Juris Doctor, JD

The road to becoming a great lawyer starts with a degree from top-ranked Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University --- #27 Best Law School by U.S. News & World Report, #25 Global Ranking by Academic Ranking of World Universities and a top 20 school for employment.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: JD Juris Doctor of Law

The JD degree program offers a large selection of courses with options for transdisciplinary study with other departments on campus. Students will 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 college hosts:

- The Center for Law and Global Affairs
- The Center for Law, Science and Innovation
- The Center for Public Health Law and Policy
- The Indian Legal Program
- The Lodestar Dispute Resolution Center

At a Glance

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

Concurrent Degrees

This degree is also offered as concurrent degree program with:

- Justice Studies, PhD
- Psychology, PhD
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)
LAW 523 Property (4)
LAW 524 Legal Advocacy (2)
LAW 638 Professional Responsibility (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; courses taken outside the law school under section IX A; credits received for working for a journal under section X F; credits received for Moot Court under section X G; credits received for being a teaching assistant; credits received from any clinic other than Civil Justice Clinic, Immigration Law and Policy Clinic, Indian Legal Clinic, Innovation Advancement Legal Clinic, Mediation Clinic, Post-Conviction Clinic; and credit from courses without regularly scheduled meetings.

Students should see the College of Law’s Statement of Student Policies for additional Juris Doctor degree requirements.

Admission Requirements

Applicants with degrees from foreign institutions must meet the Graduate College and College of Law English proficiency requirements.

The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University enrolls only one first-year Juris Doctor class per year, and it enters in the fall semester. The Juris Doctor degree is a three-year program, and almost all students study on a full-time basis. The college does offer a flexible scheduling option for students
with circumstances that make full-time enrollment impossible. Each year, far more applications are submitted to the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law than the college's facilities and programs can accommodate. Thus, admission is competitive. The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law makes its admission decisions based upon all information contained in the applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to the program, an applicant must have taken the LSAT and have earned, or expect to have earned by the time of enrollment in law school, a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university. Further, a candidate must complete the application for admission and submit all mandatory attachments. Transcripts and letters of recommendation or evaluations must be submitted through the Law School Admissions Council's Credential Assembly Service and will be provided to the College of Law by LSAC with the applicant's LSAT record. Applicants must apply electronically through https://www.lsac.org.

The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law will provide full file review to 100 percent of the completed applications to the Juris Doctor program. While the applicant's undergraduate record and LSAT score are important predictors, no decision will be made on objective criteria alone. Among the other factors considered by the admission committee are:

- ability to communicate
- demonstrated commitment to public service
- diversity of experience and background
- exceptional personal talents
- extracurricular or community activities
- foreign language proficiency
- geographic diversity
- graduate study
- history of overcoming economic or other disadvantage
- honors and awards
- leadership experience
- maturity
- overcoming disability
- personal experiences with discrimination
- publications
- service in the Armed Forces
- the rigor of the undergraduate course of study
- work experience

Students should see the program website for application deadlines.

For an application to be considered complete, it must include the following:

1. a complete Credential Assembly Service report, with all transcripts and letters of recommendation or evaluations
2. the completed application, including explanations for affirmative answers to conduct, character and fitness questions
3. LSAT scores from Law School Admissions Council
4. a personal statement that does not exceed two double-spaced, typed pages
5. the required application fee
6. a resume that does not exceed three typed pages

The Credential Assembly Service report must be from the current application year.

Global Opportunities

PLuS Alliance
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

Global Degree

Career Opportunities

Contact Information

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law | BCLS 420
asulaw.admissions@asu.edu | 480-965-1474
Admission Deadlines