

Law, JD (Boston)

Overview

Students at Northeastern University School of Law gain unparalleled networking opportunities from the moment they walk in the door. While many law schools talk about offering work experience, Northeastern Law has been the nation's leader in experiential legal education for five decades. Northeastern launched its Cooperative Legal Education Program in 1968 and today offers the largest and most extensive hands-on professional program in the country. Students devote several of their upper-level terms to working full-time as legal professionals. Through the co-op program, students have the opportunity to experience various fields of law in multiple practice settings.

Northeastern Law students gain real work experience and networking opportunities that far exceed the offerings of other law schools. With more than 1,500 employers in more than 40 states and a number of countries around the world, Northeastern students create professional networks in legal offices ranging from large firms in Boston to government agencies in Washington, D.C., to human rights organizations in Geneva. Through these connections and with access to the more than 8,000 alumni, Northeastern Law students graduate with not only a resumé packed full of experience but also a network that is unrivaled.

The School of Law offers a curriculum that provides students the tools they will need to pursue a successful legal career. In their first year, JD students complete required coursework. In their second and third years, they explore areas of interest by completing multiple full-time co-ops and taking courses that provide insight into many areas of the law.

Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificates

The School of Law offers JD students the option to pursue one of the following interdisciplinary graduate certificates:

- Health Law and Policy (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/graduate-certificates/health-law-policy-graduate-certificate/>)
- Human Rights Law (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/graduate-certificates/human-rights-law-graduate-certificate/>)
- Legal Design (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/graduate-certificates/legal-design-graduate-certificate/>)
- Poverty Law and Economic Justice (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/graduate-certificates/poverty-law-economic-justice-graduate-certificate/>)
- Privacy Law (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/graduate-certificates/privacy-law-graduate-certificate/>)
- Women, Gender, Sexuality, and the Law (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/graduate-certificates/women-gender-sexuality-law-graduate-certificate/>)

Dual Degrees

The School of Law offers multiple dual degrees (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/law/dual-degrees/>).

For a more comprehensive description of policies, procedures, and requirements pertaining to the JD program, please refer to the School of Law's website (<https://www.northeastern.edu/lawstudentaffairs/>).

Full-Time Option

Complete all courses and requirements described below.

Milestones

Code	Title	Hours
Public Interest Requirement ¹		
Upper-Level Rigorous Writing Requirement ²		
Experiential Education Requirement ²		
Co-op Requirement: Co-ops corresponding to three terms ³		

Note: All courses used to satisfy JD requirements must be completed with a passing grade. Students must satisfactorily complete all JD requirements, including the public interest requirement, the upper-level rigorous writing requirement, the experiential education requirement, and the co-op requirement.

First-Year Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Fall Term		
LAW 6100	Civil Procedure	5
LAW 6105	Property	4
LAW 6106	Torts	4
LAW 6160	Legal Skills in Social Context: Foundations of Social Justice Project	2
LAW 6165	Legal Skills in Social Context: Foundations of Legal Research and Writing	2

Spring Term

LAW 6101	Constitutional Law	4
LAW 6102	Contracts	5
LAW 6103	Criminal Justice	4
LAW 6161	Legal Skills in Social Context: Social Justice Project	2
LAW 6166	Legal Skills in Social Context: Legal Research and Writing	2

Upper-Level Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Professional Responsibility		
LAW 7443	Professional Responsibility	3
Electives		
Complete 46 credits of elective coursework.		46

Rules and policies applicable to elective coursework are described in the School of Law Student Information Handbook.

Program Credit Requirement

83 total credits required.

- ¹ Information about the public interest requirement is provided in the Student Information Handbook.
- ² The same course cannot be used to satisfy both the rigorous writing and experiential education requirements.
- ³ Transfer students should consult the Student Information Handbook for applicable requirements. All students with questions about satisfying co-op requirements should consult the Center for Co-op and Career Development.

Part-Time Option

Complete all courses and requirements described below.

Milestones

Code	Title	Hours
Public Interest Requirement ¹		
Upper-Level Rigorous Writing Requirement ²		
Experiential Education Requirement ²		
Two practical experiences during separate terms when the student is not registered for coursework other than the practical experience(s), including at least one co-op in the form of a field placement with a related seminar; and 1,000 hours of relevant work experience. ³		

Note: All courses used to satisfy JD requirements must be completed with a passing grade. Students must satisfactorily complete all JD requirements, including the public interest requirement, the upper-level rigorous writing requirement, the experiential education requirement, and the co-op, field placement, practical experience, and relevant work experience requirement.

First-Year Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Students will take the following courses during their first four semesters:		
LAW 6100	Civil Procedure	5
LAW 6101	Constitutional Law	4
LAW 6102	Contracts	5
LAW 6103	Criminal Justice	4
LAW 6105	Property	4
LAW 6106	Torts	4
LAW 6160	Legal Skills in Social Context: Foundations of Social Justice Project	2
LAW 6165	Legal Skills in Social Context: Foundations of Legal Research and Writing	2
LAW 6161	Legal Skills in Social Context: Social Justice Project	2
LAW 6166	Legal Skills in Social Context: Legal Research and Writing	2

Upper-Level Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Field Placement		
Complete one course from each of the following two pairs of courses:		8
LAW 7940 or LAW 7945	Reflections on Lawyering Field Placement Seminar	
LAW 7941 or LAW 7946	Public Interest / Public Service Field Placement Field Placement	
Professional Responsibility		
LAW 7443	Professional Responsibility	3
Electives		
Complete 38 credits of LAW courses not already taken to fulfill another requirement.		38

Rules and policies applicable to upper-level courses are described in the School of Law Student Information Handbook.

Program Credit Requirement

83 total credit hours required.

- ¹ Information about the public interest requirement is provided in the Student Information Handbook.
- ² The same course cannot be used to satisfy both the rigorous writing and experiential education requirements.
- ³ Transfer students should consult the Student Information Handbook for applicable requirements. All students with questions about the nature of these requirements should consult the Student Information Handbook and the Center for Co-op and Career Development.