

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. 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

Professor Steven Foster is the program director for this certificate.

CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS LAW

A student shall receive a Certificate in Business 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. Corporations
 - iii. Law of Sales
 - iv. Secured Transactions, and
 - b. Two of the following courses:
 - i. Antitrust
 - ii. Commercial Paper
 - iii. Consumer Bankruptcy
 - iv. Corporate Finance & Regulation
 - v. Financing the Start-Up
 - vi. Income Tax
 - vii. International Business Transactions
 - viii. Mergers & Acquisitions
 - ix. Securities Regulation
 - x. Taxation of Business Entities
 - xi. Any other elective course with significant business law content approved by the program director.

Note: While some of these courses are required for all students, the certificate requires that those courses be included in 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 business law, as approved by the program director.
3. Satisfaction of the clinic or externship requirement with the Corporate Counsel Externship or the Collaborative entrepreneurship clinic. This requirement may be satisfied by another externship with the permission of the program director.

This certificate was previously known as the Certificate in Commercial Law.

Program Director is Associate Dean Paula Dalley.

CERTIFICATE CRIMINAL LAW

A student shall receive a Certification in Criminal 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 courses:

I. Course Requirements

A. Required Courses: Completion, with a B- average, of the following 3 courses:

1. Criminal Law (3 credits)
2. Evidence (3 credits)
3. Criminal Procedure (3 credits)

B. Optional Courses: Completion, with a B- average, of at least 2-3 additional courses (for a total of at least 6 additional credits) of the following courses:

1. American Criminal Law and Restorative Justice (1 credit)
2. Capital Punishment (3credits) or Issues in Capital Punishment Seminar (2 credits)
3. Domestic Violence and the Law (2 credits)
4. Prosecuting Terrorism (2 credits)
5. Wrongful Convictions (3 credits)
6. Any other elective course with significant criminal law content approved by the program director.

II. Skills Development & Experiential Learning Requirements

A. Completion of at least one of the following courses:

1. Forensic Evidence in the Courtroom (3 credits)
2. Pre-Trial Litigation (Criminal Focus) (3 credits)
3. Trial Practice (4 credits)
4. Any other simulation/skills development course approved by the program director.

B. Completion of at least one of the following:

1. Bail and Bond Clinic
2. Innocence Clinic
3. Judicial Externship (Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals or other court with substantial criminal law component)
4. Litigation Practice Externship (in criminal law field)
5. Pro bono work in criminal law field (70 hours minimum), as approved by program director.
6. Paid employment in criminal law field (100 hours minimum), as approved by

program director.

7. Other substantial, practical, experiential work on actual criminal law cases, as approved by program director.

III. Scholarly Research and Writing Requirement

Completion, to the satisfaction of a full-time law faculty sponsor, of a scholarly work of writing, based upon substantial research and of publishable quality, that is focused upon a topic in the field of criminal law and approved by the program director. This requirement may be met via a seminar, law review note, directed research, supervised paper, or moot court brief (if approved by program director). This writing may also be used to satisfy the OCU Law Upper-Class Writing Requirement.

The program director for this certificate is Professor Maria Kolar.

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 Professor Tia Ebarb Matt.

CERTIFICATE IN ENERGY LAW

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

1. Environmental Law
2. Oil and Gas Law
3. Any three of the following courses:
 - a. Energy Torts (offered every other year)
 - b. Oil and Gas Contracts (offered every other year)
 - c. Oil and Gas Regulation (offered every other year)
 - d. Oil and Gas Tax Law (offered every other year)

The student is encouraged, but not required, to complete his or her upper-class writing requirement by means of a seminar paper on a topic in energy law. The student is encouraged, but not required, to complete his or her clinic-or-externship requirement within an energy law practice.

If the student is unable to complete all five courses before the completion of the JD degree, the person may complete the missing courses after graduation and receive the certificate. The courses must be taken for academic credit and may not be audited. Standard tuition and fees apply to coursework completed after graduation.

The program director for this certificate is Professor Eric Laity.

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 Director for this certificate is Professor Christin Mugg.

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 B- average, of six of the following courses, comprised of:
 - a. At least two of:
 - i. Administrative Law
 - ii. Criminal Procedure
 - ii. State Constitutional Law (offered occasionally)
 - iii. State and Local Government (offered every other year)
 - b. Any of the following elective courses:
 - i. American Criminal Law and Restorative Justice
 - ii. American Indian Law
 - iii. Environmental Law
 - iv. Estate and Gift Taxation

- v. Federal Criminal Law (offered occasionally)
- vi. Federal Jurisdiction (offered occasionally)
- vii. Immigration Law
- viii. Income Taxation
- ix. Securities Regulation (offered occasionally)
- x. Any course listed under (a) above that is not used to satisfy requirement (a).
- 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, a publishable paper (seminar, directed research, law review note, or 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; or
- 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.