

OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

Learning Outcomes and Performance Criteria
for the J.D. Program

1. Our graduates will know and understand substantive and procedural law.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Identify legal issues from new factual situations in the areas of constitutional law, contracts, criminal law, federal civil procedure, the federal law of evidence, property, torts, and at least four additional bar exam areas of law, such as business associations, consumer bankruptcy, trusts and estates, and the Uniform Commercial Code.
 - ii. Articulate the fundamental principles of law from constitutional law, contracts, criminal law, federal civil procedure, the federal law of evidence, property, torts, and at least four additional bar exam areas of law, such as business associations, consumer bankruptcy, trusts and estates, and the Uniform Commercial Code.
 - iii. Analyze factual situations using the principles of law from constitutional law, contracts, criminal law, federal civil procedure, the federal law of evidence, property, torts, and at least four additional bar exam areas of law, such as business associations, consumer bankruptcy, trusts and estates, and the Uniform Commercial Code.
 - iv. Draft documents conforming to procedural rules from the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Federal Rules of Evidence, or both.
2. Our graduates will demonstrate competence in legal analysis and legal reasoning.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Use critical reading, thinking, and reasoning skills to identify and articulate the legal issues, holdings, and rationales embodied in judicial opinions.
- ii. Use critical reading, thinking, and reasoning skills to interpret and analyze statutes and administrative regulations.
- iii. Identify, analyze, and evaluate the relevant legal issues posed by novel fact patterns.

- iv. Apply the legal principles embodied in cases, statutes, and administrative regulations to novel fact patterns, and analyze and assess the legal issues presented.
3. Our graduates will demonstrate competence in legal research.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Identify and analyze the appropriate legal issues to be researched.
 - ii. Recognize the authority or authorities governing particular legal issues.
 - iii. Distinguish among different types of primary and secondary law sources, and determine the weight, reliability, and binding or persuasive authority of each source.
 - iv. Use available resources appropriately to conduct legal research efficiently and effectively.
 - v. Employ different methods of finding information, such as using indexes, annotations, headnotes, and advanced search techniques.
 - vi. Evaluate research results and modify research queries as needed.
4. Our graduates will demonstrate competence in problem-solving in the legal context.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Identify, clarify, and develop their clients' goals.
- ii. Identify problems related to those goals.
- iii. Generate and evaluate possible legal and non-legal solutions to those problems.
- iv. Identify and articulate relevant practical considerations, including potential effects on clients and society.
- v. Counsel clients, recommend potential courses of legal action and strategy, and implement appropriate plans.

5. Our graduates will demonstrate competence in written and oral communication in the legal context.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Write objective legal analyses, persuasive legal arguments, and other work products that represent a rigorous writing experience, all of which will be well organized, well reasoned, clear, and concise; will use standard written English and correct citation form; and will meet the audience's needs and expectations.
 - ii. Make oral legal arguments that are clear, well reasoned, and persuasive.
6. Our graduates will demonstrate competence in the exercise of proper professional and ethical responsibilities to clients and the legal system.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Understand rules of professional conduct and professional norms as representatives of clients, officers of the court, and citizens.
 - ii. Apply professional rules and norms to the representation of clients, to the performance of duties as an officer of the court, and to civic life.
 - iii. Recognize and resolve the moral, ethical, and professional dilemmas that lawyers encounter.
 - iv. Understand and implement best practices in client communications.
 - v. Develop and use systems and practices to avoid conflicts of interest.
 - vi. Communicate and behave in a civil and respectful manner with clients, governmental officials, and members of the public, including those from different cultures.
7. Our graduates will demonstrate competence in the efficient organization of work and the meeting of deadlines.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their ability to:

- i. Develop and use systems to ensure timely communication with clients.
- ii. Use time-management software and similar technologies.

- iii. Complete concurrent assignments on time.
 - iv. Use best practices in office management.
8. Our graduates will demonstrate willingness and capacity to engage in civic life.

Performance Criteria: Our graduates will demonstrate their achievement of this learning outcome by their willingness and ability to:

- i. Participate in student organizations and other extracurricular activities.
- ii. Participate in public-service organizations or public interest service opportunities.
- iii. Provide pro bono legal services or otherwise promote equal access to the legal system.