



Some Curriculum Planning Suggestions and Advice Associate Dean Kelly Timmons; March 6, 2018

What must you take? (all of these are offered both in the day and in the evening)

- **Evidence:** Fall only
- **Con Law I:** Summer and Fall only
- **Professional Responsibility:** All semesters. Must be taken before or at the same time as Lawyering: Advocacy. The Client Relationship satisfies the PR requirement.
- **Lawyering: Advocacy:** Spring only (provides 3 Experiential Learning credits)
- Must satisfy **upper-level writing** requirement (must earn a grade of at least 2.3; Independent Research course – which is graded – can satisfy but must be for 2 credit hours, need to arrive at particular topic with professor; Law Review notes suffice)
- If you began law school in Fall 2016 or later, **3 additional credits of Experiential Learning** (satisfied by external or internal clinics, externships, simulation courses, and other practice-based courses with “E” designation)

What do I think you would be crazy not to take?

- **Corporations:** Fall 2018 evening; Spring 2019 day
- **Basic Fed. Income Taxation:** Offered this Summer; Fall 2018 evening; Spring 2019 day
- **Administrative Law:** Offered Fall 2018 evening; Spring 2019 day
- **Con Law II:** Offered Spring 2019 day & evening
- **Wills, Trusts & Estates:** Offered Fall 2018 evening; Spring 2019 day

What other classes should all students seriously consider taking?

- **A Clinic (external or internal) and/or Externship**
- **Security Interests & Liens:** Offered Fall 2018 day; Spring 2019 evening
[Or other UCC Course
 - *Sales:* Offered this Summer, Fall 2018 day
 - *Payment Systems/Commercial Paper:* Not on 2018-19 schedule]
- **Criminal Procedure: Investigations:** Offered Fall 2018 day; Spring 2019 evening

Next tier of classes recommended for all students

- **Mediation** (Offered this Summer; Fall 2018 day) or **Negotiation** (Offered Spring 2019 evening)
- **Family Law:** Offered Fall 2018 day; Spring 2019 evening

A couple of other classes that lots of GSU law students take and GSU grads say have been helpful in practice and/or on the Bar Exam

- **Georgia Practice & Procedure:** Offered Fall 2018 evening, Spring 2019 evening
- **Real Estate Transactions:** Offered this Summer; Spring 2019 day



Note that out of the 90 credit hours required to graduate, only 12 can be from S/U courses. (Credits for Legal Bibliography, Lawyering: Advocacy, Law Review, Moot Court, and STLA do NOT apply to this cap.) You cannot choose to take a non-S/U course on an S/U basis.

Take advantage of opportunities for experiential learning! Some examples:

(for a complete list, go to <http://law.gsu.edu/experiential-learning-faqs/>)

Access to Justice (Lucas and Meals): Yearlong course offered 2018-19

Advanced Evidence (Adjuncts): Offered Spring 2019 (2 sections)

Bankruptcy Assistance & Practice Program (Chandler): Offered Spring 2019

Civil Pretrial Litigation (Curcio): Offered Fall 2018

Fundamentals of Law Practice (Roberts): Offered Fall 2018

Health Care Transactions & Regulatory Practicum (Fuse Brown): Offered Fall 2018

Transactional Assistance & Practice Program (Chandler): Offered Fall 2018

Your transcript tells a story. Quoting Professor Donaldson: “You want your transcript to tell employers that you’re unafraid of challenge, that you have developed helpful professional skills, and, perhaps most importantly, you received a balanced legal education.”

Who will you use as a reference? Keep in mind that you are likely going to need at least one professor to serve as a reference for you at some point; the better that professor knows you and your work (ideally from more than one large class), the better reference he/she can provide.

Note that non-dual degree students may apply up to 6 credits of graduate-level GSU courses toward their J.D., with the permission of Dean Cino.

And following law school graduation comes ... The Bar Exam

The Bar Exam in Georgia consists of three parts:

- The Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), which is the same in all states
 - 200 multiple choice questions
 - Covers Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Evidence, Torts, and Real Property
- The Multistate Performance Test
 - 2 90-minute questions designed to test an applicant’s ability to perform a fundamental lawyering skill in a realistic situation
- A state portion that tests on selected Georgia law subjects
 - 4 essay questions (45 minutes each)
 - Questions are drawn from the following subjects
 - The MBE subjects (see above)
 - Business Organizations (which includes Corporations and Unincorporated Business Associations)
 - Uniform Commercial Code Articles 2 (Sales), 3 (Commercial Paper/Payment Systems), and 9 (Security Interests & Liens)
 - Wills, Trusts and Estates
 - Professional Ethics



- Family Law
 - Federal Practice and Procedure
 - Georgia Practice and Procedure
 - Non-Monetary Remedies
- While you should not feel compelled to enroll in every law course tested on the bar exam, you should not leave too many core subjects to a bar review course. A solid and balanced foundation during law school goes a long way to helping you pass the bar.

Are you a rising 3L, or a rising 2L who likes to plan far in advance? Check out this useful information on InsideLaw: <https://insidelaw.gsu.edu/students/3l-comprehensive-guide/>