UMKC School of Law

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GENERAL INFORMATION

This catalog covers the academic programs of the School of Law. Prospective students should be aware that the School reserves the right to make changes in admission requirements and other specifications in the catalog. All statements in this publication are announcements of present policies only and are subject to change at any time without prior notice. They are not to be regarded as offers to contract.

HISTORY

In 1895, three young lawyers with energy and vision, William P. Borland, Edward D. Ellison and Elmer N. Powell, founded the Kansas City School of Law with the active assistance of leading members of the bench and bar. Borland, the first dean of the school, was elected to Congress in 1910 and was succeeded by Ellison, who served as dean until the School of Law merged with the University of Kansas City in 1938. After affiliation with the University of Missouri System in 1963, the school assumed its present name as the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

ACCREDITATION

The school is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL training at UMKC

UMKC School of Law provides academic and professional training to students seeking careers in law. Our faculty are outstanding scholars who have extensive practice experience. Faculty at UMKC are actively engaged with students both inside and outside the classroom. Our classes are relatively small (by law school standards) and many of our substantive courses incorporate simulations and service learning opportunities. Our faculty and students are collegial and the school provides many opportunities for interaction and development of close personal relationships that will last throughout one's career. We like to think of ourselves as the urban, public law school with the small, liberal arts feel.

We are a law school that teaches students to become lawyers in the best tradition of the profession and introduces them to the opportunities and obligations of the legal profession and its role in the greater community. We appreciate the work of lawyers and their many contributions, which include educating people and institutions about their rights, helping to design prosperous business and community ventures, and working towards the effective and efficient resolution of disputes. We maintain a faculty devoted both to professional service and to advancing knowledge through the production of excellent academic scholarship.

UMKC School of Law is a community of scholars, with faculty and students working together to address the legal issues and problems confronting society today on the local, state, federal and international levels. Because we train many of the region's practitioners, business people, judges and politicians, we have a special responsibility to see that they are competent members of the bench and bar, advisers and administrators; technically proficient, professionally responsible, and knowledgeable about the range of social, political, and economic ideas that influence our society. In doing so, we are aware that our graduates must be comfortable in a variety of professional settings with people from a variety of experiences, from land-use planning meetings with the local town council to trade negotiations in Mexico City, from an opening statement in the county courthouse to an appellate argument before the United States Supreme Court. While the details of such settings change over time, we can prepare students for such varied work by concentrating always on the foundations of good lawyering: respect for people, respect for knowledge and ideas, and respect for justice.

As a Law School, we build on a strong tradition of advocacy, civic engagement and academic excellence - a program that has not only produced some of the region's best lawyers and judges, but one that has also trained a U.S. Supreme Court Justice (Charles Whittaker) and an American President (Harry Truman). We embrace and foster a collegial, collaborative model of professional education and maintain an intellectual and cultural environment that fosters broad thinking, local and global awareness and creative problem-solving.

LAW BUILDING

Nestled among giant oak trees on the corner of 52nd and Oak streets, in the center of Kansas City and at the center of the nation, is the home of the UMKC School of Law. Among the unique features of this building are office suites shared by faculty and students. The school continues to take great pride in its efforts to foster faculty-student interaction. One ongoing initiative involves assigning many second- and third-year students to offices located within suites that also house their professors' offices. This "intellectual migration" was designed to foster the exchange of ideas and more generally to promote collegiality between faculty and students. Additionally, lounges or conference rooms within the suites provide opportunities for both formal and informal meetings of students and faculty.

The school has more than 121,000 square feet of modern, usable space, including classrooms equipped with Internet-connected teaching workstations with audiovisual and video conferencing capabilities. The recently renovated E.E. "Tom" Thompson Courtroom, located on the ground floor, is equipped with audiovisual equipment used to augment the advocacy training program of the school. Auxiliary rooms allow for live trials and hearings of the many area courts and agencies in its courtroom and a unique viewing theatre above the courtroom allows for real-time commentary on court proceedings. A spacious student commons area, including the Truman Terrace (a scenic outdoor courtyard filled with tables, benches and fountains) and a vending area, is located near classrooms. Offices for many student organizations are located near the student commons area as well.
Wireless Technology Environment

The School has installed technology in the building which provides freedom from wired connections—enabling students, staff and faculty to access e-mail and multiple databases on the Internet of use to lawyers and law students using personal computers with wireless capability from offices, classrooms, study areas, the suites and the Leon E. Bloch Law Library.

LAW LIBRARY

The Leon E. Bloch Law Library is not only a place to study, but a laboratory for students to master legal research skills, both in traditional print and electronic media. It is also a forum for self-directed learning, a place students take control of their educational experience through researching selected paper topics and their own law review notes. The library contains holdings in major areas of legal scholarship and practice. It is home to rare, early seventeenth century editions of Sir Edward Coke’s treatises and case reports. It also preserves the Charles D. Gould Jr. Collection, consisting of photographs and memorabilia from the Nuremberg trials. The collection focuses on trial advocacy, urban law, family law, small business entrepreneurship and tax law. The library's foreign law holdings are targeted for increase and access to historical materials have dramatically expanded. What is not held in print in the library, or in its many database services, is conveniently available through the library's online catalog request and delivery service. This service provides access to seventy Missouri libraries and about 18 million items. The service includes access to the holdings of the three other law school libraries in Missouri.

Additional hard to locate items can usually be retrieved through other specialized interlibrary loan services. Besides its collections, the UMKC's law library is especially strong with respect to the expertise of its librarians, most of whom teach courses in legal research and have practiced law for many years or worked as paralegals.

Electronic Resource Center

Technology has reshaped legal publishing in ways that will forever alter how attorneys and judges approach their work. The information professionals of the Leon E. Bloch Law Library have embraced this transformation in creating an Electronic Resource Center. The Center, comprising over forty computers, provides a teaching lab for instruction in the use of legal research databases, and access for research to the Internet, printing, and numerous database services. A fee is charged for some law student printing and for all other patron printing. The Electronic Resource Center also provides a scanner and a dedicated workstation for the visually impaired. In addition to access to the Electronic Research Center, each law student receives a password free of cost for accessing law school and university databases from home or at other locations on campus. Wireless access to the Internet is provided to students throughout the law school and library. Perhaps, unique among law schools, the Electronic Resource Center hosts a free laptop clinic, where law students can go with computer and technology problems, many of which can be fixed at the clinic.

STUDY SPACES IN SUITES

The design for the school's modern building manifests a commitment to providing desirable spaces for study and interaction by students who live throughout the metropolitan area. Double- or single-occupancy offices are provided to most second-year students, research assistants and teaching assistants. Most third-year students are assigned carrels or space in Club 3L, a communal area for studying or lounging. Library study spaces, far in excess of the number of first-year students, also are available. The second and third-year assigned spaces are located in suites that include faculty offices. Each suite is named after a distinguished former justice of the United States Supreme Court. This innovative building plan fosters student-faculty interaction, the exchange of ideas and general collegiality.

THE SCHOOL OF LAW IN THE COMMUNITY

UMKC takes pride in being the urban law school in the University of Missouri system. From this unique vantage point, faculty and students actively lead and participate in professional activities with greater Kansas City bar associations, continuing legal education programs, lawyers and law firms located in both Kansas and Missouri and the judiciary.

The School of Law community enjoys strong partnerships with many area causes and concerns. A variety of community-based projects, ranging from the rehabilitation of inner-city houses to tax preparation services, receive benefits from this involvement. Students work with faculty on research of value to the community and are often involved in drafting or commenting on pending legislation. The Law School houses and assists the Kansas City Youth Court, a diversion program from juvenile court, where high school students act as lawyers and judges. Faculty, students, staff and alumni volunteers also help introduce inner-city high school students to careers in law.

Graduates of the UMKC School of Law have important responsibilities in legal arenas throughout the city, state and country. From corporate counsel positions in more than 25 national companies to the library of the Supreme Court of the United States, Law School alumni provide distinguished service.

On a local level, the annual listing of “Outstanding Lawyers in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area” names more UMKC alumni than from any other school. In addition, only two women have served as president of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association and only one African-American has served as president of the Missouri Bar; all are UMKC Law School alumni. A majority of the active judges of both the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri, the Missouri Court of Appeals (Western District) and the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit of Missouri are graduates of the School of Law, as is the first African-American Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court. Courts throughout the multicounty metropolitan area are populated with UMKC alumni.

The Law School is proud of the fine reputation of its alumni and the outstanding contributions they have made and continue to make in both the legal and non-legal communities.
THE LAW FOUNDATION

The Law Foundation was incorporated in 1959 by outstanding alumni and leading citizens of Missouri, including Harry S. Truman, Charles E. Whittaker, H. Roe Bartle and other judges, lawyers, government officers and friends, to promote and advance the cause of legal education. The Law Foundation is a fiscally autonomous 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to raise money and steward endowed funds for the benefit of UMKC School of Law. Operating with its own board of trustees but working closely with the School of Law leadership to meet the long- and short-term financial needs of the school, the Law Foundation funds programs that are not met by other sources of revenue to the Law School. With the support of the Law Foundation, the school is able to sustain and cultivate diverse aspects of a superior education program.

The Law Foundation funds scholarships on an annual basis. In addition, it provides significant financial assistance for student competition participation; faculty development; library acquisitions and research materials; technology improvements; and the school's public communications program.

Over the years, the foundation and its many friends have successfully built an endowment of more than $5 million for the benefit of UMKC School of Law.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Board of Curators of the University of Missouri and the University of Missouri-Kansas City are committed to the policy that there shall be no discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, disability or Vietnam era veteran status. For additional information, see the Statement of Human Rights information included in the Introduction section of this catalog.

DISABLED STUDENT SERVICES

The University of Missouri-Kansas City endeavors to make all activities, programs and services accessible to students with disabilities. A campus coordinator is available to assist students with a documented disability to arrange for reasonable accommodations concerning all aspects of campus life. It is important that students contact the coordinator at least six weeks prior to the beginning of classes to arrange appropriate documentation and reasonable accommodations in the classroom. For information call (816) 235-5696. Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may use Relay Missouri, 1-800-735-2966 (TT) or 1-800-735-2466 (voice).

ADMISSION TO THE BAR

Graduation from law school does not guarantee admission to the bar. Each applicant should get information on the character and other qualifications for admission to the bar in the state in which the applicant intends to practice. Information regarding law student registration and bar admissions in Missouri is made available to all first-year students.

LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The UMKC Law Alumni Association, the primary friend-raising organization for the law school, was revitalized in 1992 as a division of the university-wide Alumni Association. It strengthens and extends the educational mission of the law school and its energies are devoted to bridging the passage between student and professional life, encouraging service and illustrating a commitment to a society based on law and justice. The Law Alumni Association sponsors events that facilitate student-faculty-alumni interaction.

Annual activities include alumni recognition events; assistance in student recruitment, mentoring and advising; assisting with social and professional activities connected to local and state bar associations; support to student programs and activities.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

The Office of Continuing Legal Education is the law school’s principal contact with the practicing bar and is a nonprofit revenue-generating unit for the University. The CLE office produces domestic and international educational programs, national audio conferences, practice manuals and other educational material designed to promote the competency of the bar and other professions in support of the practice of law.

UMKC law school students may attend any UMKC CLE-sponsored event free of charge and purchase CLE publications at cost. Attendance at these events exposes students to the practical aspects of law practice and provides meaningful opportunities for contact with potential employers.

The CLE office coordinates ABA-accredited for-credit study abroad programs to China and Ireland. These programs are designed to broaden law students’ understanding of different legal systems while introducing them to the cultures on which those systems are built. The CLE office also coordinates courses taught by volunteer adjunct professors and the Advanced Professional Studies program, which permits practicing attorneys and other professionals to take for-credit law school courses for non-degree credit.

The CLE office administers two cash prizes given exclusively to UMKC law school students: the Estate Planning Prize Competition and the Heart of America Tax Institute Prize.
CAREER SERVICES

The Law School Career Services Office (CSO) assists students and alumni obtain professional employment. Law firms, government agencies, businesses, the judiciary and other employers seeking law graduates for permanent positions, use the Career Services Office's resources to hire UMKC School of Law graduates. The Office also assists students seeking part-time and summer clerking opportunities. The Office maintains a library of employment materials for the use of law students and alumni. We have a strong on-campus interviewing program allowing many employers to come to the Law School to recruit our students for positions with prosecutors' and public defenders' offices, legal service organizations and federal and state government agencies, in addition to law firms. Branches of the United States military come on campus to recruit lawyers for service in the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

The University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law is committed to its policy against discrimination. The military's hiring practices are inconsistent with the School's non-discrimination policy and the AALS bylaws. Because Congress enacted the Solomon Amendment, the Law School allows military recruitment on Campus. However, the Law School remains committed to the policy of non-discrimination. We take steps to ameliorate the adverse effect of any on-campus interviewing by military recruiters and provide all of our students with a hospitable environment in which to apply and interview for positions.

CSO provides individual career counseling to students and alumni, as well as advice and assistance in resume preparation and interviewing skills. The Office sponsors a series of programs to introduce students to a variety of career opportunities. We offer mock interviews with practicing attorneys. We sponsor an annual Volunteer Fair to provide students with information about service opportunities in the community. The Office works closely with the Public Interest Law Association, which raises funds to provide public-interest law internships to selected law students. These funds provide stipends for law students entering their second or third year to work in public interest organizations. UMKC students have been placed at the Public Interest Litigation Clinic, the Missouri Public Defender's Office and the Kansas City, Missouri, City Attorney's Office, as well as other organizations.

CSO collaborates with the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association's Summer Law Internship Program and Black Law Students Association to introduce minority high school students to the rigors of college life in general and to law school student life specifically. The Office participates with the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association in its Heartland Diversity Legal Job Fair as well as its 1L Summer Diversity Clerkship Program to promote law clerk opportunities for diverse students.

Career Opportunities

UMKC Law School graduates have a wide variety of job opportunities available. The largest number of graduates joins law firms, ranging in size from one to more than 500 attorneys. Some of these firms specialize in specific areas of law practice. Many firms offer a general practice that spans corporate, civil and criminal law.

Some law graduates do not want to practice law in a traditional law firm setting, desiring instead to use their legal skills in the business world as executives, bankers and corporate tax experts. Therefore, corporations, accounting firms, title companies, banks and insurance companies recruit them. The legal departments of state and municipal government agencies also employ graduates. Prosecutors' offices, public defenders and legal service organizations recruit at the school. Branches of the United States military recruit lawyers for service in the Judge Advocate General's Corps, and federal government agencies, such as the Department of Labor and the Environmental Protection Agency, hire graduates to staff their legal departments. Other graduates become law clerks for judges or administrators in law schools. Some become professors of law.

The Career Services Office assists our students and alumni in many ways with planning careers and obtaining positions which utilize the Juris Doctor degree.
**JURIS DOCTOR PROGRAM**

**ADMISSIONS**

**ELIGIBILITY FOR THE J.D. PROGRAM**

To be eligible to apply for admission to the School of Law's Juris Doctor degree program, a person must have either:

- A bachelor's degree based on a program of courses with substantial intellectual content (such as history, English, accounting, philosophy, calculus or chemistry) from an approved institution; or
- Completed at least 90 acceptable hours of credit in courses with substantial intellectual content in an approved institution, completed all non-elective coursework toward a bachelor's degree and made arrangements with the school that will award the degree to accept law school credits for the remainder of the work required to earn that degree, so that the student will earn the degree prior to the granting of the J.D. degree.

**CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION**

The School of Law restricts the number of students admitted each year in order to maintain a favorable faculty-student ratio and to provide the best possible legal education for each student enrolled. Because many more people apply to the Law School than there are seats available, admission is competitive.

Students are drawn to the School of Law because of its intellectually stimulating academic environment, vibrant and diverse campus life and interaction with and in the surrounding community. In addition to being highly skilled and ethical attorneys, graduates are expected to leave UMKC able and committed to making a difference in their families, workplaces, communities, organizations and society at large. While substantial weight is given to each applicant's LSAT score and undergraduate GPA, the law school and its faculty also consider other factors in shaping an entering class. These factors, consistent with the University's values of diversity, inclusiveness and respect, include:

- Advanced or specialized educational achievement demonstrating potential for academic excellence in the study of law.
- Contributions to the cultural diversity of the School of Law.
- A history of overcoming challenges and barriers based on societal discrimination or economic disadvantage.
- Demonstrated leadership qualities.
- A significant and sustained commitment to public or community service.
- Other accomplishments or qualities that indicate the applicant will contribute to the School of Law's academic and service missions.

**ADMISSION PROCESS**

All applicants are required to submit a completed, signed application form, the application fee, a personal statement and a resume. All undergraduate transcripts and two letters of recommendation must be sent to the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS). Instructions for this service may be found in the LSDAS booklet. Once all materials have been submitted, a file is considered complete and ready for an admission decision to be made.

The law school makes admission decisions on a rolling admissions basis. That is, decisions are made as files are completed. This process begins in October of the year preceding the academic year applicants are applying for and continues until sufficient admissions are granted to fill the entering class. Accordingly, applications should be submitted as early as possible.

A nonrefundable application processing fee of $50, in the form of a check or money order payable to the University of Missouri-Kansas City, must accompany the application. In addition, a seat reservation fee must be paid by April 1 or a designated period after admission, whichever is later. The fee is nonrefundable but will be credited toward first semester fees. An additional $100 nonrefundable seat reservation fee is due June 15, this fee will also be credited toward first-semester fees.

**LSAT/LSDAS**

In order to gain admission, an applicant must take the LSAT. The test may be taken at various locations, including UMKC. It normally should be taken no later than February for purposes of admission for the following fall. Information concerning the test is available online at http://www.lsac.org or by writing to the

Law School Admissions Council (LSAC)
Box 2000
Newtown, PA 18940-0998

Applicants also must arrange for evaluation of their college and university transcripts by the LSDAS. Further information and a registration form for this purpose may be obtained at the Web site and mailing address above.

Once the student applies, the school will request a copy of the law school report from LSDAS. Please make sure the report is paid for so there is no delay in transmission.

**Prerequisites**
No undergraduate courses are specifically required for admission to the Law School. The best preparation is a broad liberal-arts education designed to provide an understanding of the institutions and values with which the law deals and the development of those skills and habits of thought essential to legal reasoning.

Any course of study leading to an undergraduate degree will be sufficient for admission, as long as the emphasis was an intellectually demanding one that challenged the student to employ critical-thinking skills and communicate effectively. Particularly helpful to law school study, however, are courses in history, as rules of law are best understood in terms of the historical milieu in which they were pronounced or enacted. Courses in political science and economics are beneficial, because lawyers must understand the institutions of government and the economic system with which they will be dealing. Courses in speech, logic, debate and the various language arts also are useful, because they expand and sharpen reasoning and communication skills. Courses with a strong emphasis on writing are particularly encouraged in light of the crucial role effective writing plays both in law school and law practice.

**MATRICULATION OPTIONS: FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME PROGRESS**

Most students matriculate on a full-time basis. Some students, however, may do so on a part-time basis.

The ability to proceed part-time in the day program is designed for students who are unable to enroll on a full-time basis, e.g. disabled students, or those with family or career responsibilities. These students must enroll in 8 to 9 hours of classes each semester in the first year, and 8 to 12 hours per semester thereafter. In all other respects, students enrolled part-time are required to satisfy all graduation requirements applicable to full-time students, including the requirement that they complete all degree requirements within five years. Part-time day students develop programs with the associate dean that are designed to parallel, as much as possible, the sequence of courses for full-time students. Part-time student eligibility for *Law Review, Urban Lawyer,* honors and other activities will parallel, as much as possible, eligibility of full-time students.

A full-time student may not become a part-time student without permission of the associate dean. Part-time students may not become full-time students until they have completed all first-year courses, unless they obtain permission to proceed full-time from the associate dean. Once part-time students have completed all required first-year courses, they may enroll full-time or part-time for remaining coursework at their option. Students are cautioned, however, that enrollment in 13 or more hours triggers the rule limiting outside work to no more than 20 hours per week.

**ADMISSION WITH ADVANCED STANDING**

Except for transfer applicants enrolled at the University of Missouri-Columbia (to whom transfer is granted more liberally), an applicant for admission with advanced standing must meet the requirements applicable to entering students; be eligible to return as a student in good standing to their current law school; and present a letter from the Dean of their law school showing such eligibility. In order to be considered for admission, a transfer applicant who would not have been admissible (based on LSAT score, undergraduate GPA, etc.) had such applicant applied for initial admission at UMKC, must have at least a B average after at least one full year of law study in an approved law school. Otherwise, a transfer applicant must have at least a C+ average in all law work in order to receive consideration. Admission decisions on transfer applications typically are not made before mid-July, once the number of available seats in the second-year class have been determined.

A maximum of 30 semester hours credit may be allowed for work successfully completed at another law school, with the right being reserved to refuse to transfer credit, in whole or in part, for any such coursework.

Except in the case of students transferring from the University of Missouri-Columbia, hours for a course in which less than a C was earned will not transfer, but retaking the course may be waived on an individual basis. Grades earned at another law school are not transferred, nor do such grades count for class ranking purposes. Transfer students must earn at least a C+ average in courses taken at the UMKC School of Law in order to graduate.

**ADMISSION WITHOUT UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE**

Students who have completed at least 90 acceptable hours of credit in courses with substantial intellectual content in an approved institution, and have completed all non-elective coursework toward a bachelor's degree, may be admitted on the condition that the undergraduate degree be earned prior to or simultaneously with the granting of the J.D. degree. Usually this condition can only be met if the institution which will grant the undergraduate degree will accept credits earned in the UMKC Law School.

Since the UMKC Law School does not confer the undergraduate degree and assumes no responsibility in regard to it, it is the duty of the student to make certain that the requirements for the degree are satisfied. Questions concerning requirements for the undergraduate degree or of the transferability of law credits to complete the degree should be directed to the institution granting the undergraduate degree.

A letter from the institution confirming that it will accept credits earned in the UMKC Law School to complete the undergraduate degree must be submitted as part of the application for admission.
Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to students based on the following criteria. Selection for most scholarships is based solely on material in the student's admission file. Information on scholarships for which applicants may apply will be included in their admission materials or financial aid packet.

Scholarships Based On Merit

Elizabeth Montague Averill Scholarship

Family, friends and alumni established this fund to enhance diversity among the UMKC School of Law student body by providing a scholarship to an older-than-average student who is returning to school to obtain a law degree. Special consideration is given to single, custodial parents. The scholarship is renewable subject to successful academic performance. Selection is based on applications by incoming students.

Timothy L. Brake Scholarship

Of Counsel with the law firm of Davis, Bethune and Jones, Timothy Brake (Law 1973) is an accomplished plaintiff's attorney. He has established scholarships at his undergraduate institution as well as UMKC School of Law. Mr. Brake believes that giving back to the institutions that provide outstanding education is a responsibility of those who have achieved success. Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding law students. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Harry L. Browne Memorial Scholarship

Helen L. Browne established this scholarship in memory of her late husband, Harry L. Browne, who devoted his professional career to the practice of labor law and who was recognized nationally as a specialist in that field. The aim of the scholarship is to attract to the UMKC Law School an outstanding entering law student who has demonstrated academic merit and who may be expected to practice employment and labor law with distinction. The scholarship is offered once every three years and is renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based on applications by incoming students.

Judge David T. and Hope Cavanaugh Scholarship

Scholarships are awarded each year to students from a fund established by Hope Cavanaugh, widow of Judge David T. Cavanaugh. Judge Cavanaugh was a 1940 law alumnus and judge in Jackson County, Mo. Selection is based on admission files, as well as applications by current students.

Diversity Scholarships

Several honor scholarships are awarded each year to entering students who demonstrate merit, and who, based on background and experience, contribute to the diversity of the school. Funds are provided by the University and the scholarships are renewed annually if academic performance is satisfactory.

Mark A. Dover Memorial Scholarship

A scholarship for entering students was established by family and friends of Mark Dover, a 1992 graduate of the School of Law, who died after a courageous battle with cancer. Mark entered law school after several years working in the court system and had great intellectual curiosity and a love for the law. The recipient should demonstrate these qualities that distinguished Mark Dover as a lawyer as well as have financial need. Preference may be given to students pursuing law as a second career.

Professor Robert C. Downs Recruitment Scholarship

Scholarships are awarded to recruit highly qualified incoming law students who have demonstrated excellence in academics in undergraduate and graduate work, excelled on the LSAT, and participated in community improvement activities. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Professor Robert C. Downs Scholarship

One scholarship is awarded each year to a second-year student who demonstrates a commitment of service to the School of Law, the local bar and future generations of law students by virtue of being an active member of the School of Law community. Students who have earned at least 40 credit hours and not more than 65 credit hours, and who are in good academic standing at the time of application, may apply. Selection is based on applications by current students.

William P. Eckels Memorial Scholarship

Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding entering law students from a fund established by Mr. and Mrs. Philip Eckels, John S. Eckels, Katherine Rehkopf and Elizabeth Emerson in memory of their son and brother. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Judge Jack E. Gant Scholarship

The Honorable Jack E. Gant (Law 1954) served on the bench of the Jackson County (MO) Circuit Court for 21 years following a successful 10 year career in the Missouri General Assembly and many years in private practice. In establishing this scholarship, Judge Gant leaves a legacy...
for recipients to aspire to public service and pursuit of justice in the law. Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding law students. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Elizabeth Pope George Memorial Scholarship

In memory of Elizabeth Pope George, an alumna of the Class of 1924, a scholarship fund has been provided by her son and daughter. The fund awards one scholarship every three years to an outstanding female first-year student. The scholarship is renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Rollin C. Goodale Scholarship Fund

The Honorable Rollin C. Goodale (Law 1942) Scholarship Fund was established by Mr. Charles S. and Dorothy Goodale through a charitable remainder trust to memorialize Judge Goodale. Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding law students and may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

The SFP and John Hardy Academic Achievement Scholarship

A scholarship created to honor the co-founder and executive vice president of Specialty Fertilizer Products’ (SFP), John Hardy, a 1982 alumnus of the School, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the founding of SFP. In light of Mr. Hardy's outstanding career as an attorney, the award will be based primarily on scholastic merit and academic achievement. Recipients must be full-time students at the School. Preference will be given to incoming first-year students having a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0, or UMKC law students having a cumulative law school GPA of 2.75 or more. Applicants are required to submit an essay of no more than 500 words explaining the value of education and his/her future contributions to society.

Rubey M. Hulen Memorial Honor Scholarships

Honor scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding entering law students from a fund provided by the will of Anna Hulen, widow of Rubey M. Hulen, a distinguished alumnus of the school. The scholarship is renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

The Randy James Commitment to Justice Scholarship

A scholarship fund established by Randy James, a 1982 graduate of the School of Law, for entering law students with demonstrated commitment to justice and to representing individuals in order to protect their rights, a commitment the donor holds in his career as a lawyer. Applicants must demonstrate superior academic achievement (minimum undergraduate gpa of 3.2) and an on-going commitment to and involvement in advancing justice and protecting individual rights. The scholarship may be renewed if the recipient maintains a 3.0 after the first year and after each subsequent semester and continues to demonstrate a commitment to justice, service and individual rights. Applicants should submit a statement demonstrating how they meet the scholarship criteria.

The Kansas City Lesbian, Gay and Allied Lawyers (KC LEGAL) Scholarship

A scholarship program has been established at the School by The Kansas City Lesbian, Gay and Allied Lawyers (KC LEGAL) to provide financial support to a student at the School who plans to work in pursuit of equal treatment of and justice for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (“LGBT”) community. Applicants should submit a statement explaining the work he/she plans to do in that regard.

Dean and Professor Emeritus Patrick D. Kelly Scholarship Award

As Dean of the Law School from 1966-1978, Pat Kelly recognized the importance of scholarships to recruit highly qualified students to UMKC School of Law. Accordingly, he established the scholarship fund during his tenure as Dean. Beginning in 2005, alumni and friends hold an annual poker tournament to benefit the scholarship fund. Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding entering law students and may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Law Foundation Scholarship

Honor scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding entering law students. The following funds, held by the Law Foundation, support these scholarships: the James A. Bayles Memorial Scholarship Fund, the James P. Kem Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Howard Allen Yost Memorial Fund. Selection is based solely on admission files.

Law Foundation/University Special Admissions Scholarships

Each year, up to four partial or full fee-waiver scholarships, plus cash amounts, are awarded to entering law students who have demonstrated scholastic superiority and who, because of diverse backgrounds and achievements, broaden the educational experience of all students at the school. They are supported in part by the memorial funds listed above that were established from contributions given to the Law Foundation. Recipients receive the scholarships each year if academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

The Jack and Helyn Miller Scholars Program

The Miller Scholars Program was established to recognize students who, through academic achievements and demonstrated leadership, are likely to enhance the UMKC School of Law, the legal profession and the community. Miller Scholar awards are made on a merit basis, without regard to financial need, to first-year law students. Stipends take educational fees, books and living expenses into consideration. Selection is based on an application and interview process.

Filbert Munoz Memorial Scholarship
A memorial fund was established by the family and friends of Filbert Munoz to provide scholarships to students (including entering students) who have a demonstrated record of ability, desire and interest in using their education to help members of the Hispanic community.

**The Nailling Society/Richard L. Files Scholarship**

Ms. Bobbi Lou Nailling served as Executive Director of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association (KCMBA) for 24 years. Upon her retirement, the KCMBA raised money in her honor and established a foundation. Ms. Nailling requested that the fund create a scholarship in her name and that of her late husband, businessman Richard L. Files at UMKC School of Law. The scholarship will be awarded annually to an incoming 1L student who demonstrates interest and intent to practice in the area of public service and/or the administration of justice. The recipient will have an opportunity to be introduced at the annual KCMBA “Liberty and Justice” Gala. The award is not renewable. Recipients will be selected based on a completed application reviewed by a selection committee.

**Nonresident Tuition Scholarships**

A limited number of nonresident scholarships are awarded each year to entering first-year law students with outstanding credentials who are not Missouri residents and who have not otherwise qualified for in-state fees. This scholarship pays the nonresident portion (roughly half) of the student's fees. Students will be awarded this scholarship for their first year of law school and will be expected to qualify for Missouri residency their second and third years, although the scholarship may be extended upon a showing of special circumstances. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Catherine N. & Clinton T. (Duke) Paddock Fund**

A fund established to provide scholarships for excellence at the School of Law. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**David Wilbur Pansing Memorial Scholarship**

An annual scholarship award recognizing a student who plans to use the legal education in government or political service. The scholarship may be, but is not automatically, renewed. The Pansing Scholarship was established in 1995 by Judge Jane Pansing Brown, Class of 1982, in honor of her father, a 1954 graduate of the Law School. Selection is based on applications by current students.

**Polsinelli, Shalton, Flanigan, Suelthaus Scholarship**

As a demonstration of their commitment to increasing diversity within the legal profession, the law firm of Polsinelli, Shalton, Flanigan and Suelthaus has committed to fund scholarships at each of the five law schools from which they recruit most heavily, UMKC School of Law being one. Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding entering law students from under-represented populations. Recipients have a unique opportunity to be involved with partners and associates at Polsinelli through firm events, educational programs and other offerings. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Dean and Professor Emeritus Robert Popper Scholarship**

Established in 2005 by friends and family of Dean and Professor Emeritus Robert Popper, this scholarship will be awarded to an entering law student at UMKC School of Law with demonstrated interest in and commitment to civil liberties, a core principle of Dean and Professor Popper as a lawyer and teacher of law. The scholarship honors and recognizes the memory of Dean Popper, who was a proud civil libertarian, specializing in criminal law, criminal procedure and constitutional law, who had a strong love for and commitment to the UMKC School of Law. An application is required and the scholarship may be renewed provided the minimum gpa is maintained and a prescribed core of course work is successfully completed.

**Ruth and John Rhiner Scholarship Fund**

John Rhiner (Law 1937) was proud of his legal career and thought highly of the Kansas City Law School, the predecessor of UMKC School of Law. In his estate, Mr. Rhiner provided for a scholarship to be awarded to incoming law students at UMKC School of Law. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Omar E. Robinson Memorial Scholarships**

Honor scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding entering law students from a fund established by the will of Ida C. Robinson, widow of Omar E. Robinson. The scholarships are renewed each year if academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Joseph A. Sherman Memorial Scholarship Fund**

A 1955 graduate of UMKC School of Law, Mr. Sherman was known as a "gentleman of the bar" among his peers. Upon his death in 1997, family, friends and colleagues established a scholarship fund in Mr. Sherman's memory. Mr. Sherman had been an active volunteer with the UMKC Law Foundation and this scholarship pays tribute to his years as a member of the bar and volunteer at his law school. Scholarships are awarded each year to outstanding law students. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Edgar J. Snow Scholarship Fund**

The Edgar J. Snow Scholarships are funded primarily through the generosity of Professor Patrick Randolph, the law firm of Husch Blackwell and alumni recipients of the Edgar J. Snow Scholarships. A scholarship is awarded each year to an outstanding entering international law student from China. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files and by the Dean, School of Law.
Trans World Airlines Inc. Scholarship

A scholarship is awarded each year to a student entering the second or third year of law school and who intends to pursue a career in natural resources or environmental law. Selection of the recipient, who must be a Missouri resident, is made according to procedures established by the deans of the two University of Missouri law schools. Selection is based on applications by current students.

Wal-Mart Foundation Minority Scholarship

The Wal-Mart Foundation provides a full tuition and fees scholarship to an entering full-time law student. Preference is given to minority students coming from a racial or ethnic background which is under-represented in the practice of law. Although some consideration may be given to financial need, a recipient will be chosen based primarily on scholastic merit and evidence of leadership and commitment to service. Awards may be renewed each year subject to academic performance criteria. Selection is based on an application and interview process.
**ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS WITH FINANCIAL NEED**

There are various government loan programs administered by the UMKC Financial Aid and Scholarships Office. They include the Federal Stafford Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loan Programs, the Perkins Loan Program and the Access Loan Program. The office also administers a limited amount of scholarship funds in which law students may participate.

The following funds administered by the Law School and the Law Foundation provide assistance to students with financial need.

**Michael J. Albano Scholarship Fund**

The UMKC Alumni Association has provided an endowment honoring Michael J. Albano for need based scholarship awards to Missouri resident students in the School of Law. The recipient must be in the high need category for financial aid.

**The James A. Bayless Emergency Loan Fund**

A fund established to provide emergency short-term loans for law students.

**The Joseph S. Chartrand Memorial Fund**

This is a memorial fund established from contributions in memory of Joseph S. Chartrand, an alumnus who taught part-time at the University of Kansas City (UKC was the predecessor to UMKC). The Chartrand fund provides an annual amount to assist students in purchasing law books. Selection is based on applications by both incoming and current students.

**The Tiera Farrow Memorial Scholarship**

A memorial fund established by Tiera Farrow, a 1903 graduate of the Law School, provides a partial scholarship to a worthy woman law student in need of financial aid. Selection is based on applications by both incoming and current students.

**Max Foust Scholarship**

Established by colleagues of Max Foust, this scholarship is awarded to a law student with financial need. Preference is given to a student who has experience or skills which can be indicators of success in the area of trial advocacy. Selection is based on applications by both incoming and current students.

**Judge Fernando J. Gaitan Scholarship**

The Honorable Fernando J. Gaitan is the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri and a 1974 graduate of UMKC School of Law. The Scholarship was established in 2007 by The Honorable Ann Mesle (Law 1972) to assist the law school in its recruitment of a diverse student body. Judge Mesle chose to honor Judge Gaitan because he "has all of the attributes of leadership, character, integrity and judicial temperament that make him a person worthy of being a role model for aspiring attorneys." The scholarship may be renewed for the recipient's three years of law school, providing academic performance is satisfactory. Selections are based on admission files.

**Suzanne Gilmore Memorial Scholarship**

Family, friends and classmates established this scholarship in memory of Suzanne Gilmore, an alumna of the class of 1991. The scholarship is awarded to an older-than-average law student who is a single custodial parent pursuing a law degree as a second degree. The scholarship is renewed each year if the recipient remains a single custodial parent and maintains satisfactory academic performance. Selection is based on applications by both incoming and current students.

**The Hispanic Bar Association of Greater Kansas City Scholarship Fund**

The Hispanic Bar association of Greater Kansas City has established a fund to provide scholarships to UMKC School of Law students of Hispanic descent with financial need.

**The Elmer B. Hodges Memorial Scholarship**

An endowment fund established in the memory of Elmer B. Hodges provides scholarships for second- and third-year law students in need of financial aid.

**Kenner & Kavanaugh Scholarship**

The law firm of Kenner & Kavanaugh has provided funding to award a scholarship to one or more worthy law students with financial need.

**C.R. Krimminger Scholarships**

Established by a gift from C.R. (Law 1934) and Katheryn L. Krimminger, the C.R. Krimminger Scholarships are awarded each year to academically qualified students who demonstrate financial need. Scholarships may be renewed each year if the recipient's academic performance is satisfactory. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Lathrop & Gage Diversity Scholarship**
The law firm of Lathrop & Gage has created an endowment for the Law School to fund a scholarship for an outstanding student with financial need whose presence in the school furthers the goal of diversity to which the Law School is committed. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Law Enforcement Scholarship**

This annual scholarship will be awarded to one or more students pursuing a law degree at UMKC with financial need who are currently employed with a law enforcement agency or who have just left the agency to pursue a law degree. Preference will be given to students whose experience is with a law enforcement agency in the Kansas City metropolitan area. If no current students meet these requirements, the scholarship may be awarded to other students with financial need.

**John Sublett Logan Scholarship**

This scholarship was established by the John Sublett Logan Foundation in memory of Mr. Logan. It is designed to assist students in their legal education who, it is believed, will succeed in the legal profession and will give of themselves and their talents to the community in which they live. Selection is based on applications by incoming students. Preference will be given to those applicants who are natives or permanent residents of the St. Joseph, Missouri area.

**The Robert B. McCreight Loan Fund**

A memorial fund established by bequest from the estate of Gevene S. McCreight in memory of her husband Robert B. McCreight (Class of 1932), who had a long and distinguished career as an officer and director of stockyard companies and as president of the American Stockyards Association.

**The Thomas McMorris, Jr. Scholarship Fund**

A scholarship fund for the recruitment of under-represented students enrolling full-time at the School has been established to honor the memory and promote the vision of Thomas McMorris, Jr., who was active in the civil rights’ movement and served as president of the local chapter of the NAACP. Mr. McMorris believed that for African-Americans to reach their potential and have a voice, they need to be represented where it matters—in the courtroom, boardroom and at every level of government. Applicants must have an undergraduate Bachelor’s degree, a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and must demonstrate financial need. Selection is based solely on admission files.

**Larence Schrader Scholarship**

A fund was established by Diane King to endow a scholarship in her father’s memory to assist a worthy student who cares about the law and has a need for financial assistance.

**Shook, Hardy & Bacon Diversity in Law Scholarship**

Established by the Shook, Hardy & Bacon Foundation beginning Fall 2008, the intent of this scholarship is to provide significant dollars for recruitment of person(s) to UMKC School of Law in order to increase diversity within the legal profession. The commitment is to fund one student through three years of his/her legal education. Selection is based on admissions materials.

**Fred L. and Emma E. Wiese Scholarship**

Established in 2005 by their daughter, Sarah (Law 2001), this scholarship is given in memory of Mrs. Emma Wiese and in honor of Mr. Fred L. Wiese. Sarah credits her parents with encouraging her to pursue a legal career, especially her mother. The scholarship intent is to provide financial assistance to highly qualified women who wish to attend law school with primary consideration given to rural applicants (Beloit & Russell counties in Kansas), an undergraduate gpa of 3.75 or better, and demonstrated financial need. The award is renewable based on satisfactory grade point average.

**MINORITY NONRESIDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Chancellor’s Nonresident Minority Scholarships**

The University awards nonresident fee scholarships to students who are members of historically under-represented minority groups (African-American, Hispanic and Native-American) who are newly admitted to the University. Students must identify themselves as members of these minority groups in the application for admission in order to obtain the scholarships.
PRIZES AND AWARDS

LAW SCHOOL AND LAW FOUNDATION

Academic Enrichment Award

The Law School recognizes graduating students who have served as teaching assistants in the Academic Enrichment Program for their significant contributions to enhance the academic achievement of other students.

The Thomas E. Deacy Trial Lawyer Award

Endowed in the memory of Thomas E. Deacy Sr., an eminent trial lawyer, by his wife and son, Mrs. Thomas E. Deacy and Thomas E. Deacy Jr., the Deacy Award is presented annually to a third-year law student who demonstrates trial skills and attributes possessed by Thomas E. Deacy Sr.

The Jay B. and Frances Dillingham Public Service Award

An annual cash award is given to a student for participation in, or the study of, public service. Preference is given to students with strong ties to Clay or Platte County, Missouri.

Emissary Award

The Law School recognizes the graduating students who have served as its Emissaries for their outstanding service to the school.

The Sanford B. Ladd Award Fund

This fund provides an annual cash prize to the student earning the highest grade in Real Estate Finance.

The Ralph S. Latshaw Award Fund

An annual award of law books is given to a graduating student who has excelled in criminal law.

Law Alumni Association Harry S. Truman Leadership Award

This prestigious award is given annually to a graduating third-year student who exemplifies commitment to the legal profession; service; and leadership standards as set by the Law School's most famous alumnus, Harry S. Truman. A cash award and plaque are presented.

Law Alumni Association Charles E. Whittaker Award

The Law Alumni Association's Whittaker Award recognizes the outstanding third-year student who has advanced the intellectual life of the Law School. Both a cash award and plaque are presented.

Mdivani Immigration Law Scholarship Award

Mira Mdivani (Law 1999), a nationally-recognized attorney in the practice of immigration law, established this scholarship in honor of her father, Archil Mdivani, in 2006. This scholarship is awarded each year to the winner of an essay contest.

The Annette Moore Award Fund

An annual cash prize provided by this fund is given to the student earning the highest grade in Commercial Transactions.

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

This award provides a certificate to the member of the third-year class who has achieved the highest cumulative grade-point average during three years of study.

Marvin and Patricia Rich Corporate Law Prize

A merit-based annual award which recognizes second-year UMKC law students of superior character, academic achievement and potential, and who plan to pursue a corporate legal specialty after graduation.

The Candler S. Rogers Writing Award

This award was endowed in memory of Candler S. Rogers, a former UMKC law professor, by a close personal friend and colleague. It recognizes Professor Rogers' long tenure as faculty adviser to the Law Review and his distinguished achievement in legal writing. It is given annually to the student who submits the most outstanding work of legal writing to the UMKC Law Review.

The John L. Sheridan Appellate Advocacy Awards

The Sheridan Awards were endowed by Norman O. Sanders in memory of his law partner, John L. Sheridan, a distinguished alumnus of the Law School. They are presented annually to students who have shown outstanding achievement in the Ellison Appellate Moot Court Competition.
Structured Study Group Leader Award
The Law School recognizes the graduating students who have served as teaching assistants in its Structured Study Group Program for their exemplary service in that capacity.

The Trial Practice Achievement Award
Endowed by contributions from classmates in memory of Terry T. Thomas, a Law School graduate, this award provides an annual cash amount and certificate to the student who has made the most significant progress in trial advocacy.

UMB Bank’s Excellence in Estate Planning Award
An annual award, consisting of both a cash prize and plaque, is presented to a graduating student who has demonstrated an outstanding aptitude for estate planning and achieved an overall excellent academic record.

The UMKC Law Review Honor Award
Endowed by attorney Wilbur L. Pollard, this award is presented annually to the student who has rendered the greatest service to the UMKC Law Review.

LAW BOOK PUBLISHERS
West Publishing Company
Awards are provided annually to recognize outstanding scholastic achievement.

OTHER

American Bankruptcy Institute Medal for Excellence in Bankruptcy Studies
The American Bankruptcy Institute annually provides a medal to a UMKC graduating law student who has demonstrated excellence in the study of bankruptcy law.

The Kansas City Estate Planning Symposium Prize
The prize competition was established to encourage student participation and excellence in the study of estate planning at the UMKC School of Law. UMKC law students compete for two first place and two second place cash awards which recognize students of superior character, academic achievement, and potential who plan to pursue an estate planning practice.

The National Association of Women Lawyers
A one-year honorary membership in the association and a year's subscription to the NAWL Law Journal is awarded to an outstanding woman law graduate.

The Order of Barristers
Certificates are awarded annually by this national honorary society to 10 graduates who have excelled in moot court, mock trial and other advocacy programs.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS
A number of salaried positions as research or teaching assistants are available each year for second- and third-year students with superior academic records. Research assistant positions provide excellent training in legal research on important and interesting research projects being conducted by members of the law faculty. Students are selected to serve as teaching assistants for the Introduction to Law program, the Structured Study Group program and Academic Enrichment. These students work closely with program faculty to enhance first year student success.


**ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM**

The school's juris doctor degree program is designed to prepare students for the general practice of law and for policy-forming functions in government, business and other organizations in society. Courses provide students with a basic knowledge of the principles and processes of the Anglo-American system of law and of the integration of law into other disciplines and institutions.

The curriculum and program recognize that in order to be of the utmost service to clients, the lawyer must "see life whole" and appreciate the relationships among legal, social and political aspects of human endeavor. They also recognize that the best interests of society require a lawyer to be a thinker and scholar as well as a skilled technician.

Both the curriculum and methods of instruction are designed to meet these objectives. Although the casebook method is the predominant form of classroom instruction in larger classes, the faculty also employ other approaches. Classes such as lawyering skills, negotiating mergers and acquisitions, mediation, and law practice management combine theory with opportunities to learn about lawyering first-hand. Many of the classes use documents and "real life" problems to demonstrate concepts studied in class. The curriculum also includes opportunities for research and writing, seminar discussions, clinical instruction and skills training.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**GRADUATES WILL BE PREPARED FOR ADMISSION TO THE BAR AND EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.**

**Graduates will demonstrate effective problem-solving skills by:**

- Critically examining complex facts.
- Identifying client needs and determining legal issues.
- Efficiently finding relevant law, policy and factual information.
- Applying appropriate legal rules and standards to the problem.
- Generating alternative solutions and developing plans for implementation.
- Continually reviewing and reassessing a plan of action.

**Graduates will demonstrate effective communication skills by:**

- Communicating appropriately and effectively with relevant audiences.
- Relating effectively to professionals from other disciplines.
- Writing and speaking clearly.
- Demonstrating cultural sensitivity.

**Graduates will demonstrate entry-level competence in legal skills by:**

- Identifying appropriate forums and means for resolution of legal problems.
- Being able to determine legal issues for analysis and research.
- Possessing elementary skills in interviewing, counseling and negotiation.
- Drafting documents to implement basic legal transactions.
- Dealing sensitively with people in conflict.

**Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of the practice of law by:**

- Being aware of career and job options in law practice.
- Having systemic knowledge of legal bibliography and resources.
- Possessing basic skills to enter practice as an associate.
- Having knowledge of basic techniques of law practice operation and management.

**Graduates will demonstrate commitment to justice, competence and service to the profession and the community by being:**

- Aware of the history and values of the legal profession.
- Committed to ethical practice.
- Aware of the rules governing the profession.
- Able to critically assess laws and rules and propose alternatives.
- Committed to lifelong learning and self-development.
- Appreciative of the value of ideological and cultural diversity.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE J.D. DEGREE.**
1. Completion of 91 credit hours, 80 of which must be classroom credits.
2. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 (see Administrative Rules and Regulations, Scholastic Probation and Dismissal, in this section).
3. Six semesters in residence carrying not less than 10 classroom credit hours each semester. Although three years of law study are usually required, students may graduate in two and one-half years. To do so requires attending at least two summer sessions. Each summer session may be considered one-half a semester for residency purposes, provided at least 10 classroom hours are completed in the two summer sessions.
4. Completion of all required courses (see Required Courses in this section).
5. Fulfilling the school's research and writing requirement. This requires students to have a rigorous writing experience evidencing legal analysis resulting in a paper of professional quality.
6. Fulfilling the school's professional skills requirement (see below).
7. Regular and punctual class attendance.
8. Successful completion of all coursework within five years from the day students began their course of studies leading toward the degree. A student will not be allowed to enroll in any course after the five-year period.

**Professional Skills Requirement** (Effective for the Entering Class of 2007)

All students, as a condition of graduation, are required to successfully complete a substantial professional skills certification. The certification may be obtained in one of the following ways:
1. Completion of one credit hour of professional skills education. This requirement may be completed by successfully completing one or more courses designated as meeting all or a portion of the professional skills education requirement.
2. Completion of a one credit hour independent study providing professional skills education (Law 8746R), which independent study is certified to the School’s Records Office as meeting the one credit hour professional skills education requirement.
3. Participation in law school programs that, even if not for credit, provide professional skills education (this would primarily consist of the various advocacy, counseling and negotiation competitions which do not provide course credit).

**Required Courses**

**First Year Required Courses**

All students must complete the following required courses during the first year:

**Full-Time Progress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>(15 credit hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contracts I</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Law</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Law and Lawyering Processes I*</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property I</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torts</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
<th>(14-15 credit hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil Procedure I</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional Law I</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts II</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Law and Lawyering Processes II*</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property II</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Part-time Progress**

Students enrolled on a part-time basis must take three of the required courses, including Introduction to Law and Lawyering Processes, in their first year. The remaining courses must be completed in their second year of study.

* Introduction to Law and Lawyering Processes I and II: These two first-year courses introduce students to legal reasoning; analytical and critical thinking; case research and analysis; legal writing, including office memoranda, briefs and letters to and on behalf of clients; advocacy; and all forms of legal research. They offer education in many of the fundamental skills and processes of legal practice through a combination of lecture classes and small group sessions. They are required of all first-year law students in order to supply a strong foundation of thinking, research and writing skills upon which all later, advanced courses will depend. In the second semester, some students will be assigned to, and others will have the option to elect, analytical sections of Introduction to Law (Intro Plus) to obtain more intensive instruction and practice in legal analysis and problem-solving.

**Other Required Courses**

Students must complete the following courses as a condition of graduation:

* Required to be Taken During the Summer Preceding or Fall of Second Year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Organizations</td>
<td>(4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Taxation</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Procedure II</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Required to be Taken During the Summer Preceding or Spring of Second Year:
Evidence (3)

Required to be Taken During the Second or Third Year:
Criminal Procedure I (3)
Commercial Transactions, Sales and Leasing, or Secured Transactions (3)
Professional Responsibility (2)
A course that fulfills the school's jurisprudential requirement (2-3)

Required to be Taken at any Time Prior to Graduation and May be Taken During the Second Semester of the First Year:
A course that fulfills the school's advanced torts requirement (3)

ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND SUCCESS

The School of Law is committed to its students' success. Although the study of law is a difficult and challenging endeavor, the school attempts to work with students to maximize their efforts and see them through the process successfully. Several programs contribute to this effort.

The Structured Study Group Program, which is based on the innovative Supplemental Instruction (SI) model developed by the campus Center for Academic Development, offers first-year students the opportunity to participate in guided study groups in one of their first-year courses. The groups are led by an upper-class student who has successfully completed that course. The student leader attends the class with the first-year students and conducts weekly small-group sessions in which the leader models successful learning strategies for that class.

The Academic Enrichment Program is available to all students. It is especially beneficial for those students who feel they need assistance in the transition to law study. The Academic Enrichment Program is not remedial in nature. Rather, it is designed to maximize the potential of students who participate by teaching skills and strategies for success in law school.

Academic Enrichment begins with a brief summer program immediately before orientation. This is a limited enrollment program to give students a "jump-start" to their legal education. This program is followed up during the academic year with weekly group meetings focusing on learning styles, learning strategies, time management and development of skills necessary for law school success. Students also meet weekly with Academic Enrichment teaching assistants. The year-long program is open to all students.

Many of the materials used in Academic Enrichment are available to students through the program's Web site at http://www.umkc.edu/law/enrichment. Periodic lectures covering the topics addressed in Academic Enrichment are provided for all students through the Academic Enrichment Lecture Series.
Areas of Study

Law students do not have a formal major, but have options for obtaining sequenced and advanced training in areas of interest to them, including:

- Advocacy and Litigation
- Business and Tax Law
- Commercial Law
- Estate Planning and Administration
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Domestic Relations
- Labor and Employment
- International Law
- Property and Real Estate
- Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- Environmental Law

In addition, through participation in the Inns of UMKC program (http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Students), externships, competitions, journals and student organizations, students are able to develop skills and contacts in specialized areas of the law. Students may also elect to participate in one of the Law School’s newly adopted formal concentrations, which are described below.

Students interested in particular practice areas are guided by faculty members and practitioners in developing their programs. The school, in conjunction with the Student Bar Association and the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, sponsors a course scheduling and registration convocation and advisement program each semester at which representatives of the various practice areas give advice and guidance to students. In addition, an Elective Course Information Handbook is prepared each semester prior to course pre-registration that provides additional details regarding course sequencing, prerequisites and relevance of courses to practice and the bar exam.
**BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURIAL LAW EMPHASIS AREA**

Important Note: Because the School is committed to keeping up with changes in the practice of law, the requirements for emphasis areas may change during the course of a student's enrollment at the School. The requirements at the time a student is granted admission into the emphasis area are the requirements that govern completion of the student's emphasis requirements. For possible revised requirements that will take effect with the next academic year, see [http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Academic/Emphasis/BusinessEntrepEmphasis.pdf](http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Academic/Emphasis/BusinessEntrepEmphasis.pdf).

The Emphasis in Business and Entrepreneurial Law program is designed to provide within the J.D. degree a well-rounded course of study for students interested in an emphasis in business law and transactional practice. Reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of conducting business in compliance with a variety of modern laws and regulations, the required courses and electives for this program have been selected to expose students to a wide range of substantive law education and skills training opportunities. Thus, in addition to required and elective courses in pertinent areas of law, the curriculum requirements include a course with a practical skills component, as well as training in ethics and a research and writing project targeted at business and entrepreneurial law topics. Students who qualify for and successfully complete the credential requirements in the Business and Entrepreneurial Law program should thereby be in an excellent position to pursue and succeed in careers as advisors to entrepreneurs and to for-profit or not-for-profit businesses, whether in private practice or in company legal departments. This program would also be suitable for students destined for public sector careers, particularly in areas involving the regulation of businesses and business transactions.

**ADMISSION**

To be admitted to the Emphasis in Business & Entrepreneurial Law program, an applicant must have a cumulative law school grade point average of at least 2.5, and must have a grade point average of at least 2.8 in all program courses or prerequisites which the student has taken prior to application for admission to the program. For this purpose, prerequisite business courses will also be counted, including Business Organizations and Federal Income Taxation.

The deadline for application to the program shall be no later than the beginning of the second week of classes of the student's sixth semester of law school. Any student who applies after the beginning of his or her fourth semester must demonstrate that the program can be completed by the end of the sixth semester of law school. Appropriate adjustments will be made to deal with part-time students not on the regular semester schedule. Exceptions to the deadlines may be made with approval of the Emphasis Faculty Advisors, by majority vote.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Minimum Total Hours Required**

The program will require a minimum of 15 hours of approved courses. Group A contains the courses that are "Required." Group B is a list of courses that students may choose among, designated as the "Grouped Required" courses. Students must take at least three of the courses from the Group B list.

Any course in Group A or B may be counted toward the required total hours even if it is also used to satisfy the student's Research and Writing Requirement.

**Writing Requirement**

Students must complete an academic research paper of high professional quality, sufficient to meet the Research and Writing Requirement standards of publishable quality, concerning a business or entrepreneurial law topic. The research paper must be certified as acceptable by one of the Emphasis Area Faculty Advisors. Students may fulfill this requirement in conjunction with any of the Group A or B courses, or independently as part of the general Research and Writing Requirement, as part of an Independent Study option, through one of the Law Schools' journal offerings, or through a research project pursued at the Center for the City at UMKC. There is no separate requirement that the research paper be graded.

**Practical Skills Component**

Students must complete at least one course containing a substantial practical skills component. The following courses satisfy this requirement:

- Business Planning
- Negotiating Mergers & Acquisitions
- Real Estate Transactions Planning Workshop
- Entrepreneurial Law Clinic
- Advanced Legal Drafting (Business)

The requirement may be met by other internships, externships, simulation courses, drafting courses, or other courses designed to provide exposure to the type of work commonly performed by lawyers in the business and entrepreneurial law field, as the Emphasis Area Faculty Advisors may find acceptable. It is intended that courses fulfilling this requirement will include at least one business drafting exercise.

**Ethics Component**

Each academic year, the Emphasis Area Faculty Advisors will provide four contact hours of lectures, seminars or workshops dealing with ethical issues that frequently arise in the business and entrepreneurial law field. Each student must complete this ethics requirement.

**Research Component**

All Emphasis Area Students must complete an advanced research offering which will provide advanced skills in research in the business and entrepreneurial law field. This may entail a separate one hour course of study, a one hour component of an existing course, or separate lecture, seminar or workshop offerings as designated by the Concentration Faculty Advisors.
CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisites or Co-requisites
- Business Organizations
- Federal Taxation

Required Courses (Group A)
- Securities Regulation
- Legal Accounting (or other approved accounting education)
- Either Taxation of Business Organizations or Corporate Tax I and Partnership Tax
- Either Secured Transactions or Real Estate Finance

Grouped Required courses (Group B) (Must take three courses)
- Business Planning
- Real Estate Finance
- Real Estate Transactions (May not count both Real Estate Finance and Real Estate Transactions.)
- Negotiating Mergers and Acquisitions
- Secured Transactions (If not taken to satisfy the UCC requirement or as a Group A course)
- Commercial Transactions (If not taken to satisfy the UCC requirement)
- Sales and Leasing (If not taken to satisfy the UCC requirement)
- Debtor/Creditor
- Problems in Bankruptcy (May not count both Debtor/Creditor and Bankruptcy.)
- Entrepreneurial Law/Practice Clinic
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- International Business Transactions
- Labor Law
- Employment Discrimination Law
- Employment Law (No more than one course of the group including Labor Law, Employment Discrimination Law and Employment Law may be counted.)
- Administrative Law
- Intellectual Property Copyright Law (May not count both Intellectual Property and Copyright Law.)
- Antitrust and Competition Law
- Tax-Exempt Organizations

The above requirements are in addition to any hours received in connection with the Writing Component (unless done in connection with a listed course), any hours received for the Advanced Research Component, or for the Ethics Component. In addition, a course shall not be required for any student who has not had a reasonable opportunity to take the course due to limited enrollment, or due to the fact that the School has not offered the course at least once after the student has been admitted to the program.

GRADUATION

For a student to be recognized as having graduated with an emphasis in Business & Entrepreneurial law, the student must have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.0 in the minimum number of emphasis course requirements listed as Required or Grouped Required; provided that a student may, at the student's option, omit a grade received in either Corporate Tax I/Sub S Tax (combined) or Partnership Tax, while still counting the course to reach the required number of academic credit hours for the emphasis; and that a student may also omit any grade received in any Grouped Required (Group B) course, so long as the student has grades from at least three (3) Group B courses to be counted in the grade point average necessary for the emphasis.
**CHILD AND FAMILY LAW EMPHASIS AREA**

Important Note: Because the School is committed to keeping up with changes in the practice of law, the requirements for emphasis areas may change during the course of a student's enrollment at the School. The requirements at the time a student is granted admission into the emphasis area are the requirements that govern completion of the student's emphasis requirements. For possible revised requirements that will take effect with the next academic year, see http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Academic/Emphasis/famlaw.pdf.

The legal system is called upon to solve a host of societal problems, but none more fundamental and complex than the problems of planning and adjustment of relationships within families. The demand for legal services for families is great: more people use an attorney to address family law issues than any other legal need; over half of all state court cases involve domestic relations matters. Moreover, these cases routinely require more than mere legal advocacy or negotiation. The field of family law requires an entirely different type of lawyer – one who can work collaboratively with professionals from a wide variety of disciplines to craft creative and just solutions and empower clients to work together toward long-term solutions.

The UMKC School of Law Emphasis in Child and Family Law prepares students to serve these pressing and unique legal needs. The program prepares students to serve the whole family – from infants to elders – and maintains a unique collaborative and interdisciplinary framework. The emphasis program requires that students master the basic doctrine and legal theories involved when the legal system interacts with families. In addition, however, students undertake study exposing them to the perspectives of other disciplines such as psychology and social work. Students study the unique ethical dilemmas of this area of law in specialized workshops and gain hands-on experience in representing children and families in the program's clinical components. Finally, all students in the emphasis complete an in-depth capstone research and writing project.

Students who qualify for and successfully complete the credential requirements in the Child and Family Law program should be in an excellent position to pursue and succeed in careers serving children, families, and elders, whether in private or government practice or in other leadership roles.

**ADMISSION**

**Application for Admission to the Emphasis in Child and Family Law program:**

Students may apply after completing their second semester (or 29 credit hours). Students who are close to completing the hourly requirements may petition for early admission for good cause shown. An application form will be available and must be submitted by the deadline announced by the Child and Family Law Faculty. Decisions as to whether a student will be admitted to the Emphasis in Child and Family Law will be made in the semester in which the student applies.

**Procedure and Criteria for Selection:**

The Child and Family Law Faculty will select the students to be admitted to the program. Criteria to be considered may include previous general academic performance in law school, previous academic performance in courses seen as particularly relevant to the emphasis area, level of interest in serving children or families, and ability to identify an adviser willing to advise and supervise the student. No student shall be admitted to the Child and Family Law program unless he or she has a grade-point average of 2.6 or above in all law school classes previously taken. The Child and Family Law Faculty is authorized to make appropriate adjustments in the deadlines for part-time students or other students whose schedules do not substantially conform to the six semester paradigm.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Minimum Total Hours Required**

The program will require a minimum of 15 hours of approved courses. Group A contains the courses that are "Required." Group B is a list of courses that students may choose among, designated as the "Grouped Required" courses. Students must take at least three of the courses from the Group B list.

Any course in Group A or B may be counted toward the required total hours even if it is also used to satisfy the student's Research and Writing Requirement.

**Writing Requirement**

Students must complete an academic research paper of high professional quality, sufficient to meet the Research and Writing Requirement standards of publishable quality, concerning a business or entrepreneurial law topic. The research paper must be certified as acceptable by one of the Emphasis Area Faculty Advisors. Students may fulfill this requirement in conjunction with any of the Group A or B courses, or independently as part of the general Research and Writing Requirement, as part of an Independent Study option, through one of the Law Schools' journal offerings, or through a research project pursued at the Center for the City at UMKC. There is no separate requirement that the research paper be graded.

**Practical Skills Component**

Students must complete at least one course containing a substantial practical skills component. The following courses satisfy this requirement:

- Business Planning
- Negotiating Mergers & Acquisitions
- Real Estate Transactions Planning Workshop
- Entrepreneurial Law Clinic
- Advanced Legal Drafting (Business)

The requirement may be met by other internships, externships, simulation courses, drafting courses, or other courses designed to provide exposure to the type of work commonly performed by lawyers in the business and entrepreneurial law field, as the Emphasis Area Faculty Advisors may find acceptable. It is intended that courses fulfilling this requirement will include at least one business drafting exercise.
**Ethics Component**
Each academic year, the Emphasis Area Faculty Advisors will provide four contact hours of lectures, seminars or workshops dealing with ethical issues that frequently arise in the business and entrepreneurial law field. Each student must complete this ethics requirement.

**Research Component**
All Emphasis Area Students must complete an advanced research offering which will provide advanced skills in research in the business and entrepreneurial law field. This may entail a separate one hour course of study, a one hour component of an existing course, or separate lecture, seminar or workshop offerings as designated by the Concentration Faculty Advisors.

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

Of the 19 hours required for the emphasis, the student must complete

- The basic family law course (three credit hours).
- A minimum of six hours of clinical credit (described below).
- At least six credit hours from a list of core curriculum (listed below).
- At least four credit hours which may be taken from other core curriculum courses or a list of elective courses (listed below).

**Prerequisite Course**
All students in the emphasis must take Family Law. Because this foundation course is a prerequisite for most other courses in the concentration, students accepted for the concentration will be given a priority in enrollment in the course.

**Core Courses**
Students must take at least six credit hours chosen from the classes listed below:

- Children in the Law
- Juvenile Offenders & The Law
- Family Violence
- Family Law Practice
- Estate Planning and Drafting
- Gender and Justice

**Clinical Component**
All students in the Child and Family Law program must take at least six credit hours of clinical coursework. This coursework may consist of

- Family Law Clerkship
- Child & Family Services Clinic
- Legal Aid Clinic
- Internship
- Guardian Ad Litem Workshop

**Elective Courses**

- Mediation
- Workshop on Current Issues in Family Law
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Elder Law For Estate Planners
- Disabilities and the Law
- Immigration Law and Process
- Education Law: Government & Legal Aspects of Education
- Independent Study (if approved by Child and Family Law adviser on the basis that the course of study relates directly to the emphasis area)
- Law Review (if approved by Child and Family Law adviser on the basis that the student's note or comment relates directly to the emphasis area)

Any other law school course if, before beginning the course, the students obtains written approval from the Child and Family Law Faculty. Such approval shall not be granted unless the Child and Family Law Faculty find that, in light of the student's other courses and the student’s goals in the emphasis study, the course will advance the student's study of Child and Family Law to an extent equivalent to other Child and Family Law electives.

Courses may be added or deleted from the lists contained in sections A through C above with approval of the Child and Family Law Faculty and the Law School faculty.

**GRADUATION**

For a student to be recognized as having graduated with an Emphasis in Child and Family Law, students must have...
timely completed all concentration requirements
receive the approval of the Child and Family Law faculty of the student's portfolio and
earn a 3.0 grade point in concentration course work (required and elective courses).

This grade-point average shall be computed considering all Required and Elective Courses in the emphasis taken by the student, including any that exceed the minimum hour requirements for the Emphasis.
INTERNATIONAL, COMPARATIVE & FOREIGN LAW (ICF) EMPHASIS AREA REQUIREMENTS

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

After their first year and before their final semester, or with approval in other circumstances, students may be admitted to the International, Comparative, and Foreign Law ("ICF") Emphasis if their cumulative law school GPA is 2.7 or above. To graduate with the ICF Emphasis, students must have a cumulative minimum GPA of 2.7 and a minimum GPA within the emphasis area of 3.0

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Courses:

Student will have to take a total of 16 credit hours from the below mandatory and elective courses.

   a. Required: The following two mandatory classes must be taken:
      - International Law (3 hours)
      - Global Legal Systems (3 hours)

      The above classes will include consideration of ICF professional responsibility issues.

   b. Electives: The remaining hours to be satisfied from the following courses (note: not all below are offered every year):
      - Conflict of Laws
      - Immigration Law & Policy or Immigration Law & Process
      - International Business Transactions
      - International Human Rights
      - International Taxation
      - International Trade & Finance
      - National Security Law
      - Transnational Litigation & Arbitration
      - Courses offered as part of an approved overseas experience (only one approved overseas experience will count towards the emphasis)

      Other Courses may be approved by the ICF advisor to count towards the Emphasis. Where a course includes a substantial component of ICF law, part of that course may count towards the 16 hour requirement with advance approval from the ICF advisor.

2. Required Overseas Legal Experience

   This would include such experiences as:

   The Ireland, China, Oxford or other law summer programs; or
   An overseas Mini-Term course (if offered); or
   Another experience approved in advance by the ICF advisor.

   These experiences may constitute a “skills” component, depending on the specifics of the experience. The credits earned from ONE approved overseas experience may be counted towards the required 16 hours for the Emphasis.

3. Required Writing Project:

   A paper satisfying the R&W requirement or an equivalent independent study writing project (including law review notes or comments) must be undertaken by writing on an ICF subject (subject to be approved by the ICF advisor).

   This requirement may also be satisfied through participation on the Jessup International Moot Court Team or other equivalent international competition with approval of the ICF advisor.

   Class papers do not satisfy this requirement, but may be expanded as an independent paper or the R&W paper, and with approval of the ICF advisor, the expanded paper may satisfy this requirement. Any credits earned through satisfaction of this writing requirement will NOT be counted towards the 16 hours.
**LITIGATION EMPHASIS AREA**

Important Note: Because the School is committed to keeping up with changes in the practice of law, the requirements for emphasis areas may change during the course of a student's enrollment at the School. The requirements at the time a student is granted admission into the emphasis area are the requirements that govern completion of the student's emphasis requirements. For possible revised requirements that will take effect with the next academic year, see http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Academic/Emphasis/LitigationEmphasis.pdf.

UMKC's long tradition of educating distinguished litigators is an important reason that many students choose UMKC for their legal education. To enhance that tradition, the law school has established within the J.D. degree an Emphasis in Litigation, a program designed to help outstanding students focus on those courses that will give them the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in the ever-changing world of twenty-first century litigation. In addition to taking a rigorous yet varied menu of required and elective courses, each student pursuing the Emphasis in Litigation works closely with an assigned faculty adviser and is provided with additional training in legal writing, litigation ethics, and legal research.

**ADMISSION**

Selection of Students for Admission to the Emphasis in Litigation

A. Deadline for admission to the Emphasis in Litigation program: Students should apply not later than their fifth semester of law school. An application form will be available and must be submitted by the deadline for applications set by the litigation concentration advisors committee and circulated to the student body. Decisions as to whether a student will be admitted to the Emphasis in Litigation will be made in the semester in which the student applies.

B. Procedure and Criteria for Selection:

1. The maximum number of students who will be permitted to enter the litigation program each year will be set by the litigation advisory committee taking into account the ability of the advisors to provide adequate supervision and advising. Each litigation adviser may set a maximum number of students that he or she will advise.

2. The litigation advisory committee will select the students to be admitted to the program. Criteria to be considered may include previous general academic performance in law school, previous academic performance in courses seen as particularly relevant to litigation, level of interest in litigation, and ability to identify an adviser willing to advise and supervise the student.

3. No student shall be admitted to the Litigation program unless he or she has a grade-point average of 2.7 or above in all law school classes previously taken.

C. Part-time Students and Other Students with Unusual Schedules: The litigation advisory committee is authorized to make appropriate adjustments in the deadlines for part-time students or other students whose schedules do not substantially conform to the six semester paradigm.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Minimum Total Hours Required**

A student must take a total of at least 26 hours in approved courses. Approved courses are those listed as "Required Courses," "Grouped Required Courses" and "Elective Courses".

No more than three hours of required upper-level courses, (including those used by the student to satisfy the UCC or Jurisprudence requirement) may count toward the required 26 hours.

A course (including Law 746) used to satisfy the student's writing requirement (see below) may be counted toward the total hours requirement even if it is also used to satisfy the student's Research and Writing Requirement.

**Writing Requirement**

Each student in the program must complete a written project, approved by an emphasis area supervisor, on a topic dealing directly with litigation. The written project must be of a scope and quality that would satisfy the law school's research and writing requirement for a J.D. degree. The written project may satisfy both the program's requirement and the J.D. requirement.

**Practical Skills Component**

All students in the program must take at least two of the following courses:

- Advanced Legal Writing: Litigation Drafting
- Appellate Advocacy II
- Appellate Advocacy III
- Appellate Advocacy IV
- Trial Advocacy I
- Trial Advocacy II
- Trial Advocacy III

**Ethics Component**

Each student in the program must participate in at least one, half-day, non-credit workshop on ethical issues for litigators. Workshops will be organized by the program advisers and conducted by faculty, practicing lawyers, or judges.

**Research Component**
Each student in the program must participate in at least one, half-day, non-credit workshop on research materials and sources frequently consulted by litigators on issues directly related to the litigation process.

Workshops will be organized by the program advisers and the librarians. They will be conducted by faculty, librarians, practicing lawyers or judges.

**Supervising and Advising Component**

Each student in the program will be assigned an emphasis area adviser.

Each student in the program must meet with his or her adviser not less than twice a semester.

### CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

**Distribution of Courses**

**A. Required Courses:** All students in the program must take each of the following courses:

- Civil Procedure I
- Civil Procedure II
- Criminal Procedure I
- Evidence

**B. Grouped Required Courses:** All students in the program must also satisfy the Core Course Requirement, the Advanced Course Requirement, and the Skills Requirement set forth below:

**Core Course Requirement:** All students in the program must take at least two of the following core courses:

- Conflict of Laws
- Federal Jurisdiction
- Remedies
- Criminal Procedure II

**Advanced Course Requirement:** All students in the program must take at least one of the following advanced courses:

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Civil Procedure III-Post Trial Issues
- Civil Rights Litigation
- Complex Litigation
- Criminal Trial Techniques
- Mediation
- Professional Malpractice Litigation

**Skills Requirement:** All students in the program must take at least two of the following courses:

- Advanced Legal Writing: Litigation Drafting
- Appellate Advocacy II
- Appellate Advocacy III
- Appellate Advocacy IV
- Trial Advocacy I
- Trial Advocacy II
- Trial Advocacy III

**C. Electives:** The following electives may also help satisfy the minimum total hours requirement:

**Clinics and Externships**

- Bankruptcy Court Clerkship
- Child and Family Services Clinic
- Court Clerkship
- Death Penalty Clinic
- Department of Labor Clinic
- Family Law Clerkship
- Federal Public Defender Externship Clinic
- Legal Aid Clinic
- National Labor Relations Board Clinic
- Public Defender Trials Clinic
- United States Attorney's Office Law Clinic
- Wrongful Convictions II

**Other Coursework**

- Administrative Law
- Advanced Lawyering Processes (second semester only)
- Criminal Trial Techniques
- Criminal Sentencing Law Practice & Procedure
- Employment Discrimination
- Family Law Practice
- Famous Trials
- Independent Study (if approved by student's emphasis area adviser on the basis that the course of study relates directly to litigation)
- The Jury: Practice and Perspectives
- Law Review (if approved by student's emphasis area adviser on the basis that the student's note or comment relates directly to litigation)
- Legal Research (if approved by student's emphasis area adviser on the basis that the student's writing relates directly to litigation)
- Missouri Civil Procedure
- Seminar in the Ethics of Criminal Advocacy
- Wrongful Convictions I
- Wrongful Convictions II

Any other course if, before beginning the course, the student obtains written approval from both the emphasis area litigation adviser committee and the student's emphasis area adviser. Such approval shall not be granted unless the committee and the adviser find that, in light of the student's other courses and the student's litigation-related goals, the course will advance the student's study of litigation to an extent equivalent to other litigation electives.

D. Courses may be added or deleted from the lists contained in sections A through C above with approval of the litigation emphasis area adviser committee and the faculty.

**GRADUATION**

For a student to be recognized as having graduated with an Emphasis in Litigation, the student must have fulfilled the following requirements:

1. The student must have satisfied all general and curriculum requirements set forth above.

2. The student must have achieved a grade-point average of at least 3.0 in the field. This grade-point average shall be computed considering all Required Courses, Grouped Required Courses, and Elective Courses in the emphasis taken by the student, including any that exceed the minimum hour requirements for the Emphasis in Litigation.
URBAN, LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW EMPHASIS AREA

Important Note: Because the School is committed to keeping up with changes in the practice of law, the requirements for emphasis areas may change during the course of a student's enrollment at the School. The requirements at the time a student is granted admission into the emphasis area are the requirements that govern completion of the student's emphasis requirements. For possible revised requirements that will take effect with the next academic year, see http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Academic/Emphasis/UrbanEmphasis.pdf.

UMKC students can engage in a course of study within the J.D. degree with an emphasis in Urban and Land Use Law, Environmental Law or both. This program builds on a tradition of excellence in urban and land use law at the law school and on the UMKC law faculty and students' 35-year editorship of The Urban Lawyer, the national quarterly law journal of the American Bar Association Section of State and Local Government Law. Students in this specialized course of study will be able to choose from a variety of courses, seminars, internships, and externships in the law school and in other units and departments of the university including public administration, urban planning and architecture, geosciences, political science and economics. Students who choose to pursue this program will be prepared to enter the job market with specialized knowledge of the issues and law relevant to land use; real estate development; state, regional and local government and the environment.

ADMISSION

Students in their second or third year may elect to specialize in the "Urban, Land Use and Environmental Law" curricular emphasis program. To do so, a student must apply no later than the end of the second year. Advice about compliance with the requirements is available from the Emphasis Faculty Advisors.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Total Hours Required
Students must complete seven of the listed courses: students must complete all courses in Group A, three courses from Group B and one course from Group C. All courses must be taken for a grade (with the exception of those courses for which a grade option is not available). Course work satisfying this requirement must total at least 15 hours.

Writing Requirement
Students must complete an academic research paper of high professional quality concerning a topic within the field of the emphasis area. They may fulfill this requirement in conjunction with any of the listed courses, or as part of the Research and Writing requirement, as part of an Independent Study option, through one of the Law School's journal offerings, or through a research project pursued at the Center for the City at UMKC. Unless written to meet the R&W requirement, the paper must be written for a grade. Advance approval of the topic and faculty adviser is required by one of the land-use and environment faculty.

Practical Skills Component
Students must participate for at least one semester in a practical skills component. The following opportunities satisfy this requirement: the EPA Law Clinic, Region VII; the EPA Law Clinic, Agricultural Center; or a service placement with the Center for the City at UMKC. Participation in the EPA Law Clinics can simultaneously be used to satisfy the minimum hours requirement.

Ethics Component
Ethical considerations will be incorporated into the listed emphasis area courses.

Research Component
All students in the program must complete an advanced research offering which will provide advanced skills in research in the urban, land use and environmental law field. This may entail a separate course of study, a component of an existing course, or separate lecture, seminar or workshop offerings as designated by the Program Faculty Advisors.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Group A: Core Courses (must take all)
- Administrative Law
- Environmental Law
- Land Use Planning

Group B: Specialized Courses (must take three)
- Air & Water Regulation
- Cities and the Environment “J”
- Current Issues in Property Law Seminar
- Environmental Law Seminar
- Federal Public Land & Resources Law
- International Environmental Law
- Law and the American Indian
- Preservation Law
- Seminar in Urbanization
- State & Local Government Law
- Toxic Torts
- Urban Lawyer Board
Group C: Related Law Courses and Interdisciplinary Courses (must take one)

- Alternative Dispute Resolution (2)
- Complex Litigation (3)
- Economics and the Law (2) "J"
- Federal Jurisdiction (3)
- Legislation (3)
- Real Estate Finance (3-4)
- Real Estate Transactions (2)
- State and Local Government Tax (2-3)
- Biogeography and Landscape Ecology (3) (Department of Geosciences)
- Managing Urban Economic Development (3) (Bloch School)
- Urban and Regional Planning for Urban Administrators (3) (Bloch School)
- Urban Planning Theory and Practice (3) (Department of Architecture)
- Urban Planning and Design (This course would have additional assignments for law students)

**GRADUATION**

To be recognized as having graduated with an emphasis in Urban, Land Use and Environmental Law, students must complete all requirements with an average grade of B or better (and no grade below a C). Students who have met the program requirements by the time of graduation will have this distinction noted at that time.
J.D./M.B.A. AND J.D./M.P.A. COMBINED-DEGREE PROGRAMS

The School of Law has established combined-degree programs with the Henry W. Bloch School of Business and Public Administration. The program allows students to earn a juris doctor degree and a master of business administration or a master of public administration degree on an accelerated basis through cross-acceptance of some credit hours.

Applicants to the program must satisfy the admission requirements of each school and, if admitted into the program, may enroll in the first year of law school either before or after beginning M.B.A. or M.P.A. courses. Further information on admission and dual-degree requirements is contained on the School's Web site at http://www1.law.umkc.edu/Academic/index.htm.

COMBINED J.D./LL.M. DEGREE PROGRAM

Qualified J.D. students will be permitted to apply up to 10 credit hours (12 with the permission of the Graduate Studies Committee) of UMKC graduate courses approved for this purpose toward an LL.M. (Taxation) or LL.M. (General) with Estate Planning Emphasis degree as well as toward a J.D. degree. This will allow students to earn such LL.M. on an accelerated basis, generally requiring only one additional semester (or two summer sessions) beyond that required for the J.D. degree.

The program is available to qualified students who begin their legal studies at the UMKC School of Law, who transfer to the school or who attend as visiting/certification students during their fifth or sixth semester of law study. For further information on admissions and combined degree requirements, contact the School of Law's Admissions Office or the programs by e-mail at UMKC-LLMTax@umkc.edu.
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS

ATTENDANCE

Preamble
All ABA-accredited law schools are required to abide by the Standards for Approval of Law Schools of the American Bar Association, including the rule that, “A law school shall require regular and punctual class attendance”. This provision carries with it a clear, affirmative duty on the part of each institution:

- A law school shall demonstrate that it has adopted and enforces policies insuring that individual students satisfy the requirements of this Standard, including the implementation of policies relating to class scheduling, attendance and limitation on employment.

Consistent with these directives, the UMKC School of Law faculty believes that dependability is an essential characteristic of a good lawyer. The Law School’s objective is not only to ensure academic success, of which attendance is a major component, but also the development of good professional habits.

Over the years the Law School faculty has experimented with different attendance policies and has found that, without such a policy, attendance becomes noticeably lax, which in turn can contribute to poor performance on the bar examination. Moreover, the faculty recognizes that sound academic reasons exist for adopting a uniform attendance policy that allows some classes to require even more stringent attendance requirements.

Finally, the faculty recognizes that, if it imposes a mandatory attendance policy on students, the faculty also needs to impose compulsory attendance-taking on itself, using a standardized system, to ensure uniformity, fairness and predictability in the implementation of its attendance policy.

* Standard 304(d), Standards for Approval of Law Schools of the American Bar Association.
** Interpretation 304-6, Standards for Approval of Law Schools of the American Bar Association.

Procedures
1. Every faculty member shall take attendance each day of class by distributing a sign-in sheet consisting of a current class roster, or a suitable alternative. If a sign-in sheet is used, each student in attendance must sign the roster next to his or her name. The faculty member or her administrative assistant shall deliver completed attendance sheets or the results of the suitable alternative method of taking attendance to the Director of Student Services promptly.

2. Each student shall be allowed absences up to, but not exceeding, two times the number of credit hours in a course. (For example, a student in a three-hour class that meets in two 75-minute sessions each week may miss a total of four such sessions. A student in a three-hour class that meets in three 50-minute sessions may miss a total of six such sessions.) In their discretion, faculty members may require fewer, but may not allow more, absences. If a faculty member intends to impose a more stringent attendance policy, he/she must notify students of the policy by announcement in class or in writing or by electronic posting during the first week of the semester.

3. Each absence exceeding the limitation imposed by paragraph 2, above, shall result in a one-step letter grade reduction for the course to be assessed by the Dean's Office, e.g., from "B" to "B-" or from "A-" to "B+". (For example, a student who misses five classes in a three-hour class that meets in two 75-minute sessions will be assessed a one-step grade penalty. If that student misses a sixth class, he or she will be assessed an additional one-step grade penalty.) A faculty member may in his or her discretion in consultation with the Associate Dean impose other academic requirements in lieu of the grade reduction.

4. Accumulated absences exceeding three times the number of credit hours in a course shall result in the student's administrative withdrawal from the course provided the student is in good standing at that time, i.e., provided the student has not earned the grade of "F" for work completed at the time of withdrawal. Students who are not in good standing will receive a grade of "WF" for the course.

5. Students may appeal a grade-assessment or involuntary course withdrawal to the Associate Dean in writing within one week of notification of the assessment/withdrawal.

6. This policy does not affect a faculty member's guidelines for the turning in of out-of-class assignments and papers. The individual faculty member, not the Dean's office, has the sole discretion to award late penalties for failing to turn in an assignment or paper on time or to excuse the late handing in of assignments and papers. For this reason, the Dean's office only oversees student absences from class.

7. Students and faculty will be responsible for monitoring their own compliance with this policy.

8. Falsification of attendance records constitutes a violation of the UMKC School of Law Honor Code.

SNOW POLICY

University policy mandates that the University will always remain open even during inclement weather, and classes will generally be held. In the event of a major snow or ice storm creating potentially dangerous conditions, a decision may be made to suspend some or all classes. Announcement of such a decision will be made on local radio and TV. Efforts will be made to establish a call-in line for students to determine whether a class or classes will be held.

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADES
In most courses, the final grade is based on the student's achievement on an examination given at the end of the semester. Examinations are anonymous, and papers are identified solely by number. Each student is expected to take examinations at the scheduled times. For failure to do so, a grade of F is assigned. Grading of student work is on a 4.0 system:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>0.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some courses are graded on a pass/fail basis.

A student receiving a grade of F in a required course must repeat and pass the course. Grades of F remain on a student's transcript and count toward a student's grade-point average even if a course for which an F is given is repeated and passed.

The temporary grade of I (incomplete) is recorded when the student has not completed the work required for the course. It may only be entered with the written permission of the professor teaching the course. If the work is not completed and a permanent grade not submitted to the school's records office by the end of the following semester, the I grade will be replaced with a grade of F.

**Final Examination Rescheduling Policy**

A student may request that one or more final examinations be rescheduled under the following circumstances:

- Two final examinations in the same calendar day.
- An evening final examination followed by a morning final examination the next calendar day.
- Three final examinations on three consecutive days (in the first week of examinations only).
- Four final examinations in five days (in the first week of examinations only).
- An emergency warrants rescheduling (request must be documented).

The policy with respect to take-home final examinations is as follows:

- If the take-home final examination is "floating," (e.g. the student may choose when to take it within a defined timeframe) the student may not create a conflict by opting to take it during an interval conflicting with another final examination.
- A take-home final examination does not conflict with the preceding final examination(s) under the first or third rules above (two exams in the same calendar day or three exams on three consecutive days), if it may be checked out at least four hours after the prior examination is scheduled to conclude.
- A take-home final examination does not conflict with the preceding final examination(s) under the fourth rule above (four exams in five days), if it may be checked out on Friday, at least four hours after the prior final examination is scheduled to conclude.
- Perceived conflicts involving take-home final examinations of greater than 48 hours in length will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Requests to reschedule a final examination should be directed to the School's Director of Student Support Services.

Once a conflict has been identified, the director will determine which final examination(s) to move, and to what day and time, in order to eliminate the conflict.

Requests to reschedule a final examination on short notice because of severe illness or an emergency must be documented, and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All such requests must be presented to the Director of Student Support Services for the School of Law immediately (See Student Support Services (Law)).

The policy with respect to requests to reschedule based upon disability is as follows:

- All disability-based requests must be approved by the Assistant Director for Student Disability Services (See http://www.umkc.edu/disability and Non-Discrimination Policy, above).
- The Director of Student Support Services will reschedule a final examination because of disability only on request of the Assistant Director for Student Disability Services.

**Latin Honors**

Three types of Latin honors are awarded to those UMKC School of Law graduates who have achieved academic distinction, they are:

- Summa Cum Laude ("with highest honor")
- Magna Cum Laude ("with great honor")
- Cum Laude ("with honor")

While the University’s degree regulations provide some restrictions on the number of graduates in each class that may receive Latin honors which may reduce the percentage of students graduating with Latin honors in each category, in general, Latin honors are awarded as follows:

1. Summa: A student with at least a 3.7 GPA who is also ranked in the top 5 percent of the graduating class.
2. Magna: A student with at least a 3.5 GPA who is also ranked in the top 10 percent of the graduating class.
3. Cum Laude: A student who is in the top 20 percent of the graduating class.
Credit in Lieu of Grade Option

After completion of the first year, a student may take one elective course ordinarily graded (except a 4-credit-hour class) on an ungraded basis. For a “pass” to be posted on the student's record, work done for the course must be equivalent to a grade of C- or better; otherwise, the actual grade received will be posted.

The student must make this election before the beginning of the semester by completing and filing the appropriate form (available at the Law School) in person at Registration and Records (Administrative Center, Room 115, 5115 Oak).

Appeal of Grades

Students are responsible for meeting the standards of academic performance established for each course in which they are enrolled. The establishment of the criteria for grades and the evaluation of student academic performance are the responsibilities of the professor.

The school's grade appeal procedure is available only for the review of allegedly capricious grading, and not for review of a professor's evaluation of a student's academic performance.

Capricious grading, for grade appeal purposes, consists only of any of the following:

- The assignment of a grade to a particular student on some basis other than the performance in the course.
- The assignment of a grade to a particular student by resort to more exacting or demanding standards than were applied to other students in the course.
- The assignment of a grade by a substantial departure from the professor's previously announced standards.

Step 1: The student should first discuss the course grade fully with the professor. This must be done within six weeks after the professor turns in the grade or the beginning of the succeeding regular academic semester, whichever is later.

Step 2: If the matter is not resolved through consultation with the professor, the student may appeal to the dean. This must be done within 10 days after notification of the decision of the professor. The appeal to the dean shall be in writing, and shall state which of the three charges of capricious grading is alleged to have been violated and shall specify such facts as are relied upon to support the charge.

Step 3: The dean shall review the appeal and, if found to be without merit, shall dismiss it. If it is determined that the appeal may have merit, the dean shall appoint an ad hoc faculty committee to review the record and provide advice on the matter. The grade in any course that is based on an anonymously-graded examination shall be presumed not to be capricious.

Step 4: If the dean believes a change in the grade to be warranted, he or she shall present a report to the faculty of the Law School in order that the faculty may act on the matter.

Step 5: If the student is dissatisfied with the action of the dean or the faculty, the student, within 10 calendar days of the decision of the dean, may appeal to the chancellor in accordance with the University of Missouri-Kansas City Procedure for the Appeal of Grades.

Alcoholic Beverages

There shall be no drinking or serving of alcoholic beverages in the law building or on other campus property without the approval of the vice chancellor for administrative affairs.

Student groups desiring approval must request the approval at least two weeks prior to the date of the intended use. Request forms are available in the dean's office.

Parking

The parking lot and driveway on the north side of the law building are for faculty and staff parking. Violators deprive faculty and staff of parking spots they pay for and violators will be ticketed and their vehicles may be towed or locked by a "boot." A number of metered spots are in the lot and may be used by students who have registered their vehicles. After 4:30 p.m., a portion of the lot is open to students provided they have purchased a student parking permit. Students must register vehicles with the Campus Police.

Withdrawal from Courses

A student enrolled in a course cannot unilaterally withdraw from it but must secure permission from the associate dean to do so, and must follow prescribed withdrawal procedures. A student who is not in good standing in the course at the time of withdrawal (has earned a grade of F at that point) will receive a grade of F for the course.

Scholastic Probation and Dismissal

A student who obtains a GPA below 1.8 in his/her first semester will be automatically dismissed from law school. Such student may apply for readmission in the summer of that academic year as under then existing standards and procedures for readmission, and may apply for admission, as a new student to the law school beginning no earlier than the following fall semester. Only under extraordinary circumstances beyond the student’s control will the Student Affairs Committee consider a student’s petition prior to that summer. If extraordinary circumstances exist, at least one faculty member of the committee and its chair must grant permission for early consideration.
A student will be placed on academic probation if his/her cumulative GPA falls below 2.0. Any student on probation will have one semester to raise the cumulative grade-point average to the required level (2.0) or be dismissed for academic deficiency. A student on academic probation may not work or engage in significant law school extracurricular activities.

Students readmitted to the School after dismissal on the grounds of academic deficiency will have one semester to raise the academic average to the required level, unless the faculty decides that a longer period is warranted.

If a probationary student successfully raises his or her average to the required level at the end of the probationary period and subsequently falls below 2.0 again, the student will be dismissed and a second probationary period will be granted only after a petition and favorable faculty action.

Readmissions Policy Guidelines

I. Readmissions Committee

The Faculty Readmissions Committee considers all petitions for readmission in the first instance. Petitioners are afforded the opportunity for a personal interview with the Readmissions Committee.

II. Criteria for Petitions for Readmission

A. No petition for readmission will be granted unless the petitioner establishes to the satisfaction of the Readmissions Committee in the first instance or the faculty upon appeal under III(B)(2)-(3) that:
   (1) there is a substantial likelihood that the student will be able to make up his or her grade deficiency within an appropriate time and manner in accordance with a plan approved by the Readmissions Committee or the faculty, and
   (2) the grade deficiency is substantially attributable to circumstances or events which do not reflect on the student's abilities to perform in law school and which do not reflect the absence of qualities which bear on the ability of a person to successfully deliver legal services.

Circumstances that may meet this test are:
   (a) serious personal illness or other medical problems, or
   (b) the occurrence of an event or series of events causing severe emotional stress (e.g., death of a family member, divorce or separation from a longstanding partner, assault), or
   (c) documented disability that can be, but has not previously been, reasonably accommodated, or
   (d) any other serious problem significantly affecting law school performance.

B. Any situation which the student feels contributed to his or her academic difficulties should be clearly stated in the petition for readmission and documented to the extent practicable. Remedies the student wishes to see taken should also be addressed in the petition. The petitioner must certify the truthfulness of all statements provided in the petition.

III. Decisions to Admit or Deny Readmission

A. Decisions to Admit
   (1) If the decision of the Readmissions Committee is to readmit, that decision is final.
   (2) Upon a decision to readmit, the Readmissions Committee or the faculty shall construct a plan and specify conditions for remedying the grade deficiency. Ordinarily, the student will be required to raise his or her cumulative grade point average to a 2.0 within one semester. In appropriate cases, the Readmissions Committee or the faculty may specify additional conditions for remedying the grade deficiency.

B. Decisions to Deny
   (1) If the decision of the Readmissions Committee is to deny readmission and that decision is unanimous, there is no appeal permitted, except as detailed in B(3) below.
   (2) If the decision to deny readmission is not unanimous, the student has a right of appeal to the full faculty. [Automatic right to appeal]. If the faculty votes to deny readmission, that decision is final and no possibility of appeal within the Law School, campus, or university exists.
   (3) If there is no entitlement to appeal in accordance with the above provisions, then the Dean or his or her designee may, in that person's discretion but only in extraordinary circumstances, refer an appeal from a Readmissions Committee decision to the faculty. Such referral shall be accompanied by a written explanation for the granting of the appeal. [Discretionary appeal]. A student must request the Dean's review within ten days of notification of the committee's decision. If the Dean or his or her designee decides not to refer to the faculty, that decision is final.

IV. Notification of Decision of the Committee

A. After the Readmissions Committee deliberates, the petitioning student shall be notified either that
(1) the student is readmitted, or

(2) the student is denied readmission and the decision is final, but that the student may seek leave to appeal from the Dean upon a showing of extraordinary circumstances or

(3) the student is denied readmission but has the right to appeal to the faculty.

B. The full faculty shall constitute the appellate body for petitions after the fall semester. The executive committee of the faculty shall constitute the appellate body for petitions after the spring semester. Faculty may participate at their request in the faculty deliberations by teleconference.

V. Attendance in Classes Pending Petition

A. Initial Petition

Students may continue in their classes until either the dean makes a determination to deny referral to the faculty under III(B)(3) or the faculty makes a determination under III(B)(2)-(3). At that time, the student must cease attending classes if the decision is to deny readmission.

B. Subsequent Petitions

Students may not attend classes until the Readmissions Committee has made a decision to readmit under III(A) or the faculty has made a decision to readmit under III(B)(2)-(3).

C. Dismissal as a First Semester Student

Students dismissed from the Law School for achieving a grade point average under 1.8 after their first semester must cease attending classes immediately upon notification. The student may make their initial petition in the summer following their dismissal. These students do not have the right to enroll or continue in any classes during the pendency of their petition.

VI. Subsequent Petitions

A. Re-Petitions After Denial

A subsequent petition is a petition that has previously been denied. A subsequent petition may be considered by the Readmissions Committee only if it presents new evidence. New evidence is evidence not available or not reasonably discoverable with a prior petition. Subsequent petitions shall be determined by the same process and standard of review as petitions for readmission.

B. Petitions By Persons Who Have Previously Been Readmitted.

Only in exceptional circumstances will a student who has previously been readmitted and subsequently dismissed be readmitted again.
**Dean's Honor List**

The Dean's Honor List recognizes students who have demonstrated academic excellence in a semester. To be so recognized, a student must have achieved at least a 3.0 GPA for the semester, carrying a course load of at least 12 School of Law course credit hours; with at least three of those courses being graded courses; and not have any incomplete grades in graded courses that semester.

**Acceleration**

Juris doctor degree students may graduate in two and one-half years. To do so requires attending at least two summer sessions in order to accumulate enough credit hours to meet the 91-credit-hour requirement and the residency requirement. Each summer session may be considered one-half of a semester toward satisfying the residency requirement.

**Employment by Juris Doctor Degree Candidates**

Full advantage of the opportunity for a sound legal education only can be gained by devotion of sufficient energy and attention to legal studies. The excessive diversion of time and energy to employment can seriously impair success in law school and preparation for law practice. For this reason, full-time first-year law students should not engage in any outside work, and upper-class students should not engage in excessive outside work.

Accreditation requirements mandate that a student may not be employed more than 20 hours per week in any week in which the student is enrolled in more than twelve class hours. The School has the obligation to adopt and enforce policies assuring that its students meet this requirement. Students on academic probation may not work.
ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

COMPETITIONS
The School of Law has a comprehensive program of advocacy training that involves both intra-school competition and participation in external programs. The school has established a strong tradition of excellence in inter-school competition both at the regional and national levels. The program receives strong support from the School, alumni and friends, both financially and through assistance from leading members of the bar.

National Mock Trial Competitions
Students compete in intra-school competition to demonstrate their abilities in trial skills. Those achieving the best scores represent the school in regional and national mock trial competitions, including the National Trial Competition (coordinated by the American Bar Association's Section on Litigation and the Texas Young Lawyers Association) and the American Association for Justice Mock Trial Competition. Our trial team was the Regional winner for 2008 and advanced to Nationals in Texas.

National Moot Court Competitions
All students may participate in intra-school moot court competition. Additionally, students showing outstanding appellate advocacy abilities represent the school in annual regional and national moot court competitions, including the National Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. UMKC teams have been very successful in advancing into the elimination rounds at regional tournaments. Outstanding student advocates also participate in a variety of other competitions, including the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition, the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, the Judge Conrad B. Duberstein National Moot Court Competition (Bankruptcy Law), the Family Welfare and Adoption Law Competition and the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Teams compete locally, nationally and internationally in these competitions.

Client Counseling and Negotiation Competitions
Each year the School selects teams to compete in the ABA Negotiation Competition and the National Client Counseling Competition. Selection is based on intra-school competitions open to all students. Our Negotiating Team has an outstanding record, having advanced to Nationals almost every year and finishing in the “final four” nationally four times in the past twenty years.

The Scott Welch Memorial Advocacy Fund
This fund was endowed by alumnus Lantz Welch in memory of his son, and by memorial contributions of friends of the family. The fund provides travel expenses and recognition for students representing the School of Law in national appellate advocacy and mock trial competitions.

The UMKC Law Foundation also provides significant support for internal competitions and travel to regional and national competitions.

Viewing Actual Court Proceedings
The E.E. “Tom” Thompson Courtroom, attached to the law building, is one of the premier teaching courtrooms in the country. It contains computer-controlled audiovisual equipment, together with a 70-seat sound-proof observation balcony, providing a full opportunity for teaching and team practice with the aid of audiovisual critique. A complement of ancillary rooms enables the courtroom to be used by state and federal trial and appellate courts, providing special learning experiences for students.
The UMKC School of Law offers several opportunities for students to develop research, writing and editorial skills through journal participation.

**Law Review**
The *UMKC Law Review* is a scholarly legal publication, managed by the UMKC Law Review Editorial Board and edited by the board and staff. Law students are invited to become a member of the Law Review based on their scholastic performance and achievement in a writing competition, which occurs during the spring semester. Law Review membership is considered one of the highest Law School honors. The Law Review is responsible for publishing four issues a year. One issue of the Law Review each year contains a Law Stories section that publishes stories about personal experiences or lessons learned in legal practice, unique clients or enlightening client interactions, or illuminating episodes in legal education. The *UMKC Law Review* is the only law review in the country with a section devoted to law and narrative. Each quarterly issue contains contemporary articles by leading authorities in the legal community, comprehensive comments on legal topics written by members of the editorial board and senior staff members and notes by staff members analyzing recent legal developments. By actively participating in the publication process, staff members greatly improve their writing, analytical and editing skills.

**Urban Lawyer**
The *Urban Lawyer* is a prestigious and widely-read journal covering the areas of urban and public law. It is published quarterly by the American Bar Association's Section on State and Local Government Law. The articles are collected, annotated and edited by student editors and faculty members at the Law School. As a member of the staff, the student is provided with an opportunity to enhance research, writing, and analytical skills, and to gain a wide spectrum of knowledge of urban law. Selection for staff positions is by a writing competition at the beginning of the spring semester.

**Journal of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers**
The American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers has chosen the School to assume editorial responsibility for its twice-yearly publication. The journal uses a symposium style format with featured articles on a selected family-law theme and an annotated bibliography of articles related to the issue's theme. The journal is edited by a faculty member with student editorial assistance. Under the faculty member's supervision, students research and write papers on a topic designated for an upcoming issue and edit submitted lead articles. Papers submitted by students are considered for publication in the journal.
PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The School of Law has a full range of professional and social activities available for students. These activities provide an opportunity for students to get to know one another as well as to interact with faculty and members of the legal community.

American Bar Association/Law School Division

The ABA/LSD is a national organization open to all law students. It was founded to encourage law students' participation in the efforts of the organized bar in forming and revising standards of legal education. Through the division, students have a voting influence on the positions taken by the ABA in regard to current issues and problems facing the legal profession. Historically, the division has enjoyed strong support from UMKC law students, many of whom have become regional and national officers.

American Civil Liberties Union/Student Chapter

The UMKC student chapter of the ACLU is open to all law students. The student chapter exists to raise awareness of civil liberties issues in both current events and the law; and as a means of gaining valuable experience through volunteer work with ACLU of Western Missouri & Kansas.

Animal Law Society

The purpose of the Animal Law Society is to foster critical thought and debate about the application of animal-rights principles to the law. The Society embraces the principles that the common law classification of non-human animals as personal property must be reformed to increase the legal status of non-human animals in order to assure them greater protection under the law; that the use of animals for scientific purposes is not beyond moral criticism; and that human beings have a responsibility to protect non-human animals and their natural habitats. The Society seeks to promote an awareness of these principles and to further their application through its activities.

Art Law Society

The purpose of the Art Law Society is to connect law school students and faculty to art related events; to spread awareness of legal issues that individuals and businesses involved in the arts could encounter; and to benefit those individuals and businesses through community service, while connecting them with individuals and organizations who can assist them with Art Law issues. The Society holds an art auction annually to benefit and spread awareness about Kansas City Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts (KCVLAA).

Asian/Pacific Islander Law Students Association (APILSA)

The purpose of the APILSA is to articulate and promote the professional needs and goals of Asian and Pacific Islander law students by utilizing the collective resources of the law school and the legal community; to focus upon the relationship of the Asian and Pacific Islander attorneys to the American structure; to instill in the Asian and Pacific Islander law students a greater awareness of the commitment to the needs of the Asian American community; to foster and encourage professional competence; and to do all things necessary and lawful to accomplish these purposes.

Association of Women Law Students (AWLS)

AWLS is open to all law students and was formed to promote the role of women in the legal profession and its bar associations, to encourage the acceptance of qualified women in the academic and legal communities, and to exert an influence in the law, the profession, the school and the community.

BigWigs

The BigWigs is a student organization that works in conjunction with Big Brothers Big Sisters in an effort to recruit Bigs within the law school, foster a community of information-sharing about the program, and organize fun activities where Bigs who attend UMKC Law can get together with their Littles. The only requirements for membership in this organization are enrollment at UMKC School of Law and participation in Big Brothers Big Sisters in the Kansas City area.

Black Law Students Association

BLSA, founded in 1968 by black law students, is a national organization representing more than 90 percent of the nation's African-American law students. Its goals are to articulate and promote the professional needs and goals of African-American law students; to focus upon the relationship of the African-American attorney to the American legal system; to instill in the black attorney and law student a greater awareness of the importance of commitment to the needs of the African-American community; and to influence American law schools, legal fraternities and legal associations to use their expertise and prestige to bring about change within the legal system in order to make it responsive to the needs of the African-American community. The school's BLSA chapter works closely with local bar associations and area leaders to strengthen the role of the black lawyer in the Kansas City community.

Business and Tax Law Society

The Business and Tax Law Society is an organization of law students interested in Business and Tax Law.

Christian Legal Society

Founded upon Alexis de Tocqueville's notion that as a Judeo-Christian nation, America will remain great only as long as America remains good, the CLS seeks to discern the parameters of the ethical vitality and moral essence of the law. Open to all students, the CLS offers opportunities for spiritual and temporal support as well as searching dialogue and well-earned rest and fellowship during each academic year.
Constitutional Law Society
The purpose of the Constitutional Law Society of the School of Law is to explore and inform students about constitutional law. The Constitutional Law Society endeavors to meet its objectives by sponsoring speakers and workshops providing insight into the area of constitutional law.

Emissaries
The Emissaries are the official student public relations team for the School of Law. Emissaries are chosen by faculty, staff and students from a select pool of applicants. This group works closely with the Law School administration in such areas as recruitment, representation of the Law School community at special events and serving as tour guides to prospective students and visitors. Emissaries enjoy a good deal of contact with alumni and members of the Kansas City metro law community. They also participate in various community service activities.

Environmental Law Society
The Environmental Law Society is a group for those who are interested in environmental issues, especially issues in the Midwest, particularly in the Kansas City metro area. Moreover, the Environmental Law Society is available to assist and educate students who are interested in pursuing a career in Environmental Law. It is an organization valuing service and the welfare of the community in relation to its environment.

Family Law Student Association
The purpose of the Family Law Student Association is to provide law students with information and experiences within the field of family law, allow students to become acquainted with professionals in the field, promote student interest in family law and encourage family law education throughout the UMKC Law School student body.

Federalist Society
Founded in 1982, the Federalist Society has 110 chapters at law schools across the country. Its membership consists of students who are interested in legal and political topics with an emphasis on separation of powers and traditional values and views about the law. The UMKC chapter presents speakers and sponsors forums on a variety of issues. An active and growing lawyer's chapter cooperates with the UMKC chapter.

Health Law Society
The purpose of the Health Law Society is to help students of UMKC Law School gain knowledge of current issues in the world of health care and to promote education of those issues.

Hispanic Law Students Association (HLSA)
The Hispanic Law Student Association serves to protect and advance the rights of Hispanic students and other minorities in our law schools as well as local, regional, and national communities; to instill greater awareness of the cultural differences, similarities, and needs of the Hispanic population; to provide educational support and social opportunities for students interested in Spanish language and culture; and to encourage diversity and foster positive changes within the legal academic and professional communities.

Honor Court
The Student Bar Association of the Law School has adopted an honor code prohibiting any conduct which would give an unfair advantage to any student in any academic matter or in any matter relating to academic credentials. The honor code has been posted on the school's World Wide Web site. The honor court hears all cases involving alleged violations of the honor code. It is composed of a chief justice and four associate justices appointed from the student body by the president of the Student Bar Association with the approval of its board of governors.

Intellectual Property Law Society
The Intellectual Property Law Society is an organization of law students interested in patent, copyright, trademark or trade secret law. The primary purpose of the IPLS is to promote opportunities for its members to learn more about intellectual property issues through course offerings, participation in moot court competitions, interaction with local practitioners and summer clerkships.

International Law Society
The International Law Society offers students the opportunity to focus on the many facets of law from an international perspective, from the practicalities of a legal practitioner to the theoretical applications of multinational dispute settlements. The current explosion of trade opportunities, worldwide environmental concerns and new partnerships in political and economic arenas present exciting opportunities for tomorrow's lawyers to shape the future of global cooperation.

J. Reuben Clark Law Society
The Mission of the School's Alexander Doniphan Student Chapter of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society is to affirm the strength brought to the study of the law by a law student's personal religious conviction. The members strive through public service and diligence in their studies to promote fairness and virtue founded upon the rule of law.

Jewish Law Students Association
The purpose of the organization is to meet the needs of Jewish law students at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and to promote awareness and understanding of the Jewish people, their religion, traditions and of the State of Israel.

Legal Fraternities

Chapters of three national legal fraternities, Delta Theta Phi, Phi Alpha Delta and Phi Delta Phi, have been established at the Law School. Through their professional programs and social activities, members of the student body have the opportunity to develop professionally and to interact socially with members of the bench, bar, Law School faculty and fellow students.

Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys (MATA)

The UMKC MATA chapter was formed with the basic ideals of the statewide organization and the national organization, known as the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. These ideals and goals include seeking justice, protecting those who deserve redress from injury, promoting the public good through concerted efforts to secure safe products and upholding the honor and dignity of the legal profession.

Midwestern Innocence Project Student Organization (MIPSO)

MIPSO is a part of the Mid-Western Innocence Project (MIP). Both organizations seek the exoneration of those who are incarcerated but are actually innocent. MIPSO assists MIP by having monthly clinics to screen petitions and planning awareness programs to educate the law school community about the problem of wrongful convictions. Its Web site address is:www.mipsoumkc.com.

Moot Court Board

Students who wish to further develop their appellate argument abilities may participate in the school's Appellate Advocacy Program, which is administered by a student moot court board under the general supervision of the faculty. The top 16 students in the Fall Appellate Advocacy II Competition are invited to participate in the Ellison Moot Court Competition, which provides the means for selection of students to represent the school in national appellate advocacy competitions. Membership on the board is open to students who participate in the Ellison Competition.

National Lawyers Guild

The National Lawyers Guild is a nationwide organization of lawyers, legal workers and law students with 96 chapters throughout the United States. It was founded in 1937 as the country's first integrated bar association. The guild is dedicated to seeking social justice, social equality and freedom to dissent to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests.

Non-Traditional Law Students Association

The Non-Traditional Law Students’ Organization coordinates social and mutual-support events and initiates discussions with academic and administrative staff members who may be able to assist with matters unique to these individuals whose student lives are complicated by other, “nontraditional” roles, responsibilities and concerns.

UMKC OUTLaws, LGBT Law Student Group

The group, open to all law students regardless of sexual orientation, seeks to create an environment where students participate in discussions with practitioners regarding LGBT legal issues, network at bi-monthly meetings with local LGBT legal professionals, explore practice areas, and develop outreach opportunities to LGBT groups. The presence of the LGBT group raises awareness of LGBT issues at the law school and campus and promotes an opportunity for constructive dialogue regarding LGBT issues.

Public Interest Law Group

The purpose of the Public Interest Law Group at UMKC is to foster awareness by students, faculty, administrators and alumni of public-interest law through financial support, educational programs and community outreach. As a student-driven nonprofit organization, the group is dedicated to the principle that law students should be encouraged to work in the public interest and that no student or graduate who wants to work in public interest law should be unable to do so for economic reasons. The group is affiliated with the National Association for Public Interest Law and administers two primary program areas: grants for summer internships and loan repayment assistance for graduates.

Securities Club

The purpose of the Securities Club of the School of Law is to explore and inform students of career options in the field of securities law. The Securities Club endeavors to meet its objectives by sponsoring speakers and workshops providing insight into the securities industry.

Sports and Entertainment Law Society

The purpose of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society of the School of Law is to explore and inform students of career options in the field of Sports and Entertainment Law.

Student Bar Association

The SBA is a member of the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association and the governing body of the Law School. It is headed by a student board of governors, which is elected annually. The board speaks for the student body as a whole, appoints committees, provides funding for all Law School student organizations and plans some of the Law School's largest and most widely attended events.
The $1.98 Law Revue

This annual Law School theatrical production is written, produced, directed and presented by law students and faculty. It is a humorous look at the Law School, the law in general and current events. The show involves the combined talents of writers, actors, singers, stage hands, publicists, artists, makeup and costume artists and musicians. The entire law school community looks forward to the annual production.
**FEE INFORMATION**

Educational fees and student program/use fees are set by the University of Missouri Board of Curators. For the most current fee schedule, contact the Cashier's Office at (816) 235-1365 or visit their Web site at [http://www.umkc.edu/adminfinance/finance/cashiers](http://www.umkc.edu/adminfinance/finance/cashiers).

**FINANCIAL AID**

For information on financial aid, contact the UMKC Financial Aid and Scholarships Office at (816) 235-1154 or visit their Web site at [http://www.sfa.umkc.edu](http://www.sfa.umkc.edu).

**URBAN MISSION**

The following programs and activities are illustrative of the many ways in which the School of Law serves its urban mission.

**Child and Family Services Clinic**

The UMKC Child and Family Services Clinic provides legal services and representation in cases involving children under the jurisdiction of the juvenile division of the Jackson County Family court. The clinic students ordinarily represent those adults seeking to give these children a permanent, safe home: family members seeking permanent guardianship, a father seeking paternity, or an adoptive family. In some instances, the clinic students will represent juveniles themselves in delinquency cases or may act as guardians ad litem on behalf of children in a variety of cases. Working under the supervision of the clinical professor, law students investigate, research and advocate legal positions necessary to ensure safe, stable family structures for children.

**Inns of UMKC**

The Inns of UMKC are part of a two-tier approach by the School of Law to address our students' need for additional advice and assistance from the faculty and members of the local bar and judiciary. The program stems from an understanding that students benefit from consultation regarding matters such as the stress of law school, professionalism, the challenges presented by a career in the practice of law, course selections, bar exam preparation, summer clerkships and post-graduation employment (including judicial clerkships). Each Inn is run independently through the collaboration of one prominent member of the local bar, one member of the local judiciary and two faculty members. The grouping of students in the Inns directly corresponds to the Introduction to Law workshops and faculty members also serve as the students’ advisers. The goal of the Inns of UMKC program is that these Inns will grow to serve a vital role in the education and training of future community lawyers and leaders, comparable to the roles played by the old English Inns of Court.

**Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association**

The School of Law enjoys a close relationship with the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. Each year, the Young Lawyers Section of the Association presents a number of educational programs of interest to law students, helping them bridge the gap between theory and practice. In addition, it hosts a beginning-of-the year picnic at which students meet area lawyers and judges, and presents an end-of-the year bar examination information session. As a result of such activities, UMKC law students have access to excellent programs, make important contacts and enjoy the collegiality of an association dedicated to the highest standards of professional integrity and skill.

**Kansas City Tax Clinic**

The Kansas City Tax Clinic is a project of the UMKC Graduate Tax Law Foundation, with support from the UMKC School of Law. Planning for the clinic, which is housed in the law building, started back in 1996, with many faculty, staff, alumni and tax practitioners making contributions and giving generously of their time and effort to make the Kansas City Tax Clinic a reality.

The Kansas City Tax Clinic began serving clients in the fall of 1999. UMKC School of Law students in the LL.M. in Taxation program, the combined J.D./LL.M. in Taxation program, or other students with the permission of the director of the tax program, represent clients of limited means in tax controversy matters under the supervision of the director and volunteer tax practitioners. The clinic has been awarded Internal Revenue Service grants to assist low-income taxpayers with appeals.

**Law Practice**

Pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rule 13, a student who has completed legal studies amounting to one-half of the credits required for graduation and who is in good standing and of good character, fitness and moral qualification to practice law may appear in courts or before administrative tribunals in Missouri on behalf of an indigent person, if accompanied by a supervising attorney. The student may perform other legal work, such as preparation of pleadings and briefs on behalf of an indigent, so long as the work is done under the guidance of an attorney. An eligible student also may appear in any matter on behalf of the state with the written approval of a supervising lawyer. Similar opportunities for student practice are available under Kansas Supreme Court Rule 709. Additionally, similar skills experience is possible in the Federal Government.

**Midwestern Innocence Project**

The Midwestern Innocence Project provides pro bono investigative and legal assistance to prisoners with persuasive actual innocence claims. Students learn legal and investigative strategies through Wrongful Convictions and the Innocence Project Clinic. In Wrongful Convictions, students learn the causes of wrongful convictions and the ways to raise successful innocence claims in both state and federal courts. The Innocence Project Clinic provides students hands on work with cases receiving transcripts, state records, and case documents in addition to the briefs and opinion in the case. Students report on the likelihood that an inmate is innocent and the strategies available for pursuing the claim of innocence.
Public Interest Litigation Clinic

The PILC is an independent non-profit legal services organization that represents innocent prisoners and prisoners facing the death penalty across the United States. The Clinic's cases include all stages of criminal litigation, including trial, appeal, post-conviction, habeas corpus, certiorari and executive clemency proceedings. The School's Death Penalty Clinic and the "Problems and Issues in the Death Penalty" course are taught in conjunction with the PILC, and the center's staff provides valuable opportunities for the students in those classes.

UMKC Entrepreneurial Legal Services Clinic Initially funded by the Kauffman Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, students participating in the UMKC Entrepreneurial Legal Services Clinic, working under the supervision of licensed attorneys, assist a wide variety of owners of new and existing small businesses who do not have, or cannot afford, the market price for professional assistance.

Each Fall and Spring semester, up to 15 students who have taken certain courses (Business Organizations and Federal Taxation are required, and Business Planning or other business or tax law education or experience preferred) are selected for enrollment in the clinic. The clinic is located in the UMKC Institute for Entrepreneurship & Innovation building, at 4747 Troost. Students gain "hands-on" practical experience, under the supervision of experienced faculty who are licensed attorneys, by creating clients' business entities (such as limited liability companies and corporations) and drafting documents such as operating and partnership agreements, employment contracts and non-competition contracts. Students may enroll in the clinic in the fall or spring semesters.
MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE

ADMISSIONS

Eligibility for the LL.M. Program
The School of Law offers three graduate study programs in law leading to the master of laws degree: the LL.M. (taxation); the LL.M. (urban affairs); and the LL.M. (general). In addition, as part of the LL.M. (general) program, an estate planning concentration is available to qualified applicants. Admission is limited to applicants who have attained the juris doctor or equivalent degree from an approved law school and who have a law school GPA of at least 2.7 on a 4.0 scale.

The School of Law also offers a master of laws degree program for foreign students. Eligibility criteria, admissions process, degree requirements, curriculum and other pertinent information specific to this program is detailed separately in this catalog. See, “Master of Laws Degree for Foreign Students.”

Admissions Process
An LL.M. admission application, application fee and official law school and undergraduate transcripts must be submitted for admission. There is no formal application deadline, but early submission of applications is recommended.

ADMISSION WITH ADVANCED STANDING

Advanced standing credit toward the School’s LL.M. in Taxation Degree Program may be given for a maximum of six hours of tax courses completed at another law school on condition that (1) the credits so applied be for courses that have essentially the same subject matter coverage as a required or elective course taught at UMKC School of Law that would count toward the LL.M. in Taxation; (2) the student supplies a course syllabus and reading list or other suitable course description for review and both (a) the Director of the UMKC Tax LL.M. Program and (b) the instructor of UMKC’s comparable course agree that the course in question was of suitable substance and rigor to justify advanced standing credit; and (3) the student earned a grade of B or higher in the course.

NON-DEGREE CANDIDATES

Post-J.D. study may be undertaken on a non-LL.M. basis. Applicants who wish to obtain an LL.M. degree but who do not have the required grade-point average may be permitted to enroll as a non-degree candidate. They may be considered for later admission to the degree program on the basis of performance in courses taken as a non-degree candidate.

MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of 24 credit hours, 18 of which must be taken from the list of required and elective courses provided for each program.
2. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 (2.7 for the LL.M. [Taxation] and the LL.M. [General with Estate Planning Concentration]). See the Administrative Rules and Regulations section that follows.
3. Completion of all required courses. See the “Required Courses” for each program.
4. Enrollment in a minimum of four credit hours each semester.
5. Successful completion of all coursework (including thesis, if applicable) within three years from the beginning of the course of studies leading toward the degree.

Upon enrollment in the graduate program, a student is assigned a faculty adviser. In consultation with the adviser, the student develops a plan of study that meets the requirements for the degree in the program area selected. The adviser must approve enrollment in all courses.

COMBINED J.D./LL.M. DEGREE PROGRAM

Qualified J.D. students will be permitted to apply up to 10 credit hours (12 with the permission of the Graduate Studies Committee) of UMKC graduate courses approved for this purpose toward an LL.M. (Taxation) or LL.M. (General) with Estate Planning Emphasis degree as well as toward a J.D. degree. This will allow students to earn such LL.M. on an accelerated basis, generally requiring only one additional semester (or two summer sessions) beyond that required for the J.D. degree.

The program is available to qualified students who begin their legal studies at the UMKC School of Law, who transfer to the school or who attend as visiting/certification students during their fifth or sixth semester of law study. For further information on admissions and combined degree requirements, contact the School of Law's Admissions Office or the programs by e-mail at UMKC-LLMTax@umkc.edu.

CURRICULUM, MASTER OF LAWS (TAXATION)

Required Courses (15 credit hours)
- Law 8834 Tax Procedure (2)
- Law 8838R Tax Practicum (1)
- Law 8746R Tax Research (1)
- Law 8886 Corporate Taxation I (3)
- Law 8887 Corporate Taxation II (3)
- Law 8888R Partnership Taxation (3)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law 8893R</td>
<td>Taxation of Property Transactions</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elective Tax Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8611R</td>
<td>Dispositions and Succession Planning of Business Interests</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8612R</td>
<td>Estate Planning with Life Insurance</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8613R</td>
<td>Special Problems in Estate Planning</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8614R</td>
<td>Estate Planning for Retirement Plan Benefits</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8615</td>
<td>Estate Planning and Practice</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8615R</td>
<td>Estate Planning for Charitable Giving</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8616R</td>
<td>Fiduciary Administration for Estate Planners</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8617R</td>
<td>Elder Law for Estate Planners</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8746R</td>
<td>Independent Study (tax topic)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8757R</td>
<td>Entrepreneurial Clinic</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8834R</td>
<td>Tax Clinic</td>
<td>(1-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8838</td>
<td>Tax Accounting</td>
<td>(1-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8838R</td>
<td>Tax Practicum</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8843</td>
<td>Federal Income Taxation of Trusts and Estates</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8845</td>
<td>Deferred Compensation</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8848R</td>
<td>State and Local Taxation</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8868</td>
<td>Trusts: Planning, Drafting, Administering &amp; Litigating</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8868R</td>
<td>Valuation for Transfer Tax Purposes</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8874</td>
<td>Tax-Exempt Organizations</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8889</td>
<td>International Taxation</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8892R</td>
<td>Taxation of Estates, Gifts and Trusts</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8894R</td>
<td>Tax Aspects of Bankruptcy</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OTHER COURSES**

The UMKC graduate studies committee may approve up to six credit hours from other UMKC Law School course offerings or from the interdisciplinary offerings of other UMKC graduate and professional schools. However, such courses may not be required or basic bar examination J.D. courses.

**CURRICULUM, MASTER OF LAWS (GENERAL)**

**Program Requirements**

There are no specific course requirements. Rather, the course of studies is one developed by the student and his/her adviser based upon a set of courses related to a specific thematic goal and approved by the graduate studies committee. It must include a thesis related to the subject area chosen.

**JURISPRUDENTIAL REQUIREMENT**

Students must take one jurisprudential course approved by their adviser.

**THESIS REQUIREMENT**

A minimum of four and a maximum of eight credit hours (to be determined by students in consultation with their thesis adviser) may be given for a written thesis on a subject approved by the student's thesis committee. The thesis must show substantial evidence of original research or development of the principles of at least one interdisciplinary field related to the student's thematic goal; be at least 75 pages in length; and be of high scholastic quality, suitable for publication as a lead article in a scholarly journal.

The thesis committee, consisting of the thesis adviser (selected by the student with the adviser's consent) and the UMKC School of Law graduate studies committee, must approve the topic and the final form and substance of the thesis.

**OTHER COURSES**

The UMKC Law School graduate studies committee may approve up to six credit hours of courses in other schools and departments of the University related to the student's thematic goal. Generally, students may not take required or basic bar examination J.D. courses for graduate credit.
Effective fall semester 2007, the Master of Laws (General) with Estate Planning Concentration program has been suspended. Applications are not accepted for and students may not enroll in the program at this time.

Required Courses (17 credit hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law 8603</td>
<td>Taxation of Business Organizations</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8615</td>
<td>Estate Planning and Practice</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8618R</td>
<td>Drafting and Preparation of Estate Plans</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8800</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>(4-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8838R</td>
<td>Tax Practicum</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8843</td>
<td>Federal Income Taxation of Trusts &amp; Estates</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Elective Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Elder Law for Estate Planners</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8757R</td>
<td>Entrepreneurial Clinic</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thesis Requirement

A minimum of four and a maximum of eight credit hours (to be determined by the student in consultation with the thesis adviser) may be given for a written thesis on a subject approved by the student's thesis committee. The thesis must show substantial evidence of original research or development of the principles of at least one interdisciplinary field related to the student's thematic goal; be at least 75 pages in length; and be of high scholastic quality, suitable for publication as a lead article in a scholarly journal.

The thesis committee, consisting of the thesis adviser (selected by the student with the adviser's consent) and the UMKC School of Law graduate studies committee, must approve the topic and the final form and substance of the thesis.

At the option of the Director of the Estate Planning Program, the thesis requirement may be met by satisfactory completion of Law 618R and Law 746R (for 2 credit hours), requiring the student to research and write a substantial original work in the estate planning field.

Other Courses

The UMKC graduate studies committee may approve up to six credit hours from other UMKC Law School course offerings or from the interdisciplinary offerings of other UMKC graduate and professional schools. However, such courses may not be required or be basic bar examination J.D. courses.

Curriculum, Master of Laws (Urban Affairs)

Because of the complexity and diversity of their setting, urban problems sometimes transcend traditional legal solutions. The interdisciplinary Urban Legal Affairs Program prepares lawyers for specializing in practice, public service and corporate and financial institutions dealing with metropolitan-area problems. Students may pursue the areas of Planning and Governance, Environment and Natural Resources, and Real Estate Development.

Courses Available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law 8732</td>
<td>Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8898</td>
<td>Construction Law</td>
<td>(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8773</td>
<td>Environmental Law</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8783</td>
<td>Federal Public Land &amp; Resources Law</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8766</td>
<td>Land Use Planning</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8728</td>
<td>Law and the American Indian</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8641R</td>
<td>Legislation</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8729</td>
<td>Preservation Law</td>
<td>(2-3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law 8861</td>
<td>Real Estate Finance</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If elected, a minimum of four and a maximum of eight credit hours (to be determined by the student in consultation with the thesis adviser) may be given for a written thesis on a subject approved by the student's thesis committee. The thesis must show substantial evidence of original research or development of the principles of at least one interdisciplinary field related to the area of urban studies pursued; be at least 75 pages in length; and be of high scholastic quality, suitable for publication as a lead article in a scholarly journal.

The thesis committee, consisting of the thesis adviser (selected by the student with the adviser's consent) and the School of Law graduate studies committee must approve the topic and the final form and substance of the thesis.

OTHER COURSES

The School of Law graduate studies committee may approve other law school courses and up to six credit hours of courses in other schools and departments of the University related to the area of urban affairs pursued. Generally, students may not take required or basic bar examination J.D. courses for graduate credit.

Before enrollment, the student will work with the associate dean toward developing an individualized urban affairs course of studies.

LL.M./M.P.A. JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM

A joint LL.M./M.P.A. degree program between the School of Law and the Henry W. Bloch School of Business and Public Administration can be arranged with the approval of the Law School graduate studies committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Attendance, Examinations and Grades, and Withdrawal from Courses
The administrative rules and regulations set forth for the juris doctor degree program covering these matters also apply to the master of laws degree programs.

Scholastic Probation and Dismissal
A student will be placed on scholastic probation whenever the student's GPA falls below 3.0 (2.7 for the LL.M. [Taxation] degree and LL.M. [General] with Estate Planning Concentration degree). A student on probation must attain an overall 3.0 GPA (2.7 for the LL.M. in [Taxation] and LL.M. [General] with Estate Planning Concentration) by the end of the next semester of coursework, or, unless an exception is made by the Graduate Studies Committee, the student will be dismissed from the program for academic deficiency.

FEE INFORMATION

Educational fees and student program/use fees are set by the University of Missouri Board of Curators. For the most current fee schedule, contact the Cashier's Office at (816) 235-1365 or visit their Web site at http://www.umkc.edu/adminfinance/finance/cashiers.

FINANCIAL AID

For information on financial aid, contact the UMKC Financial Aid and Scholarships Office at (816) 235-1154 or visit their Web site at http://www.umkc.edu/finaid.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Arthur Mag Graduate Law Fellowship
In recognition of Arthur Mag's service to the University of Kansas City and UMKC, the Edward F. Swinney Trust has provided a grant for the establishment of Arthur Mag graduate fellowships to support full-time graduate study at UMKC. Arthur Mag Fellows work closely with distinguished professors in their graduate degree programs. These professors serve as mentors throughout the fellows' graduate work.

One of these fellowships is designated for the School of Law, and is provided each year to an outstanding student in the School of Law's LL.M. program.

The Arthur Mag Graduate Fellowship in Law includes a stipend of $10,500 for the 2006-2007 academic year; remission on non-resident fees, if applicable; and remission of 18 hours of graduate law educational fees, for a total possible compensation of nearly $28,000. Applicants must be U.S. citizens who are planning to pursue the graduate program on a full-time basis.

More information, including a "generic" application form that may be copied and used and a faculty recommendation form, may be obtained/downloaded from the School of Graduate Studies Web site at: http://sgs.umkc.edu/financial.asp#arthur.

John B. Gage Memorial Fellowships
Fellowship awards are provided annually to outstanding students entering as full-time LL.M. degree candidates from a fund endowed by friends of alumnus John B. Gage, a teacher of law, former mayor of Kansas City and eminent lawyer.

Minority Graduate Student Fellowships
The UMKC School of Graduate Studies annually awards up to three Minority Graduate Fellowships of $600 each, applicable to the student's graduate educational fees. The fellowship is renewable for one additional year provided the student maintains a 3.0 grade-point average and the law school certifies that the student is in good standing and making normal progress toward the degree. Those eligible for nomination for these fellowships at the law school include blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans and Asian Americans who are degree-seeking LL.M. students admitted or enrolled at UMKC for the ensuing academic year and who are U.S. citizens. Fellows must maintain a minimum enrollment of six credit hours per semester.

UMKC Graduate Tax Law Foundation Scholarship
The Graduate Tax Law Foundation provides a periodic cash award to outstanding LL.M. (Taxation) students and outstanding J.D. tax students.
MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

ADMISSIONS

ELIGIBILITY FOR THE LL.M. PROGRAM

MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

The School of Law offers a graduate program for foreign law students leading to the master of laws (LL.M.) degree. Admission generally is limited to applicants who have a college degree in law from a recognized school. There is no minimum GPA required for admission, but applicants’ academic ability will be considered, and applicants must have demonstrated English proficiency, which will be evaluated by an interview and through test scores. The LSAT is not required, but students should take either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam. Successful applicants typically have a minimum TOEFL score of 550 on the paper exam, or 80 on the Internet version, or a minimum IELTS score of 5.5. The required interview, however, is an important component of evaluation, and not all students with scores in the low range will be admitted. In some cases, the law school may require additional English study at UMKC prior to the start of the LL.M. program as a condition of admission.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

A Foreign LL.M. admission packet consists of the following:

- The Foreign LLM application form;
- The application fee;
- An autobiographical essay or personal statement;
- Official academic credentials for undergraduate and, if applicable, graduate study (transcripts and, if applicable, degree certificates), including literal English;
- Translations of academic credentials if the official credentials are not in English;
- An official TOEFL or IELTS score report;
- An original or certified copy of a financial statement proving financial ability, including a notarized letter of support explaining the relationship to the applicant and pledging financial support if funding is from a family member or sponsor (non-English documents must be accompanied by an English translation);
- One signed letter of recommendation;
- A copy of the biographical information/photo page from your passport (this can be supplied later if you do not have a passport).

There is no formal application deadline, but applications should be submitted by April 1 for optimal consideration. Applications are reviewed once the file is complete, and admission is available so long as there are seats available in the incoming class.

In addition to the admissions packet, applicants must have an interview with the Director of the program, the Associate Dean for International Programs, or a designee of one of them. Interviews in person are preferred, but can also be conducted by telephone. Information on arranging the interview is available on the website of the program: [http://www1.law.umkc.edu/academic/china/LLM/overview.htm](http://www1.law.umkc.edu/academic/china/LLM/overview.htm).

FOREIGN MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of three required courses with grades of pass or better: Introduction to Law and Lawyering – International (3 credit hours), Introduction to American Law and Culture (2 credit hours), and Introduction to American Legal Skills (2 credit hours).
2. Completion of an additional 17 credit hours from courses approved by the Foreign LL.M. advisor with grades of pass or better.
3. Successful completion of all coursework within three years from the beginning of the course of studies leading toward the degree.

Upon enrollment in the graduate program, a student is assigned a faculty adviser. In consultation with the adviser, the student develops a plan of study that meets the requirements for the degree in the program area selected. The adviser must approve enrollment in all courses.

CURRICULUM

Beyond the required courses, students work with their advisor to select courses suitable to their plan of study. Most students take a variety of courses that provide exposure to U.S. law and a foundation for preparing for a bar examination in a U.S. jurisdiction. However, some students may specialize in a particular field, such as one of the School’s Emphasis areas (Business & Entrepreneurial Law; Litigation; Urban, Land Use & Environmental Law; Child and Family Law) or in another area with significant course offerings (such as International Law or IP). Unlike some LL.M. programs for foreign students, the students in UMKC’s program have access to J.D. courses, and have the opportunity to interact with J.D. students.
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS

ATTENDANCE, EXAMINATIONS AND WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSES

The administrative rules and regulations set forth for the juris doctor degree program covering these matters also apply to the master of laws degree programs.

GRADING

The grading scale is as follows:

- A (including + and -)
- B (including + and -)
- C (including + and -)
- Pass
- Not Pass

The A, B, C grades are given consistent with standards for juris doctor students, and if a foreign LL.M. student achieves this level of grade, he or she may transfer the credit to the juris doctor program. A “pass” grade signifies that the student has not performed to the level required of a juris doctor student, but that the student has demonstrated basic competency on course objectives as those objectives relate to the foreign LL.M. program. If the student earns a grade of “pass” the student receives LL.M. credit, but cannot transfer the credit to the JD program. A “not pass” indicates that the student did not demonstrate basic competency on course objectives, and that course does not count towards fulfilling the graduation requirements for the LL.M. degree.

Accommodation of LL.M. students. A professor in his or her discretion may allow additional work beyond that assigned generally in the course to allow a foreign LL.M. student to achieve a “pass” grade. The professor should indicate at the beginning of the course whether he or she will allow additional work, and what conditions or standards may apply. Supplemental work is to be decided upon by the faculty member. Examples include a paper, re-taking of an exam, an oral examination, field observations and reports.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The law school offers several partial tuition scholarships (valued at more than $12,000) and one full tuition scholarship. To be considered for a scholarship, the applicant must have a complete application and must fill out the scholarship application form, which is available at the website of the foreign LL.M. program: http://www1.law.umkc.edu/academic/china/LLM/overview.htm.
Fee Information

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Financial Aid

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Additional Information

Additional information about the program, including forms, pictures, and video interviews of students, is available at the website of the foreign LL.M. program: http://www1.law.umkc.edu/academic/china/LLM/overview.htm.

Alphabetical Course Listing

The following is an alphabetical listing of courses available to students. Only courses offered during the past two academic years and the present academic year are included. http://www1.law.umkc.edu/academic/Course_Listings.pdf

9/11/2009