Juris Doctor, JD

Get practical learning and experiences with a comprehensive curriculum that includes 250+ unique courses and offers 11 specialized focus areas through which you can pursue your interests in ASU Law's three-year, full-time JD program.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: JD Juris Doctor of Law
The JD program at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law offers a large selection of courses with options for transdisciplinary study with other departments on campus. Students find the opportunity to take classes with a more traditional, theoretical focus and to take advantage of many options that focus on the development of practice skills. The variety of focus areas offered by ASU Law include:

- business law
- criminal law
- health law
- Indian law
- international law
- international rule of law and security science and technology law
- law and sustainability
- patent practice
- sports law and business
- trial advocacy

ASU Law JD students must complete a total of 88 credit hours in order to graduate. First-year JD students take courses in civil procedure, contracts, torts, legal method and writing, property, constitutional law I, criminal law, legal advocacy and professional responsibility. After the first year, all courses are electives; students must satisfy two writing requirements and an experiential requirement in order to graduate. A full list of graduation requirements can be found here: https://law.asu.edu/ABA%20Disclosures.
Focus programs, certificates (https://law.asu.edu/degree-programs), study abroad options (https://law.asu.edu/experiences/abroad), the Washington, D.C. campus, and many other opportunities are available to enhance students' experiences.

Students can pursue a Juris Doctor concurrently with other degrees from ASU like an MBA, MSW, MSLB or a PhD in justice studies. Mayo Clinic School of Medicine students also have an opportunity to pursue a dual JD/MD degree: https://mayo.asu.edu/dualdegrees.

A flexible schedule program is offered for students who wish to attend law school but cannot eliminate all the other obligations in their lives to allow for full-time enrollment; however, it is not an evening program. More information can be found at: https://law.asu.edu/degree-programs/jd/jd-flexible-schedule.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus

Concurrent Program Options

Students can choose to create their own concurrent degree combination to match their interests by working with their academic advisor during or after their first semester of study. Some concurrent combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum; students should speak with their academic advisor for more details.

This degree is also offered as a concurrent program with an integrated major map with the following:

- Justice Studies, PhD
- Social Work - Standard Program, MSW
- W. P. Carey MBA - Full-Time Program

Degree Requirements

**Required Core (30 credit hours)**

- LAW 515 Contracts (4)
- LAW 516 Criminal Law (3)
- LAW 517 Torts (4)
- LAW 518 Civil Procedure (4)
- LAW 519 Legal Method and Writing (3)
- LAW 522 Constitutional Law (3)
Electives (58 credit hours)

Additional Curriculum Information
A minimum of 64 units must be obtained from courses that involve attendance at regularly scheduled class sessions. The following do not count toward these required 64 units: all externships; independent studies; non-LAW courses taken at the College of Law under section II A 11 c; credits received for working for a journal under section II A 11 d; credits received for Moot Court under section II A 11 e; credits received for being a teaching assistant under section II A 11 f; and credit from courses without regularly scheduled meetings.

Students should see the College of Law's Statement of Student Policies for additional JD degree requirements.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

To be considered for admission to the JD program, applicants must have taken the LSAT (excludes applicants applying to the ASU Achievement Program) and have earned or will earn by the time of enrollment in law school a bachelor's degree that has been awarded by an institution that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

ASU Law requires applicants to apply electronically through the Law School Admission Council website at https://www.lsac.org/.

An application for admission must include:

1. electronic application (application fee waived for all 2021 applicants)
2. personal statement (no more than two pages, double-spaced and font size no smaller than 11 point)
3. resume (no more than two pages and font size no smaller than 11 point)
4. character and fitness statement, if applicable, explaining affirmative answers to questions 1-8 in the Character and Fitness section
5. binding admission contract, if applicable;
6. a valid LSAT score (excludes applicants applying to the ASU Achievement Program)
7. transcripts from each undergraduate and graduate institution attended (must be sent to LSAC)
8. proof of English proficiency for applicants whose native language is not English regardless of current residency.
Applications may also include:

- letters of recommendation: no more than two letters submitted through LSAC to be included in applicant's Credential Assembly Service report*
- Optional addenda

*Since these are not required, the admissions office will not wait for letters to complete an applicant's file for review.

**Additional Application Information**

The JD program enrolls one first-year class per year, entering in the fall semester. The degree is a three-year full-time program. However, ASU Law offers a flexible scheduling option for students with circumstances that make full-time enrollment impossible, but it is not an evening program. Admission to ASU Law is competitive and each year ASU Law receives more applications from eligible candidates than can be accommodated.

ASU Law seeks to enroll a dynamic group of individuals that will provide an engaging learning environment. The admissions committee makes decisions after considering all the information provided by the applicant. Among the factors influencing the admission decision are LSAT performance, undergraduate grade point average, quality and grading patterns of undergraduate institutions, previous graduate education, demonstrated commitment to public service, work and leadership experience, extracurricular or community activities, history of overcoming economic or other disadvantages, uniqueness of experience and background, maturity, ability to communicate, foreign language proficiency, honors and awards, service in the armed forces, and publications.

For detailed information about the Juris Doctor application process, interested applicants are asked to visit [https://law.asu.edu/admissions/apply/jd](https://law.asu.edu/admissions/apply/jd).

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**

Study abroad is possible for graduate students, with more than 50 program opportunities spanning six continents. Faculty-directed programs tend to be the best fit for graduate students; taking courses over the summer or during academic breaks with ASU professors offers close mentorship and professional network growth in many fields of study while earning ASU credit. Exchange program participation is also possible with careful planning. [https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/students/graduate-students](https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/students/graduate-students)

**Contact Information**

[Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law] | BCLS 420  
[asulaw.admissions@asu.edu] | 480-965-1474  
[Admission Deadlines](https://gas.admissions.asu.edu/apply/jd/deadlines)