



Minimum Number of Classroom Credits Required for J.D. Students

- 1. Introduction:** American Bar Association Standard 311(a) requires that a J.D. student complete at least 64 credit hours in courses that require either attendance in regularly scheduled classroom sessions or direct faculty instruction. J.D. students should be aware that not all credits they may take for graduation will count toward this 64-credit requirement. All students seeking the J.D. degree must complete 90 credit hours to graduate. This policy does not alter that graduation requirement. Therefore, if a student takes more than 26 non-classroom credits, the student will have to take more than 90 credit hours to earn the J.D. degree.
- 2. Credits That Count Toward the Classroom Requirement:** Credits that count toward the required 64 classroom credits include credits earned through a regularly scheduled classroom course (except as noted in Section 3 below); a seminar; a simulation course; a course toward the J.D. degree taken at another law school that meets the JMLS definition of a classroom course, if approved in advance by JMLS's Vice Dean for Academic Affairs; a qualified law-related foreign-study program offered by JMLS or approved in advance by JMLS's Vice Dean for Academic Affairs; a clinic that includes a significant classroom instructional component; and credit hours taken in approved distance education courses.
- 3. Credits That Do Not Count Toward the Classroom Requirement:** Credits that do not count toward the required 64 classroom credits include those earned through participating on a law journal, the moot court board, the mock trial board, or an advocacy competition team; courses in dual-degree programs taken outside JMLS (e.g., MBA courses taken elsewhere); independent research or study; directed study; and internships, externships, or field placements.
- 4. Questions:** Students who have questions about whether a particular course does or does not count toward the required 64 classroom credits should speak with the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs.

Faculty policy approved December 15, 2017; effective for the Spring 2018 semester.