31) in education benefits to cover tuition and fees. Depending on your years of service, you may also be eligible for housing and book allowances payable by VA. Your veteran's educational benefit is determined by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

Before St. Thomas University College of Law can submit your enrollment certification to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs you will be required to provide the following documents to the School's Certifying Official for VA Benefits.

Copy of your Application For VA Education Benefits (VA 22-1990)  
Copy of your DD214  
Copy of your Certificate of Eligibility Letter

For more information, or to apply for Veteran's Educational Benefits, eligible students MUST contact the VA Regional Office at least one semester in advance of the date of their intended enrollment in the College of Law and submit all required documents.

### VA Pending Payment Compliance

In accordance with Title 38 US Code 3679 subsection (e), this school adopts the following additional provisions for any students using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post 9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33) or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (Ch. 31) benefits, while payment to the institution is pending from the VA.

This school will not:

Prevent the student's enrollment;

Assess a late penalty fee to the student;

Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding;

Deny the student access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fee bills to the institution.

However, to qualify for this provision, such students may be required to:

Produce the VA Certificate of Eligibility (COE) by the first day of class;

Provide a written request to be certified;

Provide additional information needed to properly certify the enrollment as described in other institutional policies.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

Scholarships, fellowships, and awards are administered through the College of Law Office of Student and Alumni Relations, unless otherwise noted, and are awarded on an annual basis subject to the availability of funds. Applications are available in the Office of Student Services.

### **COLLEGE OF LAW SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### COLLEGE OF LAW MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available to qualified J.D. students based on scholastic achievement and the availability of funds. For entering first-year students, eligibility is based on the LSAT and undergraduate GPA. Eligibility for second- and third-year students is based on class rank and law school GPA. Consideration for merit scholarships is automatically given to all students; no formal application is required. All awards are made on a yearly basis. Transfer students are considered after they complete a full year at St. Thomas. For additional information on specific award criteria, contact the Office of Admissions.

#### DONOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Donor scholarships and awards are administered through the College of Law Office of Student Affairs and are awarded on an annual basis subject to the availability of funds. Applications donor scholarships are made available to every student during the Fall, and funds are typically awarded for the Spring Term.

For a complete list of donor scholarships please visit:

<https://www.stu.edu/law/admissions/financial-aid/types-of-aid/donor->

## ACADEMIC PROBATION AND EXCLUSION

Students in their first two regular (fall or spring) semesters of law school:

If any student (including a transfer student) fails to make a grade point average of 1.65 or greater in his or her first semester, then he or she will be subject to dismissal and will be dismissed unless the student files a petition as provided under the following section entitled "Policies and Procedures for Petitioning to Continue in Academic Program." If that petition is granted the student then continues in school for his or her second semester and is subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, below. If the student fails to file a petition or files a petition and the petition is denied, then the student shall be dismissed, and the student shall have no further right to petition or to appeal the dismissal.

If a student makes a grade point average of at least 1.65 but less than 2.0 in his or her first semester, then he or she is automatically allowed to continue in law school but is considered on "Academic Probation" and not in "Good Standing."

If a student makes a grade point average of at least 2.0 in his or her first semester then he or she is considered in "Good Standing."

Notwithstanding paragraph 3, above, all students must have a *cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (or above) at the end of their second semester or they will be* subject to dismissal and will be dismissed unless the student files a petition as provided under the section entitled "Policies and Procedures for Petitioning to Continue in Academic Program."

If a student takes a leave of absence after completing only one semester, then upon his or her return in the subsequent fall or spring, he or she will be considered in his or her "second" semester.

For purposes of these provisions, courses taken during a summer session will be deemed to have been taken during the following fall or spring semester.

All students following the completion of the first two semesters of law school:

After completing the first two semesters of law school, every student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above. In the event a student's cumulative grade point average falls below a 2.0 in any semester, then he or she is placed on Academic Probation and considered not in "Good Standing".

In the semester following the semester in which the student's cumulative grade point average fell below 2.0 and he or she was placed on Academic Probation, the student must increase his or her cumulative grade point average to 2.0 or above, or the student will be subject to dismissal and will be dismissed unless the student files a petition as provided under the following section entitled "Policies and Procedures for Petitioning to Continue in Academic Program."

A student who has completed the number of semester hours required for graduation, but has failed to achieve a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (or above) will not graduate and may not continue in the College of Law, except with the express approval of the Dean.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF BEING PLACED**

### **ON ACADEMIC PROBATION**

If a student's grade point average falls below a 2.0 and that student is put on academic probation, the student may be required to take additional courses.

If a student was ever on academic probation, the student will not be eligible to participate in any of the joint degree programs and the student must receive approval of their class schedule from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (or a person that the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs designates) before the student may register for classes each semester.

A student on Academic Probation is not allowed any absences in any classes, except for illness or other extraordinary circumstances beyond his or her control. Accruing absences in classes will lead to automatic dismissal.

If a student is financing his or her legal education with loans, he or she should also be aware that eligibility for those loans may depend on the student making "satisfactory academic progress". For further information on how academic performance can affect eligibility for loans see the section of this handbook regarding Financial Aid.

### **PROBATION MODIFICATION**

Any student who goes on "Academic Probation" as defined in the Handbook may be required to add additional courses as "required" for graduation. If such a determination is made, the student will be advised in writing of the additional course(s) required by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

### **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT MODIFICATION**

Any student who is placed on "Academic Probation," as defined herein, may be required to take additional, specific classes as a prerequisite to graduation. If a student is so required, he or she will be notified of the additional requirement(s) in writing by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

### **READMISSION**

If a student was dismissed for failing to have at least a 1.65 then the student may subsequently apply for admission and be considered as a new applicant. Any other student who is excluded from the College of Law for academic reasons may seek to continue school by submitting a petition for readmission and said petition is granted by the Academic Standing Committee. In determining questions of readmission, the Committee will be governed by the applicable standards and guidelines of the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools, in addition to the College of Law's Policies and Procedures for Readmission.

A student seeking readmission should review the College of Law's Policies and Procedures for Petitions for Readmission contained herein or obtain a separate copy from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. A copy of the petition is available online at the St. Thomas Law College website under "Students".

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PETITIONING TO CONTINUE IN ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

The following policies and procedures apply to the submission and determination of petitions for readmission to St. Thomas University College of Law.

1. A student wishing to continue his or her legal studies at St. Thomas University College of Law ("the College of Law") who is subject to dismissal due to his or her grade point average, as discussed in the section above entitled "Academic Probation and Exclusion" must petition the Academic Standing Committee (the "Committee") or he or she will be dismissed.
2. A student wishing to petition the Committee may obtain a petition and copy of these Policies and Procedures from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs or online at the St. Thomas Law website under "Students".
3. The petition and all required supporting documentation must be filed with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs by the deadline set by the Committee for the year in question. The student must provide the Office of the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs with five copies of all supporting documentation.
4. The student has the burden of proof with regard to all matters relating to the petition.
5. All requirements set forth in the petition and in herein are mandatory. Noncompliance with any of these requirements can result in the denial of the petition.
6. No petition shall be granted unless the Committee finds that the record (consisting of the petition, documents submitted in connection with it, the petitioner's law school file and the preponderance of credible testimony, if any, given at a hearing) affirmatively demonstrates that the student possesses the requisite ability, and that the prior poor academic performance does not indicate a lack of capacity, to successfully complete the course of study at the Law School.
7. Students subject to dismissal for failing to have at least a 1.65 GPA in his or her first semester of law school must file a petition within the deadline set forth in the notice of being subject to dismissal by the Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. If the student fails to timely file a petition, then he or she is dismissed and shall have no right to petition or appeal. If the student timely files a petition, then he or she shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing. The student has the option of appearing at the hearing in person. Following the hearing and a deliberation of the Academic Standing Committee the student will be timely informed of the Committee's determination. If the Committee denies the student's petition, then he or she shall be immediately dismissed and will not have any further right to petition or appeal the dismissal. If the Committee grants the petition, then the student shall have the right to continue in College of Law in his or her second semester.
8. Any other student subject to dismissal as provided in section entitled, "Academic Probation and Exclusion," must either file a petition within the time set out in the notice that the student is subject to dismissal or request an extension to file a petition. The extension can in no case exceed more than 1 year.

If the student does not timely file a petition or request an extension to file a petition, then he or she shall be dismissed. If the student is dismissed under this provision, then

he or she will have to wait two years from the date of the dismissal to petition for readmission.

If the student files a petition, then he or she shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing. The student has the option of appearing at the hearing in person. Following the hearing and deliberation of the Academic Standing Committee, the student will be timely informed of the Committee's determination. If the Committee grants the petition, the student is allowed to continue in school for one additional semester (or some other time determined by the Committee) and must meet any of the academic standards required by the Committee. If the Committee denies the student's petition he or she shall be immediately dismissed and he or she will have to wait two years from the date of the dismissal to petition for readmission. A petition for readmission will be considered only if the petitioner can still graduate no later than five years from the time of his or her initial matriculation.

9. The decision of the Committee with regard to a petition filed pursuant to paragraph 7 and 8, above, is final and not subject to review or appeal.

10. A student who bases his or her petition on medical reasons must also:

Sign a waiver of doctor-patient confidentiality, deliver a copy to the treating physician and attach a copy to the petition; and

Submit a letter from the treating physician explaining: (i) the nature of the medical problem; (ii) the opinion, if any, of the doctor as to the causal relationship between the problem and the student's academic performance or separation from the Law School; and (iii) the likely effect, if any, of that problem on the student's future academic performance.

11. All student petitioners before the Committee shall, upon request, be given a personal hearing. The personal appearance shall not substitute for, or excuse; the complete written petition. The hearing will be informal and will normally be closed to any person not on the Committee. The petitioner should briefly outline points not made in the application, present any written or oral evidence supporting his or her petition, and be willing to answer any questions or supply any information requested by the Committee.

12. The Committee will debate the petition outside the presence of the petitioner and vote by secret ballot. The student will be permitted to continue with his or her studies only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.

13. The Assistant Dean for Student Affairs will inform the petitioner of the Committee's decision in writing and by use of the student's St. Thomas University email.

14. The Committee may, *inter alia*:

Grant a petition, subject to any condition(s) it deems proper to impose; *Note that the Committee may impose more rigorous academic requirements and/or the completion of and/or additional courses require courses to be retaken than are otherwise required of a student not previously dismissed.*

Require that the petitioner submit additional information or documentation on any question posed in the petition or otherwise relevant to readmission;

Convene a hearing and require that the petitioner and others appear;



Dismiss an incomplete petition; or

Deny a petition.

15. The Committee will consider several factors, including, but not limited to:

The best interests of the College of Law as an educational institution, including the maintenance of high standards of academic excellence and professional responsibility among members of the student body;

As the paramount criteria for the decision to permit a student to continue his or her studies, the student's reasonable prospect for success in the course of study at the Law School;

Any evidence of correctable problems or disabilities that may have contributed to the student's academic performance;

The extent to which it appears that a petitioner's previous academic, personal, medical, financial or other concerns, if any, have been addressed and satisfactorily resolved; and

The activities of the student, undertaken after leaving the Law School, to improve his or her prospect for successfully completing the study of law.

## **FINANCIAL AID AND READMISSION**

To qualify for Financial Aid a student must make satisfactory academic progress. (See section in this Handbook entitled "Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress") Any student subject to dismissal may have failed to make "satisfactory academic progress." If a student is allowed to continue because his or her petition to continue in school is granted by the Academic Standing Committee the student may still not qualify for financial aid. Granting of a petition does not serve to ensure that the readmitted student will be eligible for Financial Aid.

Any student in this situation should address this issue with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

## **READMISSION OR RETURNING TO THE COLLEGE OF LAW**

When a student is out of school for any reason (for example, leave of absence, dismissal, visiting other school) he or she will be obligated to meet the graduation and educational requirements in place at the time the student is readmitted or returns to the College of Law.

## **READMITTED STUDENT**

If a student attended St. Thomas University College of Law and was academically dismissed and subsequently readmitted and allowed to restart law school, then the earlier attendance and grades earned remains on the student's transcript and are used in calculating Financial Aid eligibility. However, those grades are not used in calculating the new grade point average for such a student.

## **TRANSCRIPTS**

A transcript is the student's official academic record. Requests for official transcripts are

ordered online through the National Student Clearinghouse. To order transcripts please visit

[https://secure.studentclearinghouse.org/tsorder/faces/TranscriptOrder?\\_afLoop=1942687685770274&\\_afWindowMode=0&\\_adf.ctrl-state=1ddcjenf2l\\_4#firstload](https://secure.studentclearinghouse.org/tsorder/faces/TranscriptOrder?_afLoop=1942687685770274&_afWindowMode=0&_adf.ctrl-state=1ddcjenf2l_4#firstload)

All transcripts from other institutions and other materials submitted to St. Thomas University College of Law become the sole property of the University and cannot be returned to the student. The College of Law does not provide transcripts from other colleges or universities. Transcripts of records from other institutions must be obtained from those institutions.

All students must provide an official transcript confirming a bachelor's degree was awarded within forty-five days of matriculation. Failure to provide the required transcript will lead to the student being involuntary withdrawn from all courses.

## **LETTERS OF GOOD STANDING**

Letters of good standing certify that a student has a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above. Requests for letters of good standing should be made in writing to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. The request should state the reason the letter is needed and the name and address to which the letter should be sent. Letters of good standing are normally sent within 3 working days, however during periods of high work volume, a period of up to 10 working days may be required. Letters of good standing for transfer purposes are sent after grades have been received for the existing semester. A student who has failed to satisfy financial obligations to the College of Law and/or the University will not be granted a letter of good standing.

## **STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

The Student Health Center is dedicated to promoting health and well-being from the foundation of Catholic Identity guidelines for University communities. Our work is based upon the principles of Catholic Social Teachings and Catholic Health Care: the care and dignity of the individual, attending to the needs of the marginalized and disenfranchised, respect for workers, care of the environment, and the promotion of peace and nonviolence in our world. At St. Thomas University, we have the unique advantage of providing an intimate, family education model, aimed at '*developing leaders for life.*' The Student Health Center staff generally holds a master (or above) level certification, in addition to contracted health care services provided by Baptist Health Primary Care.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Student Health Center aims to promote the physical, emotional, behavioral, and mental health of students in a personalized, supportive, and professional manner as they prepare to become *leaders for life* in our global community.

Location: Building 15, Glasshouse, Near Cascia Hall

## SERVICES

**Mental Health Counseling:** The Student Health Center provides students with assistance in addressing mental, emotional and behavioral concerns. Professional staff provides a variety of assessment, treatment and psycho-educational services. Student interns in the Marriage and Family Therapy Counseling program are able to offer couples counseling, family therapy, individual therapy, and group therapy. Services typically include brief psychotherapy, crisis intervention, referral programs, and psycho-educational resource materials. Through our comprehensive educational wellness programs, students may engage in “hands on” learning opportunities on special integrative wellness topics. The center also offers consultation services for faculty and staff to contribute to the overall goal of student success. Confidentiality is a foundational principle supporting our services.

**Acute Medical Care:** To support the well-being of our students and in conjunction with our mission, services provided by a Medical Doctor and an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner—through our contractual agreement with the Baptist Health Primary Care—include: annual physical exams, sick visits, FLU vaccinations, chronic disease management, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, treatment for Common Illnesses and Ailment, labs on site ordered by our physician, medication prescriptions. Individuals with medical concerns that require specialized diagnosis and treatment, or more comprehensive care are referred to a physician, clinic or hospital. Medical services received as a result of a referral are generally at the student’s expense and based upon insurance provisions. Emergency medical care is obtained at Urgent Care Centers or hospitals. Transportation to these centers is usually provided by ambulances or, in less severe cases, students may arrange for their own transportation. Emergency and urgent care medical services are partially covered by students’ health insurance. This includes ambulance services. For more information, please visit our web pages, <https://www.stu.edu/students/student-affairs/student-health-center/>

**Contact:** For non-emergency questions regarding student health insurance, general health care, or to make an appointment in the University clinic, contact the front desk at (305) 474-6921. To make an appointment for counseling services, call (305) 628-6695 or e-mail Maria Bedoya at [Mgaravito@stu.edu](mailto:Mgaravito@stu.edu). For emergencies, call 911.

**Hours:**

Clinic:	Monday - Friday.....	8:30am - 5:00pm
Counseling:	Monday - Friday.....	9:00am - 5:00pm

## STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

**Student Insurance:** All full-time undergraduate, international, and law students are required to have adequate health insurance. This policy is in place for the sole purpose of safeguarding the well-being of students. There are no exceptions to this policy. If you do not have personal health insurance, an affordable health insurance plan is available for students of St. Thomas University. All full-time undergraduates, international, and law students are automatically enrolled in this insurance plan for the 2021-2022 academic year unless proof of comparable health coverage is provided online by the

waiver deadline date. The Student Health Center communicates to students through St. Thomas University e-mail accounts, this includes the waive/enroll insurance information and deadline. Please be very careful to check your STU email regularly for updates on verifying existing health insurance, enrolling for student health insurance, and for all applicable deadlines. It is each student's sole responsibility to assure full cooperation with the guidelines for health insurance enrollment every calendar year. Each student is required to submit proof of health insurance. Active insurance status will be checked for accuracy. Both enrollment for the insurance and providing proof of alternative insurance must be done entirely online during the period of July 1<sup>st</sup> through September 10, 2021. For complete details of the plan benefits, enrollment and waiver deadlines, please visit: <https://www.stu.edu/students/student-affairs/student-health-center/student-health-insurance/>

**Health Record Requirements:** All incoming first year and transfer students (Undergraduate and Law) must submit immunization records and physical forms prior to starting the semester. St. Thomas University requires the following immunizations: Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR): 2 doses, Hepatitis B (3 doses). Students living on campus are required to have the Meningitis (MCV4) vaccine (1 dose after 16th birthday). You will need to visit [medproctor.com](http://medproctor.com) to register your new account. You will need to have an updated, physician certified immunization record. Students should take the [MedProctor Immunization-Certificate-STU.pdf](#) into their medical provider to complete the required documentation. Alternatively, students may upload a copy of their complete immunization record, so long as it is signed by their medical provider. Student athletes will have their own physical forms coordinated by the athletic department but are still required to submit the immunization forms. Check the Student Health Center webpage for information and University Immunization Guidelines and for health forms. <https://www.stu.edu/students/student-affairs/student-health-center/insurance-and-forms/>

At St. Thomas University, the Student Health Center reminds you that *"Health is a Unity of Mind, Body and Spirit."*

## **NOTICE REGARDING HEALTH INSURANCE**

All law students are required to have health insurance. If a student has his or her own policy, he or she must provide proof of insurance by the established deadline. The student must submit Proof of Insurance every year. If the student does not provide proof of insurance by the established deadline, he or she will automatically be enrolled in the insurance program provided by the University. To find out more about the University's health insurance program the student can go to <http://www.aiststudentinsurance.com/stu>. The insurance is charged directly to the student's account in the fall and spring terms.

The student might want to shop for health insurance with private insurance companies. Also, the Law Student Division of the ABA makes available a health insurance program for law students. In order to purchase the ABA policy, the student must be a member of the Law Student Division of the ABA. The student can access information about the Law Student Division of the ABA at [www.abanet.org/newstudent](http://www.abanet.org/newstudent).

Proof of insurance must be submitted online to AIS/Aetna Student Health. Objective criteria must be met by any policy that a student is using to waive the coverage otherwise provided by AIS/Aetna Student Health. In order to waive out of the AIS/Aetna Student Health policy the student must timely submit proof of insurance that meets those criteria.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

It is with great joy that we welcome you to Campus Ministry! The Campus Ministry team takes a leading role in the mission of Catholic Higher Education by assisting and mentoring students, faculty and staff in the ongoing tasks of faith and spiritual formation, evangelization and participation in the sacramental life of the Church and different faith sharing programs.

Campus ministry, driven by the Catholic identity at St. Thomas University, recognizes four essential characteristics and uniqueness of a Catholic University as highlighted in the Apostolic Constitution *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* - On Catholic Universities (Par. 13: 1). Christian Inspiration: Not simply individuals, but the Catholic university as a whole. 2) Faith Reflection: In the light of the Catholic Christian faith upon the growing treasury of human knowledge. 3) Fidelity to the Christian Message: In order to transmit the Christian message. 4) Service to the Church and Humanity: keeping an institutional commitment of service to the people of God and to the entire human family.

The word “Catholic” means universal. “We are a Catholic university because we seek truth through the intellectual life, because we want to be a transformative presence in the world; because we seek to infuse the world with compassion and faith, animated by the spirit of Christ (*Ex Corde* 21); because we ground our work in the hope to be found in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Catholic belief and practice (STU, *Catholic Identity Statement*, 2016).” The Campus Ministry team, composed by faculty, staff and students, is also sensitive to the ecumenical and interfaith dimension of the University’s population by “welcoming people from all religious and humanistic traditions (*The Uniqueness of a Catholic University*, 1990).”

Mission: The Pastoral letter written by the US Catholic Bishops, *Empowered by the Spirit: Campus Ministry Faces the Future*, notes: “Campus ministry is one of the important ways the Church exercises her mission in higher education. Its goals include promoting theological study and reflection on the nature of human beings so that intellectual, moral, and spiritual growth can proceed together; sustaining a Christian community on campus, with the pastoral care and liturgical worship it requires. (*Empowered by the Spirit*, 21).” It is at the center of the community and joyfully serves and celebrates the students, faculty, staff, administration, alumni and beyond.

This Mission has been identified in the formation of student peer ministry leaders who are mentored by the Campus Ministry Staff at STU, so they can lead and participate in the different initiatives that ignite faith on Campus and beyond (their families, social circles, parish/church, communities of faith, and workplaces). “We actively engage ever-widening circles of relationship and responsibility, beginning with each person’s own spirit and moving out (STU, *Catholic Identity Statement*, 2016).” The staff invites our entire community to participate by bringing their many different gifts and talents that

enrich the community here at St. Thomas.

### **Campus Ministry Programs and Values**

**Fidelity to the Christian Message:** Recognizing our Sacramental call to love, compassion, care and solidarity with one another and strangers, along with a call of transformation. Ministry is built person to person. "Missionary renewal" requires "personal dialogue, when the other person speaks and shares his or her joys, hopes and concerns for loved ones, or so many other heartfelt needs (The Joy of the Gospel, 128)." This is possible through a ministry of presence accompanying each person's journey and at university programs organized throughout the school year.

**Christian Inspiration:** Reaching out one-on-one and igniting in faith through the celebration of the Eucharist as the source and summit of Catholic belief and practice. This is possible through daily Mass (Monday-Friday at 12:15 p.m.; Wednesday Mass at 6:00 p.m.), and Sunday Mass (7:00 p.m.) at the Chapel of Saint Anthony. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is available throughout the academic semester. Moreover, the Campus Ministry team is attentive to the liturgical celebrations that bring the seasons of Advent, Lent, Holy Week and Easter within the Catholic Church. Campus Ministry works in the organization of yearly celebrations such as Mass of the Holy Spirit, Baccalaureate Mass, Orientation Mass and other extraordinary celebrations. In addition, the Office of Campus Ministry and its staff extend solidarity with St. Thomas University students who observe feasts and religious holidays from other faith traditions.

**Faith Reflection:** Inviting students who are on a path to a deep and lifelong relationship with Christ through programs like: RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), IGNITE (STU Young Adult Group), and seasonal Retreats. In addition, Campus Ministry has an important role in contributing to theological study and reflection, with a pastoral and experiential learning component, within and beyond the classroom setting.

**Service to the Church:** Campus Ministry provides mentorship to help students take leadership in programs such as, but not limited to, bible study groups, faith-sharing adult nights, retreats, and service-learning opportunities. Students take leadership in liturgical roles as sacristan, altar servers, lectors, and cantors. Mentorship and spiritual direction are also provide to assist and guide them in the process of vocational discernment. Such leadership and vocational opportunities are helpful tools as they build meaningful lives; grow in their academic and spiritual path and transform the world as they reach graduation and beyond.

**Collaboration with Law School Student Associations:**

The staff collaborates with other departments and student organizations in the planning and initiation of prayer services, opening prayers, faith sharing groups, workshops, religious services or holidays, etc. It also advises in matters related to faith and the spiritual needs of the students, faculty and staff. In their commitment to helping the community, they have sponsored a Food Drive, a Children's Book Drive, a Homeless Project, and Clothing Drive. At the end of each semester, a Mass for College of Law students in finals is celebrated at the Chapel of Saint Anthony. For more information about St. Thomas More Catholic Society, please contact the Dean's office.

Campus Ministry encourages all students, faculty and staff to visit our office and learn about how the ministry can help during their journey at STU. The team provides direct service to students in the office of Campus Ministry located in O'Malia Hall the Chapel of Saint Anthony, as well as throughout the entire campus. The Chapel of Saint Anthony is open throughout the day and provides our university community with a quiet place for private and communal prayer, worship and reflection. We welcome you warmly and invite you to join us and take a few minutes and enjoy a cup of coffee at the Campus Ministry offices in O'Malia Hall.

For more information of campus ministry programs and opportunities, contact: campusministry@stu.edu or (305) 628-6525.

Follow us on Instagram: @stu\_campusministry.

## **ON-CAMPUS HOUSING**

Law students have the opportunity to reserve housing in Villanova Hall, which offers private rooms with private baths. Students who live in the residence halls have the flexibility of paying for on-campus housing with a meal plan or choose to opt-out of the meal plan and pay less. Meals are available in the Bobcat Café cafeteria, which offers buffet-style dining, Einstein Bros. Bagel, and the Rathskeller, which offers a variety of sandwiches and grilled foods. Recreational facilities are also available at the convenience of the students when living on-campus. These facilities include basketball and tennis courts, a pool area, and a weight room. Students interested in on-campus housing are advised to apply early for the limited spaces available. For more information, please contact the Residence Life & Community Standards Office directly at (305) 628-6543 or (305) 628-6652, e-mail: reslife@stu.edu.

## **FERNANDEZ FAMILY CENTER**

### **FOR LEADERSHIP AND WELLNESS**

The Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness is a teaching and learning center that offers students the opportunity to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The center is the home for Bobcat Athletic teams and a learning laboratory for the nationally ranked Sports Administration program. The Fernandez Family Center (FFC) is the home court for the Bobcat Women's Volleyball team and the Men's and Women's Basketball teams. Additionally, the facility is used for intramural sports, university commencement, and special events.

## **INTRAMURALS AND RECREATION**

The Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness' Intramurals and Recreation department offers a variety of activities featuring team and individual/dual competition. These year-round activities include flag football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, table tennis (ping pong) and more.

The FFC Department has several recreational facilities located on campus for use by current faculty, staff, and students. The Fernandez Family Center for Leadership and Wellness concession and lounge area, full size gymnasium for volleyball and basketball, locker rooms, and an Ogazon Family Fronton-racquetball court. Additional recreational facilities include an outdoor swimming pool, outdoor basketball courts, Dominick Miniaci Beach volleyball courts, and tennis courts. Use of all recreational facilities requires a valid STU ID.

Mission: St. Thomas University is dedicated to placing an emphasis on providing students ongoing social, physical, intellectual, and cultural development. Students will have the ability to achieve these developmental needs through participation in Intramurals and Recreational Sports activities. Intramurals and Recreational Sports afford students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to work together to strengthen personal development while enhancing academic productivity through the increase of physical fitness, psychological health, wellness, and exercise. All Intramurals and Recreational Sports programs highlight and reward values such as sportsmanship, leadership, teamwork, and lifelong leisure skills. The goal of Intramurals and Recreational Sports is to be as varied as possible to support the diverse population at St. Thomas University in addition to participation among the local educational institutions.

For more information call (305) 474-6874; [www.stu.edu/ffc](http://www.stu.edu/ffc) or follow us on: [www.facebook.com/FernandezFC](https://www.facebook.com/FernandezFC); [www.twitter.com/FernandezFC](https://www.twitter.com/FernandezFC); and on Instagram: @stuintramurals.

## **PARKING AND AUTO REGISTRATION POLICIES**

### **PARKING POLICY**

St. Thomas University (STU) requires that all motor vehicles, owned and/or operated by students, Faculty and Staff which park in any of the campus parking areas, shall be registered with the Department of Public Safety. This registration is done in order to obtain a student or employee parking decal.

Each individual is responsible for operating their vehicle in a safe and courteous manner on the St. Thomas University campus. Students, Faculty, and Staff must adhere to all traffic and parking signs. Parking of any motor vehicles on the grass, medians, sidewalks, and places not designated as parking areas is illegal.

Traffic regulations will be enforced 24 hours a day by the patrol officers of St. Thomas University. A maximum speed limit of 20 MPH will be enforced on the campus at all times. Speeding, failing to stop at stop signs and failing to adhere to informational signs will be considered a violation and citations will be issued accordingly.

Every St. Thomas University student, faculty and staff member who operates a motor vehicle on the University campus must register his or her vehicle. Individuals using more than one vehicle must register each vehicle separately. Registration must be done within the first two weeks of class ONLINE and the decal must be picked up at the 32nd Avenue gatehouse. A decal distribution schedule will be sent to students, faculty, and



staff via their STU email for the locations during the first two weeks of class.

## **PARKING PROCEDURES**

The following information will be needed to receive a parking decal: 1) A complete parking application via STU website [www.stu.edu](http://www.stu.edu); 2) A picture ID (student or staff); 3) A vehicle state registration; 4) Proof of current insurance; and 5) A valid driver's license.

The first decal issued to any individual student or staff is free. Staff members can also receive a second decal free of charge. Decals are not transferable, and separate decals must be purchased for each vehicle registered. Decals are not valid if exchanged among and between individuals.

All decals must be attached to the appropriate vehicle as per instructions provided by the Department of Public Safety at the time of issuance.

Additional parking decals are available for users with more than one vehicle as well as replacement decals for ones that have been stolen or lost. There is a cost of \$30.00 for each additional or replacement decal and shall be purchased at the Business Office. Proof of receipt must be provided before obtaining a second decal.

The decals shall be displayed in the bottom left corner of the rear window on the driver's side, outside of the vehicle.

All Faculty and Staff parking decals will be issued by the Department of Public Safety. Failure to register motor vehicles will result in ticketing, a \$30 per day fine and/or the eventual towing of illegally parked vehicles at the owner's expense.

Any individual temporarily driving a vehicle without a decal, must utilize the guest lane to enter campus in order to receive a parking pass for the day. Vehicles without this pass will be ticketed. These daily passes will only be valid for one day. Any individual needing a pass extension for a finite period must present their reason to the Director of Public Safety and will be determined case by case.

Guests can receive a parking pass valid only for the date of entry upon entering the main gatehouse located at 16401 NW 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Resident Hall Guests will receive their one entry parking pass from the main entrance located at 16401 NW 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, upon approved access. Vehicles parked on campus without a valid decal or parking pass are subject to being cited and fined.

## **GENERAL PARKING REGULATIONS**

Motorcycles are limited to campus roadways and are not to be driven on sidewalks or parked at the entrance of STU buildings.

Motorcycles are motorized vehicles, and as such are subject to the same decal requirements as automobiles.

Violations of STU's parking policy can result in a warning, citation, and/or towing of the vehicle. STU reserves the right to tow any vehicle which obstructs emergency services, illegally blocks another vehicle, or has been ticketed three or more times. All towing and storage fees are the sole responsibility of the driver/owner.

The Department of Public Safety reserves the right to remove a vehicle from the premises in situations where the vehicle presents safety concerns, i.e. leaking fuel or any other hazardous material. The license plate number and the new location of the towed vehicle will be recorded at the Public Safety Office. The Department of Public Safety reserves the right to deny access to the parking facilities until proof of the vehicle's repair has been presented to the Director of Public Safety or her representative. The owner of the vehicle will be responsible for any damage to University premises and any costs incurred by the University as a result of the condition of the vehicle.

Drivers shall park only where indicated and shall observe traffic signs. Violations of parking regulations may result in the immediate loss of parking privileges and violators' vehicles may be ticketed or towed. Tickets and towing are at the driver's risk and expense. Designated areas are to be used by permit holders only.

Bicycles are not permitted in University buildings.

Parking spaces have been allocated for disabled users whose vehicle displays a handicap tag or placard.

The University assumes no responsibility for loss, theft, or damages to vehicles parked in University parking, premises, or rented areas.

Other than residential students and visitors, overnight parking or any other long-term parking is prohibited unless authorized in advance by the Department of Public Safety.

No vehicle will be granted a permit that exceeds the normal parking stall size. No trailers (including house trailers, popup tent trailers, vehicle trailers, rental trailers) will be granted regular permits nor will they normally be permitted to park in University parking lots.

Neither Student nor Faculty and Staff parking decals guarantees the driver a parking space. The permit grants the driver permission to use campus-parking facilities.

In exceptional circumstances, the Director of Public Safety reserves the right to authorize the use of specific parking spaces by specific individuals in University-owned or rented space at his or her discretion.

The Director of Public Safety reserves the right to close parking facilities when conditions warrant and to reduce or remove parking spaces when required.

The overall responsibility for parking rests with the Department of Public Safety. Problems should be referred to the Director of Public Safety.

Parking permits are non-transferable from one individual to another or from one vehicle to another.

Failure to pick up your decal after the parking application has been submitted may result in citations.

All parking and traffic fines must be paid before the release of school records, diplomas, and certificates.

Abandoned vehicles will be towed away (at the owner's expense) to the hired towing company's impound facility.

Registered students who also work on campus must obey the parking requirements of their specific decal. Preferential decals are not issued to allow students to park closer to their places of employment.

## PARKING CITATIONS

All students are required to adhere to the traffic policies and procedures adopted by the University and enforced by Public Safety Officers. Students who violate a traffic rule or regulation will be provided notice of a citation by a Public Safety Officer. The notice of the citation will provide the procedures that must be used to appeal a citation. Once the time for appealing the citation has expired, or if the appeal is denied, the student will be assessed a fine for the violation in accordance with the schedule set out below. Students should be aware that these fines are added to their student accounts and result in additional amounts due to the Business Office.

## PARKING CITATION APPEALS

An alleged, student violator of a University parking regulation, who has been issued a ticket for a monetary fine, may appeal the ticket. The appeal must be in writing on a Parking Appeal form (obtained at the 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue or 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Gatehouse) and must indicate the reason(s) for the appeal. A copy of the citation must be attached to the appeals form or the appeal will not be considered.

Appeals must be received by the Department of Public Safety and the Appeals Committee within seven (7) business days of the date appearing on the ticket or the right to appeal is forfeited.

The Appellant may provide relevant supporting documents suggesting reasons for the appeal to be granted.

If the appeal is upheld, the ticket may be altered or voided.

All decisions made by the Parking Appeals Committee are final.

The decision of appeals will be disseminated to each appellant upon PAC decisions via email.

*Note: Parking appeals should be delivered to the Public Safety Department gatehouse on 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue or 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.*

## CITATION COSTS

Speeding \$50.00

Any vehicle driving more than 20mph for any amount of time. This rule is enforced at all times.

Reckless driving \$50.00

Refers to any vehicle driving on campus that poses endangerment for the STU community at any time. This rule is enforced at all times.

Possession of a lost permit \$50.00

Any vehicle that has erroneously obtain a parking decal to which the vehicle is not registered for or failing to notify Public Safety upon change. This rule is enforced at all times.

Parking in a handicapped space \$50.00

Any vehicle parked in a handicapped space for any amount of time, as designated by signs and markings, without a handicapped sticker, license plate or parking permit. A violator parked in a handicapped space will be towed. This rule is enforced at all times.

Failure to obey traffic sign (moving) \$40.00

Any vehicle that fails to adhere to traffic rules at any time on campus property as designated by signs and markings. This rule is enforced at all times.

Blocking emergency access zones \$40.00

Parking or leaving a vehicle unattended for any amount of time in an area designated as a fire lane curb markings or signs. A fire lane violator will be towed immediately at the owner's expense. This rule is enforced at all times.

Non-registration of vehicle/Expired Decal \$30.00

Refers to any parked vehicle on campus which does not have a parking decal and has parked the vehicle on campus without obtaining the proper decal/pass from the Department of Public Safety. This rule is enforced at all times.

Parking in reserved space or lot \$25.00

Parking for any amount of time in a space that is designated as reserved without the proper parking permit. Reserved areas include, but are not limited to, President's parking areas, Baptist Health, Referees and Umpires, and designated special-purpose areas (as identified by signs markings or Public Safety barricades/cones). This rule is enforced at all times.

Blocking traffic \$25.00

Any vehicles parked or left unattended on the main roadways that congest traffic for any amount of time. This rule is enforced at all times.

Driving and parking on the grass \$25.00

Parking or driving for any amount of time in an unpaved area not designated as a parking area or any other landscaped area. This rule is enforced at all times.

Parking at a non-designated curb \$20.00

Parking, driving or leaving a vehicle unattended for any amount of time in an area not designated as a parking area. This rule is enforced at all times.

Blocking sidewalk or crosswalk \$20.00

Parking, driving or leaving a vehicle unattended for any amount of time in a paved area not designated as a parking area and prohibits the use of sidewalks and crosswalks. This rule is enforced at all times.

Parking in a no parking zone \$20.00

Parking or leaving a vehicle unattended for any amount of time in an area not designated as a parking area. This rule is enforced at all times.

Improper parking \$15.00

Pertains to any vehicle that is parked improperly. Examples of parking improperly include not parking within the designated lines, obstructing the normal flow of traffic and parking on a sidewalk, or any other area not designated as a parking space. This rule is enforced at all times.

Towing Relocation \$45.00

Please see the tow-away process for a thorough explanation of this violation.

## **STU PARKING REGULATION AND LIABILITY**

The individual/student to whom a vehicle is registered/assigned to is held fully responsible for any violation involving the vehicle, even if another person was using the vehicle at the time of the violation. It is the responsibility of the registrant to explain the applicable regulations to anyone who may be operating their vehicle.

Lack of familiarity with the traffic/parking regulations does not constitute a defense for failure to comply with any of the regulations. It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure they are abiding by University policy when parking and driving on campus. Placement of a prior citation on your vehicle windshield doesn't protect the violating vehicle from receiving another citation on a different day. Additionally, if you have already received a citation in one parking lot, parking in a different parking lot doesn't liberate the same violating vehicle from receiving another citation at a different lot, as each lot is regarded separately.

St. Thomas University assumes no liability for damage to or theft of any vehicle or its contents and any injury or death of anyone involved in a vehicular accident while on St. Thomas University property. St. Thomas University will not be held liable for damage to vehicles as a consequence of any natural disaster or act of God, including but not limited to falling trees, tree limbs, utility poles, signs, fences, screws, nails, bolts, etc. Further, St. Thomas University will not be held liable for damages or repair costs for vehicles due to any material left on roadways, including but not limited to screws, nails, bolts, etc.

By granting privilege to persons to operate a motor vehicle on campus property, St. Thomas University does not accept responsibility for the actions of persons operating these vehicles. Any damage to University property may be assessed to students/persons who, through violations of these rules and regulations, or neglect of good order, cause damages to STU owned property.

## **TOW-AWAY PROCESS**

All vehicles are subject to being towed from university property when:

The vehicle is parked in a fire lane.

The vehicle is parked in a handicapped parking space without a permit.

The vehicle is parked in a restricted space marked as a tow-away zone.

The vehicle is parked in such a manner as to create a hazard to other traffic, or it is blocking a roadway or gate.

The vehicle is parked at a designated special-purpose area

If your vehicle has been towed, you are responsible for payment to the towing company for the towing fee and any additional storage fees. St. Thomas University assumes no liability for damage to any vehicle that has been towed. Nor will St. Thomas University be liable for accrued cost in storage fees and fines.

## **HURRICANE PROCEDURE**

In order to assure maximum coordination during a hurricane emergency, all instructions will be given by the President or President's designee.

Upon announcement by the National Weather Service that a HURRICANE WATCH status has been declared, the President will issue appropriate directives, which will be relayed by the Vice Presidents to their areas of responsibility. When a HURRICANE WARNING is posted, the University will be closed.

### **HURRICANE WARNING**

When a hurricane warning has been declared for the area, as determined by the National Hurricane Center, the University will take the following actions:

The President will close the University.

The Office of Human Resources will announce the University closing to the community through the normal voice mail communication network.

Once the campus has been secured and closed, all students should stay tuned to local radio and television stations listed below for information regarding the hurricane and subsequent reopening of the University. The Law College telephone number to call for information is (305) 623-2300.

## RESIDENT STUDENTS

All students will be alerted by the University Student Services staff to make preparations for a hurricane. Students are requested to keep their radios tuned to a local station for storm advisories and general information. The following radio and television stations will carry announcements concerning the status of the University.

### FM RADIO STATIONS

91.3 - WLRN  
93.1 - WTMI  
93.9 - WLVE  
94.9 - WZTA  
96.5 - WPOW  
99.9 - WKISS  
100.7 - WHYI  
103.5 - WPLL

### AM RADIO STATIONS

610 - WIOD  
790 - WAXY

### SPANISH RADIO STATIONS

92.3 - WCMQ  
95.7 - WXDJ  
98.3 - WRTO  
1450 AM - WOCN (UNION RADIO)

The following procedures are recommended in order to provide the maximum amount of safety and protection for those students residing in our residence halls. ALL RESIDENT STUDENTS WHO CAN POSSIBLY LEAVE THE CAMPUS FOR HOME SHOULD DO SO.

The University is not responsible for damages to, or for, loss of personal property as the result of a hurricane.

## PREPARATIONS BEFORE THE HURRICANE STRIKES

All furniture, including beds, should be pulled away from the windows. Record players and radios should be placed off the floor, preferably in the closet.

All loose objects should be placed in drawers or closets. Papers, books, etc., should not be left on tops of desks or dressers.

Valuables should be taken with you.

All windows must be closed tightly. At those facilities where window blinds are provided, the blinds should be closed.

Any student who owns a car should see that the emergency brake is set, and the transmission is in reverse gear or park. All windows should be closed and locked. All cars must remain in assigned parking areas.

Each student should provide his/her own flashlight in case of power failure. Do not use candles under any circumstances; fire is uncontrollable during a hurricane.

Campus Life will evacuate all remaining students to shelters as specified by Miami-Dade County.

## PROCEDURES DURING THE HURRICANE

It is essential that all residents stay indoors throughout the entire hurricane. Residents must not leave the designated evacuation area until directed to do so by the residence hall staff.

Students should remain away from danger areas, such as the glass windows and doors in the lobby areas.

Do not attempt to open windows or doors to see what is happening outside.

Report all accidents, injuries, broken windows, or excessive water to the Resident Assistant.

If everyone remains calm, stays inside and observes all the above-stated instructions and precautions, danger is minimized. For questions, please contact the Resident Assistant or Campus Life personnel.

All students will be alerted by the Residence Hall staff and Public Safety to make preparations for a hurricane. We ask every student to keep his/her radio tuned to a local station for storm advisories and general information.

## UNIVERSITY REOPENING

The decision to reopen the University will be made by the President.

The Office of Human Resources will announce the reopening of the University via the phone mail communication network. In addition, Public Relations will relay information to local radio and TV stations regarding the reopening of the University.

## COMPUTER USE POLICY

Unless a professor decides otherwise, students are permitted to use a personal computer in classes, but only to take notes or complete class work. Getting e-mail messages, playing games and other uses of the computer unrelated to note taking or class work distracts others, shows disrespect and is forbidden. A professor may lower a student's grade, request that a student leave class, or take other steps if a student uses a computer for activities unrelated to note-taking or class work. For the policy regarding the use of computers to take examinations, see Computer Use on Final Exams.

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

STU Law's extracurricular student-run organizations and publications reflect the diversity of the student body in their academic and practice interests, race, ethnicity and religion, and political and jurisprudential thought. The College of Law encourages all students to engage with student organizations as a way of learning about the law and interacting with alumni and the legal community.



Information on all Student Organizations can be found at:

<https://www.stu.edu/law/academics/student-organizations/>

## **POLICY REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN CERTAIN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Students must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher to participate in the *St. Thomas Law Review*, *The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review*, *The Journal of Complex Litigation*, Moot Court, Mock Trial, Student Government, or to be an officer of any student organization.

## **NEW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Students desiring to charter a new student organization must get approval from the Interclub Council, which is chaired by the Student Bar Association (S.B.A.) Vice President. For additional information or guidance with starting a new organization, students should consult with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

## **STUDENT ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES**

Any law student organization that wishes to engage in any activity that requires any law school resources (including meeting space) must get approval for such activities from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. No student organization is to organize events that invite speakers, guest lecturers, or other non-law school community members to the Law School, or elsewhere without express authorization of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Such efforts must be coordinated to minimize conflicts and ensure that appropriate procedures are in place for the proposed speakers.

## **POLICY REGARDING SALE OF FOOD**

The sale or provision of food items by departments within the College of Law or student organizations is permitted if approved by the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs.

A request for approval to serve food at such an event must first be approved by the Dean's Office. The request for approval must be submitted to Assistant Dean for Student Affairs at least two weeks prior to the event. Limitations may be placed on the frequency, type of food, cost, and place of distribution. The sale of any alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

## **STUDENT COMPLAINTS**

Students wishing to lodge a formal complaint should access the "Student Complaint Procedure" portal on the Website. This can be found at [www.stu.edu/law/students/studentcomplaintprocedure](http://www.stu.edu/law/students/studentcomplaintprocedure). That portal then provides

instructions for filing a complaint. If the complaint concerns any matter, other than a complaint with regard to the Office of Student Affairs or personally regarding the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, then the complaint is handled by the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs. If the complaint concerns the Office of Student Affairs or personally addresses the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, then the complaint is handled by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. If the student who filed the complaint is not satisfied once he or she receives notice of the disposition, then he or she can file an appeal with the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs (if the complaint was handled by the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs); or the Dean of the College of Law (if the complaint was handled by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs). The appeal must be made in a timely manner. Timeliness will be determined by the office that considers the appeal. The appeal is considered *de novo* and disposition of the appeal will be communicated in writing to the student within 30 days of acceptance of the appeal (unless notice of an extension is provided. The disposition as determined in the appeal is final.

## **ALUMNI RELATIONS**

The St. Thomas Law Office for Alumni Relations works to support the mutually beneficial relationship between its broad network of alumni(ae) and the College of Law. The office assists in the implementation of programs and events for the benefit of current students and thousands of J.D. and LL.M. graduates in Florida, across the United States, and around the world. The St. Thomas Law Alumni Association, formed after the first class graduated in 1987, contributes to the success and development of the College of Law by creating and building upon the bonds between the College of Law and its graduates, as well as the network between fellow alumni(ae). The Office of Alumni Relations maintains the official alumni website found at <https://lawalumni.stu.edu>. All alumni are encouraged to register on the website where one can connect and network with other STU Law alumni, view and register for upcoming alumni-related events, view career opportunities, view pictures from past alumni events, and much more.

St. Thomas Law's J.D. and LL.M. graduates become members of the Alumni Association immediately upon graduation. In partnership with the College of Law, the Association maintains a connection to the school, its students, faculty and staff, and the legal community. Every department within the College of Law is available to all alumni(ae), whether for job placement, networking, or opportunities to serve the community and the school.

As St. Thomas Law prospers into its fourth decade, the alumni(ae) base has grown to over 5,000 graduates who are succeeding in the legal arena, the business world, and in public service. St. Thomas Law's alumni(ae) exemplify the school's credo: Leaders Have the Courage and Compassion to Make a Difference.

## **SOLO AND SMALL FIRM PRACTICE PROGRAM**

Established in June 2016, the St. Thomas Law Solo and Small Firm Practice Program offers a select group of entrepreneurial-minded, Florida-Bar licensed, recent St. Thomas Law graduates ongoing training and valuable networking experiences to help build

their professional careers as small firm/solo practitioners. For the most part, the College of Law graduate is equipped with a wide body of legal knowledge, but he/she often lacks both the practical experience to represent clients effectively, and also the business experience to open and operate a law firm successfully. The St. Thomas Law Solo and Small Firm Practice Program bridges this gap between knowledge and experience by offering practical training, ethical guidance, and networking support.

Designed to accelerate the successful development of newly admitted lawyers through an "incubator" concept, the Solo and Small Firm Practice Program encourages and supports its graduates by providing substantive and skills training workshops, coaching in marketing and business development, financial support, mentoring support, and networking opportunities. Per the program's requirements and in spirit with the mission of St. Thomas University, the attorneys give back to the community by satisfying a requisite amount of 50 pro bono hours.

The Solo and Small Firm Practice Program will provide to the attorneys multiple training sessions on how to build and operate a successful law practice. These sessions will take place either at St. Thomas Law or at a law firm convenient for all participants. In the sessions, experienced attorneys—including alumni and other members of the legal community—will discuss and present on various topics pertinent to starting a successful law practice. Upon completion of the program, attorneys will transition to growing their law firms on their own and will in turn become graduates of the incubator program. As they "graduate" from the program (sometime between 12 and 18 months), they will become well-trained and well-prepared practitioners who proudly represent St. Thomas Law and give back to their respective communities.

Solo and Small Firm Practice Program attorneys will receive a structured education in the ethical practice of law and law practice management. Solo and Small Firm Practice Program attorneys also will expand their use of technology within the law office setting and develop cutting-edge methods of law practice that result in the efficient delivery of legal services to an expanding client base. In turn, clients who receive legal representation through the Solo and Small Firm Practice Program obtain affordable legal services.

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

The Office for Career Development assists St. Thomas students and alumni in obtaining law-related experiences, securing employment, and realizing their professional goals. Among other things, Career Development:

- develops, cultivates and maintains relationships with employers;
- coordinates on-campus interviews with law firms, public interest agencies, and government agencies seeking to employ St. Thomas Law students;
- arranges student participation in job fairs;
- provides individual counseling to assist students in career planning, assessing employment options, and creating strategic job searches;

- reviews and revises resumes, cover letters, and other materials relevant to the job search process;
- conducts informative programs, mock interviews, and interactive workshops involving members of the South Florida and national legal communities;
- maintains a web-based job posting service; and
- maintains a resource center for job-related resources.

## **REGISTRATION AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENT**

Each student is required to meet with the Office for Career Development at least once each academic year.

Each 1L and 2L student must meet with Career Development prior to February 28 (provided a weekday) in order to be cleared for registration for classes in the following year.

Each 3L student must meet with Career Development in their last semester, to be cleared to receive their diploma.

Students will be notified as to the dates for these meetings via email each year.

For more information, regarding Career Development please visit the St. Thomas Law website under “Careers” or contact the Office for Career Development at (305) 623-2351.

## **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

Students, faculty, and staff are expected to recognize the potential for alcohol and drug abuse whenever alcohol or illegal drugs are sold, given, and/or used and that such abuse conflicts with the University’s drug-free workplace and school policies. Violation of these policies by students or employees is reason for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment or student expulsion from the University.

The University publishes a student handbook which includes policies on alcohol and drugs. The “Code of Conduct” outlines disciplinary actions that may be taken for violation of the University’s policies. Students should review this section of the undergraduate student handbook and be familiar with possible consequences.

## **DRUG FREE WORKPLACE & UNIVERSITY POLICY**

A part of the mission of St. Thomas University is our commitment to competence and objectivity. Through its personalized and caring environment, the University strives to provide a safe environment and encourages personal health. As such, the abuse of drugs or alcohol within the educational setting is an unsafe and counterproductive practice and is considered to be directly contradictory to our mission.

It is, therefore, the policy of St. Thomas University to create a drug-free school and workplace environment in keeping with the spirit and intent of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free School & Communities Act Amendments as of 1989. The use of controlled substances is inconsistent with the behavior expected of students and employees. In this connection, any student or employee found with the presence of alcohol or a controlled substance in an unauthorized area, and/or in possession of, using, selling, trading, or offering for sale controlled substances or who attends class or any school function under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Alcohol purchase and consumption is authorized only in licensed campus facilities, such as the Campus Rathskeller, or at special events/locations which have been authorized by appropriate campus authorities.

Students found to be in violation of the University's policy will be subject to action as provided in the University Code of Conduct and face sanctions up to and including dismissal from the University.

## **EVENTS INVOLVING ALCOHOL**

Student organizations wishing to sponsor events involving alcohol must request permission in writing from the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs at least one week prior to the event. No student organization can facilitate or sponsor an event in which alcohol is sold on campus.

## **TOBACCO/SMOKE-FREE ZONE POLICY**

St. Thomas University is committed to providing a healthy working and learning environment for the entire campus community. To that end the University has concluded that a smoke-free campus is consistent with the University's mission and purpose and will promote a campus culture of wellness.

To view St. Thomas University's Smoke- and Tobacco-Free Policy please visit:

<https://www.stu.edu/administrative-affairs/stu-policies/>

## **SEXUAL AND DISCRIMINATORY HARASSMENT POLICY**

St. Thomas University (*hereafter* University or STU), is committed to encouraging and sustaining a learning and living community that is free from harassment, violence, and prohibited discrimination. Consistent with this commitment and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex/gender in any of the institution's programs or activities. STU has developed this comprehensive Sexual and Discriminatory Harassment Policy, applicable to all students. Further, STU conducts education and awareness programs with the goal of preventing and discouraging sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

To view St. Thomas University's Sexual and Discriminatory Harassment Policy please

visit:

<https://www.stu.edu/administrative-affairs/stu-policies/>

*Responsible Authority: Office of Administrative Affairs/Human Resources*

## **STALKING POLICY**

St. Thomas University aims to create a safe learning environment for its students, faculty, and employees. Accordingly, the University will not tolerate the stalking of any member of the University community as defined by Florida Law. Violation of the Florida “stalking” law may result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion and/or termination.

To view St. Thomas University’s Stalking Policy please visit:

<https://www.stu.edu/administrative-affairs/stu-policies/>

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

All students taking classes at St. Thomas University College of Law (whether for credit or not) are governed by the St. Thomas University College of Law Honor Code and are subject to the procedures, and penalties set forth therein. A copy of the Honor Code is below and can also be obtained online at the College of Law website and/or from the Office of Student Affairs.

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

HONOR CODE

# HONOR CODE

## PREAMBLE

The legal profession is responsible for enforcing its own standard of conduct. A lawyer's conduct shall exemplify the highest ethical standards. Accordingly, each student who joins the St. Thomas University College of Law ("College of Law") community agrees to adopt a commitment to academic integrity, trust, and respect in adhering to the principles of self-regulation and high ethical behavior reflected in the following Honor Code.

## ARTICLE I. GENERAL MATTERS

### **Section 1.01. Jurisdiction.**

Any alleged Honor "Code" violation will be heard and determined as provided herein.

### **Section 1.02. Knowledge of Authorities.**

Students are presumed to know the provisions of the Code, the policies and rules of St. Thomas University and the College of Law, and the policies and rules of courses in which the students are enrolled.

### **Section 1.03. Scope.**

- (A) **Relationship with Criminal and Civil Law.** The Code operates concurrently with processes of criminal and civil law. The College of Law may within its discretion postpone Code processes pending the outcome of criminal proceedings. A student must disclose to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs any accusation of a violation of the law, or any charge, arrest, or conviction of the law that arises after submitting an admissions application. Disclosure must be within thirty days of the earlier of the accusation, charge, arrest, or conviction. A student has a continuing responsibility to ensure the admissions application is complete and correct.
- (B) **Relationship with Administration Powers.** The Code governs only matters within its substantive scope. The College of Law Administration may within its discretion respond to any misconduct, such as non-academic misconduct, not within the Code's scope. Some misconduct not involving academic dishonesty may render a student potentially unfit for continuation at the College of Law and to enter the legal profession. Those matters may be concurrently or divergently addressed by both the Administration and the Honor Council. The Administration may act to preserve the safety and security of any person or property, even when a matter falls within the Code's substantive scope, regardless of whether Code processes are initiated.
- (C) **Relationship with Faculty Powers.** Academic freedom of the faculty shall not be restricted, even when a matter falls within the Code's substantive scope, regardless of whether Code processes are initiated. The Honor Council may within its discretion defer to a course professor an academic assessment pending a decision.



**Section 1.04. Time Limits.**

An accused may agree to extend or waive any procedural time limit. Extension of time does not relieve the accused of responsibility for Code violations.

**Section 1.05. Notice.**

When the Code calls for notice to a student, it shall be sufficient to deliver notice in person or via electronic mail to the student's St. Thomas University account.

**Section 1.06. Adherence.**

The Code is designed to anticipate irregular and exceptional circumstances. Nevertheless, anticipation of all eventualities is impossible. When strict adherence to Code procedures is impossible or impracticable, it shall be sufficient that persons charged with responsibilities under the Code act reasonably and consistently with the Code's spirit and intent so as to achieve justice while preserving the rights of all persons involved.

**Section 1.07. Confidentiality.**

The confidentiality of all Honor Code processes, including any records or materials obtained, shall be indefinitely maintained by the Office of the Associate Dean, except as required by law, requirements of state bar associations, or other licensing authorities. Confidentiality may be waived by the accused and/or as part of a sanction imposed under section 305.

**ARTICLE II. VIOLATIONS**

**Section 2.01. Academic Misconduct Violations.**

Academic misconduct includes the curricular and extracurricular, regardless of whether academic credit is awarded. It shall be a Code violation for a student to commit any of the following acts or omissions. The acts or omissions and examples provided below are offered merely to illustrate the types of obligations imposed and not meant to be exhaustive.

**(A) Cheating.**

1. To give or secure any information about an examination or other academic assignment, except as authorized by the course professor.
2. To use or possess, if prohibited by the course professor, any book, notes, other person's work, or materials for an examination or academic assignment.
3. To fail to follow all instructions concerning examination administration, regardless of whether such behavior is done intentionally, negligently, or otherwise, including but not limited to writing after time expires, taking an examination or other materials from the testing room, engaging in any form of unauthorized collaboration, and possessing or accessing, or attempting to access any devices or materials not expressly authorized by the course professor.
4. To take, conceal, withhold, destroy, damage, or abuse property without authorization when the act deprives a student of property for an academic purpose, or to otherwise impede another student's academic work.

5. To copy, consult, or use, for an academic purpose, another person's work or to allow another student to access your work without the authorization of both that student and the course professor.
6. To consult with, or seek guidance or feedback from, any person with regard to any assignment or examination, unless such collaboration is expressly allowed by the professor.
7. To solicit any other student or person to provided unauthorized assistance with regard to any assignment or examination.

(B) **Plagiarizing.** To take the written work of another and pass it off as one's own for an academic purpose. The following are examples but not an exhaustive list:

1. Misappropriation: use of someone else's work, words, thoughts, or ideas without unambiguous acknowledgement.
2. Multiple submissions: A student shall not submit work previously submitted in compliance with requisites for another class or program at this or any academic institution without permission of the course professor. This provision also shall apply to work submitted for law school credit that was completed previously in satisfaction of non-academic work requirements.
  3. Unauthorized collaboration: A student shall not submit or allow another student to submit work, including writing samples, produced in collaboration with another person without permission of the course professor. This includes collaboration with respect to substantive content, as well as the writing style, grammar, proofreading, or citation form.

(C) **Misconduct Involving Library Materials.** A student shall not:

1. Tear, deface, destroy, or otherwise dispose of materials or equipment.
2. Disrupt others with respect to use of materials, equipment, or resources.
3. Remove materials without complying with established library procedures.
  4. Engage in conduct that unreasonably interferes with others' use of materials, equipment, or resources or that violates a library rule.

(D) **Misrepresentation.**

1. To misrepresent a material fact with respect to any academic requirement.
2. To represent work of another as one's own or one's own work as work of another; to allow another student to represent your work as his or her work; to represent oneself as another; or to procure representation of another as oneself.
3. To misrepresent attendance in class, either of oneself or of another.
4. To misrepresent, including a failure to disclose, any material fact concerning qualification for admission to the College of Law or its programs.

(E) **Other Offenses.**

1. To create any material and substantial disruption of the College of Law academic environment.
2. To violate any rule of professional conduct when a student is enrolled in a clinical or *pro bono* program conducted by the Law School.
3. To, recklessly or intentionally, furnish false or misleading information, or to withhold material information, on any College of Law document, or on any

- document intended to secure employment, admission to an academic program, or similar opportunity.
4. To use network or computer access inappropriately, in a way that affects a class or other student's academic work. Non-exhaustive examples include tampering with another student's account, stealing a student's work through electronic means, or knowingly spreading a computer virus.
  5. To appear in a College of Law academic environment, any College of Law sponsored event, or any event in which the student is acting as a representative of the Law School, while noticeably under influence of alcohol or other intoxicants.
  6. To violate any [University or Law School] policy, procedure, rule, or regulation.
- (F) **General Unfitness.** Any act that reflects adversely upon a student's fitness to practice law, or endangers or discredits the College of Law community, including but not limited to, acts involving violence, threats of violence, bullying or intimidation, dishonesty, criminal conduct, breach of trust, abuse of process or unprofessional conduct, or acts that interfere with the administration of justice or College of Law policy.
- (G) **Serious Risk of Harm.**
1. A student who in the Dean of the College of Law's discretion poses a risk of serious harm to the College of Law community or violates an order designed to protect safety of others shall be immediately expelled.
  2. A student who is arrested for a felony or misdemeanor or who failed to disclose in his or her College of Law application an arrest for a felony or misdemeanor that in the Dean of the College of Law's discretion raises a serious issue of the student's fitness for practice may in the Dean of the Law School's discretion be immediately suspended.
    - a. A student under (1) or (2) shall be afforded due process under the Code at a later date.
  3. Academic Requirements. No student may sit for the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) prior to registering for and attending the Law School's course in Professional Responsibility. A student is authorized to sit for the MPRE only if he or she has previously completed or is taking the Law School's Professional Responsibility course at the time of the administration of the MPRE.

**Section 2.02. Code Enforcement Violations.**

- (A) To knowingly fail to report another student's violation.
- (B) To knowingly make a false report of another student's violation, to knowingly make a false or materially incomplete report, or to give false or materially incomplete testimony in an investigation or proceeding.
- (C) To falsify, destroy, or place beyond the reach of an officer acting under the Code any documents, testimony, or other evidence material to an investigation or other process.
- (D) To fail, without reasonable excuse, to appear as a witness or testify when called.
- (E) To breach a duty of confidentiality.

Section 2.03. **Duty to Comply.**

All students shall comply with the Code's provisions.

Section 2.04. **Duty to Report.**

All students shall report to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or Assistant Dean for Professionalism any incident in which known facts indicate a significant likelihood of a Code violation.

Section 2.05. **Attempt; Aiding and Abetting; Conspiracy.**

It shall be a violation of the Code to attempt to commit any offense; to aid or abet in the commission of any offense; or to participate in a conspiracy to commit or hide any offense.

Section 2.06. **Imposition of Sanctions.**

(A) A sanction may be imposed on a probationary or temporary basis.

(B) In selecting a sanction, any relevant information may be considered, and the following factors shall be considered:

1. Nature and seriousness of harm posed to academic integrity of the Law School.
2. Circumstances of the violation, including aggravating and mitigating factors.
3. Need to uphold and promote respect for the Code and to deter future violations.
4. Reconciliation of the responsible student with the College of Law community.
5. Comments of the responsible student relevant to sanction selection.
6. State of mind of the responsible student.

### **ARTICLE III. HONOR COUNCIL & PROCEDURES**

Section 3.01. **Honor Council.**

The Honor Council shall consist of seven members: three College of Law students, three full-time faculty members, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs as Chair (or his or her designee of a "Hearing Officer" as provided below).

Section 3.02. **Formation of the Honor Council.**

**Faculty Representatives.** At the conclusion of the spring semester, the College of Law Administration shall choose three faculty members to serve on the Council during the subsequent summer and academic year. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall be the Chair. If one or more of the faculty members are unable to participate in disposition of any case, the Dean of the College of Law or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may appoint a substitute faculty member to act with regard to that case.

**Student Representatives.** During spring semester, the College of Law student body shall elect three representatives to serve on the Council during the subsequent summer and academic year. One representative shall be a second-year student and two shall be third-year students. A student must be in good academic standing during candidacy and election, shall maintain good academic standing, and shall have not been convicted of a Code violation. If one or more of the

student members are unable to participate in disposition of any case, the Student Bar Association President or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may appoint a substitute student member to act with regard to that case.

**Chair.** The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall be the Chair but may, in his or her discretion, appoint any other Associate Dean, Assistant Dean, or Tenured Faculty member to serve as Hearing Officer with regard to the disposition of any individual complaint. In the event a Hearing Officer is appointed, he or she assumes all the duties and responsibilities set out herein with regard to the Chair for purposes of disposition of that complaint.

**Conflict of Interest.** No student, faculty member, or member of the administration shall serve on the Honor Council with regard to the disposition of a complaint, if that student, faculty member, or member of the administration is deemed by the Chair to have a conflict of interest or likely to be a material witness.

### Section 3.03. **Complaint.**

- (A) Any member of the College of Law community may submit a complaint alleging that a student has violated one or more Code provisions.
1. A complaint shall consist of a written statement identifying the name of the accused and nature of the suspected violation.
  2. Complaints shall be submitted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, or Assistant Dean for Professionalism. All complaints ultimately shall be forwarded to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
  3. The Honor Council shall not be used to resolve personal conflicts.
- (B) Upon receipt of a complaint, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall determine if he or she will sit as Hearing Officer with regard to the disposition of the complaint or appoint an alternative Hearing Officer as provided herein. The Hearing Officer acts in lieu of the Chair with regard to the disposition of the specific complaint. He or she serves as the presiding member of the Honor Council for purpose of disposition of the complaint. Once that determination is made, the Hearing Officer shall within seven days [of receipt] review the complaint and determine if the allegations are acceptable for the Council's disposition.
1. If the Hearing Officer determines that the complaint is unacceptable because it does not allege a violation of the Honor Code, or the process is being misused under §3.03(A)(3) or both, then the complaint shall be dismissed, and the complainant so notified. No negative record shall be made with regard to the complaint.
  2. If the Hearing Officer determines that the complaint is acceptable:
    - a. during the school year then the Hearing Officer shall convene the Council within two weeks from acceptance of the complaint;
    - b. at any time, other than during the school year then the Hearing Officer shall convene the Council within a reasonable time.
    - c. the Hearing Officer may invite the accused to informally discuss the allegations with a view to summary disposition. If the accused so requests and the Hearing Officer determines that summary disposition is appropriate, the case may proceed, based

upon a written acknowledgment by the accused that he or she committed an act in violation of this Code, and the Hearing Officer may issue a warning and may impose any sanction provided in Section 3.05.

- (C) Once convened, the Honor Council shall determine whether it is necessary to appoint one or more Honor Council members to conduct a preliminary investigation. If investigation is necessary, then the Honor Council shall determine the method to be employed and the time period for gathering information and reporting to the Honor Council.
- (D) After any investigation and reporting, the Honor Council shall determine whether credible evidence exists to proceed to a hearing. If a majority of the Honor Council finds no credible evidence, then the matter shall be deemed concluded and disposition recorded. If a majority of the Honor Council finds credible evidence, then the Honor Council may take one or more of the following actions:
  - a. continue to investigate the matter if further investigation is warranted;
  - b. issue a warning to the accused, which may include terms and conditions with regard to prospective behavior;
  - c. proceed to a hearing as set out in section 3.04.

#### Section 3.04. **Hearing.**

##### (A) **Notice.**

1. The Hearing Officer shall notify the accused of a hearing date [and the identity of the Hearing Panel] within ten business days of the determination to proceed to a hearing.
2. The Honor Council may set the hearing at a later date due to the unavailability of witnesses or evidence or in other extenuating circumstances.
3. After the determination to proceed but before the hearing, the Honor Council within its discretion may meet to consider any preliminary matters, including the accused's request to sever parties or to have discreet violations heard separately.
4. The accused is entitled to postponement of the proceedings if either:
  - a. evidence that may clear him or her is not presently available at the hearing and will be available at a later time, within reason; or
  - b. if an emergency situation arises that will not allow the student to participate in the hearing at that time.

(B) **Hearing Panel.** The Hearing Panel shall consist of the Hearing Officer and the other Honor Council members.

##### (C) **Challenges.**

1. The accused may in writing petition for recusal of any Hearing Panel member for good cause.
  - a. The petition must be delivered to the Honor Council within three business days after receipt of the hearing notice.
  - b. If the petition is not delivered within three days, then it will be denied.
2. Any Honor Council member may withdraw from the hearing for good cause.

3. If an Honor Council member is excused under (1) or (2) then the remaining Council members shall hear the case.

**(D) Hearing Procedures.**

1. The hearing is an inquisitorial, not adversarial, proceeding in which formal rules of evidence are inapplicable. The Hearing Panel decides what documentary evidence to request, what witnesses to call, and what questions to present. The Hearing Officer has the final authority over all evidentiary and scheduling matters.
2. The accused shall have the right to have any one personal representative, including a family member, student, friend, or retained counsel attend but not participate in the hearing. Faculty members shall not serve as a representative. The Honor Council may call witnesses, request evidence, or ask questions.
3. The accused shall have only the following rights at the hearing:
  - a. To be present during all testimony and to request further questions at the conclusion of the testimony.
  - b. To request witnesses. The Hearing Officer may require an offer of proof and decide to exclude the testimony, in whole or in part, of a witness if considered to be irrelevant, duplicative, or otherwise unnecessary.
  - c. To make an opening and closing statement.
  - d. To refuse to answer any incriminating question.
  - e. To testify and submit materials believed to be relevant.
4. All proceedings and hearings are closed.
5. The accused's unreasonable failure to appear at the hearing shall entitle the Hearing Panel to render a decision against the accused.

**(E) Adjudication.**

1. At conclusion of the hearing, the Honor Council shall deliberate in secret.
2. If a majority of the Honor Council finds by clear and convincing evidence that the accused committed acts violating the Honor Code, the accused shall be found guilty.
3. If the Honor Council finds that the accused is guilty, an appropriate sanction shall be determined by a majority vote.
4. The Council shall notify the accused of the disposition within a reasonable time.
5. All information regarding identity of the accused shall remain confidential, unless disclosure of the incident becomes one of the sanctions imposed under Section 3.05.

**Section 3.05. Sanctions.**

Upon a finding of guilt under the Honor Code, specific sanctions may include but are not limited to one or more of the following:

- (A) Revocation of degree.
- (B) Expulsion.
- (C) Suspension.
- (D) Disciplinary probation.
- (E) Public or private written reprimand.

1. Written reprimand will become a permanent part of the student's academic file.
  2. Notice may be publicly posted or disseminated indicating the nature of the violation and any sanctions imposed.
- (F) Notation of the violation on the student's transcript.
- (G) Denial of course credit.
- (H) Involuntary withdrawal from a course.
- (I) Downward disciplinary grade adjustment for an assignment or course.
- (J) Dismissal or suspension from participation in a College of Law activity or organization.
- (K) Restriction of library or other College of Law privileges.
- (L) Service to the College of Law or the community.
- (M) Restitution to the College of Law or other appropriate entity.
- (N) A written acknowledgement and apology to persons adversely affected by student's behavior.
- (O) Loss of eligibility for any scholarship, grant, or compensation from the Law School, University, or outside entity.
- (P) Loss of eligibility to receive any award or recognition for *pro bono* services or academic achievement.
- (Q) Stay or suspension of sanction. Any sanction provided herein may be stayed or suspended for a period of time, or conditional upon the student's compliance with other terms and conditions including, but not limited to,
1. No further violations or allegations of violations of the Honor Code; or
  2. Compliance with a prescribed course of treatment or adherence to other behavioral requirements as set out by the council; or both.
- (R) Any other reasonable sanction not included in this list.

#### **ARTICLE IV. APPEALS**

**Section 4.01. Right to Appeal.**

The accused shall have the right to appeal in writing the Honor Council's finding of guilt, the sanctions imposed, or both, to the Dean of the Law School. The appeal shall indicate the reasons for appeal.

**Section 4.02. Time to Appeal.**

Appeal of the Honor Council's decision or sanctions shall be made to the Dean within ten business days of the Honor Council's disposition notice. Should the accused require additional time, a request for such must be made within the same two-week period. The Dean may within his or her discretion grant additional time.

**Section 4.03. Review.**

With respect to sanctions, the Dean may within his or her discretion alter the penalty by either ameliorating or making more severe the punishment imposed. The Dean's decision is final.

#### **ARTICLE V. EFFECTIVE DATE**



This Honor Code supersedes all previous codes of student conduct promulgated by the Law School, shall become effective at the commencement of the Fall 2018 semester, and may be amended at any time with notice provided to the student body.

[The Honor Code was approved by the Faculty of St. Thomas University College of Law, on September 18, 2012.] Amended July 2018 and August 2019.

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

LIBRARY PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

# LIBRARY PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

## ENTRY

The Law Library is located in the College of Law and is entered and exited only through the main entrance leading from the Cordero Breezeway. All other doors are fire exit/emergency doors and are limited to emergency use or for staff use only. The alarm sounds when fire exit/emergency doors are opened.

The Law Library is open to all faculty, staff and students of St. Thomas University, and to St. Thomas Law alumni, visiting scholars and researchers and current students and faculty of other law schools or paralegal programs. The Law Library is *not* open to the general public. Any patron who does not observe the rules of the Law Library will be asked to leave.

The following types of identification are required in order to gain access to the Law Library:

Faculty, students, and staff of St. Thomas College of Law College and University will require a valid ID card to access the Law Library and may be asked to show such ID at any time.

Alumni of the College of Law and active members of any U.S. based Bar must present a Bar Association card and photo identification card at the Circulation desk.

Visiting law and paralegal students will require a student ID card from their institutions. During reading and exam hours, when posted, the Law Library will be open ONLY to Law students, faculty and staff.

The computer lab is ONLY open to current College of Law and University students, faculty and staff.

Visitors not currently affiliated with the University are required to sign in at the Circulation Desk.

Circulation of material for use outside the Library is limited to St. Thomas University faculty, staff and students. All other researchers must use the collection in the Library. A detailed breakdown of the circulation times and privileges for different materials and users may be found below; copies are available at the circulation desk.

Our primary responsibility is to serve STU faculty and students. However, within the limits of our staff resources, we will attempt to provide reference service to members of the bar and other outside researchers. It is the purpose of the Library administration and staff to make the holdings of the Library as freely available to all patrons as is consistent with proper and equitable use. Your cooperation is essential. Please adhere to those regulations and rules that are included in this handbook or are posted in the Library.

The Circulation Desk and the Law Library will not hold items for later pickup by

students, faculty, staff, or other library patrons. We cannot be responsible for such items. Any items left behind will be deposited in the lost and found.

## REGULAR HOURS

Monday through Thursday	8:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Note that hours may change during examination periods, holidays and intersession period. Regular, holiday, intersession and examination period library hours are posted at the Library entrance and on the St. Thomas Law Library website at [www.stu.edu/law/library](http://www.stu.edu/law/library).

## EXTENDED HOURS

Access to the Law Library (first floor) after hours is restricted to the STU law student community. The following is required in order to gain access:

- Only current STU Law Students with active IDs can enter the area via card reader.
- Students may be asked to show such ID at any time and must comply with any such request.
- To ensure the safety and security of everyone in the library, STU students must not let anyone in except themselves nor allow their STU ID card to be used by others to access the law library after hours. To do so will be considered a violation of the STU Law Student Honor Code.
- Do not prop doors open and be sure that the doors close behind you.
- No food of any kind is permitted in the library.
- Drinks are permitted in covered cups, spill-proof travel mugs or other resealable containers.
- Please be courteous to your fellow students. The Law Library is intended to be a quiet study area for patrons.

Any patron who does not observe these rules will be asked to leave.

Public Safety Officers are available 24/7. Public Safety number: 305-628-6500.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Library Phone	(305) 623-2330
Circulation Desk	(305) 623-2332 or <a href="mailto:lawcirculation@stu.edu">lawcirculation@stu.edu</a>
Reference	(305) 623-2331 or <a href="mailto:lawreference@stu.edu">lawreference@stu.edu</a>

## FOOD, DRINK AND SMOKING

NO FOOD of any kind is permitted in the Law Library, NO EXCEPTIONS. All foods, whether or not they leave crumbs or emit odors, attract insects and rodents. These pests can damage books and other materials, many of which are out of print and irreplaceable.

Please leave your foods in the refrigerators and storage areas found in the student lounge.

Non-alcoholic drinks are permitted in the Library in containers with a lid (travel mugs, sport bottles, and bottles with caps, etc.).

Smoking and vaping are prohibited on the STU campus and in all areas of the Law Library. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **STUDY AREA & GROUP STUDY ROOMS**

Carrels and tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis. All books and papers must be removed from the carrel/table when patrons have completed your study for the day or will be leaving the area for any extended period including attending class, meetings, events, or leaving campus for any duration. Materials left unattended for more than thirty (30) minutes are subject to removal by library staff. Please secure your possessions if you have to step away – this might include using a security cable for a laptop. Please be respectful of others, avoid; excessive noise; using a four-person table for one person when the library is busy; using library chairs as footrests or backpack holders; leaving trash and clutter behind. Please collect all of your materials when you leave the area. The Library and STU Law are not responsible for your personal effects.

The second floor has reading room/study areas, group study rooms, and the computer lab for computer-assisted research and training. Please maintain quiet in all areas.

Study rooms are for group study (2 or more students) and may be reserved for a maximum of two (2) hours at a time for a group. Additional reservations may only be made after the expiration of the reservation. At least two (2) group members must be present to reserve a study room. Single individuals may reserve study rooms Monday-Thursday after 6:00 PM and all day Friday-Sunday. Individuals may use study rooms without a reservation at anytime, but will asked to make way for groups that have made a reservation.

Room reservation must be made at the Circulation Desk (no phone or online requests will be honored). If the student group has not arrived after 15 minutes into the reserved time, the reservation will be canceled. Reservations can be made for the same day only. Reservations for times beginning after 1:00 PM on a given day cannot be made until Noon (12:00 PM) of that same day.

Study rooms are part of the Law Library and all rules apply equally to group study rooms. Patrons will not talk on cell phones or partake in unprofessional or inappropriately behavior in a study room and must follow library rules regarding food and drink. Because the study rooms are for group study, it is a given that some talking is expected. However, please keep the door closed and refrain from excessive noise, loud voices, laughing, yelling, etc., as the sound will travel through the doors and disturb the studies of others outside the room.

Preemption by College of Law Registrar: Please note that at any time, particularly during final exams and mid-term exams, some or all of the study rooms may be blocked out by the Law College Registrar's Office for exams.

The Law Library does not handle room reservations for Classroom 109-A. Reservations for this room, and all classrooms, are made by contacting the Office of the Registrar. If the room is not in use, Library patrons may use the room so long as they make way for Registrar approved reservations including courses. The Law Library does not handle reservations for law College or university classrooms. All such reservations must be made through the Office of the Registrar.

## **LOST & FOUND**

A lost and found is kept for the law school at the Law Library Circulation Desk. Any items found by library staff are placed in the lost and found as are items turned in by others. Students must present photo ID and sign out any items retrieved from the lost and found. The Law Library and staff are not responsible for the security of any lost items.

## **RESTROOMS**

Law Library restrooms are on each floor in the elevator lobby in the center of the building. First-floor restrooms remain accessible 24-hours per day.

## **NOISE**

Please be courteous to your fellow students. Talking outside of the study rooms is discouraged, and a request BY ANYONE to stop talking should be honored immediately. Students should practice self-help first by requesting the noise offender desist, before requesting assistance from a member of the Law Library staff. Persistent violations will result in referral of the offending student to the Dean of Student Affairs and the Law College Honor Council.

## **MOBILE PHONES AND TELEPHONES**

Phones are not to be used for phone conversations in the Law Library, other than in the front lobby and the central elevator atrium areas. If patrons are expecting a call they should switch the cell phone to vibrate and take any resulting calls outside the Law Library; otherwise, phones should be turned off or silenced. Patrons involved in phone conversations in the library will be asked by library staff or fellow patrons to move to the designated phone area or outside. Please cooperate with staff when they ask you to leave an area due to inappropriate cell phone use. At the time of the incident, a St. Thomas Law Library staff member may request the patron's name and ID. Failure to give the name and ID or provision of a fake name will result in security being called and the patron's immediate removal from the library. Patrons who are repeat offenders of this cell phone policy will be investigated by the honor council for violating the STU Law Honor Code.

The telephones in the Law Library are for staff use only. The Law Library does not take messages or calls for patrons.

## **COPIERS AND PRINTERS**

Pay copiers are located in the Library lobby on the first floor. Copies are 10 cents each.

The Library staff cannot provide change; coin operated machines accept \$1 bills and coins.

Printer/Copiers for use by the STU community are located in the Law Library in the following locations: 1) Library lobby; 2) Library central elevator atrium, first and second floor; 3) Library computer lab, 4) Eastern-most wall of the second floor; and outside the library at 4) the Student Organizations annex office, and 5) outside of Classroom 104. St. Thomas Law students are allotted a printing balance of \$75 (equivalent to 1500 pages) at the beginning of each semester. In addition to using this credit for printing, students may use their allotted print credits to make copies and scan documents at any of the networked printers located in the Law Library. Students wishing to print using STU printers must download the STU Student Printer driver at [www.stu.edu/print](http://www.stu.edu/print). When installed, STU network ID and password is required to send print jobs, and the same, or STU ID card, is required to pick up print jobs from any STU printer.

Please do not change paper or attempt to clear problems with the copiers. Report malfunctions, such as paper jams, to the Access Services Staff at the Circulation Desk.

## **RESHELVING BOOKS**

Please do not reshelve library materials after using them. Book carts are provided on all floors for the materials no longer in use, and the Law Library staff will reshelve all materials left on the carts. If you are returning materials that have been checked out, and you want to ensure that they are accounted for on your account, please make sure that you return them directly to someone at the Circulation Desk. Any and all library materials left in study areas will be collected and reshelved at the end of each day.

## **LAW LIBRARY PUBLIC CATALOG - WORLDCAT LOCAL**

WorldCat Discovery is accessible via the Web from virtually anywhere. The Library Internet address (*URL*) is <https://stu.on.worldcat.org>. If you need assistance, please ask a Librarian at the Reference or Circulation desk.

## **UNCLASSIFIED MATERIALS**

Materials that are not classified are arranged by form and jurisdiction and are shelved alphabetically. Their exact location may be determined by reference to the Library Guide which is available in the Library lobby by the Circulation Desk.

## **REFERENCE SERVICES**

A Reference Librarian is available in the lobby of the Library to assist with reference or research questions during daytime peak use and evening hours.

## **INTERLIBRARY LOAN**

Interlibrary Loan (ILL) is available for materials not available in the Law Library collection. The Interlibrary Loan service is available to St. Thomas Law College faculty, staff and students. ILL requests can be submitted by filling out the ILL request form available at the Reference Desk, or by filling the online form located on the [St. Thomas](#)

[Law Library website under the “Library Resources” menu link](#). Read this information, click the link to the form, complete and print the form, and bring it to the Circulation desk.

Materials that are made available to you from other libraries are due back on the date designated by the lending library. Any materials that are not returned in a timely manner will result in suspended ILL privileges. [Note: Failure to return items on time may also result in the STU Law Library being suspended from borrowing from other libraries.] Any charges incurred by the law library for materials that are lost or simply not returned by the patron will be charged directly to the patron. ILL is unavailable to STU Alumni, and to students during the two weeks before they graduate.

## CIRCULATION

Primary source materials, loose-leaf services, multivolume sets and books in the Reference Collection do not circulate.

Single-volume texts and treatises, as well as the Course Reserve and the Study Aids do circulate.

All students must present their current St. Thomas IDs to check materials out from the library. If the ID is unavailable another picture ID may be substituted, as long as the student is already in the STU Law Library system. ID cards are not transferable. Materials will not be checked out for anyone other than the owner of the ID presented.

Law Library materials have differing periods of circulation depending on the material being circulated. A chart arranged by Patron Type and Type of Material, is available in the section labeled Circulation Borrowing Privileges and also on the information kiosk at the circulation desk, notes the periods of time for which materials may be borrowed. While these time periods are fairly stable, *they do change*. It is the patron's duty to make sure of the date and time the material is due back at the library for discharge.

Recalls of properly checked out materials during the period of circulation are issued whenever the material is needed by a professor for the Course Reserve, or when the material is overdue. When items are recalled they are due immediately upon notification. Failure to return the material within a reasonable time will result in an eventual block from charging materials.

## REFERENCE COLLECTION

Materials in the Reference Collection do not circulate. The Reference Collection, including non-legal resources, directories, and almanacs, and study aids (e.g. nutshells and hornbooks), is located in the North Reading Room (through the doors to the left when you enter the library). It also includes the Current Law Index (CLI) and Index to Legal Periodicals (ILP) (see Periodicals section).

## PERMANENT RESERVE COLLECTION

The Permanent Reserve Collection is shelved behind the Circulation Desk. It contains popular treatises and other high-use materials. Materials in the Permanent Reserve



Collection may be checked out for four hours. No renewals are allowed on Reserve material.

## PERIODICALS

Periodicals do not circulate. Consult WorldCat Discovery to determine holdings and locations of periodicals in the Library. Law reviews are shelved on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

The Index to Legal Periodicals (ILP) and Current Law Index (CLI) are specific subject and author indexes to law journal articles. They are located in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor north reading room, in the Reference Collection. Access to the web-based Current Law Index (LegalTrac) is available on campus or via remote login, or as The Legal Resource Index on LEXIS and WESTLAW. Access to periodicals is available to our library patrons in a variety of formats - online, in print and in Microform. Staff members at the Circulation Desk are available to assist patrons in using the microform readers and printers.

## LOST OR DAMAGED MATERIALS

If a book or AV item is not returned, or is returned damaged, a fine will be assessed equal to the replacement cost of the material PLUS a processing fee of \$50.00. If the item is incapable of being replaced due to being out of print or out of stock, a fee of \$150.00 will be assessed.

## COMPUTER LAB

A Computer Laboratory is located in the second floor of the Law Library. This area is monitored by the staff from the Office of Information Technology (OIT) and the Law Library. The Lab is open to all law students on a first-come, first-served basis. At certain times during the year, lab access may be restricted. Signs will be posted notifying users of restrictions. SMOKING, BEVERAGES, AND FOOD ARE FORBIDDEN IN THE LAB AT ALL TIMES. If a computer is left unattended for 15 minutes, it will be logged off, books and materials will be removed from the desk, and the computer will be relinquished to any users waiting for a computer to become available.

Users must not install any software (e.g., messengers or games) on the machines or change backgrounds or screen savers. Users should not download any files from the Internet. Users should not save any files to the local machine (save all documents to your own flash drive or cloud service) as any saved files will be erased when the machine is rebooted.

Unauthorized use of Computer Lab equipment and materials including, but not limited to, copying copyrighted software, is prohibited. Users agree to accept full responsibility, thus indemnifying St. Thomas University College of Law from any costs for damages arising from the operators' use of the laboratory or materials, whether due to negligence or pursuant to the user's unauthorized use of equipment and/or materials provided by St. Thomas University College of Law.

Users encountering any difficulties in using equipment or software should ask for help from the OIT staff. If no one is in the staff office (located in the Computer Lab) please call (305-628-6610) x6610 to log a request for assistance. Please do not attempt to solve

the problem yourself. Instructions for connecting to the Wireless Network are available by the circulation desk. If you are having problems, please ask for assistance from the OIT Staff.

## **LAPTOP POLICY**

Audiovisual equipment needed for in-class presentation should be booked through the Law Library Audio-Visual Department at least 24 hours in advance. The Library manages several laptops for student use. They may be checked out for 4-hour period and must not leave the STU campus without written permission from the Library Director.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

The Law Library welcomes suggestions from you regarding additions to the collection, or improvement of Library services, equipment or hours. Suggestions can be e-mailed directly to the law Library Director ([jacob@stu.edu](mailto:jacob@stu.edu)). You may also use the 'Library Suggestions' button at [www.stu.edu/law/library](http://www.stu.edu/law/library). If you have problems, do not hesitate to ask questions. We will always do our best to find solutions.

### Circulation Borrowing Privileges

Patron Type	Circulating Materials	Non-Circulating Materials
Law Students	General Collection - 3 weeks Permanent Reserve - 4 hours Course Reserve - 4 hours (in library use only) 24 Hour Reserve - 24 hours Audio-Visual - 7 days Study Aids - 4 hours Audio-Visual Study Aids - 3 days Media Equipment - 4 hours (for class purposes only) Keys - 4 hours	Federal Collection Regional Collection State Collection Florida Collection Multi-volume sets loose-leaf volumes Periodicals Microforms Reference Collection
Law Faculty	Media Equipment - 4 hours All other library material - 1 term	Reference Collection Study Aids
Law Library Staff	General Collection - 1 term Permanent Reserve - 4 hours Course Reserve - 4 hours (in library use only) 24 Hour Reserve - 24 hours Audio-Visual - 7 days Study Aids - 4 hours Media Equipment - 4 hours	All other categories (Unless authorized by the Library Director)
Law College Staff	General Collection - 2 weeks Media Center Equipment - 4 hours	All other categories (Unless authorized by the Library Director)
Alumni	General Collection - 2 weeks Audiovisual Material - 7 days	All other categories (Unless authorized by the Library Director)
Attorneys / Bar Members	Audiovisual Material - 7 days	All other categories (Unless authorized by the Library Director)
University Student	General Collection - 2 weeks	All other categories (Unless authorized by the Library Director)
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University Faculty	General Collection - 1 term	All other categories (Unless authorized by the Library Director)
Inter-Library Loan	Materials are due back by date marked on book.	

## **ACCREDITATION**

St. Thomas University College of Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

St. Thomas University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Bachelor, Master, Juris Doctor, Master of Law and Doctorate Degrees (PhD, EdD, and JSD). Contact the SACSCOC at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4501 for questions about the accreditation of St. Thomas University.

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St. Thomas University, in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as amended (known as the Buckley Amendment), assures the confidentiality of student educational records and addresses students' rights with regard to educational records maintained by the College of Law and the University.

Students have the right to inspect and review their educational records within 45 days of submitting a written request to the Registrar's Office at the College of Law.

A third party may be given information about a student's academic record only with the written consent of the student with certain exceptions. For further information, please go to the U.S. Department of Education Website at:

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>.

Please note that transcripts, letters of good standing, certificates of completion, diplomas, and leaves of absence will not be granted to any student until all financial obligations to the College of Law, or the University, or both, have been met.

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St. Thomas University College of Law provides equality of opportunity in legal education for all persons, including faculty and staff (with respect to recruitment, hiring, retention, promotion, tenure, compensation, benefits, terms and conditions of employment, termination, and the like) and students (including applicants for admission, enrolled students, and graduates). St. Thomas University College of Law also provides its students and graduates with equal opportunity to obtain employment.

Discrimination in connection with any of these purposes on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin/ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender (including identity and expression), disability (including anyone having a positive HIV/AIDS status or perceived as having such), age, pregnancy (including pregnancy-related medical conditions), marital or familial status, or any other category that is or becomes protected by law is strictly prohibited.

The Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, located in the College of Law Administrative Offices on the first floor of the main College of Law building, at (305) 623-2358, has been designated as the person to handle inquiries regarding this policy.

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NOTE: The entrance to St. Thomas University College of Law is located on N.W. 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue just south of State Road 826 (Palmetto Expressway).

For information about admission to St. Thomas University College of Law contact:  
For information about student records contact:

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Law College Transcripts are provided by:  
National Students Clearinghouse  
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**COURSE CATALOG**

## J.D. Course Descriptions

*The law College cannot guarantee that each course or seminar listed below will be offered during a student's residence at the school. This list of courses and seminars is subject to change without individual notice. Some courses have variable credit hours (as indicated) depending on the coverage and class hours indicated at the time of registration. In addition to the courses listed below J.D. students may take any of the courses listed in the LL.M. Program as elective courses. An "S" designation after the course name indicates the class can be used to satisfy the skill requirement. (See Skills Instructions)*

### **Administrative Law**

**LAW 800**      2 or 3 Credits

The study of the powers and procedures of administrative agencies, including their investigatory, rule-making, adjudicatory, and enforcement functions, and the concomitant requirements of due process. The Administrative Procedure Act is studied. Topics covered include the doctrine of separation of powers; formal and informal rule-making and adjudication; the standard, scope, timing, and other aspects of judicial review of agency action; procedural due process; agency acquisition of information from individuals and businesses; standing, ripeness, exhaustion of remedies, and sovereign immunity.

### **Admiralty Law**

**LAW 869**      3 Credits

An exploration of the legal doctrine governing maritime activities, including personal injury, statutory protections for seamen and maritime workers, wrongful death, maritime liens, mortgages, limitation of liability, marine insurance, sovereign immunity, forum shopping, and, if time permits, wreck and treasure salvage and pollution.

### **Admiralty Procedure**

**LAW 868**      3 Credits

The course explores the issues of jurisdiction and federalism, the sources of Admiralty Law and modern trends on Maritime Conflict of Laws and on forum selection. A brief excursus on Maritime Law as applied in the rest of the world will complement this part. This course focuses on Admiralty Procedure, the special Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, in particular the "Supplemental Rules" B (attachment), C (ship's arrest), E (in rem/quasi in rem general provisions) and Supplemental Rule F (Limitation of Liability). A major part of this course is marine financing, theory and practice of maritime liens and mortgages and boat sales and registration.

### **Advanced Civil Procedure: Complex Litigation**

**LAW 820A**      2 or 3 Credits

This is an advanced civil procedure course focusing on some important aspects of civil procedure that are only superficially considered (or not considered at all) in the first year. It is useful for anyone interested in civil litigation or practice involving multi-party, multi-forum events, such as antitrust, securities, environmental, product liability, mass torts, consumer protection, civil rights, and other complex transactions. The topics considered include transfer of cases by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation; class actions; and discovery, case management, settlement, attorney's fees, and ethical issues in complex cases.

### **Advanced Constitutional Law**

**LAW 958C** 3 Credits

This elective course builds upon the required Constitutional Law course, offering a more in-depth analysis of select topics regarding the allocation of powers and individual rights, possibly including, but not limited to the reach of executive power, equal protection and substantive due process. Key cases will be analyzed in their historical context and evaluated in light of preferred policies. Hot issues of the day will be picked up, as they merit. The course will also focus in on current doctrine, placing precedent, methodologies, and frameworks of analysis in both a historic and modern perspective to best prepare students for understanding and practicing constitutional law in changing times.

### **Advanced Legal Research and Writing {S}**

**LAW 705** 3 Credits

This one semester course builds upon and extends legal research, writing and analytical skills acquired in the first semester. The primary focus of the course is to familiarize students with research tools not covered in the first semester research and writing course, including federal and state constitutions, complex statutory regimes and legislative history, as well as administrative regulations and rulings. The legal problems presented are designed to expose students to documents they will encounter in practice, such as pleadings, motions, discovery documents, contracts, settlement agreements, and memoranda of law. This is a required course in the spring semester of the first year.

*Prerequisite: Legal Analysis, Writing and Research.*

### **Advanced Legal Skills**

**LAW 711B1** 4 Credits

This course will provide a review of three-first year substantive courses: Torts, Contracts, and Criminal Law. The course will also introduce students to Criminal Procedure. The course will highlight topics from these courses that are tested on the bar exam. The course is designed to provide students with substantive review and to acclimate them early to the bar preparation process.

The course will emphasize essay writing and multiple-choice test-taking skills. The course will include periodic exercises and exams in both formats and a final exam with an essay and a multiple-choice component. The periodic essays will cover important topics in the substantive subjects covered in the course.

*Prerequisites: Torts, Contracts, and Criminal Law are prerequisites or co-requisites for this course. Students must take this course before they have completed 60 credits. This course is required for graduation.*

### **Alternative Dispute Resolution**

**LAW 819** 2 Credits

An examination of the principal methods of resolving disputes outside the judicial system. Client counseling is explored in depth. Additionally, the nature, uses, application, and legal status of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, fact-finding, and negotiation are explored. The philosophy and attributes of the methods of dispute settlement are compared with court and administrative agency litigation.

**Antitrust**

LAW 860 3 Credits

An examination of the control of private economic power through legal institutions promoting competition under the Sherman Act, the Clayton Act and the Federal Trade Commission Act. Emphasis is placed on an understanding of the policies and objectives underlying the antitrust laws and the extent to which the enforcement of these laws has fulfilled these objectives. Particular areas discussed are: legal and economic concepts of monopoly; collaboration among competitors to fix prices, operate trade associations, and regulate methods of competition; "vertical restraints" including retail price maintenance; horizontal, vertical and conglomerate mergers; and the relationship of antitrust law and patents.

**Appellate Advocacy**

LAW 685 2 Credits

Students participate in "Moot Court," a simulated courtroom experience involving the writing of an appellate brief followed by the presentation of an oral argument. This is a required course in the fall semester of the second year.

*Prerequisites: Legal Analysis, Writing and Research and Advanced Legal Research and Writing. This course is required for graduation.*

**Asylum and Refugee Law**

LAW 940 2 or 3 Credits

This course will take a hands-on approach to U.S. asylum and refugee law, to give you the tools you need to represent asylum seekers at all stages of the process, from their initial entry, through the Court process, until they can become legal permanent residents.

*Prerequisites: Immigration Law.*

**Bankruptcy**

LAW 842 3 Credits

This course is designed to provide a general overview of bankruptcy law including the various forms of relief under Chapters 7, 11 and 13. Topics to be covered include the bankruptcy estate, exemptions, claims in bankruptcy, the rights of secured and unsecured creditors, discharge, automatic stay, executory contracts and leases, preferences, avoiding powers of the trustee and fraudulent transfers. The course is offered in the fall term and is a pre-requisite to the Bankruptcy Clinic offered in the spring term.

**Bar Prep Skills I**

LAW 968 4 Credits

The course will provide substantive review and test-taking skills based in the following courses: Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Evidence, and Property. The course will focus on topics that are tested on the bar examination. The goals are to (1) acclimate students to the bar exam and preparation process; (2) provide substantive review; and (3) refine multiple-choice and essay exam test-taking skills. Students should generally plan to take this course in their last semester of school. The course is graded, without a mandatory curve.

*Prerequisites: Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Evidence, and Property are prerequisites for this course. This course must be taken after a student has completed 60 credits. This course is*

*required for graduation.*

### **Bar Prep Skills II**

**LAW 968A** 2 Credits

This course will provide a review and overview of four substantive areas covered on the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE). The course will review: Torts, Contracts, Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure. The course will highlight topics from these areas of the law and provide students a framework for organizing the doctrinal law in the way it is tested on the MBE. The course is design to provide students with substantive review and enhance their multiple-choice question-taking skills.

The course will include lectures, including an opportunity for questions and feedback from the students, that highlight key aspects of each area of the law. The course will emphasize memorization of black letter law and application of the "law" to questions in the MBE-hypothetical format. The course will include periodic exercises and exams and a final exam in a mock-MBE format covering these areas of the law. The course is an elective meant as a complement to the required Bar Prep Skills course for students who want additional practice and guidance on Bar preparation. The course is open to students in either of their last two semesters, but is suggested to be taken in the semester of graduation. The course is graded pass/no pass.

*Prerequisites: Torts, Contracts, and Criminal Law are prerequisites for this course. Students can only take this course after they have completed at least 58 credits.*

### **Blockchain & Cryptocurrency Law**

**LAW 967B** 1 or 2 Credits

This is an interdisciplinary course covering the intersection of public law, economics, finance, and corporate usage shaping ongoing public policy discussions and governmental regulatory efforts concerning blockchain, distributed ledgers, cryptocurrencies and virtual currency. Technical considerations underlying the course will be presented in a mostly abstract manner; there is no requirement of students to possess a background or expertise in computer science generally or cryptography specifically for success in this class.

### **Business Associations**

**LAW 813** 4 Credits

This course covers the law governing incorporated as well as unincorporated business associations including corporations, general partnerships, limited partnerships and other limited liability entities. The course begins with the common law of agency to explore the legal and economic relationships among principal, agent, third party and independent contractor. The course moves on to the modern law of partnerships and various forms of unincorporated limited liability entity such as the limited partnership and the LLC. The legal obligations of the firm, the partners or members inter se and to third parties are explored in the context of economic and business considerations. The course proceeds to an in depth study of the corporation including, inter alia, the nature of the corporate entity and its various constituencies, shareholder derivative actions, the duties of officers, directors and other insiders (including duty of care, duty of loyalty, duties of disclosure and fairness, duties with respect to inside information, short swing profits and rights to indemnification). The course will also explore basic concepts of corporate finance including the components of the balance sheet and the economic and

legal motivations behind decisions on capital formation, dividend distribution and investment. In addition the course explores the problems of corporate control including proxy fights, control in closely held corporations, statutory dissolution upon abuse of control and transfer of shareholder voting control. The course then moves on to cover the law of mergers and acquisitions and hostile takeovers. Statutory material for the course includes the Revised Uniform Partnership Act, Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act, Limited Liability Company Act (all as enacted in Florida), the Modern Business Corporation Act, the Delaware General Corporation Law, the Florida Business Corporation Act, and several federal statutes including inter alia, the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Williams Act and the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act and the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. This course is required for graduation.

### **Capital Punishment**

**LAW 945** 2 Credits

Students will become familiar with basic history, moral background, and constitutional rules governing the implementation of the death penalty in the United States, and particularly the State of Florida. Given the dramatic changes in Florida's death penalty law over the past two years, this course will provide students with an inside look at the response of the death penalty litigation community to the new law both in practice and theory.

### **Civil Procedure**

**LAW 600A** 4 Credits

This course provides an introduction to civil litigation processes, with particular attention to United States district courts. Students familiarize themselves with each major step in the litigation process, including pleadings, joinder of claims and parties, discovery, and pretrial and post-trial motions. Students also learn about the structure of American court systems, the subject matter jurisdiction of the federal courts, the power of courts to exercise personal jurisdiction over parties, and proper choice of venue. The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, federal statutes, the United States Constitution, and judicial opinions provide the sources of law. This is a required course in the first year. This course is required for graduation.

### **Civil Procedure Focus for the Bar**

**LAW 615A** 1 Credit

This practical course prepares students for Civil Procedure questions on the Multi-State Bar Exam (MBE). It covers the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and other federal law relating to Civil Procedure, such as subject matter jurisdiction and personal jurisdiction. The course helps students develop and hone multiple-choice skills, including critical reading and analytical thinking, necessary for MBE preparation. All students are encouraged to take this course to [re]familiarize themselves with aspects of Civil Procedure. This course is only offered to students in their final year of law College and is graded pass/no pass.

*Prerequisite: Civil Procedure.*

### **Commercial Law Amicus Initiative {S}**

**LAW 802C** (Up to two semesters) 3 Credits per semester

This course is designed to introduce students the skills needed by lawyers writing

amicus briefs and preparing policy documents and to help students begin to acquire some of those skills. The Commercial Law Amicus Initiative (CLAI) provides students from participating law schools an opportunity to weigh in on, and attempt to influence, the development of the commercial law and public policy in the courts. CLAI assists state and federal courts in faithfully interpreting and applying the Uniform Commercial Code, other commercial statutes, and related common law, in order to achieve the laws' underlying policies and to facilitate consistent decision-making by the courts. CLAI pursues this purpose through the filing of amicus curiae briefs. CLAI also provides research and recommendations on matters of commercial law to non-profit organizations such as the American Law Institute and the Uniform Law Commission, in connection with such organizations' preparation of uniform or model legislation or restatements of the law. Students will assist CLAI in these efforts.

### **Comparative Environmental Law**

**LAW 804B** 3 Credits

This course offers a comparative exploration of various environmental law regimes from around the world. It first provides a basic foundation of both United States environmental law and international environmental law, as well as specific environmental legal programs of selected countries. The course then examines the similarities and differences in how other countries address environmental problems to discover how the varied regulatory approaches impact the success of the particular program in question. Topics to be discussed include global climate changes; hydraulic fracturing; water pollution; biodiversity and land preservation; and environmental human rights.

### **Comparative Public Health Law**

**LAW 966A** 3 Credits

The Institute of Medicine has stated that "The mission of public health is to fulfill society's interest in assuring conditions in which people can be healthy." The World Health Organization defines health as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." This course will examine the international, federal, state and local laws and policies that govern activities relevant to the public's health. We will also consider the ethical implications of legal and policy decisions and explore prevalent issues facing lawyers from a legal and policy perspective. Topics covered will include the fundamentals of public health law, the AIDS pandemic and access to AIDS Pharmaceuticals, the Obesity Epidemic, the SARS Epidemic and Quarantine, the Global Tobacco Pandemic and International Law, and other country specific public health law and ethics topics.

### **Conflicts of Laws**

**LAW 866** 3 Credits

With the expansion of communications in the world it is inevitable that there will arise in most every lawyer's practice a conflict between and among the laws of the several jurisdictions involved in even the least complex of legal transactions. This course takes the student from the classroom to the courtroom in understanding these problems. The development of the Internet has generated many new and difficult problems dealing with traditional conflict of laws. Conflicts in contractual and marital problems are considered as are conflicts in the international setting. An important aspect of the course is preparing the practitioner to detect a lack of conflicts, which saves time and expense

of litigation.

### **Constitutional Law**

**LAW 680** 4 Credits

This course is an introduction to the structure of the U.S. Constitution and the rights and liberties it defines. Judicial review, federalism, congressional powers and limits, the commerce clause, and the 10th Amendment are covered, as are the equal protection and due process clauses. This course is a required for graduation.

### **Constitutional Law Focus for the Bar**

**LAW 958D** 1 Credit

This practical course prepares students for federal Constitutional Law questions on the Multi-State Bar Exam (MBE). It covers separation of powers and civil liberties. The course helps students develop and hone multiple-choice skills, including critical reading and analytical thinking, necessary for MBE preparation. All students are encouraged to take this course to [re]familiarize themselves with aspects of federal Constitutional Law. This course is only offered to students in their final year of law College and is graded pass/no pass.

*Prerequisite: Constitutional Law*

### **Contracting in a Crisis**

**LAW 892A** 1 Credit

This course will focus on the principles of contracts (including contracts for Sales of goods) that are implicated in an ongoing crisis, whether pandemic, hurricane, terrorism or other crisis. Particular emphasis will be on formation and modification of these contracts, as well as how defenses to contract formation, such as illegality and the impact of governmental regulations, may be implicated and to what extent parties may claim impossibility, impracticability and frustration of purpose during the pandemic. The course will also include the review and drafting of contract provisions, including modifications, conditions and force majeure clauses, as will the impact of a crisis on particular types of agreements.

*Prerequisites: Contracts I & II.*

### **Contracts**

**LAW 610A** 4 Credits

This course is an introduction to the principles that govern legally enforceable agreements and promises, including offer, acceptance, consideration and its substitutes, and to other problems that arise in the formation process. Contracts may also examine performance and breach of contract, defenses, remedies for breach, third-party rights and excuse. This course is a required for graduation.

### **Contracts Focus for the Bar**

**LAW 848B** 1 or 2 Credits

This course prepares students for Contract related questions on both the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) and the Florida Contract based essays. The course will primarily focus on bar-exam development while also operating to refresh students on Contract related, bar tested material. More specifically, the course will cover the most frequently tested Contract MBE test materials. It will also focus on the Florida specific Contract law distinctions tested on the essay portion of the bar exam. This course will help students



develop their essay writing skills as well as hone their multiple-choice test taking skills, including critical reading and analytical thinking. This course is graded pas/no pass.

### **Consumer Finance**

**LAW 863A** 1 or 2 credits

This course provides an overview of selected topics of laws governing consumer-financial products and services, including deposits, auto lending, credit cards, mortgages, small-dollar lending, student loans, debt relief, debt collection, and credit reporting. The course will focus particularly on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the persons and entities it regulates, and its broad authority to prohibit unfair, deceptive, and abusive acts and practices.

### **Consumer Law**

**LAW 863** 3 Credits

The study of unique aspects of the rules and regulations, and consumer credit including the Truth in Lending Act, the Consumer Leasing Act, and the Equal Credit and Opportunity Act.

### **Copyright & Content Management {S}**

**LAW 965B** 3 Credits

Copyright law stands at the forefront of law of the digital era, fostering and sometimes frustrating the creation and dissemination of human culture. By providing exclusive—but limited—rights to “original works of authorship,” copyright protects not just traditional media such as books, songs, and movies, but also electronic works found in YouTube videos, streaming media, and computer code. Because copyright issues are so prevalent in modern society, a modern lawyer should have a solid grounding in copyright law. This course covers major topics in domestic copyright law, such as originality, authorship, ownership, duration, the exclusive rights, infringement, fair use, and enforcement. It also pays close attention to the interplay of technology and law.

### **Corporate Finance**

**LAW 867** 3 Credits

Economics, finance, and law will be interrelated in the course. Emphasis will be placed on financing corporate activity, including valuation of businesses, the efficient market hypothesis, and the issuance of debt securities, common and preferred stock, and convertible securities. The course will also focus on dividends, distributions, and acquisitions.

*Prerequisite: Business Associations.*

### **Corporate Justice**

**LAW 867A** 2 Credits

This course will provide a comprehensive overview of the historical foundations of Corporate Justice and how it can be used as a tool for legal activism. In this course we will further explore the following issues: foundational aspects of corporate governance; how issues of gender and racial diversity affect the corporate decision making processes; the causes and effects of the financial market crisis; regulation of credit default swaps and other derivative instruments; director/officer fiduciary duties; the Dodd-Frank Act; the prison industrial complex; and finally, we will explore the impact and effect of social movements like the "Occupy Wall Street Movement" on financial reform.

### **Corporate Taxation**

**LAW 903** 3 Credits

Federal income tax consequences of the formation, capital structure, operation, and liquidation of corporations; treatment of distributions as dividends (taxable or non-taxable), redemptions or partial liquidations; determination of earnings and profits; and the disposition of corporate business by asset or stock sales.

*Prerequisite: Federal Income Taxation.*

### **Criminal Law**

**LAW 620** 3 Credits

This course is an overview of the common law and statutory elements of criminal liability. Topics include selected crimes against persons and property with emphasis on the act and intent requirements; principles of justification and excuse; inchoate crimes; and the theories of punishment. This course is a required for graduation.

### **Criminal Procedure I**

**LAW 808** 3 Credits

An examination of the constitutional rights of the accused with regard to arrest, search, interrogation, wire-tapping and other forms of eavesdropping, and entrapment. This course considers the limitations upon police agencies in the various areas of the individual rights of the accused. The mechanics of the criminal process, such as grand juries and preliminary hearings are also examined.

### **Criminal Procedure II**

**LAW 848** 3 Credits

The procedural problems experienced in the preparation and prosecution of a criminal proceeding are presented in this course. Major areas of analysis include arraignment and bail; an examination of the problems encountered in a preliminary hearing; the scope, extent and goals of a grand jury proceeding; pre-trial discovery, motions and suppression hearings; and the "plea bargaining" process.

*Prerequisite: Criminal Procedure I.*

### **Cyberlaw {S}**

**LAW 967** 3 Credits

Cyberlaw examines the effect of the Internet on the law, and of the law on the internet. In one sense, Cyberlaw provides a petri dish to examine how technology interacts with and impacts the entire law. In a richer sense, Cyberlaw shows how intermediated network technologies can disrupt existing forms of power—laws, markets, and social norms—in unexpected ways, creating new centers of norms and power. In that sense, Cyberlaw is a study of how technology brings chaos as well as unexpected order. Whether the chaos and order is good will be a central and recurring question. Topics covered will vary depending on current developments in law and technology and one can expect the class to regularly confront ongoing events. Topics in any semester may include: online jurisdiction; cyber-speech; trolling and bullying; privacy and anonymity; defamation; online intellectual property disputes; service provider liability; social networks; cybersecurity, cyberwar, and cybercrime; and network neutrality.

**Elder Law****LAW 851**     *3 Credits*

This course explores the growing needs of the elderly throughout the nation and the legal response to those needs including federal & state responses and legislation. Topics to be discussed in the course will include a study of the demographics of the elder population, ethical issues raised in representing the elderly, age discrimination in employment, income maintenance, health care, long-term care, housing, guardianship, property management, health care decision making, and elder abuse neglect and crime. The weighting of various topics will depend on the needs of the class and the avoidance of duplicate coverage with other courses that may touch on one or more of topics. Efforts will be made to familiarize the students with the medical considerations of an aging population and the relevant tests of competency in common uses. The course may include visits to nursing homes and Probate Court of Miami Dade and Broward County.

**Election Law****LAW 920**     *2 or 3 Credits*

This course will give students a basic understanding of the legal regulation of elections and politics. It will cover federal and state cases on a variety of topics, including: the 2000 presidential election controversy; reapportionment and racial gerrymandering; ballot access and the initiative process; campaign financing and the regulation of political parties; the degree to which courts intervene in the electoral process; and the Voting Rights Act and other civil rights legislation.

**Employment Discrimination Law****LAW 824**     *3 Credits*

The study of substantive rules of federal law in employment discrimination, blending the constitutional and statutory sources of employment discrimination law with the rapidly developing case law. Employment discrimination in the major classifications of race, sex, age, and national origin are analyzed and studied especially in light of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972.

**Entertainment Law****LAW 713**     *3 Credits*

This course is designed to introduce law students to the legal, business, and creative aspects of the entertainment industry. The course surveys the many legal doctrines that help shape the entertainment industry and explores how these doctrines interact. The primary entertainment areas surveyed include film, television and music. The course is designed to prepare the student to analyze a wide variety of entertainment law issues at a general level

**Environmental Law****LAW 895**     *2 or 3 Credits*

A survey of environmental law, policy, and regulation with particular emphasis on issues of current concern in Florida. Topics may include the role of the courts in environmental decision-making, techniques of pollution control in the major environmental statutes, the regulation of toxic substances, and the relationship between energy and environmental policy. A substantial writing component is required, e.g. comments on an EPA rulemaking, client memoranda construing environmental statutes

and regulations, briefs in environmental litigation, and practical research problems.

### **Essential Concepts of Business for Lawyers**

**LAW 907A** 1 or 2 Credit(s)

This course will introduce the law student into the basic concepts of business and taxation needed by the lawyer to better understand and with greater sophistication courses in business law, finance, accounting for lawyers, real estate development, securities, bankruptcy, tax, estate planning, wills, trusts, and related areas. This course will focus on four specific areas: (1) Accounting and Financial Statements; (2) Principles of Finance and Valuation; (3) Financial Instruments and Capital Markets; and (4) Federal Income Taxation.

### **Estate Planning**

**LAW 902** 3 Credits

An exploration of the various means of effecting the most beneficial results in the planning of a client's estate. Consideration is given to drafting techniques, choice of marital deduction formulas, selections of fiduciaries, federal estate tax credits, inheritance, and income taxes.

*Prerequisites: Federal Income Taxation and Federal Estates and Gift Taxation.*

### **Evidence**

**LAW 826** 4 Credits

The study of the preparation and presentation of evidence, examination of witnesses, the opinion rule and expert testimony, cross-examination and subsequent examination of witnesses, impeachment of witnesses, the procedure of admitting and excluding evidence, competency of witnesses, the scope and effect of the evidentiary privileges, relevancy, demonstrative evidence, authentication of writings, the "best evidence" rule, the hearsay rule and exceptions, judicial notice, and the burden of proof and presumptions. This course is required for graduation.

### **Evidence Focus for the Bar**

**LAW 826A** 1 Credit

This practical course prepares students for Evidence questions on the Multi-State Exam (MBE). It covers the Federal Rules of Evidence and other federal law relating to Evidence, such as Confrontation Clause. The course helps students develop and hone multiple-choice skills, including critical reading and analytical thinking, necessary for MBE preparation. All students are encouraged to take this course to [re]familiarize themselves with aspects of Evidence. This course is only offered to third-year law students and is grade pass/no pass.

*Prerequisite: Evidence.*

### **Family Law**

**LAW 810** 3 Credits

The study of the law of marriage in depth including who may marry and the constitutionality of both substantive and procedural restrictions on the right to marry. Marital agreements including ante-nuptial and post-nuptial contracts are examined. Divorce and the role of counsel in a dissolution of marriage are examined, including issues such as jurisdiction, custody, visitation, support, property division, and modification and enforcement of court orders. Child neglect, children born out of

wedlock, and adoption are included in this course.

### **Family Wealth Management**

**LAW 885**      3 Credits

This course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of financial planning needs of every family and how these needs are accommodated by lawyers and other professionals. It provides a foundation for a better understanding of courses dealing with business associations, federal taxation, wills & trusts, property ownerships and transfer, investment, insurance and related courses. Topics covered included accounting practices, investment strategy, risk and return, portfolio theory, property succession, income and wealth transfer taxation, housing, life and disability insurance, retirement planning and elder law. By providing an understanding of the basic structures supporting family wealth the student will be in a better position to make decisions on the areas of law the student would like to pursue.

### **Federal Courts**

**LAW 879**      2 or 3 Credits

A detailed comparison of the federal court system to the various state court systems on both the trial and appellate level. The limitations on the federal courts contained in the United States Constitution and the implications of the concept of federalism embodied in the Constitution are discussed in addition to federal judicial review.

### **Federal Criminal Law**

**LAW 882**      3 Credits

The basis of this course is the federal government's model role within the U.S. criminal justice system. Some of the federal crimes discussed may include drug trafficking, immigration crimes, firearms regulation, extortion, mail and wire fraud, corruption at the local level and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Additional important offenses concern national security, i.e., international terrorism and organized crime. The course focuses on public policy, the interests involved and a critical view of the present law. The procedural aspects are federal jurisdiction, plea bargaining and sentencing.

### **Federal Estate and Gift Taxation**

**LAW 901**      3 Credits

An examination of methods used to tax estates, trusts, beneficiaries, grantors, persons having power over an estate or trust, decedents, donees and successors-in-interest. Income tax implications are discussed, with the balance of the course being devoted to the federal estate tax, the federal gift tax, and the federal tax on certain generation-skipping transfers.

*Prerequisite: Federal Income Taxation.*

### **Federal Income Taxation**

**LAW 812**      4 Credits

The main objectives of this course are to help students learn, first, how to use the Internal Revenue Code and the Regulations to solve tax problems, and, second, how to use the tax laws for business and individual tax planning. This is a basic tax course requiring little business, accounting or mathematical background. The substantive content includes the basic principles of federal income taxation as they relate to the determination of income and deductions and when they are reported. Special emphasis

is placed upon transactions that most individuals engage in and tax avoidance techniques. The underlying elements of tax policy are discussed. Students who do not have a business background should consider taking Legal Accounting prior to or concurrently with this course.

### **First Amendment Law**

**LAW 828**      *3 Credits*

An examination of the First Amendment guarantees concerning expression and religion. In particular, the course focuses upon theories of values underlying freedom of speech and of the press, processes and consequences of speech classification, special considerations regarding modern media, regulatory methodologies that are constitutionally consonant, and freedom of association. The Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause are also covered. Attention is given to historical and contemporary context as it relates to the First Amendment's general meaning and the guarantee's specific clauses.

### **Florida Civil Practice**

**LAW 881**      *3 Credits*

A study of the unique aspects of Florida Law, including the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, the preparation of pleadings and materials for trial, the court system, legislative procedures, and the significance of Florida's integrated Bar with an emphasis on professional responsibility. The course examines jurisdiction, venue, and process. The Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, with specific emphasis on pleadings, the discovery process and sanctions are reviewed in depth. Students are required to prepare pleadings, discovery motions, orders and judgments.

### **Florida Condominium Law**

**LAW 764A**      *2 Credits*

The goal of this course is to provide a basic understanding of the issues impacting condominium owners, tenants and real estate investors, among others. It provides an in-depth look at how condominium and homeowner associations operate, and covers the condominium board's responsibility for enforcement of the community's covenants and restrictions. It also examines statutory rules, administrative regulations and case law, in addition to how governing documents are drafted and disputes are resolved. Students will be exposed to the contractual aspects of this area of law, including the interpretative and litigation issues affecting members of the community. Further, students will be given a primer on how the recent foreclosure crisis has impacted this area of the law.

### **Florida Constitutional Law**

**LAW 880**      *3 Credits*

An examination of the Florida Constitution, recognized as a model for state constitutions throughout the United States. Special emphasis is given to the role of state constitutions in the United States federal framework. Students are asked to weigh the values underlying state constitutions. The course also focuses on Florida Constitutional provisions involving court jurisdiction, legislation, prohibited statutes, administrative penalties, access to the courts, homestead, privacy, contract impairment, due process, equal protection, amending the constitution, counties, municipalities, and taxation.

**Florida Construction Law**

**LAW 764** 2 or 3 Credits

This course covers construction contract law, industry forms and contracting techniques. Students will review the various types of Florida construction lien laws, explore construction insurance issues, and surety and bond claims. Students will have the opportunity to follow a construction litigation claim from filing the complaint through trial.

**Florida Criminal Procedure**

**LAW 884** 2 or 3 Credits

Analysis of the Florida Statutes, Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure, and leading case law regulating the trial of criminal cases. The course explores all aspects of Florida criminal procedures including: arrest, filing of charges and arraignment, bail, pretrial release and pretrial detention, discovery, pretrial motion practice, speedy trial, jury selection, proof and argument at trial, jury instructions and deliberation, verdict and judgment.

**Florida Fundamentals Focus for the Bar**

**LAW 884B** 1 or 2 Credits

This is a one or two-credit course designed to prepare students for the Florida Section of the Florida Bar. This course covers the topics in Florida Law that have been tested by multiple choice on the Florida Bar Exam: Florida civil and criminal procedure, business entities, evidence, wills, and administration of estates. The course is team taught by faculty as well as adjunct professors. Students will learn the subjects in depth and have numerous opportunities to practice multiple-choice questions. Essay writing strategies for the Florida Bar subjects may also be covered. The course is graded pass/no pass.

**Government Benefits**

**LAW 735A** 3 Credits

This course will explore the history, substantive law, and procedures in the practice of Social Security law. Topics to be discussed in the course will include classes of qualified recipients of government benefits, basic coverage of benefits, with detailed discussions on procedures applied in implementing the eligibility determination process. The weighting of the various topics will depend on the needs of the class and the avoidance of duplicate coverage with other courses that may touch on one or more of the subjects. Efforts will be made to familiarize the students with an overview of government benefits available to eligible individuals through the Social Security Administration, qualification criteria, disability determination, calculation and payment of benefits and introduction to the Social Security practice and procedures.

**Guardianship Law**

**LAW 851A1** 3 Credits

Guardianship Law entails many areas of the law including: public and private assistance, advance directives, property and constitutional rights. This class is intended to teach students about how to plan for disability beyond personal and financial maintenance should the client become mentally or physically disabled. Traditional methods such as selecting beneficiaries on death and taking efforts to save income should be considered and the tools used to accomplish these objectives include guardianship, trusts, POD accounts, jointly held property, TOD accounts, convenience

accounts, health care surrogate designations, POA and living wills. The weighting of the various topics will depend on the needs of the class and the avoidance of duplicate coverage with other courses that may touch on one or more of the subjects. Efforts will be made to familiarize the students with the medical considerations and financial concerns of an aging population and the relevant tests of competency as well as the legal process of determining incapacity. The course may include visits to the Probate Court of Miami-Dade, Broward County and to the Jackson Memorial Hospital Baker Act Court.

### **Healthcare Compliance**

**LAW 689B** 3 Credits

Proactive regulatory compliance programs are, or soon will be, mandatory throughout the health care industry in the U.S. as a result of federal mandates. Effective compliance programs also are mandated by prudent business practices. This course is designed to introduce law students to health care compliance. Students will learn the background and general theory of compliance, what health care compliance programs are, how they are developed, how they operate and the consequences of inadequate and ineffective compliance programs. Special attention will be paid to the role and operation of compliance programs - with respect to both routine compliance matters and those that are complaint-based. The roles and responsibilities of government enforcement agencies such as the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and state Medicaid agencies in defining, directing and overseeing compliance and corporate integrity programs will also be considered. The future of compliance programs, including the potential for collateral liabilities as a result of compliance activities, will be addressed.

### **Health Law and Policy**

**LAW 689A** 2 or 3 Credits

This course acquaints students with some of the important health law and policy issues facing us today. Special attention is given to understanding some of the major provisions of the Affordable Care Act and its regulatory impact. Other focal issues include physician and hospital liability for substandard care or refusal to treat; distinctions between health, disease, and what is covered as treatment; confidentiality and disclosure of medical information; Medicare and Medicaid; public health and health as a human right.

### **Hip Hop and International Law**

**LAW 702A** 3 Credits

This course is an exploration of hip-hop culture as it takes shape in different locations around the world in relation to international human rights law; more specifically the freedom to express, associate, assemble, and openly practice political thought. It will draw upon hip-hop culture's tremendous ability to be leveraged in multiple localities while always referencing larger global issues. In each international context, we will analyze how voices from the margins, be they immigrant communities in Europe, indigenous communities in Australia, or political movements in Africa and Latin America, are using hip-hop not only to express themselves and their feelings but also to change their societies, and establish transnational networks. Particular attention will be paid to the transnational, geopolitical, and popular cultural vibrancy of the networks that hip-hop wields; and hip hop's connection to international human rights law around



the globe.

### **How Lawyers Get Paid {S}**

*LAW 837A 2 Credits*

This course examines how lawyers get paid. Topics covered may include methods of attorney compensation in law firms, referrals, the billable hour and its alternatives, contingency fees, settlements, and aggregate litigation (e.g. mass torts, class actions). The course explores these topics from the perspective of economic theory, public policy, legal ethics, and practical considerations. This is a skills course.

### **Human Trafficking Law and Policy**

*LAW 752 (LLM 752) 3 Credits*

This course analyzes human trafficking as a transnational organized crime, as a crime under U.S. federal law, and under Florida law. It explores the doctrinal issues related to human trafficking and slavery, the smuggling of people, involuntary servitude, as well as the case law related to each issue. It focuses on the main forms of human trafficking: forced labor, domestic servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation. It looks at the intersection of human trafficking law with other areas of law such as immigration law and foreign sovereign immunities act, and it examines questions related to jurisdiction. On a more practical level, it teaches tools of prosecuting successfully a trafficking case and brings in the perspectives of prosecutors, victim's attorneys, law enforcement and service providers. Finally, it assesses human trafficking as an egregious violation of human rights and evaluates international cooperation in criminal matters as well as the challenges of prosecuting transnationally.

### **Immigration Law {S}**

*LAW 830 3 Credits*

An overview of the laws, theory, practice, and procedures that enable aliens to enter, to reside in, and ultimately to become citizens of the United States. Legal and social aspects of this process, including visas, detention, exclusion, deportation, judicial review, and citizenship by birth and naturalization are examined.

### **Innovations and Inventions through Patents and Trade Secrets {S}**

*LAW 942 3 Credits*

Innovation policy is so important to this country that the Founders addressed patents in the Constitution and made patent protection one of the first laws passed by the new Republic. Since then, patent law—along with its cousin, trade secret law—has become even more important to the development of the economy, with many businesses being built on a foundation of patents and trade secrets. Ironically, patents and trade secrets are mirror opposites of one another: patents hinge on disclosure, whereas trade secrets require secrecy. Yet any substantial business plan involving technology may require both. Regardless of their benefits, both patents and trade secrets are being increasingly criticized by those who lament these laws, criticizing “patent trolls,” pharmaceutical price-gouging, and a lack of transparency in proprietary computer code. With both the practical and policy issues in mind, this course addresses innovation law with a heavy emphasis on placing legal doctrine in a real-world context. The course will emphasize practical aspects of these doctrines as well, spending class time learning the basics of reading patents, construing claims, and considering NDA and employment issues. Relevant state and federal laws to be studied include the Patent Act of 1952, the America

Invents Act of 2012, the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, and the Defend Trade Secrets Act.

### **Insurance Law**

**LAW 841** 2 or 3 Credits

This course focuses on the legal and practical issues involved in the field of insurance. Specific areas covered include basic principles of insurance (risk, underwriting, claims), the nature and extent of state regulation under the McCarran-Ferguson Act; the rights, duties, and liabilities associated with property/casualty, liability, and life/health insurance and with reinsurance; the defenses available to insurers in general and for each broad area of insurance; and problems associated with the claims process ("bad faith").

### **Intellectual Property Overview**

**LAW 871A** 1 Credits

Intellectual property, or "IP," is at the center of some of today's most important legal disputes. Accordingly, any well-studied lawyer ought to have knowledge of the topic. This course serves as an overview of major areas of intellectual property law, namely, copyright, trademark, patent, trade secrets, and right of publicity. The class serves three purposes. First, it is aimed at students who want to learn the basics of IP law so that they become better able to identify IP issues that may arise in practice. Second, this course serves as a foundation for students wishing to explore the IPL @ STU certificate program, which offers specialized IP courses. Third, it serves as a way for students to integrate concepts found in other 1L and foundational courses, because IP law often reflects concepts arising from the law of torts, contracts, property, procedure, and even criminal law.

### **Intercultural Human Rights Law Review**

**LAW 602** 1-5 Credits

The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is a scholarly journal publishing original articles stimulating global intercultural dialogue about issues in the field of human rights. It is operated jointly by J.D. and LL.M. students and provides students with extensive writing, editing and managing experience. Membership is determined on the basis of academic excellence and/or demonstrated writing ability. A publishable article, comment or note must be completed to qualify for membership.

J.D. members of the Intercultural Human Rights Law Review receive one academic credit per semester, starting in the spring semester of their second year, up to a maximum of three credits overall. The J.D. members of the Executive Board, which is composed of third-year students, earn an additional academic credit in each of the two semesters of the third year, up to a maximum of five credits overall. The faculty advisor is responsible for determining whether Intercultural Human Rights Law Review participants have completed their responsibilities and are thus entitled to credit. No student can earn more than a total of 5 credits from participating in the *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review*.

*Prerequisite: International Law.*

### **International Business Transactions**

**LAW 832** 3 Credits

An examination of the legal problems arising under American, international, and

foreign law which affect businesses whose affairs cross national boundaries. Topics include aliens and economic activities, foreign investments, foreign corporations, choice of law, sovereign immunity, and economic regulations. Special attention is given to various forms of enterprise and financing of foreign investment, as well as to forms of international dispute resolution, such as arbitration.

### **International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition**

**LAW 710I1** 1 (Spring) and 2 Credits (Fall)

This course is designed to prepare students to compete in Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition. The course consists of two semesters: Fall (students will attend lectures and research issues presented in the Problem and prepare and submit Claimant's and Respondent's Memoranda); and Spring (students compete in Pre-Moots in preparation for the Oral Argument rounds, which will be held during the Spring semester). By the end of the competition, which will be held in the spring at the Law Faculty of the University of Vienna, students will have learned how to write a memorandum focusing on question of a transnational contract – flowing from a transaction relating to the sale or purchase of good under the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods and other uniform international commercial law- in the context of an arbitration of a dispute under specified Arbitration Rules. Students will also have practiced and improved their oral advocacy skills.

### **International Law**

**LAW 700 (LLM 700)** 3 Credits

This is a general course in public international law. It focuses on the process of making and implementing lawful international decisions. The emphasis is on the sources of international law – treaties, customary international law and general principles of law -- and the many roles of the nation-state, its establishment, transformation and termination, as well as the regulation of protection and control of resources and persons, via the mechanisms of nationality and human rights. The subject-matter of this course will be delivered through lectures *ex cathedra* and applications of the Socratic style, power point presentations and practice exercises. International law is too vast a field to cover comprehensively in one course, but this class will familiarize you with the basic concepts of international law and will serve as springboard for those who, later, will need or might wish to explore in greater depth areas such as international criminal law, international environmental law, international corporate practice, the law of the sea, etc. It is a dynamic field that intersects ever more with other fields of law. Living in an increasingly inter-connected world, whether your career goals include working for the government, inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, or being a local prosecutor, a corporate attorney or a civil rights activist, you must have a thorough grounding in international law. This course will help you identify the concepts and acquire the skills necessary for influencing future decisions in the range of arenas in which international lawyers must operate--parliamentary, diplomatic, business, criminal and civil litigation, judicial and arbitral practice -- nationally and internationally.

### **International Human Rights and Religion**

**LAW 966B** 3 Credit

This course will explore the protections afforded by international human rights

instruments modeled on and derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the practice of the major world religions. Students will explore the major tenants, practices, and beliefs of the worlds' religions and the conflicts that arise when such tenants, practices, and beliefs interact with the civil authorities and with other religions. Case studies will explore the response of various religious traditions to the human rights standards and demonstrate ways such standards have protected vital interests such as liberty of conscience, religious pluralism and equality, free exercise of religion, nondiscrimination on religious grounds, and autonomy for religious groups. The course will seek to understand the importance of an appropriate balance for the interaction between law and religion in a thriving twenty-first century global society.

### **International Legal Research Boot Camp**

**LAW 846A** 1 Credit

This course will emphasize legal research strategies and the practical use of research materials in foreign and international law. Print and online resources will be discussed. Students will evaluate sources, basic terms and research techniques. Students will be expected to discuss their research ideas and objectives. The course is pass-fail and the grade will be based on class attendance, four homework assignments, and a final take-home exercise.

### **International Organizations**

**LAW 893** 3 Credits

This course studies the development of the law of International Organizations with reference to its parameters and constitutionality. The course will refer to the limits of the mandates, to express powers and limitations thereof, implied powers and the effect of dismemberment on the corpus of law. Reference will be made to the democratic structure (one state-one vote), the variations on that theme (weighted voting, etc.), and the question of recognition, representation, and relations between the host state and representative government. The operations of the Organizations will be discussed, inter alia, Secretariat staffing and structure, national affinities therein, privileges and immunities, external relations, and budgetary matters. Universal and regional organizations will be analyzed with special reference to peacekeeping, individual and collective self-defense, human rights, international adjudication, women's rights, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

### **Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiation {S}**

**LAW 817** 2 Credits

A study of the basic theories and techniques needed to develop competent lawyering skills for interviewing clients and witnesses, counseling clients, and negotiating with opposing parties. Skills are developed through simulated exercises, discussions, live demonstrations and may include videotaping student presentations. Emphasis is on student performance.

### **Journal of Complex Litigation**

**LAW 603** 1-5 Credits

The St. Thomas Journal of Complex Litigation is a scholarly journal publishing original articles submitted by faculty, students, and members of the bar and bench about issues in the field of complex litigation. It is operated by J.D. students and provides students with extensive writing, editing, and managing experience. Member candidacy is

determined on the basis of academic excellence and/or demonstrated writing and editing ability. Full membership is contingent upon the member candidate's completion of a publishable comment, note, or similar work.

Each member of the Editorial Board, which is composed of third-year students, receives two credits in the fall and two more credits in the spring. Second-year and third-year members receive one credit for each semester they are members. An additional credit may be available to the second- and third-year students, at the discretion of the faculty advisor, for service as an Articles Editor. A maximum of five credits may be earned overall. The faculty advisor is responsible for determining whether Journal participants have completed their responsibilities and are thus entitled to credit. No student can earn more than a total of 5 credits from participating in the *Journal of Complex Litigation*.

### **Judicial Decision-Making: How Judges Think**

**LAW 837C** 1 or 2 Credits

In this course students will explore the different modalities used by judges in interpreting constitutional and statutory texts, as well as how others through various works of scholarship have tried to gauge the various factors that are perceived as being part of the decision-making process. Students will review the case law to see how judges have utilized the differing modalities to render opinions. In this course, students will approach the following questions: Why we should care about how judges make decisions? Isn't it enough that judges make the "right" decision? Students will explore how judges make decision can be as important as the resulting decision.

### **Juvenile Law**

**LAW 886** 2 Credits

An examination of the law and legal process relating to juveniles. Emphasis will be placed on juveniles who commit unlawful acts, but coverage will also include juveniles who are neglected or abused. The recurring tensions in Juvenile Law between punishment and treatment, immaturity and accountability, judicial discretion and consistency, and the rhetoric and reality of the juvenile system will also be explored. Juvenile Law is a Florida bar-exam subject.

### **Labor Law**

**LAW 816** 3 Credits

The federal law of labor relations, including the relevant Constitutional provisions, the National Labor Relations Act, the Sherman Antitrust Act, the Clayton Antitrust Act, and the Norris and LaGuardia Act are examined. Selected topics include unfair labor practices, picketing, strikes, organization and representation of employees, federal preemption, collective bargaining, antitrust, and labor arbitration.

### **Land Use Planning**

**LAW 853** 3 Credits

Land use law deals with whether and how the development of land shall occur. Grounded in government's police power, land use controls are properly designed and implemented to advance the public's interest-including environmental, aesthetic, health, safety and economic interests, among others. Often pitched against the exercise of such governmental power are the interests of the private property owner, interests shielded by the full force of Constitutional protections and, in recent years, a growing body of

private property-oriented legislation. Land use law provides the legal and political framework for resolving these conflicts and achieving the best allocation of limited land resources.

### **Law and Bioethics**

**LAW 889** 3 Credits

Technology has changed the practice of health care and has given rise to ethical quandaries in determining when, whether, and how to integrate these technologies into patient care. Ethical principles are applied along with legal reasoning in dealing with the issues. Some of the areas explored include genetic engineering; surrogate decision-making; reproductive technology; human and animal organ transplantation; euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide; stem cell research; and regulation of care when patients are also the human subjects of medical research.

### **Law and Economics**

**LAW 814A** 3 Credits

Economics for Lawyers will provide you with an overview of basic tools involved in microeconomic analysis (including game theory, and some basic financial and statistical concepts), and an application of these tools to various areas of the law, including property, contracts, tort, and antitrust. This course will prepare you to think critically about the economic implications of legal rules. The ability to draw on economic arguments to shape legal arguments will make you more effective advocates.

### **Law and Literature**

**LAW 776 (LLM 776)** 2 or 3 Credits

The use of critical theory and works of literature to help students gain new perspectives on their chosen profession and to improve student skills in interpretation and composition. The course may include the study of: (1) critical theory from the Law and Literature movement; (2) law *as* literature; and (3) legal themes *in* literature.

### **Law Office Management {S}**

**LAW 831** 2 Credits

This course is designed to help you develop the skills and learn what you will need to succeed in the practice of law. The class will be both substantive and practical. The course was developed for law College students who plan to start their own practice, whether after law College or at a future time. Topics covered include professional responsibility and responsiveness, time management, calendar and other monitoring systems, malpractice avoidance, client satisfaction, office location, office library and equipment, personnel management, marketing, fees and billing, specialization, trust accounting and formulating a business plan.

### **Law Review**

**LAW 601** 1-5 Credits

The St. Thomas Law Review is a student-operated scholarly journal publishing articles submitted by faculty and members of the bench and bar nationwide. Membership is determined on the basis of academic excellence and/or demonstrated writing ability. A publishable comment or note must be completed for membership. The Law Review provides students with extensive writing, editing and managing experience.

The Editor-in-Chief earns two credits in her or his first semester in that position and three credits in her or his second semester. Members of the Board, which is composed of third-year students, receive two credits in the fall and two more in the spring. Second-year staff members receive no credits in the fall and one in the spring. Third-year staff members receive one credit in the fall semester, one in the spring semester, and an additional credit, at the discretion of the faculty advisor, for service as an Articles Editor. The faculty advisor is responsible for determining whether Law Review participants have completed their responsibilities and are thus entitled to credit. No student can earn more than a total of 6 credits from participating in the St. Thomas *Law Review*.

### **Lawyer Professionalism**

**LAW 807B** 1 Credit

This limited-enrollment, practical skills course, often taught by a current or retired judge, uses role plays, reading and presentations to explore professionalism's ideals and the Florida's bar exam tested mandates. Students will appreciate how character, competence, commitment and civility define a lawyer's reputation, while considering the relationship between professionalism, ethics, morality and zealous legal advocacy.

### **Legal Accounting**

**LAW 910** 3 Credits

A basic introduction, for students with little or no business background, to the approaches and methodology used in reporting and analyzing business or investment activity. No special mathematical skill is required. The business background, fundamental skill, and familiarity with financial statements developed in this course will be helpful in other law College courses such as Business Associations, Bankruptcy, Securities Regulation and Taxation. Course material emphasizes the underlying meaning, legal as well as financial, to be extracted from financial statements whenever there is a need for reporting the results of business or investment endeavors.

### **Legal Analysis, Writing and Research**

**LAW 635** 3 Credits

The purpose of this course is the development of a first-year law student's analytical ability. Legal writing is a thinking process and legal research methods affect and shape the thinking process involved. The program integrates research skills with analytical thought, requiring students to resolve legal problems by researching the law, briefing cases, understanding legal reasoning and composing arguments. This course is required for graduation.

### **Legal Issues for Startups, Entrepreneurs, and Small Businesses**

**LAW 831A** 2 Credits

This course will provide an overview of the legal issues that arise for entrepreneurs and small businesses. Specific topics will include entity formation, angel financing and venture capital, intellectual property, acquisition of talent and employment law issues that arise at the early stage of a business, initial public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, business torts, social entrepreneurship, and liquidation. The course will also cover business ethics and potential conflicts of interests that may arise when attorneys take an equity stake as payment for their services. Students will study real cases and will address concrete legal issues through simulations and drafting exercises for a startup. The course will feature guest speakers including entrepreneurs and

business lawyers to provide context for the assignments.

*Prerequisite or Co-Requisite: Business Associations is preferred but not required prior to taking the course but students who have not taken BA are strongly encouraged to take it during the same semester as this course.*

### **Legal Methods and Essay Writing**

**LAW 647** 2 Credits

This course focuses on providing students with the knowledge and understanding of substantive and procedural law; legal analysis and reasoning; written and oral communication; and other professional skills needed for competent and ethical participation as a member of the legal profession. Students will receive ongoing formative assessment feedback on a regular basis. This course is graded on the elective curve.

### **Legal Research Boot Camp Federal Law**

**LAW 846B** 1 Credit Pass/No Pass

An intensive legal research course covering advanced techniques which will allow students to become proficient in performing legal research to be used in internship programs and employment opportunities which specifically involve federal law. The course will cover topics such as federal legislative history, federal regulations, federal court operating procedures and rules, and filing procedures in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

### **Legal Research Boot Camp State Law**

**LAW 846C** 1 Credit Pass/No Pass

An intensive course designed to build on existing legal research skills, with its focus specifically on the research of Florida law. This course will cover techniques for researching state decisional law, state legislation and legislative materials, state administrative resources, and state court rules, including the rules governing filing procedures in the state court system. The course will also include advance training in online research techniques of state law databases.

### **Legal Skills**

**LAW 630A** 1 Credit Pass/No Pass

The course is mandatory for first-year students and consists of pre-coursework; a three-day, in-class workshop; and post-coursework. Students will improve learning and analytical abilities while continuing to lay ground work for development of stronger problem-solving skills through: (1) instruction; (2) exercises; and (3) debriefing. The course will build and refine fundamental lawyering skills including reading comprehension, rule mastery, issue spotting, outlining, and the mechanics of essay writing. Students are provided individual attention and feedback to improve. This course is required for graduation.

### **Legislation and Regulation**

**LAW 888A** 1 Credit Pass/No Pass

This short course introduces students to the world of legislation, regulation, and administration that creates and defines much of our legal order. At the same time, it teaches students to think about processes and structures of government and how they influence and affect legal outcomes. The course may include materials on most or all of



the following topics: the structure of American Government (especially federalism), the separation of powers; the legislative process, statutory interpretation; delegation and administrative agency practice; and regulatory tools and strategies.

### **Marine Insurance**

**LAW 749**      *2 or 3 Credits*

Marine Insurance is the most pervasive discipline in the field of Admiralty and Maritime Law. There is virtually no legal and business issue that is not subject or related to Marine Insurance. Marine Insurance even extends to cover risks for events “on land”, which have a legal or logistic connection with maritime transportation or business at large. This course will explain and describe the rules that govern insurance “markets” and will also look at insurance of building and repair operations, the so-called “Builders’ Risk. The course will then shift to the fundamental principles of “insurable interest” and “no-wagering”, which pervade the whole discipline, with vital twists of international and comparative law, as these principles find heavy trans-border application.

The course will then shift to the fundamental principles of “insurable interest” and “no-wagering”, which pervade the whole discipline, with vital twists of international and comparative law, as these principles find heavy trans-border application.

### **Mental Health Law**

**LAW 689C**      *3 Credits*

Government and private agencies enact laws and regulations in an effort to steer the behavior of society; providing penalties for any breach of the safety and welfare of its population. However, mental illness poses a challenge for the law given that the disorder affects self-perception, behavior, and appreciation; compromising individuals’ ability to understand their circumstances, reality, and the consequences of their actions. This course, grounded in constitutional principles, will provide the factual and legal framework for resolving conflicts in civil and criminal proceedings including representation, hospitalization, competence and insanity, confidentiality, and competing interests of due process.

### **Military Justice**

**LAW 738**      *2 or 3 credits*

This course will provide a survey of the U.S. military justice system as it applies to the military establishment. The primary text will be the Manual for Courts Martial (MCM). The U.S. system will be contrasted with a national Model Code of Military Justice developed by the Military Law Committee of the Americas. Human rights critiques of the system will also be covered.

### **Mock Trial Classroom Component {S}**

**LAW 734**      *1 Credit*

The purpose of the mock trial classroom component is to strengthen the trial practice skills of all mock trial members, with special focus on training mock trial members to be competitors and coaches in future mock trial competitions. The course provides advanced training in all aspects of trial practice, including problem analysis, research, and presentation of cases. The skills that participants develop in the classroom will make them better competitors and coaches in the actual competitions in which the team participates, and better lawyers when participants pass the Bar. The maximum credit

allowed for any combination of competition team(s) (Mock Trial, Moot Court, and International Moot court) and their classroom components is four (4). The course is graded pass/no pass.

### **Mock Trial Team {S}**

**LAW 734A** 1 or 2 Credits

Students who are selected to participate in an interCollege competition are eligible for up to two credits in the semester in which the interCollege competition occurs. This course provides advanced training in trial practice, including the presentation of cases in the context of a mock trial competition. In all other circumstances, credit will be limited to one (1) credit per semester. Maximum credit allowed per semester is two. The maximum credit allowed for any combination of competition team(s) (Mock Trial, Moot Court, and International Moot court) and their classroom components is four (4).

The course is graded pass/no pass.

*Prerequisite or Co-Requisite: Mock Trial Classroom Component*

### **Moot Court Classroom Component {S}**

**LAW 710** 1 Credit

The purpose of the moot court classroom component is to strengthen the appellate skills of all moot court members, with special focus on training moot court members to be competitors and coaches in future moot court competitions. Class members will work on moot court problems from past and current competitions within the confines of the rules of the respective competitions. The course prepares students for all facets of the competitions, including problem analysis, research, brief writing and oral argument, with the major emphasis on brief writing. The skills that participants develop in the classroom will make them better competitors and coaches in the actual competitions in which the team participates, and better lawyers when participants pass the Bar. The maximum credit allowed for any combination of competition team(s) (Mock Trial, Moot Court, and International Moot court) and their classroom components is four (4). The course is graded pass/no pass.

### **Moot Court Team {S}**

**LAW 710A** 1 or 2 Credits

Students who are selected to participate in an interCollege competition are eligible for up to two credits in the semester in which the interCollege competition occurs. This course provides advanced training in appellate practice, including both the briefing and argument of cases on appeal, through participation in appellate moot court proceedings.

Maximum credit allowed per semester is two. The maximum credit allowed for any combination of competition team(s) (Mock Trial, Moot Court, and International Moot court) and their classroom components is four (4). The course is graded pass/no pass.

*Prerequisite or Co-Requisite: Moot Court Classroom Component*

### **Mortgage Foreclosures**

**LAW 836B** 2 Credits

This course addresses case law and statutes governing foreclosures, then delves into the legal, procedural, and practical aspects of representing various actors involved in a foreclosure case the borrower, the lender, and other interested parties. It will examine plaintiff and defense strategies during foreclosure, remedies short of foreclosure such as modifications and deeds in lieu of foreclosure, and measures available after foreclosure.

Students who have taken Mortgage Foreclosure in a Crisis are not eligible to take this course.

*Prerequisites: Property and Civil Procedure.*

### **Mortgage Foreclosures in a Crisis**

**LAW 836A** 1 Credit

Many property owners face foreclosure as a result of a crisis (e.g., COVID -19; tornado, hurricane, subprime mortgage financial crisis, wildfires, etc.). State and Federal measures frequently are adopted to provide foreclosure and eviction relief. This course reviews the mortgage foreclosure process against the backdrop of one or more examples of crises, and the related governmental emergency management measures. This course informs the student of practical approaches to address client needs. At the end of the course the successful student will be able to identify potential problems arising from a crisis that give rise to foreclosure actions, recommended solutions, and appropriate steps to take to protect a client's interests.

prerequisites: Civil Procedure and Property.

### **Negotiations {S}**

**LAW 852A** 1 Credit

The course is designed to immerse students in an introduction to the art and science of effective lawyer negotiation. The course begins with an interactive class discussion of the fundamental concepts, theories, tactics, and techniques of effective transactional and dispute resolution negotiation. The discussion integrates the latest research involving the primary negotiation strategies (distributive-adversarial and integrative-problem solving), the key stages of negotiation (preparation, assessment, persuasion, and exchange), and the core bargaining styles (competitive and cooperative). This is a graded, one-credit class.

### **Partnership Taxation**

**LAW 907** 3 Credits

This course studies the federal income tax consequences of partnerships and covers the formation, operation, and liquidation or sale of partnerships. Special emphasis is placed on choice of entity considerations and the business planning flexibility available to partnerships, such as special allocations and deferral of income. This course applies the basic principles learned in the Federal Income Taxation course to partnership transactions.

*Prerequisite: Federal Income Taxation.*

### **Patent Litigation**

**LAW 942A** 2 Credits

This course provides an overview of patent litigation and practice before U.S. Federal Courts and post-grant review proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. Students will be exposed to a broad range of topics unique to patent litigation through reading materials, in class lectures and discussion, written assignments, and mock arguments. The topics and issues will encompass pre-filing considerations, pleadings, parallel PTAB strategies, claim construction proceedings, technical fact and expert depositions, motions practice, patent infringement remedies, trial and appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Prerequisites: Civil Procedure and Innovations and Patent Management.

### **Payment Systems**

**LAW 821** 3 Credits

Payment Systems is a general introduction to commercial transactions. It covers various ways of making payments (checks, credit cards, debit cards, letters of credit, wire transfers, and electronic payment devices), transactions for borrowing money (notes and guaranties) and also negotiable instruments and securitization. Doctrinally, it covers Articles 3, 4, 4A, and may also include 5, 7, and 8 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Coverage may also include (among other things) major provisions of the Expedited Funds Availability Act, the Truth-in-Lending Act and the Electronic Fund Transfer Act.

### **Practical Legal Research**

**LAW 926** 2 Credits

A presentation of modern methods of research and information retrieval over the Internet and selected proprietary networks. Comprehensive, accurate and current research in substantive legal areas must be weighed against the restraints of time and financial cost. This course provides the structure for students to gain the exposure and experience needed to develop efficient and effective legal research methods and to develop a critical perspective on the various print and electronic research sources. The course has been offered in the traditional classroom format and on-line.

### **Pre-Trial Practice {S}**

**LAW 861** 3 Credits

This course examines the rules and procedures applicable to conflict resolution that occur prior to the actual trial. The course is designed to help develop skills to assist in the investigation of facts, and the drafting of appropriate motions, complaints and answers. Students will learn how to prepare for a trial; how and when to file motions, pursue and defend discovery (including depositions) and prepare lay and expert witnesses. Since most conflicts are resolved prior to trial, this course would be helpful to any student interested in augmenting his or her litigation skills.

### **Products Liability**

**LAW 894** 3 Credits

An examination of areas of law dealing with defective and dangerous products and the remedies for breaches of warranty, strict tort liability and negligence in relationship to products. Tort and contract theories of recovery are examined and the governmental regulation of the law relating to these theories is also discussed. Special problems in product liability litigation, including the role of the expert witness, are discussed.

*Prerequisite: Torts.*

### **Professional Responsibility**

**LAW 850** 3 Credits

An examination of the attorney's ethical obligations to the client, the court, the profession, and society, with special attention to the conflicts inherent in these duties. Included within the .

course is a history of ethical standards and a study of the character and fitness required for admission to the practice of law, and the disciplinary process of those who do not abide by appropriate regulations in the practice of law. Confidentiality, loyalty, advising of clients, client perjury, handling client funds, and the unauthorized practice

of law are also covered. The course includes discussion of advertising, solicitation, and specialization within the profession. *Pro bono* work and the reputation and image that attorneys project to the public are also examined. Finally, the course discusses the role of the judiciary as it relates to clients, society, and the profession. This is a required course.

### **Property**

**LAW 690A** 4 Credits

Property introduces students to foundational legal doctrines that govern how people may possess, own, share, transfer, and otherwise use “things.” The course begins with a study of the means of acquiring property, including, but not limited to, adverse possession. The course then explores the system of estates and future interests. The course also examines various types of co-ownership, marital interests, and landlord-tenant law. The course then explores the stages of the land sale transaction, including contracts of sale; the statute of frauds; marketable title; risk of loss and equitable conversion; mortgage financing; interpretation of deeds; methods of title assurance; and the recording system. The course concludes by examining private land use arrangements, including easements, covenants, and servitudes. This course is required for graduation.

### **Property Focus for the Bar**

**LAW 747** 1 or 2 Credits

This practical course prepares students for Property questions on the Multi-State Bar Exam (MBE). It covers key areas of the common law of Property. The course helps students develop and hone multiple-choice skills, including critical reading and analytical thinking, necessary for MBE preparation. All students are encouraged to take this course to [re]familiarize themselves with aspects of Property. This course is only offered to students in their last year of study. This course is graded pass/no pass.

*Prerequisite: Property.*

### **Real Estate Development and Finance {S}**

**LAW 843** 3 Credits

This course will examine, legal and business aspects of land development, including purchase and sales contracts, ground leases, notes and mortgages, title work, surveys, environmental inspection and negotiation. It can also include sales and leasing of the completed project, and working out the failed project. This is a skills course requiring detailed technical reading, multiple written and oral exercises, hands-on drafting and oral negotiation in a simulated transaction, and extensive student participation.

*Prerequisite: Property.*

### **Real Estate Transactions**

**LAW 836** 2 Credits

The study of the basic elements of real estate transactions. The format traces a typical transaction through the several stages of pre-contract negotiations, involvement of attorneys and real estate brokers, preparation of the contract of purchase and sale, mortgage financing, title examination and insurance, resolution of title defects, general preparation for closing, documenting the closing, conduct of the closing, and postclosing responsibilities. The concepts and coursework apply equally to residential as well as commercial transactions. Certain assignments are included during the semester

involving document preparation.

### **Recreational Boating and Cruising**

**LAW 856A1** 2 Credits

This course explores the legal issues connected with the trade and operations of yachts, boats and cruises, such as, but not limited to: building, financing, purchasing, importing, documenting, licensing, insuring yachts and boats, boating accidents and salvage, cruise line accidents on board and on shore, tour and travel accidents and litigation, contractual issues between passengers and cruise lines, at home and abroad, chartering of yachts. The course also extends to legal issues connected with the industry of Hospitality, including marinas, parasailing, scuba diving, jet skis and the like. Also, the Coast Guard will deliver material, presentations and a Boating Course.

### **Remedies**

**LAW 856** 2 or 3 Credits

This course provides a trans-substantive approach to providing rights for most wrongs, in both public and private law cases, including administrative and regulatory matters. Injunctions, declaratory judgments, damages, restitution, and post-judgment relief are considered, as well as civil and criminal penalties, including punitive damages. The role of equitable discretion is emphasized.

### **Sales**

**LAW 815** 2 or 3 Credits

This course provides coverage of article I (general provisions), article II (Sales) of the uniform of the Uniform Commercial Code. This course may also include basic coverage of Article 2A (Leases) and the Convention of International Sale of Goods (CISG).

*Prerequisite: Contracts.*

### **Secured Transactions**

**LAW 820** 3 Credits

This course examines the basic rules, concepts and techniques governing the attachment, perfection, priority and enforcement of commercial financing structured as a secured transaction in personal property under Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Secured transactions include sales of goods and services on credit where payment is collateralized by goods, loans secured by tangible and intangible personal property, and sales of rights to payment of money.

*Prerequisite: Contracts.*

### **Space Law**

**LAW 746A** 1 or 2 Credits

This course will provide a general overview of space activities, from their inception to current trends, including their commercialization and privatization. The role of various international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations will be addressed. The role of regional and national public entities and the growing involvement of private corporations in space activities will also be considered.

While the emphasis will be on the regulation of various kinds of telecommunications satellite systems, other satellite systems, such as those used for remote sensing or earth observation (LANDSAT, SPOT Image, CBERS, DigitalGlobe) will be referred to in this

course. Other space activities (e.g., scientific exploration, the International Space Station, launch activities, space tourism, space debris) will also be addressed. Governmental - military uses of satellites will not be addressed.

### **Sports Law**

**LAW 745**      *2 Credits*

An exploration of the regulation and legal issues involved in professional sports, including the nature of player contracts, league structure and rules, franchise agreements, broadcast licensing, and relationships with other aspects of the law, such as anti-trust, tax, and labor issues. There is a specific focus on the role of agents, contract negotiations and issues, union representation, and the judicial and administrative decisions relating to these issues.

### **State and Local Government Law**

**LAW 890**      *2 Credits*

An examination of a legal framework for the governing of urban and rural areas with emphasis on the relationship of local governments to one another and to state and national governments. Some of the topics considered are the organization, financing and operation of local governments, legislative control of local governments and source and limits of local governing power.

### **State and Local Taxation**

**LAW 908**      *2 Credits*

The primary focus of the course is on ad valorem of taxation, specifically the taxation of real property. The course discusses both federal and state constitutional and statutory issues which impact judicial decisions. This course will examine the techniques for litigating significant issues and advising clients. Students will review broad principles applied throughout the country and then, utilizing Florida as a prototype state, analyzing how Florida has applied those principles.

The ad valorem taxation of personal property is also covered during the course. Additionally, topics that will be discussed during the course are other forms of state and local taxation and revenue raising, such as state gift, estate, and inheritance taxes, state income taxes, sales taxes, special assessments, and debt financing.

### **State, Federal, and International Copyright Law**

**LAW 965A**      *3 Credits*

This course will explore and survey legal issues associated with state, federal, and international copyright law. Topics will include: what works are protected by copyright, what rights are granted to a copyright owner for how long, what constitutes copyright infringement, how to enforce copyright protection, and defenses to infringement actions. The course is designed to provide not only a solid foundation in U.S. copyright law, but an understanding of the basic international copyright agreements such as The Berne Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention, and the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs).

### **Taxation of International Transactions**

**LAW 650A**      *4 Credits*

This course analyzes the taxation of foreign persons in the United States, including

taxation of United States real property interests and withholding on the disposition or acquisition of business interests in the United States; related issues such as choice of entity and sales of goods imported into the United States; and pre-immigration tax planning strategies. It further studies the Internal Revenue Code provisions controlling the income taxation of investments outside the United States, including controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies, foreign personal holding companies, indirect foreign tax credits, allocations of deductions, and foreign currency transactions. This is a 4 credit course.

### **Torts**

#### **LAW 650A** 4 Credits

This course examines the civil liability for an intentional or unintentional breach of duty imposed by law. In addition, it explores the various theories for distributing losses due to harmful conduct. The torts to be studied include intentional torts, negligence, and strict liability for certain types of conduct. The affirmative defenses and privileges with respect to tortious conduct will also be covered. Students will develop greater proficiency in applying the rules of tort law to complex fact patterns and in recognizing, analyzing, and clearly expressing the legal issues and public policy arguments arising from actual and hypothetical cases. This course is required for graduation.

### **Trademark and Branding Law {S}**

#### **Law 965C**

Brand names such as COCA-COLA, NIKE, and APPLE are much more than trademarks: they are icons of modern culture. The core of brand-name law is trademark law, the law governing fair and unfair competition regarding the words and symbols used by businesses for their goods and services. But in an information age, the law of brand names touches far more than hornbook trademark law, including social media branding practices that recruit consumers as soldiers in the corporate branding machine; disruptive technology that makes brand enforcement difficult; and cultural norms that treat brand names as symbols of social status and commentary, such as "this watch is the Mercedes of watches," or the parodic song "Barbie Girl." Any attorney who advises businesses in connection with product naming, marketing, or digital outreach should therefore have a solid grounding in the law of trademarks and branding. Accordingly, this course covers major topics in domestic trademark law, such as subject-matter, distinctiveness, genericness, the likelihood of confusion test, dilution, cybersquatting, false advertising, and enforcement. It also pays close attention to the interplay of technology and law.

Finally, the course extends beyond book learning to employ realistic practice exercises that tie lawyering skills to the readings. Examples may include developing a brand, brand-name clearance, preparing a trademark registration, and enforcement.

### **Transnational Criminal Law**

#### **Law 855A3** 3 Credits

Transnational Criminal Law examines crimes that cross national borders. These offenses are governed by US domestic criminal law. Examples of transnational crimes include drug trafficking, terrorism, cybercrimes, illegal arms trade, human trafficking, counterfeiting and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act all defined by US Federal law. Procedural issues are extra-territorial jurisdiction, mutual legal assistance and



extradition. Defense attorney arguments and statutory interpretations are emphasized. A term paper is required.

### **Transnational Litigation**

**LAW 855** 2 or 3 Credits

This course explores the procedural problems that arise when litigation of international private disputes crosses the boundaries of the United States. The presence of non-U.S. party-litigants often causes conflicts with foreign substantive and procedural laws, and creates special issues that the legal practitioner does not encounter in a totally domestic litigation. The primary focus of the course is to introduce and familiarize the students with the major topics of trans-national litigation, such as service of U.S. process abroad, service of foreign process in the United States; law suits pending in U.S. and in foreign court contemporaneously, "parallel jurisdiction"; default in international litigation; taking U.S. discovery abroad; taking U.S. discovery in the United States in aid of foreign litigation; protective injunctions, "blocking statutes"; suits in foreign courts; recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments in the United States; recognition and enforcement of U.S. judgments abroad; foreign sovereign immunities, etc. This course is a natural complement of and progression from Conflicts of Law and Comparative Law; however, neither of these courses is a prerequisite.

*Prerequisite: Civil Procedure.*

### **Transnational Security**

**LAW 855A1** 3 Credits

This course concerns the legal, political, economic and military aspects of international relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Contemporary issues including international terrorism, threats posed by weapons of mass destruction, intelligence operations, constitutional constraints on defending America, treaty negotiations and implementation, use of military force and related public international law topics are covered.

### **Transactional Skills {S}**

**Law 820 B** 3 Credits

This course focuses on the skills needed by lawyers involved in transactional practice. Those skills include ascertaining the parties' true desires through interviews and negotiation, creatively structuring deals and drafting terms to achieve those desires, and imagining all the events that might later interfere with the transaction documents. The course will take students through the early development of a commercial transaction, negotiating its terms and structure, and ultimately the drafting of the transaction documents. In that process, students will be confronted with issues of ethics and professional responsibility. They will also learn the distinctions between representations, warranties, covenants, conditions, and the other types of contract terms and practice how to spot and avoid ambiguity.

This course will count toward the skills requirement for a student taking the Business Law Certificate and is included in the menu of courses that can be used to attain the Certificate in Real Estate Law.

### **Travel and Cruising Law**

**LAW 868A2** 1 Credit

The course is an analysis of maritime and admiralty law and transactional issues

involving the industries of Travel and Cruising. With the advent of worldwide Internet, there has been an explosion of these industries, whose services are now offered, bought and enjoyed at remote locations worldwide, generating legal issues of contract conclusion, status of offerors and remote performance, ultimately with problems of jurisdiction and enforcement. Travel Agents sell services that are performed by Operators in remote countries, where accidents happen, or the services promoted are not there. Cruise Lines of today operate ships that host thousands of passengers and are the equivalent of small cities, with all the spectrum of accidents, from slip and fall to infections, intoxication and sexual crimes. Cruise tickets also offer shore excursions where more accidents happen, raising issues of joint or vicarious liability of the Cruise Lines and Travel Agents and Operators for accidents caused by third parties. The course would benefit all students, whether interested in maritime practice specifically or otherwise. It provides a good overview of the application of general areas of law such as contracts, torts and procedure and uses cases to illustrate specific context.

### **Trial Advocacy Practice {S}**

**LAW 760**      3 Credits

The systematic development of active student participation in the techniques involved in the trial of cases, including jury selection, opening statements, direct and cross-examination of witnesses, introduction of exhibits and closing arguments. Students conduct simulated jury trials. Problems used may be criminal, civil, or both.

*Co-Requisite: Evidence.*

### **White Collar Crime**

**LAW 891**      3 Credits

An exploration of recently expanding areas within the realm of federal criminal law. Categories of emphasis include the Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organization Act (RICO), mail fraud, drug offenses, obstruction of justice, false statements to law enforcement agents and the Hobbs Act. In addition to the pursuit of substantive criminal law themes within the federal enforcement system, policy, procedural, and sentencing aspects as they relate to these offenses are examined.

### **Wills and Trusts**

**LAW 840**      3 Credits

An overview of gratuitous transfers made by individuals while living and at death. Specific topics include wills, will substitutes, intestacy, living and testamentary trusts, and gifts. The primary emphasis of this course is on the interpretation of language found in the various documents and the governing statutes. The course also discusses how the myriad of vehicles available serves the needs of the individual.

### **Yachting and Boating Law**

**LAW 868A3**    1 Credit

The course is an analysis of maritime and admiralty law and transactional issues involving same. Topics to be covered include, admiralty jurisdiction, yacht acquisition and registration, maritime contracts, yacht surveyors and brokers, financing and insurance. The course would benefit all students, whether interested in maritime practice specifically or otherwise. It provides a good overview of the application of general areas of law such as contracts, torts and procedure and uses cases to illustrate specific context.

## SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

*In addition to other requirements for successful completion of a seminar, a paper is required; every seminar offers an option for this paper to satisfy the Intensive Writing Requirement.*

### **Cybersecurity Law & Policy Seminar**

**LAW 899H3** 2 Credits

The course is intended to introduce students to this developing area of the law. Our society depends on a stable and safe Internet, and there is growing concern about the misuse of the Internet. With the increasing proliferation of mobile technologies and the growing real-time borderless exchange of information, cybersecurity has become a relevant subject with international connotations that require a global approach to finding a solution. Cyber attacks are a personal threat to all users of the Internet, and impose great dangers to nation-states. The course will examine the social and legal processes developed by governments, the private sector, and civil society to secure the Internet. The course will also examine the regulatory role played by nations, in particular the U.S. government, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, and legislative and treaty-based mechanisms for global governance, but with a focus particularly on the management and security of the Internet's critical internet resources. The seminar will also consider the policy choices faced by the involved stakeholders.

### **Election Law Seminar**

**LAW 899E1** 2 Credits

This seminar surveys the law of democracy-that is, legal facets of the American electoral system. Election law, however, is by its very nature interdisciplinary, crossing disciplines of law, political science and even psychology.

### **Employment Discrimination Seminar**

**LAW 899D2** 2 Credits

This seminar will examine the various rules that comprise the law of employment discrimination. The law's historical evolution will be discussed for both the public and private sectors. To that end, the roles of the federal constitution, executive orders, federal and state statutes, and court responses to these regulations will be considered. The course will also show how workplace discrimination law continues to evolve along with the adjudicatory processes for dispute resolution. In addition, the class offers students the opportunity to work on employment discrimination exercises, and write a thoughtful paper on this subject, consistent with the law school's rules for the intensive writing requirement.

### **First Amendment Law Seminar**

**LAW 899O1**

This seminar will focus on some specific topics of first amendment law. For example, the student might look at hate speech, symbolic speech, or commercial speech, or might concentrate on a particular justification for speech like the pursuit of truth or the actualization of one's identity.

### **Hispanics, Civil Rights and the Law Seminar**

**LAW 899L3** 2 Credits

Hispanic and Latino name a United States Census category of ethnicity. As of 2013, people of Hispanic origin numbered 54 million, or seventeen percent, of the U.S. population. In Florida, Hispanics composed almost twenty-four percent of the populace, and in Miami-Dade County, they constituted sixty-five percent. How have law and policy shaped the social conditions of the diverse peoples who are called Hispanic, and how can lawyers shape law and policy to chart the future of Florida and the U.S. in general? This course will educate students about how U.S. law has mediated the territorial incorporation, and contradictory inclusion and exclusion, of diverse Hispanic peoples, highlighting their commonalities while nuancing their differences through an array of civil rights laws, migration patterns, and social struggles, and by highlighting their relations with Brazilians, Haitians, and other Caribbean peoples. This course may be used to satisfy the Senior Writing Requirement.

### **Immigration Law Seminar**

**LAW 899Y**

This is a research and writing seminar intended to satisfy the Senior Writing Requirement as well as to engage students in an exploration of some of the cutting-edge issues in U.S. immigration and citizenship law. The seminar will focus on changes in the enforcement of U.S. immigration laws and shifting government priorities. Are we facing an identity crisis as a Nation? Do Americans still consider this a nation of immigrants? Immigration litigation is occurring around the country, mostly on behalf of immigrants and refugees, but also in the opposite direction. Immigration restrictionists introduce legislation to cut back on family-based immigration and to impose an English-language requirement on persons seeking permanent residence. State and local governments respond either by seeking to assist the government in immigration enforcement, or through acts of resistance to enforcement priorities. Meanwhile, immigrant advocates and service providers are developing new strategies for defending immigrants facing removal. Ongoing developments, both in and out of government, provide a rich context for examining important questions of U.S. immigration law and policy, executive power, federalism, and due process. Students may fulfill their writing requirement through a traditional law review comment or case note, as a policy paper for decision-makers at the local, state or federal level, or through a manual for service providers. It should reflect substantial original research and writing, and be 30 double-spaced pages (or 15 single-spaced pages), including extensive footnotes. Students not seeking to fulfill the writing requirement may use other media, including art, film or music, as approved by the professor.

### **International Law in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Seminar**

**LAW 899J (LLM 899J)** 2 Credits

An introduction to the structure and dynamics of the process in which law beyond the nation-state is generated, changed and terminated. It reviews relevant, if conflicting, theories of and about international law, assesses the participants and their bases of power, analyzes problems arising from conflicting claims regarding people, territory and resources, and develops recommendations to address these problems with a view toward approximating a world public order of human dignity.

### **Internet Governance Law and Policy Seminar**

*LAW 899H2 2 Credits*

The course will analyze the legal and technological landscape faced by nations as they seek to adopt internet governance policies. The class analyzes the Internet's infrastructure, its impact in society and why the international community must be aware of the governance of this technology. The course will consider governance activities, their relationship to the technical coordination of the Internet and the interests of all stakeholders. Topics to be discussed include, among others, the role of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), and the U.S. Department of Commerce. The course will consider the governance models proposed for the control of the Internet. The policies discussed in class recognize that participation in the global debate of this issue represents a significant challenge, but one rooted in human rights and the protection of access to information.

### **Jurisprudence Seminar**

*LAW 899Q 2 Credits*

This seminar acquaints students with the culture of the law and enables them to clarify their own theories about the law. With a frame of inquiry that focuses on both legal authority and effective power, the seminar examines major schools of jurisprudential thought to discover the insights and procedures, if any, that these schools can offer to the contemporary lawyer and to the range of legal and social tasks to be performed. A prior course in Jurisprudence is helpful, but not mandatory.

### **Law, Literature and Popular Culture Seminar**

*LAW 899Z2 2 Credits*

This course encourages students to (1) examine law as a form of literature (using critical theory from the Law and Literature movement), and (2) analyze images of law and lawyers in literature, film, and television, in order to gain new insights into their chosen profession. Topics may include the following: interpretation in law and in literature; the good lawyer in popular culture; race, gender, and justice in legal stories, etc. Readings typically range from judicial opinions to Shakespeare to slave diaries to graphic novels.

### **Legal Storytelling and Persuasion Seminar**

*LAW 899Z 2 Credits*

An exploration of legal storytelling from several traditions, including: behavioral decision theory, cognitive psychology, classical rhetoric, trial practice and jurisprudence. There will be consideration of such issues as "how does a jury reach its decision?" and "how can an advocate use legal storytelling concepts and findings to be more persuasive?" The goal of the seminar is to give students a solid theoretical background for use in practical application.

### **Moral Dilemmas Seminar**

*LAW 899R 2 Credits*

A consideration of several of the more elusive ethical and moral dilemmas confronted in the practice of law. Examples will be drawn from a variety of areas of practice, including criminal law, domestic relations, corporate law, and civil litigation. Most are situations which have been treated in a superficial or confusing manner, if at all, by the ABA model codes of ethics. Accordingly, the codes will play a diminished role in our

analysis.

### **Race and Law Seminar**

**LAW 899L** 2 Credits

A survey of racial pattern in America law. Insight into race as social and legal constructs will be discussed in detail. In focusing on the interconnection of race and the law, seminar participants will study case law, statutes, and the works of historians and critical race theorists in such areas as public facilities, voting rights, criminal justice, protest, public education, housing and environmental justice.

### **Rule of Law Seminar**

**LAW 899L1** 2 Credits

The principle of the “rule of law” is commonly seen as one of the hallmarks of good government. Notwithstanding its contrast to the “rule of men” [or “women”], its meaning is tough to grasp. Rather formal understandings, “thin” definitions, stand against “thicker” concepts that include ideas of substantive justice or an order of human dignity; benefits and drawbacks might exist with either of these competing notions. All of these understandings are arguably subject to modification in times of crisis. This seminar will discuss the various approaches in light of concrete questions that highlight their relative usefulness or lack thereof. Students will write and defend papers on topics of their choice. Any societal problem that threatens or impinges upon the rule of law may be addressed. This includes case studies of individual problems in individual countries or cross-country comparisons of issues.

### **Sexual Identity and the Law Seminar**

**LAW 899N** 2 Credits

The seminar addresses the emerging field of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender-related litigation. Seminar topics will include: the history of sexual identity in law, the humanities, and the social sciences; workplace discrimination; sexual orientation discrimination and the Equal Protection clause; the debate over same-sex marriage, domestic partnership, and legal recognition of non-marital relationships; anti-sodomy laws (Model Penal Code and state laws); the exclusion of lesbians and gays from the military; the constitutional rights of gay students and gay political organizations; sexual minorities and human rights; legal protections available to gay parents (both biological and adoptive); and the legal status of hate crimes statutes and anti-gay referenda.

### **Selected Topics in Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure Seminar**

**LAW 899O** 2 Credits

A review of the selected criminal law and procedure topics including the U.S. Supreme Court's interpretation of the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Eighth Amendment rights, which safeguards one's rights regarding unreasonable searches, and seizures, self-incrimination, due process, cruel and unusual punishment, as well as a criminal defendant's right to a fair trial, as it has evolved since the 1960's. The functional and symbolic roles of these Amendments will be viewed through the prism of the rights to counsel, to confrontation, to compulsory process, to a jury, and to a speedy trial, and the sometime conflict between a free press and the Sixth Amendment assurance of a fair trial free from prejudicial publicity. The goal of the course is to determine the Court's adherence to the core values embedded in the primary criminal procedure Amendments and their related criminal law context.

*Prerequisite: Criminal Law.*

### **United Nations, Global Governance and Global Ethics Seminar**

**LAW 899Q2** 2 Credits

This course will explore the contemporary search for an adequate global ethics through a study of major global issues before the United Nations, the role of the United Nations in global governance, and the global ethical perspective of Catholic Social Teaching. The United Nations and its agencies represent the most world's most important instrument for global governance. The philosophical side of Catholic Social Teaching carries the legacy of Western cultures most significant traditions of ethical wisdom, and today it is being expanded by dialogue with all wisdom traditions of the human family. Catholic Social Teaching strongly supports the United Nations and in turn advocates within the United Nations for a global ethics founded on the common truth of human wisdom traditions.

The course, which requires a research paper, serves in part as a preparation for law students interested in the semester long-internship at the United Nations with the Pax Romana Non-Governmental Office, Inter-Governmental Organizations, Permanent Missions and Offices of the United Nations in New York.

### **Women and the Law Seminar**

*LAW 899P (LLM 899P)* 2 Credits

A perspective on the law's approach to social policy issues relevant to women and an introduction to contemporary feminist thought. The topics include the workplace (occupational inequality), the family (no-fault divorce, custody and support), pornography, the law of rape, and domestic violence. The special issues of Native American women and black women will also be explored.

## **CLINICS AND EXTERNSHIPS**

*Successful completion of any clinic or externship offered for credit by the Law College automatically satisfies the skills requirement for graduation. An internship outside of the Law College curriculum cannot be used to satisfy the skills requirement. All students must be in good academic standing to apply.*

### **Appellate Litigation Clinic {S}**

**LAW 845A & LAW 845B** 12 Credits (two semesters, 6 credits each semester)

This is a year-long clinical program open to third-year students. Students must register for each semester. Students must be cleared by the Florida Board of Bar Examiners and certified by the Florida Supreme Court to participate in this clinic. The Appellate Litigation Clinic provides experience in handling criminal cases in state appellate court on behalf of clients represented by the Miami-Dade Office of the Public Defender. Each student will have primary responsibility for at least two cases in which the record on appeal has been filed and the case is ready to be briefed. Working in a team of two students, each student will prepare an initial brief of appellant in the first case and an answer brief of appellee in the second case. Each student will present the oral argument before the Third District Court of Appeal in one of their two cases. This is a graded clinic with a weekly classroom component.

Prerequisites: *Evidence*.  
Co-requisite: *Criminal Procedure*.  
Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *Yes*.  
Minimum Hourly Requirement: *16 hours per week*

### **Bankruptcy Externship {S}**

**LAW 934**      *3 Credits*

This is a Spring semester externship that offers a comprehensive set of legal services focused on assisting and empowering low-income individuals in their interaction with the bankruptcy system. Under the supervision of adjunct law faculty, the attorneys at Put Something Back and the mentors from the local bankruptcy bar, students represent debtors in bankruptcy cases and proceedings, meet with judges and local practitioners, participate in several joint classes with other local law schools' bankruptcy clinics, and may be invited to attend events sponsored by the Bankruptcy Bar Association. Students are required to attend the weekly class component.

Prerequisites: *Bankruptcy*.  
Co-requisite: *None required*.  
Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *No*.  
Minimum Hourly Requirement: *16 hours per week*.

### **Civil Practice Externship {S}**

**LAW 857**      *4\* or 8 Credits*

This is a single semester externship, available for four or eight credits, which provides opportunities for students to observe and participate in lawyering at government agencies and non-profit, public interest settings. Typical placements include legal aid services, city and county attorneys, state and local government agencies, College boards, and healthcare facilities. Participation enhances the development of a broad range of lawyering skills, advance personal career goals, enable critical reflection of the legal profession and legal institutions, encourage self-directed learning through reflection, and promote core competencies and professional values that produce skilled and ethical lawyers and professionals in our society. Those students whose placement requires a Certified Legal Intern status must have completed four semesters (a minimum of 48 semester hours) and have received Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance. Students are required to attend the weekly class component.

Prerequisite: *Completion of one year of law College in good academic standing*.  
Co-requisite: *None required*.  
Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *Depending on placement*.  
Minimum Hourly Requirement: *16 hours per week minimum 4 credit; or 30 hours per week minimum 8 credits*.

*\* The summer semester is four credits with a minimum hourly requirement of 32 hours per week for seven weeks.*

### **Criminal Practice Externship {S}**

**LAW 864**      *6\* or 8 Credits*

This is a single semester externship for students who are eligible for Certified Legal Intern status by having completed four semesters (a minimum of 48 semester hours) and received Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance. Both prosecution and defense placements are available. These placements provide intense exposure through actual trial experience. Students assigned to the State Attorney's office receive a docket of cases,



engage in plea bargain negotiation, and try cases to the court, or in some cases, to a jury. Students assigned to the Public Defender's office defend indigent adults and minors charged with felonies and misdemeanor crimes. Students assigned to the United States Attorney's Office will draft motions and memos on issues involving the legality of searches and seizures, identification procedures, or confessions along with defenses of insufficient evidence, mistaken identity, alibi, entrapment, or self-defense.

Students are required to attend the weekly class component. Students will NOT be able to take any other courses that are offered during the day, while taking the Criminal Practice Externship.

Prerequisites: *Criminal Procedure and Evidence*.

Co-requisite: *Trial Advocacy Practice or Mock Trial*.

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *Yes*

Minimum Hourly Requirement: *30 hours per week*.

\* *The summer semester is six credits with a minimum hourly requirement of 32 hours per week for seven weeks.*

### **Elder Law Externship {S}**

**LAW 874**      *4 Credits*

This is a Spring semester externship that addresses the ethical and practical issues of representing the elderly. Issues include income maintenance, health care, long-term care, competency, guardianship, and probate. Students will become familiar with the medical considerations of an aging population. Students will be assigned to the Probate division of the Circuit Court and work, together with members of the Florida Bar's Elder Law section, to learn strategies and case management skills in dealing with an aging population.

Students are required to attend the weekly class component.

Pre-requisites: *Wills and Trusts*.

Co-requisite: *Elder Law*.

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *No*.

Minimum Hourly Requirement: *16 hours per week*.

Eligible Students: *2L's and 3L's*

### **Florida Supreme Court Internship {S}**

**LAW 870**      *6\* or 12 Credits*

For one semester, the intern will function as a law clerk to an individual Justice or as a central staff law clerk working for all of the Justices. Duties include: reviewing and making recommendations on petitions for discretionary review, attorney discipline matters, and extraordinary writ petitions; and conducting legal research and preparing memoranda on pending cases. The intern will have the opportunity to attend oral argument, discuss cases with staff attorneys and the assigned justice, and assist in the drafting of orders or opinions. The intern also will attend special lectures, group discussion, and training sessions. The intern will be awarded a certificate of recognition upon successful completion of the program. This Internship requires the student to have his or her Notice of Registrant Clearance.

This placement is based in Tallahassee. Housing in Tallahassee is provided by the law school.

Prerequisites: *Second- or third-year students with an outstanding academic record (generally top 25 percent) and exceptional research and writing skills. Civil Procedure; Evidence. Criminal Procedure and Florida Constitutional Law are recommended.*

Co-requisite: *None required.*

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *Yes.*

Minimum Hourly Requirement: *40 hours per week.*

*\* The summer semester is six credits with a minimum hourly requirement of 40 hours per week for seven weeks.*

### **Immigration Clinic {S}**

**LAW 835A & LAW 835B** 12 Credits (*two semesters, 6 credits each semester*)

This is a year-long clinic available to second- and third-year law students designed to provide the legal, ethical, and moral tools needed to provide high-quality immigration services to the under-served community. Students will represent asylum seekers, battered spouses and children, and other non-citizens seeking immigration relief in Immigration Court, before the Board of Immigration Appeals, and the Department of Homeland Security.

Prerequisites: *Immigration Law.*

Co-requisite: *None required.*

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *No.*

Hourly Requirement: *Minimum 20 hours per week.*

### **Judicial Internship {S}**

**LAW 865** 4\* Credits

This is a single semester internship that provides experience within the judicial system. Students learn about judicial decision-making and use their analytical, research, and writing skills to draft opinions and memoranda for pending matters under the direct supervision of judges, their law clerks, and staff attorneys. By observing court proceedings, students become familiar with court procedures and legal advocacy. Placements include the judicial circuit courts, the Florida District Courts of Appeal, the United States District Court, and the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. A student must be in academic good standing to apply.

Students are required to attend the weekly class component.

Prerequisite: *Completion of one year of law College in good academic standing.*

Co-requisite: *None required.*

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *No.*

Minimum Hourly Requirement: *16 hours per week.*

*\* The summer semester is a minimum hourly requirement of 32 hours per week for seven weeks.*

### **United Nations Internship in New York {S}**

**LAW 857A & LAW 857B** 6 Credits in summer and 12 Credits fall & spring\*

The United Nations Internship aims to form global legal leaders by instilling in students the knowledge of multilateral international organizations, the importance of globalizing international relations, and a desire to use law to assist the world's most vulnerable. United Nations interns are accredited to the United Nations by permanent missions, intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental organizations as well as by various offices of the United Nations Secretariat. Interns obtain access to meetings, events and discussions available only to diplomats and delegates. United Nations interns have attended meetings of the Security Council and spoken to the UN General Assembly, Commissions, Committees, High-Level Dialogues and have engaged in formal and informal resolution consultations.

Member states, permanent missions and non-governmental organizations partnering

with the St. Thomas Law United Nations Internship program include, the Permanent Missions of South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Honduras, Dominica, Costa Rica, United States of America and Grenada. Intergovernmental Organizations with Permanent Observer Missions at the United Nations include the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Malta, Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization, International Criminal Court, International Union for the Conservation of Nature and a spectrum of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and NGO committees, among them the Committee on Disarmament, the Committee on Africa, the Committee on Child Rights, the Committee on the International Decade for the World's Indigenous People, Committee on Financing for Development and the Committee on Sustainable Development.

The United Nations Internship is highly sought after; it operates year round and typically provides credentials for between six and eight interns at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and Geneva.

Prerequisite:

Co-requisite: *None required.*

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *No.*

Minimum Hourly Requirement: *40 hours per week.*

*\* Twelve credits are awarded in the Fall and Spring semesters. Six credits are awarded in the Summer semester. The academic component is graded and the field work is Pass/Fail.*

### **Tax Clinic {S}**

**LAW 911** 4 Credits (one or two semesters)

This is a single semester internship for second- and third-year students, which may be extended to a second semester with the permission of the Director. This clinic gives students the opportunity to work with underserved communities and, under supervision, represent low-income clients involved in tax controversies before the IRS, District Counsel, and the U.S. Tax Court. Students perform outreach services by providing education on the rights and responsibilities of U.S. taxpayers to the community particularly for those whom English is a second language. Students are required to attend Tax Court sessions and the weekly clinic class component.

This clinic requires prior acceptance by the Tax Clinic Director and enrollment is limited.

Students are required to attend the weekly class component.

Prerequisite: *Federal Income Taxation.*

Co-requisite: *None required.*

Florida Bar Notice of Registrant Clearance: *No.*

Minimum Hourly Requirement: *16 hours per week.*



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