LAW, JSD

for the Doctor of the Science of Law

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The Doctor of the Science of Law (J.S.D.) degree provides students who primarily intend to pursue an academic career an opportunity for extended study, research, and scholarly writing. Those admitted to the program must have demonstrated analytic and research ability, possess outstanding academic credentials, and have completed the LL.M. or other law degree from the University of Illinois or other accredited American law school. In exceptional cases, consideration will be given to applicants who have completed programs of study in common law countries. All candidates must provide evidence of excellent reading and writing skills in English. The J.S.D. program normally takes a minimum of three years. Two years must be completed in residence at the College of Law and must include two semesters of course work. J.S.D. candidates are assigned a primary faculty advisor with expertise in the student’s research area and an additional three faculty members, who form the student’s doctoral committee. Each student must pass a qualifying examination demonstrating general proficiency in the student’s field of study and a preliminary examination on the research proposal. The student’s faculty committee then will assess the student’s thesis research and writing progress, make recommendations, and conduct an oral examination on the final draft of the dissertation. The final dissertation will then be completed and deposited with the Graduate College.

Graduate Degree Programs in the College of Law

Master of Laws, LLM (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-laws-llm/)
concentrations:
Corporate Law, Commercial Law, & Trade (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-laws-llm/corporate-commercial-trade/)
Criminal Law (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-laws-llm/criminal/)
Intellectual Property & Technology Law (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-laws-llm/intellectual-property-technology/)
International & Comparative Law (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-laws-llm/international-comparative/)
Justice, Democracy, & Legal Rights (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/law/justice-democracy-legal-rights-concentration/)
Regulation, Sustainability, & Compliance (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/law/regulation-sustainability-compliance-concentration/)
US Legal Practice Skills (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-laws-llm/legal-practice-skills/)

Master of Studies in Law (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law/master-studies-msl/)

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Law, JD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/professional-programs/jd_law/)

Joint Degrees with the Law, JD:
Chemistry, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces_law/joint-degree/natural-resources-environmental-sciences-ms-law-jd/)
Computer Science, MCS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering_law/joint-degree/computer-science-mcs-law-jd/)
Human Resources and Industrial Relations, MHRIR (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law_ler/joint-degree/human-resources-industrial-relations-mhrir-law-jd/)
Journalism, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/law_media/journalism-ms-law-juris-doctor/)
Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces_law/joint-degree/natural-resources-environmental-sciences-ms-law-jd/)
Political Science: Civic Leadership, MA (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las_law/joint-degree/political-science-ma-civic-leadership-law-jd/)
Political Science, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las_law/joint-degree/political-science-phd-law-jd/)
Urban Planning, MUP (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa_law/joint-degree/urban-planning-mup-law-jd/)

Admission

The Graduate College admission requirements (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/) and English language proficiency requirements (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/) apply. In addition for the LL.M. program, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) requirement is 80 internet-based. Students are not required to take the general Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Students are admitted on an individual basis according to a review of their prior accomplishments with an emphasis on academic achievement. Admission is generally made for the fall semester only.

Financial Aid

Applicants to the College of Law graduate programs are welcome to apply for scholarship assistance. Scholarships typically are awarded to applicants with a combination of excellent academic and professional credentials and proven financial need. Awards usually provide part of tuition and do not
cover living expenses. There are always more qualified applicants than there are funds available. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to explore alternative sources of funding.