

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Oklahoma City University School of Law offers a number of certificate programs for students pursuing the JD or LLM degree. In order to qualify for a certificate, a student must submit an “Intent to Pursue a Certificate” form to the Registrar prior to the student’s final semester of law school.

Subject to availability, we offer certificates in the following areas:

- American Indian Law
- Commercial Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Estate Planning
- Homeland Security Law
- Public Law

When faculty are available, we also offer certificates in Energy Law, Health Law, and Dispute Resolution.

The requirements for the certificates are given below.

CERTIFICATE IN AMERICAN INDIAN LAW

A student shall receive a Certificate in American Indian Law upon completion of all requirements for the *Juris Doctor* degree, submission of an Intent to Pursue a Certificate form, and completion, with a cumulative B average, of the following coursework:

1. American Indian Law
2. Tribal Law
3. At least two of the following:
 - a. Family Law
 - b. Environmental Law (offered occasionally)
 - c. Oil and Gas Law
 - d. Indian Gaming Law (offered occasionally)
 - e. Administrative Law
 - f. Nonprofit organizations
 - g. Public Health Law (either as a seminar or as a course)
 - h. Any other elective course with significant American Indian law content approved by the program director, including elective courses previously listed for this certificate but no longer offered.
4. Satisfaction of the student’s upper-class writing requirement through one of the following seminar courses or competition:
 - a. Law and Anthropology
 - b. Native American Economic Development
 - c. NALSA Moot Court Competition

- d. Seminar approved by the program director
- 5. Either one of the following clinical or externship courses:
 - a. American Indian Wills Clinic
 - b. Native American Externship

The program director for this certificate is Professor Steven Foster.

CERTIFICATE IN COMMERCIAL LAW

A student shall receive a Certificate in Financial Services and Commercial Law upon completion of all requirements for the *Juris Doctor* degree, submission of an Intent to Pursue a Certificate form, and completion of the following requirements:

- 1. Completion, with a B- cumulative average, of
 - a. All of the following courses:
 - i. Agency & Unincorporated Business Associations
 - ii. Consumer Bankruptcy
 - iii. Corporations
 - iv. Sales and Leases
 - v. Secured Transactions
 - b. Two One of the following courses:
 - Commercial Paper
 - Corporate Finance & Regulation
 - Financing the Start-Up
 - International Business Transactions
 - Securities Regulation
 - Taxation of Business Entities

Note: While some of these courses are required for all students, the certificate requires that those courses be counted toward the certificate's requirement of a B- average.

- 2. Satisfaction of the upper-class writing requirement by means of a publishable paper (either a seminar paper, directed research paper, or law review note, but not a supervised paper) on a topic in commercial law, as approved by the program director.
- 3, Satisfaction of the clinic or externship requirement with a commercial law practice, as approved by the program director.

The program director for this certificate is Associate Dean Paula Dalley

CERTIFICATE IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A student shall receive a Certification in Dispute Resolution upon completion of all requirements for the Juris Doctor degree, submission of an Intent to Pursue a Certificate form, and completion of the following courses with a cumulative B- average:

1. Arbitration Advocacy;
2. Mediation Advocacy;
3. Either (a) Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiation Advocacy or (b) ADR in Family Law;
4. Pretrial Litigation; and
5. Either (a) Trial Practice or (b) Forensic Evidence in the Courtroom

With the permission of the program director, a student may substitute a course with significant dispute resolution content (as determined by the program director) for Mediation Advocacy.

The program director for this certificate is Associate Dean Paula Dalley.

CERTIFICATE IN ESTATE PLANNING

This certificate program is designed to equip students with the legal knowledge and practice skills to be effective as beginning practitioners in the area of wills, trusts, and estates. The required courses provide a basis in the relevant legal doctrine. The advanced courses allow the student to focus on one area in depth. The experiential learning component gives the student practical experience in dealing with clients, drafting, and addressing estate planning issues.

A student shall receive a Certificate in Estate Planning upon completion of all requirements for the *Juris Doctor* degree, submission of an Intent to Pursue a Certificate form, and completion, with a cumulative B average, of the following coursework:

1. All four of the following courses:
 - a. Estate and Gift Tax Law
 - b. Estate Planning
 - c. Income Tax Law
 - d. Wills, Trusts, and Estates
2. At least one of the following advanced courses:
 - a. Advanced Trust Law
 - b. Agency and Unincorporated Business Associations
 - c. Consumer Bankruptcy
 - d. Administrative Law
 - e. American Indian Law
 - f. Texas Marital Property Law
 - g. Oil and Gas Law
 - h. Any other elective course, or seminar, with significant wills, trusts, and estates law content approved by one of the program directors, including elective courses

previously listed for this certificate but no longer offered.

3. Any **two** of the following clinical or externship courses:
 - a. American Indian Wills Clinic
 - b. Advanced American Indian Wills Clinic
 - c. Government Practice Externship with a placement at either of the following:
 - i. Oklahoma Health Care Authority
 - ii. Oklahoma State Department of Health
 - d. Judicial Externship with a placement at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court
 - e. Litigation Practice Externship with a placement at either of the following:
 - i. Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma
 - ii. Senior Law Resource Center

The Program Directors for this certificate are Professor Carla Spivack and Professor Phyllis Taite.

CERTIFICATE IN HOMELAND SECURITY LAW

A student shall receive a Certificate in Homeland Security Law upon completion of all requirements for the *Juris Doctor* degree, submission of an Intent to Pursue a Certificate form, and completion of the following requirements:

1. Completion, with a cumulative B- average, of six of the following courses, composed of:
 - a. Homeland Security Law
 - b. At least two of the following courses:
 - i. National Security Law
 - ii. Criminal Procedure
 - iii. Administrative Law
 - c. And any of the following elective courses:
 - i. Aviation Law (usually offered during the summer)
 - ii. Cybersecurity Law
 - iii. Federal Criminal Law
 - iv. Firearms Law and the Second Amendment (offered occasionally)
 - v. Information Privacy Law (offered occasionally)
 - vi. State and Local Government (offered every other year)
 - vii. Legislation
 - viii. Military and Veterans Law (offered every other year)
 - ix. Policing and the Law (offered every other year)
 - x. Any course listed under (b) above that is not used to satisfy requirement (b).
 - xi. Any other elective course with significant homeland security law content approved by the program director, including elective courses previously listed for this certificate but no longer offered.
2. Completion, to the satisfaction of a full-time law faculty sponsor, of a publishable paper (seminar, directed research, or law review note, but not a supervised paper) on a Homeland Security Law topic approved by the program director (the paper may also be used to satisfy the upper-class writing requirement).

3. Completion of one of the following:
 - a. Externship at a Homeland Security-related placement site approved by the program director.
 - b. Pro bono work consisting of a minimum of 50 hours during one semester at a Homeland Security-related placement site approved by the program director.
 - c. Paid employment consisting of a minimum of 100 hours during one semester at a Homeland Security-related placement site approved by the program director.
 - d. A second paper (seminar, directed research, law review note, or a supervised paper) to the satisfaction of a full-time law faculty sponsor, on a Homeland Security Law topic approved by the program director.

The program director for this certificate is Professor Marc Blitz.

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC LAW

As the relationship between law and public policy becomes more complex and the role of attorneys in government agencies increases, there is a great need for attorneys with both an excellent grounding in the theory of law and political science and a well-rounded exposure to the doctrines of public law in diverse areas such as Environmental Law, Securities Regulation, and Federal Criminal Law. The Certificate in Public Law enables students, through a well-planned series of courses, extensive writing, and opportunities to do an externship in the field, to acquire excellent training in public law that will make them attractive not only to government employers, but to any employer who deals with public law issues.

A student shall receive a Certificate in Public Law upon completion of all requirements for the *Juris Doctor* degree, submission of an Intent to Pursue a Certificate form, and completion of the following requirements:

1. Completion, with a cumulative B- average, of six of the following courses, composed of:
 - a. Administrative Law
 - b. At least one of the following courses:
 - i. Legislation
 - ii. State Constitutional Law (offered occasionally)
 - iii. State and Local Government (offered every other year)
 - c. Any of the following elective courses:
 - i. American Criminal Law and Restorative Justice
 - ii. American Indian Law
 - iii. Environmental Law
 - iv. Estate and Gift Tax Law
 - v. Federal Criminal Law (offered occasionally)
 - vi. Federal Jurisdiction (offered occasionally)
 - vii. Immigration Law
 - viii. Income Tax Law
 - ix. Securities Regulation (offered every other year)
 - x. Any course listed under (b) above that is not used to satisfy requirement (b).

- xi. Any other elective course with significant public law content approved by the program director, including elective courses previously listed for this certificate but no longer offered.
- 2. Completion, to the satisfaction of a full-time law faculty sponsor, of a publishable paper (seminar, directed research, or law review note, but not a supervised paper) on a public law topic approved by the program director (the paper may also be used to satisfy the upper-class writing requirement).
- 3. Completion of one of the following:
 - a. A Government Practice Externship or a Judicial Externship, to the satisfaction of the Director of Externship Programs;
 - b. A second paper (seminar, directed research, law review note, or a supervised paper) on a public law topic approved by the program director, to the satisfaction of a full-time law faculty sponsor; or
 - c. A brief (for a moot court team approved for academic credit) on a public law topic approved by the program director, to the satisfaction of a full-time law faculty sponsor.

The program director for this certificate is Professor Andrew Spiropoulos.