



**2016-2017**

**Academic Catalog and  
Student Handbook**

# Academic Catalog and Student Handbook

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## **Accreditation; Statement Regarding ABA Approval**

### **University Accreditation and Licensure**

Elon University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; telephone number: 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's and master's degrees, the doctor of physical therapy degree and the juris doctor degree.

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. 116-15, Elon University and its School of Law are exempt from the provisions of licensure by the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina.

### **Statement Regarding ABA Approval**

Elon University School of Law joined the nation's 200 American Bar Association-approved law schools on June 9, 2008. On June 10, 2011, Elon University School of Law received full accreditation by the American Bar Association. The approval came from the Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Elon Law's ABA full approval was achieved at the earliest possible date under accreditation guidelines, certifying that the school is in full compliance with all ABA standards for the approval of law schools.

The Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar may be contacted at 321 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60610 or by phone at (312) 988-6738.

# **I. Student Rights & Responsibilities**

## **School of Law Vision Statement**

Creating a national model of engaged learning in legal education.

## **School of Law Mission Statement**

Elon's law school will:

1. Complement and strengthen the University's existing programs, particularly those that relate to the arts and sciences, experiential education, technology and its application, international studies and programs, business, leadership and public service;
2. Be a national leader in examining and addressing opportunities and problems in the legal profession and legal education through research, public service and innovation;
3. Provide a distinctive program of legal education that will develop exceptionally-educated, well-motivated, technologically savvy, internationally aware, and effective lawyer-leaders for whom there will be a continuing need;
4. Help meet the national and regional demand for legal education in times of great demand, and compete successfully for excellent, well-motivated law students in times of diminished demand; and
5. Be positioned qualitatively within the University as a synergistic center of excellence that helps generate resources of talent, energy, commitment, information, credibility and capital that will assist Elon in implementing stable, continuous improvements to each and every one of the University's integral components.

## **Nondiscrimination Statement**

Elon University and its School of Law do not discriminate with regard to race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran's status in the recruitment and admission of students, the recruitment and employment of faculty and staff or the operation of any of its programs.

## **School of Law Statement on Personal and Professional Responsibility**

Members of the Law School community are expected to conduct themselves in ways that will reflect credit upon themselves, the School of Law, the University, and the legal profession. Students aspiring to the Bar are required to behave appropriately, to respect the rights and privileges of others, and to abide by the law and by the regulations of the University and the School of Law. State Bar associations place the burden on their applicants to prove the applicant has the necessary qualifications, fitness, trustworthiness, and good moral character required of an attorney, and the obligations associated with meeting this burden apply for the duration of the student's time at the Law School.

Students whose conduct does not violate the Honor Code but nevertheless interferes with the academic environment, casts serious doubt on the judgment or maturity of a student, or subjects the School to potential embarrassment will be counseled by the Office of Student and Professional Life. Where student conduct may threaten members of the Law School community, visitors or school property, or seriously interfere with the educational mission of the Law School, the Office of Student and Professional Life will investigate and, if necessary, impose sanctions on the offending

student according to the Law School's Student Personal and Professional Responsibility Policy. The Policy can be found at this link: <https://www.elon.edu/e/CmsFile/GetFile?FileID=596>

## **Honor Code**

The [Elon University School of Law Honor Code](#), initially adopted in February 2009 and as subsequently amended, applies to all Elon Law students. Its jurisdiction extends to all law school-related endeavors undertaken by students enrolled in Elon Law, as well as when an Elon Law student identifies himself or herself as an Elon Law student. As a condition to continuing as an Elon Law student, each student entering Elon Law agrees to be bound by this Code by signing an agreement. Students should familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code. The text of the Code and an Honor Code Violation Report Form are available [here](#).

The implementation and success of the Honor Code rests with every law student. The Code prohibits: (a) Academic Dishonesty; (b) Stealing; (c) Vandalism; (d) Lying; (e) Plagiarism; (f) Technology Violation; (g) Obtaining an Unfair Advantage; and (h) Abusing the Code. If a student is unsure of the scope of this Code or its applicability to a particular activity, it is the responsibility of the student to seek guidance from the Honor Council. The Honor Council is responsible for the administration of the procedures set forth in the Code and for the interpretation of the Code.

## **Financial Responsibilities**

Financial registration is an important aspect of registering for law school and it is considered complete only when all charges are paid or when the Bursar's Office has approved deferred payment arrangements. Students who plan to use financial aid funds to complete registration must make sure that they will cover the entire balance.

If a student is not financially registered by the first week of classes, that student will not be allowed to attend classes and may be removed from classes by the Registrar.

## **Classroom Responsibilities**

### *Attendance, Preparation, and Class Participation*

The Law School administers a policy requiring that a student maintain regular and punctual class attendance in all courses in which the student is registered, including externships, clinical courses, and simulation courses. Faculty members will give students written notice of their attendance policies before or during the first week of class. These policies may include, but are not limited to: treating late arrivals, early departures, and/or lack of preparation as absences; imposing grade or point reductions for absences, including assigning a failing grade or involuntarily withdrawing a student from the class, and any other policies that a professor deems appropriate to create a rigorous and professional classroom environment.

In case of illness or emergency, students should notify their instructors directly. A student may notify the faculty member directly of a planned absence and should refer to individual faculty members regarding any policy that may apply. In the case of prolonged illness or incapacity, the student should contact the Office of Career and Student Development.

### *Inclement Weather*

In case of inclement weather, call (336) 278-2423 (278-2ICE) for scheduling changes. Changes will also be posted on the Elon Law website and sent to you via e-mail at the earliest possible opportunity after decisions about such scheduling changes are made.

### *Dress Code*

The professional nature of the school should be considered in matters of attire. Students should dress and groom themselves in a manner consistent with, and which will best reflect, the professional aspect of their enrollment and the professional nature of the Law School. Certain courses such as Trial Practice and Procedure and some events will require students to dress in courtroom attire.

### *Taping Class Lectures*

Generally, students are not allowed to record classes and, under no circumstances, may a student record a class without the permission of the professor teaching the course.

### *Guests in Classrooms*

The Law School is committed to a community-centered and safe facility for law students, faculty, and staff. The building is a controlled-access facility. Students, employees, and visitors enter the Law School through the main entrance on the first floor and may be asked to present their university identification cards or other appropriate identification. A security desk located at this entrance is staffed by a security guard whenever the building is open. Visitors are asked to check in at the security desk.

Faculty may invite guest presenters/lecturers to participate in class on occasion. Students may invite adult guests to sit in on a class, with the permission of the faculty member.

## **The Law Library**

The Elon Law Library strives to be a warm and welcoming place for all members of the Elon Law community. We wish to be a resource in your educational and personal growth during your time here at Elon Law School. The Law Library recognizes the close relationship between a positive environment and its use by patrons. This concept relies on having as few impediments as possible for patrons to use the library facility and its services. Thus, both food and drink are allowed in the library. We encourage students to make themselves at home, within reason, remembering that they are sharing the facilities with their classmates, alumni and often members of the practicing bar.

Library Hours are [posted on the Library website](#) and on the bulletin board outside of the library doors.

A complete description of [the library services available to students](#) can be found on the library website.

The Elon Library provides materials in multiple formats to accommodate patron preferences. In addition to online databases, Elon Law School students can access material in either digital format or paper (hardcopy). The lending rules vary by format.

#### *Borrowing Digital Titles from the Elon Law Digital Library*

Students may borrow digital library material from the [Digital Library](#) with their network username and Elon Library Card number located on the back of their Phoenix Card. Material can be borrowed from any location with an internet connection. Material is lent for four hours. Material not returned is automatically retrieved by the system at the end of the loan period.

There are no overdue fines/charges assessed for use of the digital materials.

#### *Borrowing Hardcopy Material*

Students may borrow library material on their Phoenix cards for loan periods ranging from 4 hours to 3 weeks, based on the type of material being borrowed. In order to make material readily available to all students, overdue fines are charged for material not returned in a timely manner. The fines are assessed as follows, and payment is expected by the end of the trimester.

Reserve materials:           \$.50/hour  
Up to maximum \$20.00/item

Non-Reserve materials:   \$.25/day for first 10 days  
After 10 days fine increases to \$.50 per day Up to maximum \$20.00/item

Recalled Material which is not returned will incur an additional \$.25 per fine period (hour or day)

#### *Lost Materials*

If an item is not returned within 45 days of the time it becomes overdue (or 3 days in the case of Reserve material), the Library declares the material lost and charges the borrower a \$40.00 processing fee (this includes the outstanding fine) plus current replacement cost, whether or not the item is repurchased.

Lost InterLibrary Loan (ILL) material is billed a minimum charge of \$250.00 or the lending library's bill plus \$40.00, whichever is greater.

### **Contact Information of Students**

A student must provide his or her current local mailing address, telephone number, and emergency contact information to the Registrar, and has a continuing responsibility to keep this information updated. Except as otherwise provided herein, any requirement of adequate notice is deemed met if an official communication is sent to the most recent address provided to the Registrar's office. Any notices to or correspondence with a student that are provided by e-mail will be provided to the student's official Law School e-mail address.

Students may also provide additional contact information to the Office of the Registrar, such as a current work address or work telephone number. For the student's convenience this information



may be used by the Law School administration when contacting the student. However, the use of this additional contact information is optional with the Administration in any given instance and does not relieve students of the obligations of (a) keeping a current local mailing address, telephone number, and emergency contact on file, and (b) checking the student's official Law School e-mail account for official communications.

Students are deemed to have received notice of any ruling, decision, policy change, rule, requirement, schedules of classes and examinations and any other official decision if (1) notice is sent to the last known U.S. mail address provided by the student to the Registrar's Office or (2) if the notice is sent to the student's official Law School e-mail account. Students are expected to read their Law School e-mails by using the e-mail system provided to them by the Law School.

## **Information Sources**

Members of the Law School community must be familiar with policies and other notices that may affect them. The Law School disseminates information on its policies through a number of means and provides individual notice to students as appropriate. Students are urged to check the information sources listed below on a frequent basis.

### *OnTrack System*

Elon OnTrack is a secure site, <http://ontrack.elon.edu/datatel/openweb>, which allows students, faculty members and staff to access and maintain information that pertains to Elon University, including class schedules, grades and financial aid information. To fully utilize Elon OnTrack, a person must have an active username and password for OnTrack. A student experiencing problems with OnTrack should contact the computer support help desk at (336) 278-5200 to receive or reset login information.

### *Law School E-mail Account*

Elon Law strongly encourages the use of technology to facilitate learning and communication. To this end, each incoming student is given an e-mail account through Elon. Law School administration and faculty will communicate with students only through their Elon e-mail addresses; personal e-mail addresses from commercial e-mail providers will not be used.

The faculty and administration will rely on e-mail as a means of communication, and students should regularly check their assigned Elon e-mail accounts. Students experiencing difficulty with their e-mail accounts should contact Technology Services.

### *Mailboxes*

Physical distribution is more appropriate than electronic distribution for some printed materials. For this reason each incoming law student is assigned a numbered mailbox for his or her use. The mailboxes are situated on the second floor of the Law School. Students are encouraged to check their assigned mailboxes often (at least daily) for important information and communications. Questions about the student mailboxes may be directed to the Registrar.

### *Bulletin Boards*

Three bulletin boards are located on the upper floor of the Law School near the student lockers. Student organizations and individual students may post announcements on these three boards. Class and official Law School activity announcements take priority for space on the boards. There is also a bulletin board outside the law library.

### *Law School Website*

The Law School has an [Internet website](#). Changes in policies, first class assignments, inclement weather announcements, and other news may be posted on the site from time to time.

## **Work While Attending Law School**

The Law School requires students enrolled full time to devote substantially all of their working hours to the study of law.

Students may not accept any employment during their first year of law school.

In the second and third year, students may not work more than twenty hours per week during the academic year. Second and third year students [should seek approval](#) from the Registrar's Office prior to undertaking any employment. Students should also inform the Registrar's Office of any employment outside the Law School, as this office regularly compiles employment statistics.

If a student is on academic probation, the student may be prohibited from continued employment during the academic year.

## **Additional Student Rights and Responsibilities**

### *Student Complaints*

As an ABA-accredited law school, Elon University School of Law is subject to the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools. The ABA Standards may be found at [http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal\\_education/resources/standards.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/standards.html). Any student at the law school who wishes to bring a formal complaint or concern to the administration of a significant problem that directly implicates the school's program of legal education and its compliance with the ABA Standards should submit their complaint in writing to the Office of Career and Student Development. The complaint may be emailed to [Studentaffairs@elon.edu](mailto:Studentaffairs@elon.edu) or submitted in person, but must be signed by the complainant.

When a formal written complaint has been received, the Director of Career and Student Development shall investigate as soon as possible, but no later than 30 calendar days after the filing of the written complaint. The Director of Career and Student Development shall attempt to resolve the complaint, if possible, within the 30 calendar day period. If resolution is not possible, the Director of Career and Student Development may refer the matter to the appropriate administrator, administrative body, or an administrative official designated by the Dean (the "Dean's designate").

If referral of the complaint is made as referenced above, the administrator, administrative body or Dean's designate shall attempt to resolve the complaint as soon as possible, but in no event later than 30 calendar days after referral.

Upon completing the investigation of the complaint, the Law School shall communicate its findings and, if appropriate, its intended actions to the complainant.

If the complainant is dissatisfied with the outcome or resolution, that individual has the right to appeal the decision. The complainant should submit his/her written comments in a timely manner, but in no case more than 14 days after communication of the findings of the investigation, to the Dean of the Law School. The Dean's decision shall be communicated to the complainant and the investigator(s) within 30 calendar days and shall be final.

The Law School shall maintain a complete written record of each complaint and how it was investigated and resolved. Written records shall be maintained in a confidential manner by the Director of Career and Student Development.

Please note that this handbook contains separate sections pertaining specifically to sexual harassment complaints and those complaints that may fall within the Elon Law Honor Code. Jurisdiction over a student complaint may overlap and may not be exclusive to one Elon Law policy.

### *Sexual Discrimination/Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking*

Elon University has a legal obligation to ensure a working and learning environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, or violence. Elon University has procedures to receive, investigate, respond to and resolve complaints of discrimination, including harassment based on sex, as well as domestic violence, intimate partner violence and stalking. In this policy, "discrimination," refers generically and inclusively to all forms of discrimination based on sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, nonconsensual sexual acts, sexual misconduct and sexual violence. These policies and processes are universal student policies and apply to all students, including graduate and law students. All Elon University students, including graduate and law school students, will be held responsible for policies regarding sexual harassment, sexual discrimination/misconduct, domestic violence, partner violence and stalking as defined in the *Elon University Student Handbook*, available at <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/handbook/>.

All reported incidents of sexual harassment, sexual discrimination/misconduct, domestic violence, partner violence and stalking involving Elon University students, including those enrolled in graduate programs and law school, will be adjudicated per the processes defined in the *Elon University Student Handbook* available at <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/handbook/>.

Elon University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its programs and activities. Federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex including sexual harassment as well as sexual violence (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972). The University has designated the following person(s) as Title IX Officer(s) to coordinate compliance and handle inquiries regarding this nondiscrimination policy.

**Title IX Officer:** Dr. Jana Lynn Fields Patterson, Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Student Health and Wellness, Ellington Center for Health and Wellness 104, 2970 Campus Box Elon, NC 27244, (336) 278 7200; [patters@elon.edu](mailto:patters@elon.edu)

**Deputy Title IX Officer for Athletics:** Ms. Faith Shearer, Associate Athletic Director and Senior Women's Administrator, Alumni Field House 239-H, 2500 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244, (336) 278-6790; [fshearer@elon.edu](mailto:fshearer@elon.edu)

**Deputy Title IX Officer for the Law School:** Ms. Melissa Duncan, Director of Career and Student Development, Law School Room 107-M, 2005 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244, (336) 278-9256; [mduncan6@elon.edu](mailto:mduncan6@elon.edu)

Additional information about reporting and resources are available in the *Elon University Student Handbook* as well as the following websites:

- [Confidential Support and Advocacy \(Safe Line\)](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/saa/safeatelon.xhtml)  
<http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/saa/safeatelon.xhtml>
- [Inclusive Community Wellbeing](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/org/inclusive-community/anonymousreporting.xhtml)  
<http://www.elon.edu/e-web/org/inclusive-community/anonymousreporting.xhtml>
- [Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence and Stalking](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/saa/)  
<http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/saa/>
- [Campus Safety and Police](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/bft/safety/)  
<http://www.elon.edu/e-web/bft/safety/>

### *Student Access to Files*

Elon University complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA as amended). This act is designed to protect the privacy of educational records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records, and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate or misleading data through informal and formal hearings. Students also have the right to file complaints concerning alleged failures by the institution to comply with FERPA.

Under the provisions of FERPA, students have the right to withhold the disclosure of Directory Information, defined as:

1. Name, address, telephone number, dates of attendance, class, and electronic e-mail address.
2. Previous institution(s) attended, major field of study, awards, honors (including Dean's list), degree(s) conferred (including dates).
3. Past and present participation in officially recognized sports and activities, physical factors (height, weight of athletes), date and place of birth.

Students should consider very carefully the consequences of any decision to withhold Directory Information; any future requests for such information from non-institutional persons or organizations will be refused. Students who wish to withhold Directory Information should contact

the Office of the Registrar. The institution will honor requests to withhold the information listed below but cannot assume responsibility to contact students for subsequent permission to release such information. The institution assumes no liability for honoring instructions that such information be withheld. The items listed below are designated as Directory Information and may be released for any purpose at the discretion of the institution unless the student has requested the information be withheld:

FERPA also affords students certain rights to their education records. These rights include:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access. A student should submit to the Office of Career and Student Development, Registrar's Office, or other appropriate official, a request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The University official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the University official to whom the request was submitted does not maintain the records, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask the University to amend a record should write the University official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the University decides not to amend the record as requested, the University will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to provide written consent before the University discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. The University discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health and counseling staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using University employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the University. Upon request, the University also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

The University may make disclosure to parents and other parties based on provisions of FERPA, which are listed in The Federal Register, Volume 73, No. 237, December 9, 2008. These disclosures are made at the discretion of University officials.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901

Questions about student records and FERPA may be directed to the Office of Career and Student Development or the Registrar's Office. Health and counseling records are not covered by FERPA and can only be released with signed permission unless as allowed by law. Students wishing to release their health or counseling records should contact the R.N. Ellington Health and Counseling Center at (336) 278-7230.

Requests for copies of a student's transcript may be made at the following address: <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/law/academics/transcriptrequest.xhtml?m=1> (note: it may take up to a week to produce a transcript). All Law School transcripts reflect the student's complete Law School academic record. No transcripts will be issued without the written authorization of the student. No transcript is issued for a student who has an outstanding financial obligation to the University.

### *Disability Services*

The Law School and Elon University are committed to the principle of equal opportunity. One of the ways we express that commitment is in our efforts to accommodate qualified students with disabilities as they face the challenges of university life. Faculty, staff, administrators and students work together to find approaches and accommodations that enable students to benefit from the wide variety of programs and activities on campus.

The Law School's Office of Career and Student Development works with the University's Academic Support Center to arrive at the most suitable approaches and accommodations for its students. More information about the [University's disability services department](#), as well as the [University's Disabilities Guidebook](#), are available online.

Students who have a disability that will require accommodation during a trimester must complete a disability accommodation request form. Information about required forms and documentation are available at [http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/support/disabilities\\_services.xhtml](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/support/disabilities_services.xhtml). This form should be submitted to Susan Wise on the main campus (contact information below).

Accommodations are granted only to students who have provided documentation of a disabling condition which results in a functional impairment that requires accommodation. For additional information, please consult the [Elon University Disabilities Guidebook](#). An evaluation that was used for disability accommodation in undergraduate school may be sufficient for this purpose (additional information and further evaluations may be required.)

Requests for accommodations must be received and decided prior to any class session, activity, test or examination potentially affected. Because of the time involved in considering a request for accommodation and in fashioning an appropriate accommodation if one is warranted, requests should be made as early as possible during the term. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Contact Information:

Susan Wise  
Elon University  
Office of Disabilities Services  
2251 Campus Box  
Elon, NC 27244  
E-mail: [swise2@elon.edu](mailto:swise2@elon.edu)  
Phone: (336) 278-6500  
Fax: (336) 278-6514

### *Health Insurance*

Elon University is committed to the health and well-being of all of its students.

Health Insurance is required as a condition of enrollment for:

- Full-time, degree-seeking domestic undergraduate students
- Degree-seeking domestic graduate students
- International students with F or J visas
- Undergraduate students who are degree-seeking students who only need part-time status to complete their degree

Students must provide proof of insurance coverage prior to initial matriculation on their Health History Form and must notify Health Services immediately if their insurance policy/coverage changes throughout their time at Elon. Students who need to update their insurance policy may do so by sending a copy of their updated insurance card to [healthservices@elon.edu](mailto:healthservices@elon.edu). Your insurance coverage should cover emergency treatment at local hospitals/clinics as well as coverage by off campus specialists if needed.

Domestic students may have access to health insurance through several means. All plans must meet the minimum standards as required by the [Affordable Care Act](#). This may include coverage as a dependent on a spouse, partner or parent's insurance plan. This may include your coverage in an employer sponsored plan, state marketplace plan or other insurance plan.

More information about eligibility in your state may be found at [Affordable Care Act Marketplace](#).

International students (those with F or J visas) must either provide proof of acceptable insurance in your home country or enroll in the student insurance policy arranged by the Isabella Cannon Centre for Global Engagement. The premium will be billed to you; you must provide proof of insurance to have it removed from your account. If you have questions, please contact Mr. François Masuka at [fmasuka@elon.edu](mailto:fmasuka@elon.edu).

### *Health and Counseling Services*

Elon University offers a wide variety of health and counseling services to our law students, faculty, and staff. All law students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive services at the R.N. Ellington Health and Counseling Center. The modern facility offers a wide variety of health and counseling services to the university community throughout the school year.

A variety of medical expertise is offered by the staff of physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and a paramedic, to bring quality, efficient service and care to the University community. All counselors in the center are fully licensed by the State of North Carolina and offer brief, solution-oriented therapies.

Student visits to the Health and Counseling Center are free of charge. There are nominal charges for medications, lab tests, procedures and medical supply items.

The University has also arranged for medical resources in the Greensboro/Guilford County area. Visit the Health and Counseling Center Web site at [http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/health\\_services/lawstudents.shtml](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/health_services/lawstudents.shtml) for additional information. Elon law students also have access to BarCARES Inc., a non-profit organization that provides confidential, professional counseling to lawyers and law students in participating Bar Associations and law schools. For more information on BarCARES, visit <http://www.ncbar.org/members/barcares/> or call (800) 640-0735.

### *Recreation/YMCA*

The Law School collaborates with the Kathleen Price Bryan Family YMCA, which is located just a few blocks from the Law School at 501 West Market Street. The Law School provides each law student with a membership in the YMCA at no additional cost. Students may also purchase family memberships at a discounted rate. The Law School understands the importance of physical fitness and exercise and is pleased to provide this benefit to its students. The YMCA includes a large fitness center, two swimming pools, basketball courts and a running track. Visit the YMCA's Web site at <http://www.bryanymca.org/>.

Students may, at their own expense, choose to join one of several other fitness facilities that are located downtown and throughout Greensboro. Greensboro and Guilford County offer numerous public recreational facilities, including tennis courts and extensive greenways and parks, excellent resources for walking or jogging enthusiasts.

Law students may also utilize fitness facilities and recreation opportunities on the Elon University home campus. Visit the Elon University Campus Recreation Web site at [http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/campus\\_recreation/default.shtml](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/students/campus_recreation/default.shtml).

### *Parking/Public Transportation*

The Law School provides its students free parking at the corner of Friendly Avenue and Church Street. (This free parking arrangement may not be available at some times.) Students wishing to park closer to the Law School have access to public parking decks, one of which is directly across the street from the Law School. The Law School has an allotment of entry cards for this parking deck which will be distributed to students on a first-come, first-serve basis or lottery basis. Students opting for the parking deck are responsible for the monthly rate of \$65. If this card is secured from the Law School, this amount will be added to the student's account by the University Bursar. Students must turn in their entry cards to the Law School at the end of each academic year, so they may be redistributed at the beginning of the next school year via lottery or some other method. Students may also choose to arrange for parking in various private parking lots in the area.



Students may choose to utilize Greensboro's public transportation system. Made possible by the financial support of Elon University and college partners, HEAT (Higher Education Area Transit) provides enhanced and expanded transportation services to the entire Greensboro community.

The specific schools located along the HEAT routes include: Bennett College; Elon University School of Law; Greensboro College; Guilford College; Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC Jamestown and Greensboro campuses); North Carolina A&T State University; and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). Qualified students from the Law School and the other schools will be able to ride HEAT service and all other GTA fixed route service on a fare-free basis. Elon law students may request HEAT fare cards for each trimester. These passes are available through the Office of Career and Student Development. For more information on HEAT and other GTA routes, visit [www.greensboro-nc.gov/gta](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/gta).

### *Technology*

This section of the handbook serves as an addendum to the [Elon University Technology Policies](#). The Law School provides IT resources to support and promote academic pursuits. The Law expects students to use these resources with a strong ethical base and awareness of personal responsibility. Any access or use of IT resources that interferes, interrupts or conflicts with these purposes is not acceptable and will be considered a violation of Elon's [Acceptable Usage Policy](#).

Students are expected to safeguard the integrity and security of Elon Law technology resources, as well as safeguard individual passwords. This specifically includes all network, e-mail and database usernames and passwords provided by Elon or its vendors.

All users are expected to comply with all applicable state, federal and international laws, as well as respect the rights and property of others, including privacy, confidentiality and intellectual property.

Use of these resources in a manner which creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment is a violation of the Elon Law School Honor Code and the University's Technology Policy. These activities include, but are not limited to:

- Sending, downloading, storing, displaying, or otherwise disseminating materials which are obscene, lewd, or sexually harassing in any format.
- Sending, downloading, storing, displaying, or otherwise disseminating materials which (i) are disrespectful of the rights of another law student or other person, or (ii) constitute harassment or discrimination in any format.

Students leaving Elon Law for any reason, other than graduation, will have all their email accounts and all database access terminated within seven (7) days.

The Elon University Technology Policies and all other policies incorporated or referenced herein, shall apply to all members of the Law School community. The community includes, but is not limited to faculty, students, administrators, staff and all others who use, access or employ locally or remotely, the University's or Law School's IT resources whether individually controlled, shared, stand-alone, or networked.

Any uses that undermine the integrity of the Elon Law network, the privacy or safety of others, or that are illegal, are prohibited. Penalties for violation of the University's or Law School's technology policies may include, but are not limited to: restricted access or complete loss of access to the Elon Law network and IT Resources, termination and/or expulsion from Elon University School of Law, or other appropriate disciplinary action, and civil and/or criminal liability.

#### *Related Policies*

Elon University School of Law incorporates by reference the University's Technology Policies [available at <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/bft/technology/policies.xhtml>], as well as the Law School Honor Code.

#### *Solicitation of Funds*

Solicitation for fundraising is allowed as long as the established Elon University procedures are followed. Students should contact either the Office of Career and Student Development or the Development Office for more information.

## II. Course Descriptions

### FIRST-YEAR REQUIRED COURSES

#### **Civil Procedure I and II (LAW 610 and 611)** – *Total of 5 hrs. over Fall and Winter Terms*

A basic procedure course which explores the techniques for attaining judicial enforcement of substantive rights. Topics such as venue, pleadings, joinder of claims and parties, discovery, res judicata, trial and appellate review will be covered. Federal and state jurisdiction will also be examined, including the Constitutional aspects of such jurisdiction. Civil Procedure II is a continuation of Civil Procedure I.

#### **Constitutional Law (LAW 720)** – *5 hrs; Spring Term*

A study of the principles of American constitutional law. The course will examine the concept of judicial review, as well as other specific provisions of the Constitution, including the Due Process Clause and the First Amendment.

#### **Contracts I and II (LAW 620 and 621)** – *Total of 5 hrs. over Fall and Winter Terms*

A comprehensive study of the creation, transfer and termination of contract rights and duties. Fundamental common law principles such as capacity to contract, mutual assent, consideration and legality of subject matter will be addressed. Pertinent portions of the Uniform Commercial Code, particularly Article 2 dealing with sales, will be covered. Fundamental principles relating to performance, enforceability, contract defenses, and remedies will be addressed. Contracts II is a continuation of Contracts I.

#### **Criminal Law (LAW 630)** – *3 hrs; Winter Term*

A study of substantive criminal law, including an examination of crimes and their elements. Specific common law and statutory crimes will be covered. Available defenses will also be explored.

#### **Criminal Law Lab (LAW 635)** – *1 hr.; Winter Term*

This course is taught in conjunction with the first-year Criminal Law course. The Criminal Law Lab tracks a simulated criminal law case and provides students with the opportunity to engage in basic lawyering tasks (including interviewing, negotiation, oral argument, and drafting) under the supervision of a practicing criminal lawyer.

#### **Introduction to Legal Research (LAW659)** – *1 hr.; Fall Term*

Students will gain proficiency in the use of basic legal research tools, as well as effective and efficient research methods for devising strategies to find cases, statutes, regulations, and secondary authorities with both hard-copy and computer-assisted legal research tools (Bloomberg Law, Fastcase, LexisNexis and Westlaw).

#### **Introduction to Legal Studies (LAW 605)** – *3 hrs; August Term*

This intensive “immersion-style” course is designed for entering first year law students. It introduces students to the analysis and reasoning necessary to understand legal materials. By taking this course students should achieve the skills necessary to understand cases and statutes and how to craft legal arguments from these materials. The principal topics will include: sources of law; structure of the American legal system; analysis of a case; the concept and use of precedent; progressive evolution of common law doctrine; emergence of new doctrine; analysis of a statute; approaches to statutory interpretation; relationship between statutes and case-law and between

statutes themselves; and presumptions in statutory interpretation. Small section meetings will supplement large section lectures. Small section instruction will include case briefing, development of study skills, and professional writing practice.

**Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism (LAW 684) – 2 hrs; over August, Fall Term, and Winter Term\*\***

This course considers three aspects in the development of competent, leading lawyers: exercising problem-solving lawyering skills, developing a professional identity that guides students' selected career paths, and exhibiting professionalism as an active member of the bar and officer of the court. Together, these three components coalesce to provide a sound foundation for the acquisition and refinement of legal skills and support development of a competitive legal career. This approach enhances the learning experience for students while reinforcing that excellence in knowing the law and basic exposure to expert application of the law are essential personal priorities and critical outcomes from legal education.

*\*\* Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism starts during the August Term and one credit of the course is awarded at the end of the August Term. The course continues during the Fall and Winter Terms. The second credit for the course is awarded at the end of the Winter Term.*

**Legal Method & Communication I (LMC) I, II, & III**

These courses are designed to teach students the essential skills of legal method, analysis, and communication. The LMC course sequence draws together various components of the first-year curriculum in a series of simulated cases. As students move through the sequence they will receive individualized feedback on increasingly complex written and oral assignments. The course sequence includes:

**Legal Method & Communication I (LAW 668) 2 hrs; Fall Term**

This course introduces students to methods of legal analysis and problem-solving, and the unique requirements of written and oral communication in the legal profession. Topics include reading legal authorities, understanding the structure of legal rules, writing accurate descriptions of the law, rule-based reasoning, synthesis, and common law analysis. Students will complete a sequence of written assignments and oral presentations, one or more of which will be based on subjects being studied in other Fall Term classes.

**Legal Method & Communication II (LAW 669) 2 hrs; Winter Term**

LMC II Builds on the skills taught in the Fall Term and introduces students to new topics, including statutory analysis and interpretation, the differences between advisory and persuasive writing, types of legal argument, the structure of legal memoranda and briefs, and the ways in which ethical obligations inform a lawyer's writing and project management decisions. Students will complete a series of written and oral assignments, including a memo to a trial court and an oral argument on a motion. One or more assignments will be based on subjects being studied in other Winter Term classes.

**Legal Method & Communication III (LAW 673) 2 hrs; Spring Term**

This course builds and expands on the skills taught in LMC I & II. Students will be introduced to advanced analytical and writing skills such as persuasive writing techniques, classical rhetorical devices, policy and Constitutional arguments, and written and oral appellate advocacy. Students will draft at least two briefs, including an appellate brief, and will prepare and deliver an appellate oral argument. One or more assignments will be based on subjects being studied in other Spring Term classes.

**Property (LAW 640) – 5 hrs; Spring Term**

A study of property rights and interests in personal property and real property. Topics covered include the acquisition of rights in property, possessory and non-possessory interests, estates in land, concurrent ownership, landlord-tenant relations and land-use regulation.

**Torts (LAW 650) –5 hrs; Fall Term**

A study of the legal rules which determine whether non-contractual civil liability arises from conduct resulting in harm to others. Topics covered include intentional wrongs and negligence, as well as defenses commonly asserted in tort actions.

**UPPER-LEVEL REQUIRED COURSES FOR**

**CLASS OF MAY 2017**

**Business Associations (LAW 710) – 4 hrs; Must be taken during Second Year**

A study of basic corporate law, including formation, management, and dissolution of corporations, and the rights and duties of those involved with corporations. The law related to business organizations such as partnerships and limited liability companies (LLC) will also be covered.

**Constitutional Law I and II (LAW 720 and 721) – 2 hrs; 3 hrs; Must be taken during Second Year**

A study of the principles of American constitutional law. The course will examine the concept of judicial review, as well as other specific provisions of the Constitution, including the Due Process Clause and the First Amendment. Constitutional Law II is a continuation of Constitutional Law I.

**Evidence (LAW 730) – 4 hrs; Must be taken during Second Year**

The aim of this course is to develop familiarity with the techniques by which evidence of controverted facts is presented in litigation before judicial tribunals. The Federal Rules of Evidence, North Carolina Rules of Evidence, and common law rules will be examined.

**Professional Responsibility (LAW 682) – 2 hrs; Must be taken during Second Year (or during Summer Term before Second Year begins)**

A study of the professional obligations of attorneys imposed both by regulation and the noble traditions of the legal profession. The course will utilize hypothetical fact situations and problems likely faced by attorneys to reinforce the model rules and to develop a commitment to ethical decision-making in students.

**Public Law and Leadership (LAW 751) – 2 hrs; Winter Term of Second Year**

This course combines leadership and law to offer an introduction to leadership theory as it applies to collaborative legal problem solving in the public law context. Students are asked to apply leadership and substantive law theory to an experiential group project concerning a particular public law issue. Students are required to present their research regarding the public law issue and receive feedback and assessment from the instructor on those presentations.

**UPPER-LEVEL REQUIRED COURSES FOR  
CLASS OF DECEMBER 2017 AND SUBSEQUENT CLASSES**

**Bar Exam Foundations: Selected Topics Intensive Study (LAW 831) – 2 hrs; Must be taken during August Term**

This course is designed to provide students with a head start in preparing for the bar exam by providing deep coverage of two highly tested subjects. (Please note that the depth of coverage in this Selected Topics course exceeds that of the Bar Exam Foundations four-credit course.) There will be a substantial online video review component, utilizing Themis’s bar exam preparation system, as a prerequisite to class discussion. In class, students will discuss substantive law as needed and develop analytical and test-taking skills. Students will receive detailed feedback and scoring results within each topic and will also be able to compare their results against other Elon Law students. By the end of the course, students will have a solid understanding of the topics and will have developed an excellent approach for both multiple choice and essay exam answers. The course will culminate with a final exam designed to simulate the bar exam testing experience.

**Business Associations (LAW 710) – 4 hrs; Must be taken during Second Year**

A study of basic corporate law, including formation, management, and dissolution of corporations, and the rights and duties of those involved with corporations. The law related to business organizations such as partnerships and limited liability companies (LLC) will also be covered.

**Evidence (LAW 730) – 4 hrs; Must be taken during Second Year**

The aim of this course is to develop familiarity with the techniques by which evidence of controverted facts is presented in litigation before judicial tribunals. The Federal Rules of Evidence, North Carolina Rules of Evidence, and common law rules will be examined.

**Professional Responsibility (LAW 682) – 2 hrs; Must be taken during August Term of Second Year**

A study of the professional obligations of attorneys imposed both by regulation and the noble traditions of the legal profession. The course will utilize hypothetical fact situations and problems likely faced by attorneys to reinforce the model rules and to develop a commitment to ethical decision-making in students.

**Public Law and Leadership (LAW 751) – 2 hrs; Must be taken during August Term of Second Year**

This course combines leadership and law to offer an introduction to leadership theory as it applies to collaborative legal problem solving in the public law context. Students are asked to apply leadership and substantive law theory to an experiential group project concerning a particular public law issue. Students are required to present their research regarding the public law issue and receive feedback and assessment from the instructor on those presentations.

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***Members of the Class of December 2017 and subsequent classes must also fulfill a “communications” requirement each term after the first year. This may be satisfied through designated “communications courses” or by participating in a designated “communications activity,” such as moot court. In addition, there is a bar foundations course requirement in the August term prior to students’ third year.***

## ELECTIVE COURSES

### **Accounting for Lawyers, 2 credits (LAW 711)**

An introduction to the basic concepts of financial accounting. Intended for students with little or no accounting background, the course is designed to equip these students with the fundamental skills necessary to read and critically review a corporation's financial statements. This course is not open to students who have received credit for more than one undergraduate or postgraduate course in financial accounting.

### **Administrative Law, 3 credits (LAW 715)**

A study of the law of the administrative state. This course will consider the processes that state and federal agencies follow in issuing regulations and resolving disputes, as well as the constitutional, statutory, and judicial restraints on those processes.

### **ADR Representation, 3 credits (LAW 784)**

Lawyers today represent clients in many different forums and in many of these settings there is an ADR component. Often mediation and arbitration are part of the system either by court order, by contract, or by agreement. This course focuses on advocacy skills used in various ADR forms - primarily on representation in mediation and arbitration. Students will also consider developing ADR case law, its implications for practice, and will develop an understanding of other ADR processes including Summary Jury and Mini Trial. Students will review and draft ADR clauses. This course includes lecture, group work, and case simulations, as students will participate as both representing lawyer and in other roles in mediations and arbitrations.

### **Advanced Civil Procedure, 3 credits (LAW 785)**

f/k/a Complex Civil Litigation

This course will focus upon the major procedural and substantive issues that arise in the context of complex civil litigation. For the purpose of this course, litigation is considered complex because of the nature or quantity of information involved. The course reviews and expands on the topics covered in the Civil Procedure course with a focus on class action litigation. Specifically, the course will consider the preclusion doctrines, joinder devices, the management of complex discovery, and advocacy techniques. The course format is a combination of short lecture, class discussion, and simulations.

### **Advanced Criminal Procedure, 3 credits (LAW 735)**

This course builds on the required Criminal Procedure course and focuses on one or more specific criminal procedure topics. Such topics may include the innocence of clients, the rights of the criminally accused to bail, grand jury indictments, speedy trials, impartial trials, confrontation of witnesses, and freedom from double jeopardy.

### **Advanced Evidence Workshop, 2 credits (LAW 843)**

Advanced Evidence Workshop will explore various evidentiary topics in-depth, including experts, hearsay, privilege, and character evidence, as well as synthesize doctrinal components. The exploration will occur within the context of the trial process, incorporating trial advocacy skills, such as witness examination and offering evidence. The course also will include comparisons of state and federal law. Evidence is a prerequisite to this course.

### **Advanced Family Law Practice, 3 credits (LAW 774)**

In this class, students will work through a family law case from the initial client interview through a mediated settlement. Half of the class will represent the husband and the other half will represent

the wife, each group divided into two teams. At various times during the trimester a member of the team will take the role of the client and another will take the role of the lawyer to give team members practical experience. Topics covered include child custody, child support, post-separation support and alimony, equitable distribution, attorney's fees, tax implications, settlement agreements, appraisals, and methods of alternative dispute resolution. *North Carolina Family and Related Laws Annotated* and a calculator are required.

**Advanced Legal Method and Communication, 2 credits (LAW 860)**

This course will expand on the writing, reasoning and research skills learned in the first-year course. Students will prepare documents and oral presentations commonly required of lawyers in any practice setting, focusing on efficient research, creating professional documents through recognition of audience and purpose, effective organization, sound legal reasoning, clarity of writing and effective revision. Students may draft documents for courts, counsel, and clients in common practice areas such as family law, personal injury, criminal defense, or small business.

**Advanced Legal Research, 2 or 3 credits (LAW 661)**

Advanced Legal Research builds on skills introduced in the first year legal research class. It will provide a more extensive discussion of the materials and tools available to perform the research required during their professional life. This course will look at both state and federal materials more extensively than covered in the first year course. International and foreign material will be introduced with the majority of this segment looking at their relationship to the general practice of law, focusing primarily on US treaties and Inter-Governmental Organizations. Cost effective legal instruction will be emphasized throughout the course, focusing on when it is appropriate to use online versus paper resources. The credit hours will be dependent upon whether this is taught as a straight skills course (2 credit) with the assessment based on a series of research assignments or if there is a writing component and oral presentation component (3 credit).

**Advanced Legal Research: Electronic Research, 1 credit (LAW 662)**

This skills course will focus on the use of electronic resources in conducting legal research in a real life environment. We will examine the cost effective means of performing legal research; explore the advanced searching methods for both Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw and examine the other online materials, both subscription and free, and their appropriate use within the research and practice areas.

**Advanced Legal Research: North Carolina Legal Materials, 1 credit (LAW 664)**

This course examines the three branches of the North Carolina Government. Students will learn to find statutes, cases, administrative decisions, and treatises on specific topics. Both print and online sources will be examined. The focus will be on research strategies to solve practical questions that an attorney would encounter in a typical North Carolina practice using cost effective methods.

**Advanced Legal Research: Research for Lawyers in Public Interest and Small Practices, 1 credit (LAW 663)**

This skills course will train students to perform effective research with resources that have low or no direct cost to the user, primarily books and free online sources.

**Advanced Trial Practice and Procedure, 2 credits (LAW 782)**

This course prepares students to handle all aspects of the preparation and trial of relatively complex civil cases. Each student will prepare and try a simulated case. Students will gain experience with discovery tools and techniques, as well as every facet of a trial, including opening statements, introducing evidence, interrogating witnesses, and closing arguments. Trial Practice



and Procedure (3 credits) is a prerequisite to this course. Depending on enrollment, this course may be sectioned.

**Agricultural & Food: Law & Policy, 2-3 credits (LAW 831)**

This course will examine major legal and policy issues surrounding the production, distribution, and consumption of food. The first part of the course will survey the regulation of agriculture and food at the federal, state, and local levels (e.g. the FDA and USDA, state agriculture regulation, zoning and other local ordinances). The second part of the course will consider “hot topics” in contemporary food policy, such as food labeling and consumer choice (e.g. organics, GMO products); hunger, nutrition, and obesity; working conditions in agriculture and food service industries; farmland preservation and rural economic development; and the globalization of the food chain.

**Antitrust Law, 3 credits (LAW 818)**

A study of unfair trade practices and antitrust law. The course will cover topics such as monopolies, price fixing and kickbacks. It will also examine various unfair trade practices and federal and state statutes prohibiting such practices. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course.

**Appellate Practice, 2 credits (LAW 772)**

This course will provide students with the opportunity to develop and refine their analytical and communication skills while drafting an appellate brief and presenting one or more formal oral arguments before a panel of judges. Students will be introduced to the appellate litigation process, standards of appellate review, the rules that govern appellate practice and procedure in the state and federal courts, and will study the use of various rhetorical techniques in the context of appellate argument. A special section of this course may be coordinated with Elon’s Moot Court program.

**Banking Law, 2-3 credits (LAW 810)**

This course is an introductory level course to familiarize students with the key principles of banking law. The course will examine a variety of relevant topics, including the legal and regulatory system governing financial institutions, with an emphasis on banks.

**Bankruptcy, 3 credits (LAW 811)**

This course focuses on the rights and remedies of debtors and their creditors under the United States Bankruptcy Code. In addition, the interplay of the Bankruptcy Code and the provisions of Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code and other provisions of state law are examined. This course will also provide an overview of state law rights and remedies of judgment debtors and creditors.

**Bar Exam Foundations, 4 credits (LAW 822)**

This course is designed to help students maximize their performance on the bar exam in their jurisdiction of choice. In addition to reviewing and organizing critical bar-tested topics and to assisting students develop expert study strategies, the course will focus on the tactics and strategies for writing essay answers and taking multiple choice tests. Topics include Contracts, Torts, Property, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Civil Procedure, Evidence, Constitutional Law, Professional Responsibility, Property, Family Law, Wills and Trusts, and Secured Transactions. Assessment will be based on simulated bar examinations. This is a graded course. Enrollment in this course is limited to third-year students. This course is not available to satisfy the upper level writing requirement.

**Bar Exam Foundations: MBE, 2 Credits (LAW 833)**

The primary goal of this course is to develop expertise in sound analytical processes necessary for multiple choice questions. Instruction will include strategies for answering Multistate Bar Exam style questions as well as deepening student knowledge about the substantive underpinnings of the law. Instruction will occur within the context of core courses, including Contracts, Torts, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Property, Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, and Evidence. All instruction is conducted on-line. This is a graded course. The final examination consists of a three hour simulated Multi-State Bar Examination. All first-year courses are pre-requisites for this course. Enrollment in this course is limited to third-year students.

**Bar Exam Foundations: NC Distinctions, 2 Credits (LAW 835)**

This course is designed to provide students with an in-depth understanding of important distinctions between North Carolina state law and the common law in core law courses. The subjects covered in the course include Contracts, Torts, Criminal Law and Procedure, Property, Evidence, Civil Procedure, Wills, Corporations, and Family law. The course will promote legal analysis utilizing North Carolina Bar Examination essay questions. The course will present instruction in the most successful strategies and tactics for answering short essay questions and provide students opportunities for application and practice. This is a graded course. The final examination will consist of a three hour simulated morning session of the North Carolina essay examination. Enrollment in this course is limited to third-year students.

**Business Drafting, 2 credits (LAW 812)**

This course will teach students the basic principles of contract interpretation, negotiation, and drafting. Emphasis will be placed on drafting contractual agreements that meet clients' needs and effectively anticipate potential legal problems. Students will read and analyze a variety of contracts and contract provisions, and will work both independently and collaboratively to negotiate and draft a series of written contracts. Types of contracts to be studied and drafted may include contracts for the sale of goods, service contracts, agency agreements, employment agreements, and stock or asset purchase agreements. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course.

**Business Fellows Externship Course, 3 credits (LAW 692)**

The Business Fellows Externship course is an upper-level elective which consists of a combination of supervised work hours and periodic sessions with a faculty advisor. It is designed to provide opportunities for students to gain practical legal experience while working under the supervision of in-house counsel in the corporate offices of for-profit organizations in the law school area or under the supervision of an attorney in a governmental, judicial or non-profit law office whose practice concerns itself with business law (examples of possible placements include The North Carolina Small Business and Technology Development Center, Internal Revenue Service, North Carolina Business Court, SEC and FINRA.) The course requires a minimum of 180 hours of work (during a summer session). As part of the Externship, students may observe attorney meetings and strategy sessions, negotiations, client conferences, and participate in litigation strategy development, contract drafting, contract review, and legal research while under the supervision of counsel. The student also will be required to attend periodic sessions with the faculty supervisor. Students are eligible for the Business Fellows Externship after completing one year at the law school. The Director of Externships must approve any placement, prior to the beginning of the course.

**Capstone Leadership Project, 1 credit (LAW 755)**

The Capstone course will provide 3L students an opportunity to apply leadership skills in service of a tangible product, outcome, or effort aimed at creating positive, sustainable impact on the profession, the Law School, the community, or the world. This elective will require approximately

55 credits of work during the second year, including reflective learning activities and preparation of a final report. Projects may be derived from diverse sources and should encourage student initiative and creativity. Thus the final report could take a number of different forms -- e.g., a written document of approximately 10 pages, slide presentation, video/DVD, etc. However, each project report must include a written executive summary that will both describe the project and its outcomes as well as document the specific leadership skills the student deployed in pursuit of the project and what the student learned about his or her strengths and developmental needs as a leader. Project proposals must be submitted in writing to the Director of the Capstone Leadership course or the Director's designee(s) and will be approved based on published criteria. All projects will be approved no later than the start of the second year. Teams of no more than four students may also carry out a single project, provided each student demonstrates equal effort and signs the final report. There will be a minimum of two progress check-ins with the Director of the Capstone Leadership course or the Director's designee(s) during the second year. The course will be graded on a Pass-Fail basis.

**Children and the Law, 2 credits (LAW 776)**

A study of legal issues particularly relevant to children. Topics covered include parental custody and support, emancipation, adoption and reproductive technology, abuse and neglect, delinquent and undisciplined children, and children's First Amendment rights.

**Child Protection and the Law, 2 credits (LAW 778)**

A study of the legal issues relevant to the removal of children from parents in cases of abuse and neglect. Topics covered include juvenile (child protection) court overview, investigation and indicators of child abuse and neglect, working with law enforcement and social services, termination of parental rights, issues of permanency planning and reunification, and child witness evidentiary issues.

**Closely Held Business Enterprises, 2-3 credits (LAW 826)**

This course examines issues relating to privately held businesses, particularly those with relatively few owners. Topics that will be studied include choice of business entity, organizing and funding the entity, including private securities offerings, entity conversions, succession planning, buy-sell arrangements, employment agreements, compensation matters, governance issues, fiduciary obligations, purchase and sale of the business, and accounting principles. Entities that will be covered include corporations, partnerships, and limited liability companies. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course; Income Tax is recommended, not required.

**Commercial Law: Negotiable Instruments, 2 credits (LAW 672)**

A study of the rules of law applicable to transactions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) and other pertinent law, focusing particularly on negotiable instruments, banking and payment systems.

**Commercial Law: Sales, 2 credits (LAW 670)**

A study of the law of contracts for the sale of tangible, movable items. The course focuses on Articles II and IIA of the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Commercial Law: Secured Transactions, 2 or 3 credits (LAW 671)**

A study of the law of secured transactions, focusing on Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Communication Skills for Lawyers, 1 credit (LAW 703)**

This course focuses on the elements of effective oral communications for lawyers. Emphasis will be placed on both the organization of spoken content as well as the delivery of same. The course considers the specific oral communication requirements of such topical areas as appellate advocacy, client interviewing and counseling, and negotiations. Students will deliver several presentations which will be filmed and on which both oral and written feedback by peers and the professor will be given.

**Construction Law, 3 credits, (LAW 806)**

This course will examine the legal issues involved in the construction process, including the rights and obligations of owners, contractors, subcontractors, and design professionals. Topics of study include project design and delivery systems, construction claims and damages, workplace safety, alternative dispute resolution, liens and suretyship. It is anticipated that one class session will be held at the site of a notable construction project in the area. The course includes a classroom component as well as independent writing exercises.

**Consumer Protection, 3 credits (LAW 819)**

This course will survey state and federal consumer protection law. The central theme of the course is the enhancement of efficiency, transparency, access, and fair dealing in consumer markets. Topics to be covered include deceptive trade practices and advertising, consumer privacy, and consumer credit and debt collection practices.

**Copyright Law, 2-3 credits (LAW 763)**

This course will examine copyright law and policy. Its overall purpose is to give students the tools to understand, navigate, form sophisticated views about, and rethink in creative ways a range of current and future copyright law issues. The course thus addresses both copyright logistics (how the law actually works and how to use it) as well as theory and policy (what the law should be and why). The course will focus on U.S. copyright law – federal and state – but will also at key points present comparative views of other copyright systems in order to foster a greater understanding of global copyright practices and policies. A final examination and several graded assignments/quizzes during the course of the trimester are anticipated. Although no prior intellectual property knowledge or experience is required, the course will also complement Elon's other IP offerings, thereby expanding and sharpening students' knowledge of the field.

**Corporate Governance, 2-3 credits (LAW 817)**

This course considers a number of current topics in corporate governance, including the responsibilities of officers, employees, directors, attorneys and accountants in maintaining proper corporate governance practices, shareholder activism, corporate control, international corporate governance for multinational corporations and executive compensation. We will also focus on the various obligations, responsibilities and liabilities of key constituencies in the context of a "governance crises," in particular a corporate investigation with civil and criminal law implications.

**Criminal Pretrial Practice, 3 credits (LAW 803)**

This course will focus on the pretrial strategy and tactics employed by trial lawyers in federal criminal cases. The course will require students to conduct pretrial criminal procedures by following simulated cases. The cases will involve the prosecution of criminal offenses in federal court. Student will alternate handling segments of the case as both a prosecutor and as defense counsel. Students will complete five to six graded homework assignments that will be handed out and turned in over the course of the trimester. The assignments will consist of researching and writing appropriate court documents (e.g. motion to suppress evidence, motion to compel

discovery, etc.). Students also will be prepared to interview witnesses (including the defendant), argue motions, and make charging decisions. Knowledge of Criminal Procedure and Evidence is helpful, but not required.

**Criminal Procedure, 2-3 credits (LAW 732)**

The major constitutional restraints upon the criminal justice process are the focus of this course. Particular attention is given to the provisions of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments to the United States Constitution, including such specific issues as arrest, search and seizure, interrogations and confessions, the exclusionary rule, and the right to defense counsel. Overall consideration is given to the impact of Fourteenth Amendment Due Process requirements throughout state and federal criminal justice systems.

**Critical Race Theory, 2 credits (LAW 752)**

Critical race theory analyzes the intersections between race and the law. Specifically, it examines and critiques race as both a social and legal construct and explores the psychological and practical consequences that flow from those constructs. In this course students will consider the theoretical and intellectual contributions of critical race theory to legal discourse, as well as the liberal and conservative critiques of its tenets. Thus, the course will investigate critical race theory from multiple vantage points to assess both its strengths and its shortcomings as an advocacy tool for attorneys.

**Cyber Security Law, 1 Credit (LAW \_\_\_)**

Cyber attacks are an omnipresent and ever increasing threat to individuals, businesses, government and infrastructure. The legal framework for addressing the risk and the results are lagging the threat but the jurisprudence is developing rapidly, and focusing on assessment, planning, response and disclosure. This course will examine this developing legal framework and the role of legal counsel in the predict, prevent, detect and respond approach to cybersecurity. As part of that examination the course will focus on recent cases, legislation and regulatory action related to the developing standard of care, theories of liability and damages.

**Death Penalty Jurisprudence, 2 credits (LAW 794)**

This course examines capital punishment from a philosophical and jurisprudential perspective. We will consider it in relation to morality, the concept of the rule of law in society, the nature of legal rules and concepts, the nature of judicial decision making, and the relation of law to the social sciences.

**Deposition Workshop, 2-3 credits (LAW 783)**

This course teaches students how to take and defend depositions. Students in the class examine and defend witnesses in a mock deposition setting and receive feedback and critique from experienced litigators on how to improve their deposition skills. In addition to the experiential approach to learning, students also watch demonstrations and engage in discussions of different deposition skills such as the application of the discovery rules, planning discovery, opening the deposition, entering into stipulations, engaging in information gathering, seeking admissions, making and responding to objections, concluding the deposition, and using depositions in motion practice and at trial.

**E-Discovery, 1-2 credits (LAW 789)**

This course examines the dynamic field of electronic discovery. Increasingly, litigation involves issues relating to electronic documents and records. This course addresses the challenges that

electronic information presents for the legal process. Potential topics include preservation and collection of electronically stored information, retention policies, spoliation, sanctions, document review, authentication, and discovery of social media. The course is graded on a pass/fail basis. While not prerequisites, Evidence and Pretrial Litigation are recommended.

**Elder Law, 3 credits (LAW 779)**

This course serves as an introduction to the many legal issues facing elderly persons and societal legal issues caused by an aging demographic. Topics to be addressed include Social Security, Medicare, Long Term Care, Medicaid, Nursing Homes and Housing Alternatives, Guardianship, Trusts, Surrogate Decision Making, Elder Abuse and Ethical Issues with Older Adults.

**Election Law, 2 credits (LAW 791)**

This course will focus on selected topics related to the legal structure of the political process in the United States. Topics covered will typically include the right to participate in the political process, reapportionment, redistricting, racial and political gerrymandering, the role of political parties, money and politics, legal issues in election administration, and remedies for defective elections.

**Employment Discrimination, 3 credits (LAW 823)**

This course will cover theoretical, legal and practice issues around employment discrimination law. The course will focus on U.S. employment discrimination law, primarily Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which prohibits employment discrimination based on “race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.” The course will also examine sexual harassment, the constitutional law of employment discrimination, Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (“ADEA”), affirmative action, and various state and local statutes addressing emerging issues in employment discrimination law, such as employment discrimination based on physical appearance or attractiveness, cyber-harassment, speech codes and “safe spaces,” and privacy violations like revenge pornography. Finally, the course will consider the interaction of the above with other related and emerging fields, like labor law, intellectual property (including trade secrecy), privacy, cyberlaw, cybersecurity and information law. The course will use practice problems (some handed in for evaluation), drafting exercises and administrative procedure (particularly EEOC filings) to apply theoretical principles. Outside speakers from private practice and government will join the class via video.

**Employment Law, 2-3 credits (LAW 714)**

A study of state and federal employment law. Topics covered include common law claims such as breach of contract and wrongful discharge; wage and hour laws; anti-discrimination laws; and concerted labor activity and collective bargaining.

**Entertainment Law, 2 credits (LAW 840)**

A study of the legal and business aspects of the entertainment and sports industries. In particular, the course will emphasize the aspects of contract and intellectual property law unique to this subject area.

**Entity Taxation, 3 credits (LAW 815)**

This course examines the federal income taxation of subchapter C corporations, general partnerships, limited liability companies, subchapter S corporations, limited partnerships, and other business entities. State tax implications may also be addressed. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course.

**Environmental Law, 3 credits (LAW 841)**

The study of state and federal environmental regulation. Relevant state and federal statutes, regulations and case decisions will be examined, with particular emphasis afforded federal statutes such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Comprehensive Environmental Response and Liability Act (CERCLA). Knowledge of the basics of Administrative Law is strongly recommended for students enrolling in this course.

**Estate and Gift Taxation, 2 credits (LAW 771)**

A study of the tax consequences of transfers of property. Applicable federal and state statutes will be examined. The course will be primarily taught through hypothetical estate planning situations and problems highlighting the statutes and rules covered. While Income Taxation is not a prerequisite, it would be helpful to have this background for the course.

**Estate Planning, 2-3 credits (LAW 772)**

This course examines the typical mechanisms used for managing the transfer of property during life and at death, with an introduction to minimization of estate and gift tax liability and estate administration. Selected topics may include: gifting and intrafamily transfers, planning for incapacity, special needs trusts, planning for beneficiaries receiving means-tested benefits, use of the marital deduction, charitable trusts, retirement plan benefits, life insurance, succession planning for owners of closely held businesses and drafting of instruments of transfer and trust agreements. Wills and Trusts is a prerequisite to this course.

**European Union Law, Introduction to, 2-3 credits (LAW 787)**

This course is an introduction to the legal system of the European Union (EU). Emphasis will be placed on the constitutional, administrative and commercial law of the European Union. The topics which will be discussed in this course include the political and economic origins of the EU, its institutional structures (with emphasis on the European Court of Justice), the interrelationship between Community Law and the laws of the twenty-seven member States, and the free movement of goods, workers, capital and services. The course will concentrate on the trans-national protection of economic and social rights and the jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice.

**Family Law, 3 credits (LAW 775)**

This course will cover the variety of laws impacting the family unit and defining the rights and duties of family members. Topics covered will include marriage, annulment, separation, divorce, support, custody and equitable distribution. Course requirements may also include other writing assignments/group activities to provide the students with a sense of the practical side of the practice of family law.

**Federal Courts, 3 credits (LAW 788)**

This course examines jurisdiction of the federal courts over federal questions and diversity of citizenship cases; distribution of powers between state and federal courts; use of state law in federal courts; civil procedure in federal districts courts; and appellate review of federal and state court decisions.

**Federal Indian Law, 2 credits (LAW 739)**

This course examines the legal relationships of American Indians and federally recognized Indian Tribes in the context of Federal Indian Law. In particular, the course focuses on Indian Tribal sovereignty and its intersection with the Federal and State governments with emphasis on Tribal Court jurisdiction, property rights, the place of the Tribes within the constitutional framework of

the Federal government, and relationship between Tribal governments and the States. This course will have a special emphasis on the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians located in North Carolina.

**Federal Tax Practice and Procedure, 2 credits (LAW 729)**

This course will provide an overview of federal civil tax procedure, including practice before the Internal Revenue Service and the United States Tax Court. Using a practical approach, the course will cover typical tax controversies from the examination phase through litigation. Issues covered will include the structure of the IRS, the examination phase, the administrative appeals process, statute of limitations, assessment procedure, taxpayer rights, investigative authority of the IRS, and penalties.

**First Amendment, 3 credits (LAW 722)**

This course deals with the complex and ever-evolving jurisprudence regarding the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Primary emphasis will be on the many facets of freedom of expression, freedom of religion, and the Establishment Clause.

**First Amendment: Religion, 2 credits (LAW 754)**

This course examines the tensions inherent in the First Amendment's providing for free exercise and prohibiting the establishment of religion, exploring how principles of neutrality, voluntarism, separation, and accommodation have influenced the Supreme Court's decisions. Potential topics include nondiscrimination, endorsement, coercion, public funding as it relates to religious programs and institutions, compelled exemptions, and nongovernmental actions and religion.

**First Amendment: Speech, 2-3 credits (LAW 757)**

This course surveys the Free Speech clause of the First Amendment, and considers both the theory underlying the clause and judicial interpretations of the extent of its protections. Potential topics include hate speech, political speech, freedom of association, indecency and obscenity, tort law and the First Amendment, access to the media, commercial speech, and copyright. We will pay particular attention to the application of free speech rules, doctrines, and values to emerging technologies.

**Gender and the Law, 2 credits (LAW 752)**

This course aims to explore the socially constructed norms and frameworks enabling the legal regulation of human sexuality. The course will offer students a comparative law perspective on issues of sexual orientation, gender identity and justice, while providing the critical tools required to evaluate a host of legislative and judicial responses to gender and sexuality. The readings will consist of case law, legal scholarship, and commentary. The course will also include readings and discussions of the various approaches taken by feminist legal theorists in analyzing the legal system and the norms it perpetuates. Topics that will be covered include marriage and alternative relationships, workplace discrimination and sex-role stereotyping, the regulation of sexuality, rape and sex-based violence, abortion, and issues within gender law and legal theory relating specifically to minority women.

**General Externship, 3 credits (LAW 690)**

The General Externship course is a component of the Law School's Externship Program, which is designed to provide opportunities for students to gain practical legal experience while working under the supervision of attorneys and judges. The General Externship course is an upper-level elective which consists of a combination of supervised work hours and periodic sessions with a faculty advisor. The course requires a minimum of 130 hours of work during the semester or trimester under the supervision of a state or federal government attorney, a judicial officer serving



in a state and/or federal court, an attorney employed by a non-profit public service organization or an attorney in private practice. As part of the Externship work, students may observe client conferences, staff attorney meetings, negotiations, plea bargains, motion arguments, appellate arguments, trials, conferences, and other aspects of the legal process while under the supervision of an attorney or judicial officer. In addition, the student may research legal and procedural matters and perform such other tasks to support the legal functions, as the supervising attorney or judicial officer may require. In addition to the minimum hours of supervised work, the Externship course requires students to participate in sessions with a faculty advisor and submit reflective written work and time records. Students are eligible for the General Externship course after completing two or three or four trimesters at the law school, depending on the particular externship placement requirements. Students must have their placements approved by the Externship Director in order to register for the course.

#### **Guardian Ad Litem Clinic, 4 credits (LAW 758)**

In this clinic, students will work under the supervision of a faculty member to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in appeals of juvenile matters in the North Carolina Court of Appeals and North Carolina Supreme Court, assigned to the clinic by the Guardian Ad Litem Appellate Counsel for the state. It is anticipated that one or two cases will be assigned each trimester. Enrollment is limited to 6 students per trimester. Classroom sessions will include instruction on relevant North Carolina statutory and case law related to abused and neglected children and the appellate rules of North Carolina generally and specific to juvenile cases. The faculty will also meet with students outside of the classroom to discuss the case, formulate strategies and issues to pursue on the appeal, formulate a research strategy, outline arguments for the brief, review drafts of the brief and finalize the brief before submission to the appellate court. In handling an appeal, the members of the class will do many or all of the following: review trial transcripts and juvenile records; review and settle the record on appeal; respond to appellate motions and writs; draft and file Guardian ad Litem Appellee Briefs; fulfill statutory mandates to provide and promote the best interests of juveniles in appellate proceedings; provide a voice for abused and neglected children in North Carolina; and help achieve safety and permanency in a child's life. Students will work enough hours each week to satisfy the requirements for the number of credit hours awarded for the course. While students will learn some substantive and procedural law specific to juvenile matters, the primary learning objective of the course is for students to develop and hone their analytical, legal writing, legal research and advocacy skills. Professional Responsibility is a prerequisite to the course, and Child Protection and the Law, Children and the Legal System and similar courses focused on children's are recommended as a pre- or co-requisite. Students must be eligible for NC State Bar Limited Practice Certification. **This course is graded on a Pass/Fail basis. All clinical courses at the law school are subject to a "no drop" policy. This means that after the course registration period has closed, students will be permitted to drop a clinical course only with the permission of the clinical faculty.**

#### **Health Law, 2 credits (LAW 745)**

This course will cover the major legal issues related to the health care system. Health care decision making through various legal documents, e.g., health care powers of attorney and living wills, will be addressed. In addition, issues related to representing medical personnel and hospitals, including defense of medical malpractice suits, will be discussed.

#### **Humanitarian Immigration Law Clinic, 4 credits (LAW 768)**

The Clinic will be designed to give students practical experience working on a variety of immigration matters related to refugees and asylees who have faced human rights violations. Students will be responsible for all aspects of case management for the matters assigned to them.

Responsibilities include meeting with clients, performing intake interviews, analyzing cases for legal remedy, gathering evidence, drafting and filing applications and briefs and maintaining client correspondence. Students will have the opportunity to observe and participate in federal administrative hearings before the Dept. of Homeland Security and immigration courts. Students will represent clients in immigration matters before federal administrative agencies under the supervision of the professor/counsel. The focus of the clinic will be refugee and asylee legal services. Typically these will involve applications for permanent residence, citizenship applications, family reunification petitions, travel and employment authorization, and applications for asylum. Students must have completed all of the first-year requirements and must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in Professional Responsibility. Students will be awarded a grade on a Pass/Fail basis. The clinic has no examination component. Student assessment will be based on a combination of casework performance and class participation. The principle research materials required for the clinic are currently available through existing on-line materials. ***All clinical courses at the law school are subject to a “no drop” policy. This means that after the course registration period has closed, students will be permitted to drop a clinical course only with the permission of the clinical faculty.***

### **Immigration Law, 3 credits (LAW 740)**

This course will examine United States immigration and naturalization law. Federal statutes and regulations addressing admission of foreign nationals, removal, citizenship, and employment will be addressed.

### **In-House Corporate Practice, 2 credits (LAW 699)**

This course focuses on the role of "in-house" legal counsel in the corporate context. The organization of the corporate law department will be discussed, including those functions within corporations handled generally by in-house lawyers and the relationship of in-house counsel to outside counsel. A sampling of specialties of in-house corporate practice will be presented, as well as the in-house lawyer's role in transactional matters such as mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and major contract projects. Class sessions will frequently include visiting General Counsel who will speak on issues relevant to their practices. Contemporary business issues will be discussed and students will be required to keep current by reading business papers and journals. Students will be graded on the basis of a final paper. Business Associations is a pre- or co-requisite.

### **In-House Counsel Externship, 3 Credits (LAW 691)**

The In-House Counsel Externship Course is a component of the Law School's Externship Program, which is designed to provide opportunities for students to gain practical legal experience while working under the supervision of in-house counsel in the corporate offices of for-profit organizations in the law school area. The In-House Counsel Externship Course is an upper-level elective which consists of a combination of supervised, unpaid work hours and periodic sessions with a faculty advisor. As part of supervised Externship work, students may observe attorney meetings and strategy sessions, negotiations, client conferences, and participate in litigation strategy development, contract drafting, contract review and legal research while under the supervision of corporate counsel.

In addition to the minimum hours of supervised work, the Externship course requires students to participate in sessions with a faculty advisor and submit reflective written work and time records. Students are eligible for the In-House Counsel Externship Course after completing four trimesters at the law school. The Externship Director or Designated Faculty Advisor must approve proposed Externships prior to registration in the In-House Counsel Externship course.

Students may not receive any compensation for their work in the Externship course. Business Associations is a prerequisite course for the In-House Counsel Externship.

**NOTE:**

3 credits = 130 hours of work (Spring, Summer, and Fall)

**Income Taxation, 3 credits (LAW 712)**

A study of the basic principles of federal taxation of income. This course focuses primarily on the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code addressing taxation of individuals. Concepts such as adjusted gross income, exemptions, deductions, and tax credits will be examined.

**Independent Study, 1-3 credits (LAW 999 A, B, C)**

This course will allow students to engage in independent legal research and writing under the supervision of a full-time faculty member. The work must involve the production of a significant research paper or comparable project. Students may not enroll in an Independent Study without written permission by the supervising faculty member and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The written permission must identify the number of credits to be awarded to the student upon satisfactory completion of the course. A student may not receive more than four credits through Independent Study courses. Independent Studies may be graded P/F at the discretion of the supervising faculty member.

**Influence and Responsibility of the Lawyer as a Public Citizen, 3 credits (LAW 704)**

This course is designed to provoke students to wrestle with the meaning of the lawyer's ethical mandate to be a "public citizen with a special responsibility for the quality of justice." The initial classes will focus on law and social responsibility through study of, among other things, the Preamble to the Rules of Professional Conduct, select portions of the U.S. and N.C. Constitutions, scholarly articles, and other materials which inform on the issue of a lawyer's role in society. Later class sessions will be devoted to each of the following legal matters of public concern: 1) the role of law as a tool for social change; 2) the origins and ramifications of corporate personhood; 3) poverty and the availability of legal services; and, 4) market-based reforms of public education. Other topics relevant to current events and student interests will also be studied and discussed. Readings will include court decisions, briefs, law review articles, and relevant writings from other disciplines. The instructor will facilitate the discussions of the selected readings to deeply involve students in publicly questioning, challenging, and defending arguments central to the weekly topic(s). Guest speakers may be invited to selected class sessions and video resources will be used as needed. Emphasis will be placed on the thoughtful articulation of professional ethical issues raised by the readings. This course will require a paper, which may satisfy the upper-level writing requirement.

**Innovation in Professional Services, 1 credit (LAW \_\_)**

This course will examine various innovation concepts and how they apply to professional services. The class will introduce students to the many facets of disruptive innovation in the professional services firm (PSF) context, including the application of artificial intelligence to legal problem solving, data analytics, changes to the traditional employer / employee model (the 'future of work'), alternative revenue / business models applicable to PSFs, and incorporating lean startup / design thinking theory into the practice of law.

**Insurance Law, 2-3 credits (LAW 746)**

This course covers the basics of insurance law, including the nature of insurance, insurance contract formation and interpretation, and government regulation of the insurance industry. Various types of insurance, such as property, health, life, and disability, will be covered.

**Intellectual Property, 3 credits (LAW 716)**

This course covers the basic principles of intellectual property law in the United States and internationally. The course provides an overview of the law governing the securing and exploitation of property and other rights in ideas, including protection by patents, copyrights, trademarks, state legislation, and the common law.

**Intellectual Property (International Arena), 3 credits (LAW 709)**

This course surveys intellectual property (IP) law and policy, focusing on the international arena. The course will consider global debates regarding the character and desired scope of IP, considering successful and failed attempts at harmonization. The course will also examine the principal multilateral IP treaties and international dispute settlement mechanisms, and compare various aspects of foreign intellectual property regimes with those of the United States. Knowledge of Intellectual Property Law is recommended.

**International Commercial Arbitration, 2 credits (LAW 744)**

The first half of this course, a traditional classroom component, examines the nature of international arbitration including its advantages and disadvantages, as a form of dispute resolution in international trade. This part of the course will be taught in an intensive mode and will be completed by early to mid-October. The second half of the course will consist of students researching and preparing the first memorandum for the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. This course is limited to third-year students. It is highly recommended that students have the course on Sales prior to this course. This course is a prerequisite for participation in the Vis Moot Competition in the spring. Any student who is not academically ranked in the top 20% of the class at the end of the fall trimester will not be selected for the Vis Moot Competition. Students are advised to discuss the course with the instructor to confirm their registration and participation in the course before classes commence. Students must be preapproved by the Professor before registering for this class.

**International Business Law, 3 credits (LAW 741)**

This course provides students with an opportunity to see the application of business law principles through the intensive study of U.S.-based businesses operating abroad. Topics covered in the course include the study of the regulatory requirements for operating a business abroad, including tax, intellectual property, environmental and labor considerations. Students in the course also explore the business considerations of operation abroad, such as foreign exchange issues, finance considerations, and the assessment of socioeconomic and political condition of off-shore destinations. The course may include a travel component.

**International Criminal Tribunals and Military Commissions, 2 credits (LAW 828)**

This course will look at the history and legal significance of International Criminal Tribunals and military commissions from the mid- 19<sup>th</sup> century until the present. It will focus not only on the Nuremberg and Tokyo IMT's, the ICTR, the ICTY, the ICC, and the military commission trials at Guantanamo, but also on the evolution of contemporary international criminal and humanitarian law during this period. It will also look more deeply at the procedural and legal underpinnings of such tribunals and commissions going back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly the role of the international Committee of the Red Cross as the driving force in the development of international humanitarian law.

**International Humanitarian Law, 3 credits (LAW 827)**

This course will focus on the evolution of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the development of a responsive judicial system over the past two centuries. It will begin with a brief look at the history of war crimes and the laws of armed conflict going back to antiquity, and then concentrate on the beginning of the development of the legal and judicial underpinnings of IHL in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It will then discuss the background and history of the early Geneva Conventions, the 1899 and 1907 Hague Conferences and resulting conventions, and the efforts by the international community to deal judicially with the war crimes committed during World War I. It will also explore the allies' more successful efforts to bring to justice perpetrators of the massive war crimes committed during World War II through the Nuremberg and Tokyo International Military trials as well as the thousands of military commission and national trials throughout Europe and Asia. It will also look at the background and history of the Genocide Convention, the postwar Geneva Conventions as well as the crimes and trials before the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, the Extraordinary Chambers before the Courts of Cambodia, and the U.S. Military Commission trials in Guantanamo. It will also explore questions about cultural genocide and other legal concepts and precedents that have developed in relation to modern unconventional warfare.

**International Intellectual Property, 2 credits (LAW 836)**

This two credit course with a travel component concerns International Intellectual Property. Readings and 2 pre-trip class meetings will introduce students to international aspects of intellectual property (IP) law and policy. We will examine the principal multilateral IP treaties and compare various aspects of foreign intellectual property regimes with those of the United States. The course travel components include visits to the several international and regional IP offices located in The Hague, Netherlands. Meetings with representatives of the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) and the European Union Intellectual Property Office will be planned. We also plan to visit with Italian attorneys and representatives of companies who are strong proponents of Geographical Indicators (GIs) that seek to preserve agricultural policy and cultural heritage. Knowledge of Intellectual Property Law is recommended.

**International Law: Human Rights, 3 credits (LAW 756)**

This course will examine human rights and their status as international law and the major issues that confront the world in the implementation and enforcement of that law. Potential topics include the nature and foundation of international human rights law, examination of the core human rights treaties including the International Bill of Human Rights, the role of the United Nations and the Human Rights Council, Regional Human Rights systems, available procedures for human rights violations, humanitarian intervention, and accountability mechanisms for human rights violators. Students are not required to have any prior knowledge of international law or human rights to undertake this course.

**International Law: Private, Conflicts of Law, 2-3 credits (LAW 748)**

This course will examine how the answer to a legal problem is affected by the fact that the elements of the problem have contacts with more than one jurisdiction. Potential topics include the limits of each state's power to regulate international disputes; policies underlying the recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments, threshold problems in the forum such as notice and proof, and consideration of specialized areas such as property, family law, administration of estates, and international partnerships and corporations. This course will require a paper, which may satisfy the upper-level writing requirement.

**International Law: Public, 2-3 credits (LAW 742)**

A study of the basic rules and principles governing the conduct of nation-states and international organizations and their relations with each other. Topics include the law of treaties and customary law, the relationship between international law and municipal law, human rights law, the use of force in international relations, and international criminal law.

**International Law: Refugee and Asylum, 2 credits (LAW 743)**

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the international legal regime for the protection of involuntary migrants. It critically assesses the legal right of states to exclude aliens, and the reasons that refugees are exempted from systems of migration control. The essential premise of the course is that refugee law should be understood as a mode of human rights protection, the viability of which requires striking a balance between the needs of the victims of human rights abuse, and the legitimate aspirations of the countries to which they flee. The course will address the legal definition of a refugee, refugee rights, and the institutional structures through which protection is accomplished. It will define and apply contemporary legal standards, situate United States asylum law within its international legal context, and subject the present protection regime to critical scrutiny.

**International Public Law, 2 credits (LAW837A)**

This is a two credit course with a travel component. Readings, two pre-trip class meetings, and on-line instructional modules will introduce students to the basic rules, principles, and structures of international law. The course examines the inception, formation, and current workings of the legal institutions that govern and influence world law and politics. Over the term, we will examine 1) the basic principles of the international legal system, 2) the major forms of international law, 3) the role and influence of international organizations and non-state actors, 4) the international legal rules that govern trade, human rights, the use of force, and war crimes, and 6) the nature of international law itself, including questions of compliance, effectiveness, and enforcement. The course travel component includes visits to the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, visits with local lawyers who work in the areas of public international law and human rights, and visits to other regional points of interest, both legal and cultural. Grading will be based upon class participation, assignment completion, and a culminating presentation made during one or two post-trip class meetings.

**Internet Law, 3 credits (LAW 747)**

This course examines the legal issues triggered by the emergence of the Internet. Topics covered include the regulation of Internet access and domain names; contract formation, execution and enforceability; personal jurisdiction and choice of law; trademark and copyright infringement; and privacy concerns.

**Judicial Process, 2 credits (LAW 790)**

Beginning with the ideas of Justice Benjamin Cardozo in his classic, *The Judicial Process*, and ending with the writings of modern, influential judges, the course explores the methodologies and other considerations that influence judicial decision making, including constitutional and statutory interpretation, illustrated by examining significant judicial decisions and the lives and careers of some of the judges who made them.

**Labor Law, 3 credits (LAW 702)**

This course examines labor-management relations in socio-legal perspective, drawing on both traditional legal materials (i.e. statutes, regulations, judicial opinions) and social research (i.e. theoretical perspectives & empirical studies from the social sciences). The aim of the course is to

provide students with an overview of significant issues and doctrines in labor law, introduce students to theory and research on labor unions and labor-management relations, and encourage students to consider how insights from social theory and research can inform legal practice.

**Land Use Planning, 3 credits (LAW 807)**

This course examines selected problems in the law of zoning, subdivision control, and urban planning, with emphasis on their effect on the form and shape of the built environment in which we live. Topics include subdivision exactions; conditional use permits, variances, and related zoning mechanisms; issues of sprawl, smart growth and the development of desirable places to live; the role of local and state government as well as the courts; the takings clause of the U.S. Constitution and other constraints on the exercise of power in controlling land use.

**Law and Humanities, 2 credits (LAW 701)**

This course explores the integration of humanities-based studies with the study of law and the increasingly rich and diverse scholarship in areas such as legal philosophy, legal history, law and literature, and law and religion.

**Law Firm Management, 1 credit (LAW 830)**

This course will acquaint students with the data and skills necessary for delivery of legal services today and in the future. Topics and skills addressed include management theory and techniques, interviewing, counseling, negotiations, systems analysis and design, technology and professional responsibility. Lecture, demonstration, and clinical stimulations will be utilized.

**Law Review, 1 credit (LAW 996)**

Subject to the approval by the Elon Law Review faculty advisor, students on the Elon Law Review may receive one credit for each academic trimester in which the students successfully fulfill their duties as a members of the Elon Law Review Staff Member or Editorial Board Member. The Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor receive two credit hours for a total of two academic trimesters in which they successfully fulfill their duties. No student may receive more than two credits for law review activities per trimester. Law review credits are awarded on a pass/fail basis. All Elon Law Review staff members are required to submit an article-length note of publishable quality, subject to the guidelines in the Law Review Bylaws, by the end of their first year as members on Elon Law Review. The note must be written independent of a class; students may not submit a paper that was also written for class credit.

**Leadership Fellows: General Externship, 3 credits (LAW 689)**

The Leadership Fellows General Externship course is an upper-level elective which consists of a combination of supervised work hours and periodic sessions with a faculty advisor. The course requires a minimum of 180 hours of work (during Summer semester) of a state or federal government attorney, including work in all levels of attorney general, prosecutorial and public defender offices in the state and federal systems, state and federal governmental agencies such as the Social Security Administration, EEOC, EPA, etc. The Leadership Fellows General Externship also requires students to participate in class sessions with a faculty advisor. As part of the Externship, students may observe client conferences, staff attorney meetings, negotiations, plea bargains, motion arguments, appellate arguments, trials, conferences, and other aspects of the legal process while under the supervision of a governmental attorney. In addition, the student may research legal and procedural matters and perform such other tasks to support the legal functions, as the

supervising attorney may require. The student also will be required to attend periodic sessions with the faculty supervisor. Students are eligible for the Leadership Fellows General Externship after completing three trimesters at the law school.

### **Legal Malpractice and Prevention, 2 credits (LAW 842)**

The purpose of this course is to examine the law of professional negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, constructive fraud, and other torts affecting attorneys in the practice of law, including vicarious liability, and to inform students about good habits and skills in the practice of law to prevent being accused of malpractice. The scope of the course will include a study of legal malpractice principles recognized in North Carolina and other states, such as the elements of legal malpractice claims and defenses. In addition to liability to clients and third parties, disciplinary proceedings before the State Bar will be examined. The curriculum will focus on typical and atypical errors that lawyers make. The curriculum will also include an examination of “claims made” liability insurance available to lawyers.

### **Legal Process and Public Policy, 2-3 credits (LAW 816)**

Legislative institutions are the cornerstone of American democracy. As the most accessible branch of government, legislatures are the primary avenue through which public policy is considered and becomes law. This course will provide an overview of the legislative process, and examine the ways in which businesses, trade associations, and public interest groups participate in the federal legislative and regulatory processes to influence the development of public policy. The course will consider the role of governmental relations and legislative attorneys in these processes and the development of public policy through an examination of a series of current policy issues, ranging from budget and tax policy to voting rights, environmental issues, and property rights, among others. In addition, we will consider how courts interpret the product of the legislative process and the legitimizing characteristics of the institution.

### **Legislation, 2 credits (LAW 799)**

Legislative institutions are the cornerstone of American democracy. As the primary, perhaps pre-eminent and most accessible branch of government, legislatures are the avenue through which public policy is considered and becomes law. This course will provide an overview of the legislative process, from the initial stages of developing public policy to enactment of legislation. In addition, we will consider how courts interpret the product of the legislative process and the legitimizing characteristics of legislative institutions.

### **Mastering Legal Analysis, 1-3 credits (LAW 683)**

Mastering Legal Analysis is designed to improve students’ ability to de-construct legal rules, to explain and evaluate the significance of facts, to thoroughly support conclusions of law, and to effectively organize content. These skills are critical in applying law to the hypothetical questions typical of both law school and bar exams. The hands-on learning methodology used in the course will include in-class analytical and writing work in both individual and group settings.

### **Media and Communications Law & Policy, 3 credits (LAW 777)**

This course will examine major law and policy issues relating to the communications media, including newspapers, broadcast television and radio, cable, and the Internet. Topics will include the law governing defamation, indecency, invasions of privacy, access to information, national security reporting, protection of journalistic sources, political speech, and government regulation of electronic media. In addition to the relevant constitutional, common, statutory, and regulatory law, we will discuss real-world examples arising from the practice of newsgathering and dissemination, as well as a number of issues concerning international freedom of expression. The course will also



pay particular attention to the application of current law to Internet speech and social media. First Amendment is not a required prerequisite for this course, though the course will touch on a number of Speech and Press Clause-related constitutional issues.

### **Mergers and Acquisitions, 3 credits (LAW 814)**

This course explores the principal legal issues and also the practical realities of negotiated corporate acquisitions and mergers. Business deals will be analyzed from inception to closing, with the focus on the lawyer's role in each phase of a transaction. The class will provide students with the opportunity to complete tasks that junior transactional associates are commonly expected to undertake. Throughout the trimester there will be various simulations and fact patterns that will allow students to see and participate in many aspects of a basic business transaction. Students will review and discuss due diligence materials and an example acquisition agreement as well as participate in other aspects of a hypothetical transaction. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course.

### **Mediation, 3 credits (LAW 804)**

An introductory exploration of mediation as a method of dispute resolution, this course covers mediation theory, skills, and perspectives in a variety of areas of law. Students will learn the basic skills to serve as both a neutral mediator and to represent clients as a lawyer during the mediation process. Students will develop a sophisticated understanding of mediation and will learn when to use mediation as a settlement process. In addition to assigned readings and class discussion, learning objectives will be met through in class role-plays and written analysis of mediation role-plays.

### **Military Justice, 3 credits (LAW 706)**

This course provides an overview of the nature and sources of military law, including the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The course explores various topics at the intersection of military and criminal law, including but not limited to the following: non-judicial punishment, court martial, and Article 32a of the UCMJ. The course will also examine contemporary topics relating to the legal aspects of United States military operations throughout the world, including rules of engagement, law of armed conflict, and the role of the military lawyer in assisting to implement U.S. foreign policy.

### **Mock Trial Competition, 1-2 credits (LAW 786)**

Credit is awarded to students who successfully compete in and/or support a mock trial team in participation in regional and/or national competitions. Successful completion of these requirements above and participation in one competition will receive 1 credit. Students who compete in two competitions will receive 2 credits. This course is graded on a pass/fail basis.

### **Moot Court/Appellate Advocacy Competition, 1-2 credits (LAW 900)**

Credit is awarded to students who successfully complete at least three trimesters of service on the Moot Court Board and who compete in at least one interscholastic Moot Court competition, whereby they independently or as a member of a team prepare an appellate brief, practice regularly with faculty coaches and advisors for oral argument and present an oral argument in the competition. Successful completion of these requirements above and participation in one competition will receive 1 credit. Students who complete in two competitions will receive 2 credits. This course is graded on a pass/fail basis.

### **Negotiations, 3 credits (LAW 759)**

All lawyers must negotiate. Whether you plan to be a commercial lawyer, a family lawyer, a criminal lawyer, a government lawyer or any other type of lawyer, you will be negotiating with other attorneys, clients, and court personnel. This class, combining theory and practice, aims to improve both your understanding of negotiation and your effectiveness as a negotiator. Students will engage in multiple negotiations. Drawing on negotiation scholarship from both legal and non-legal perspectives, the readings, lectures and discussions will provide students with strategies and techniques for negotiating more effectively and a framework for analyzing their own negotiating ability.

### **Non-Profit Organizations, 2-3 credits (LAW 769)**

This course will begin by examining the laws related to the organization and incorporation, governance, and operation of non-profit organizations. In particular, the requirements for tax exemption under Section 501(c) of the federal Internal Revenue Code, will be addressed. In addition, laws and techniques relevant to the operation of non-profit organizations will be examined. Business Associations is a prerequisite or co-requisite to this course.

### **Patent Litigation, 3 credits LAW 798A**

The number of patent lawsuits filed in 2013 hit a new record high of 6,500 cases, a 25% increase over 2012. Patent litigation remains one of the fast growing types of complex business litigation. This course will address the special issues arising from the assertion that a patent is infringed by the defendant's activities. Common questions that we will consider from the litigation perspective include whether the defendant makes, uses or sells something that infringes the claims of a patent, whether the invention truly is novel and "nonobvious" over the "prior art," whether the invention is a patent ineligible abstract idea, and how the claim terms should be construed. Related topics will include use of pleadings, discovery, summary judgment and related litigation stages in the patent litigation context. Readings and class discussion will be supplemented by occasional guest speakers. Ability (undergraduate engineering or scientific degree) to sit for patent bar is not required to take this class nor to litigate patent cases.

### **Pretrial Litigation, 3-4 credits (LAW 802)**

This course covers the major steps in the pretrial litigation process. Topics covered include litigation planning, fact investigation, legal research, pleading, discovery, pretrial motions, and settlement strategy. This course is recommended for third-year students who have a working knowledge of evidence.

### **Prisoners' Rights, 2 credits (LAW 829)**

This course examines imprisonment of convicted offenders with a focus on the government's power to punish by imprisonment, the limits of that power, and the responsibilities the government assumes when exercising it. Primary emphasis will be on topics related to prisoner civil rights litigation including the history of prisoner litigation, procedural matters, prisoner rights, conditions of confinement, and access to courts. Emerging topics in current prisoner litigation will be addressed.

### **Real Estate Transactions, 3 credits (LAW 728)**

This course deals with residential and commercial real estate transactions and the different steps in a real estate transaction from the lawyer's initial contact with the client to the final closing of the transaction. Topics to be covered include: the market context for real estate transactions; purchase and sale agreements; the work of realtors; listing agreements with realtors; title insurance; financing arrangements; surveys and descriptions; deeds; mortgages; closing documents involved

in a real estate closing; planned unit developments; condominiums; leases; and the ethical responsibilities of the attorney in representing the parties to a typical transaction.

**Remedies, 3 credits (LAW 795)**

This course examines the various remedies available to claimants in civil litigation. It will cover damages, including compensatory, punitive and statutory damages. Equitable remedies such as injunctions and accountings will also be covered. Restitutionary remedies will also be addressed.

**Securities Regulation, 3 credits (LAW 713)**

A study of United States and state legislation and regulations affecting the issuance and trading of corporate securities. The course will focus particularly on the provisions of the 1933 Securities Act and the 1934 Securities Exchange Act. It will also examine the development of the Securities Exchange Commission and its responsibilities and powers in regulating securities. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course.

**The Semester in Practice Legal Externship Program, 7-11 credits for externship component; 2 credits for class component (LAW 860)**

The Semester in Practice Externship Program is designed for qualified third-year law students who wish to work full-time in an approved governmental, judicial, non-profit or for-profit externship, under the supervision of a lawyer, with the support of a faculty member who serves as teacher, coach and mentor. This off-campus program will support students who obtain full-time externships in government, judicial, non-profit or for-profit organizations. Students will work 40 hours per week (for 11 credits) at their externship and participate in a concurrent academic component, which will include a meeting with faculty prior to the beginning of the semester in practice, written reflective assignments, telephonic conferences and tutorials and at least one site visit meeting with the student, supervising site attorney or judge and professor. Students will keep weekly timesheets. Supervising attorneys evaluate students in writing mid-term and at the end of the semester. Students will receive 13 credit hours, graded pass/fail (11 of the 13 credit hours are awarded for successful completion of 40 hours of work, per week during the semester, at the student's placement; 2 of the 13 credit hours are awarded for successful completion of the evening seminar, paper and related assignments). Students accepted into the program will pay all standard tuition and fees required by their enrollment at the Elon University School of Law and are eligible for financial aid through the law school. Students are responsible for their own housing and transportation. Registration for the semester in practice externship is by approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. In assessing a student's application to register for the Program, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will consider various factors indicating whether taking a semester away from the law school could comprise the student's academic development or ability to succeed on the licensure examination. Interested applicants must be third-year law students during their proposed semester in practice and must have been accepted into an externship. Students may only participate in the Semester in Practice program during one semester of law school. Successful applicants will demonstrate strong character and fitness for practice, independent judgment and professional and personal organizational skills. The application form and requirements are posted on the Registrar's page of the law school website.

**Small Business and Entrepreneurship Clinic, 3-6 credits (LAW 767)**

The Small Business and Entrepreneurship Clinic is a law office which provides business-related legal services to entrepreneurs and small business owners who would not otherwise be able to afford legal representation. Students participating in the clinic will develop analytical, planning, editorial and

counseling skills in the context of client projects and reality-grounded class work. Services provided by the clinic include, but are not limited to, choice of entity advising, organizational document drafting and review, contract review and drafting, employment and human resource advising, regulatory compliance, and drafting financing documentation. To be eligible for the clinic, students must have completed all of the first-year requirements and have undertaken Professional Responsibility and Business Associations. Business Drafting, though not required, is strongly encouraged. Students are required to apply for NC State Bar Limited Practice Certification. *All clinical courses at the law school are subject to a “no drop” policy. This means that after the course registration period has closed, students will be permitted to drop a clinical course only with the permission of the clinical faculty.*

### **Sports Law, Issues in, 2 credits (LAW 792)**

This course touches on various issues in sports law, from free agency, to unions, to Title IX, to drug testing and the role of agents. These principles cut across subject matter domains, including contracts law, labor law, evidence, administrative law and constitutional law. The course elicits basic principles involved in professional and college sports and applies them to real world situations.

### **State and Local Government, 2 credits (LAW 793)**

A study of the creation and the powers and responsibilities of the state and its branches of government and various agencies, counties, cities, and other municipal corporations and their officers and citizens.

### **Street Law, 2 credits (LAW 737)**

This two-credit course introduces law students to teaching law to non-lawyers. In addition to teaching, law students meet weekly for one hour or more in the law school to discuss legal doctrine and pedagogy, as well as write an academic critique of a related-legal topic as a final paper. Course subject areas include introduction to the legal system, criminal law, torts, consumer law, and trial advocacy. The law students generally will be assigned to teach in a local area middle or high school after completing required training and classroom preparation skills. The law students will teach at least two hours a week in these middle or high schools on a trimester-long basis, generally culminating in a mock trial. Advocacy skills are developed in the mock trial settings. The law students prepare the middle or high school students to perform opening statements, direct and cross-examinations, and closing arguments. Through these trials, law students refine their knowledge of Evidence, develop communication skills and learn to lead others in a collaborative enterprise. The law school class meetings focus on pertinent substantive law areas, review teaching methodologies and engage in experiential learning. The final paper requires a thesis statement describing its main goal, footnotes or endnotes where applicable, and a critique of a substantive law issue. The course will be offered pass/fail or for a numerical grade at the professor’s discretion.

### **Tax Policy Perspectives, 2 credits (LAW 707)**

This course will examine major policy issues relating to our federal and state tax systems. Potential topics include the progressive nature of the income tax, the use of tax expenditures rather than direct subsidies, the role and future of the corporate income tax and the estate and gift tax systems (such as a flat tax or a value-added tax). Students are expected to be familiar with basic concepts of taxation, such as income, deductions, and credits, and to have an interest in how tax policy shapes and reflects our societal priorities. This course will require a paper, which may satisfy the upper-level writing requirement. Pre-requisite: Federal Income Taxation.

### **Trade Secrets, 2 credits (LAW 805)**

This course examines trade secret law, often viewed as a fourth intellectual property regime, by addressing the law and theory applicable to the protection of confidential and proprietary business information ranging from formulas to customer lists. It will include the common law development of trade secrets as well as the philosophical underpinnings in contract, property, and tort law, and the development to the present through the Restatement and the Uniform Trade Secrets Act. It will also examine the relationships between federal and state trade secret law, the relationships between trade secret law and the other three intellectual property regimes, and the relationships between trade secret law and other areas of law, such as law governing business relationships and government operations.

### **Trial Practice and Procedure, 3 credits (LAW 781)**

Trial Practice and Procedure (TPP) is designed to develop basic advocacy skills for use in courtrooms and other legal settings. In the TPP course, students first learn and perform the various aspects of the trial of a lawsuit, including the development of a theory and theme, opening statements, direct and cross examination of lay witnesses, the use and introduction of demonstrative evidence, and closing arguments. Skills are practiced in weekly courtroom simulations. All simulations are done in a small group setting; some simulations may be videotaped. Students are also required to prepare for and conduct a trial to verdict. The final trial serves as the course's final exam. TPP is a three-credit course, meeting weekly. The TPP course also includes two intensive "workshop" sessions which will be scheduled during other available times, subject to the schedules of students and faculty. Evidence is a not a prerequisite for TPP; however, it is strongly recommended that students in TPP have either completed Evidence or be enrolled in Evidence while enrolled in TPP

### **Understanding Business Operations, 2 credits (LAW 834)**

The most successful business attorneys understand not only the legal challenges confronting their clients but also understand (at least at a basic level) the business operational issues their clients face. Understanding Business Operations is a basic business course for law school students and is appropriate for those who seek to understand business operations as practiced by potential clients and client organizations. This course provides a broad introduction to the concepts, methods, activities and philosophy of contemporary business in the world today and is suitable for those individuals who have little or no formal business/accounting training. The course will cover the fundamental nature of business operations (e.g., the nature of contemporary business, management, marketing, accounting, finance, operations, e-commerce, etc.) while introducing the student to the language, principles and environment of business. Business Associations is a prerequisite to this course.

### **Vis Moot, 2 credits (LAW 870)**

This course, which is limited to two or three students selected by the instructor, is a continuation of the course in International Commercial Arbitration. The students will research and draft the Respondent's Brief for the Willem Vis Moot Court Competition as well as prepare for and present oral arguments in the competition in Vienna, Austria. It is anticipated that the students will participate in one or two intensive pre-moot competitions in Europe before the competition in Vienna. Completion of the course in International Commercial Arbitration is a prerequisite for this course.

### **War Crimes, Genocide and International Law, 3 credits (LAW 827)**

This course will focus on the evolution of international criminal law and justice as it relates to war crimes and acts of genocide. After a brief look at the history of these issues over the past few centuries, it will explore the development of post - World War II definitions of such crimes and the

various tribunals that have been set up to adjudicate them. The course will then focus on several of these trials, and discuss the various legal concepts and precedents that have come out of these proceedings.

**Wills and Trusts, 3 credits (LAW 770)**

This course explores the gratuitous transfer of property at death, including intestate and testate succession. It also examines the nature, establishment, management, and termination of inter vivos and testamentary trusts.

**Wills Drafting Clinic (In-House), 3-6 credits (LAW 773)**

The Wills In-House Clinic is a learning-by-doing class with intensive instruction units, followed by actual supervised practice, under the Rules of the NC State Bar. Students receive intensive instruction encompassing necessary knowledge and skills and will be assigned to represent low income homeowners, referred to the clinic by Habitat for Humanity of Greater Greensboro and LANC. Students will interview clients, draft documents to meet the needs of clients, conference with clients to explain and review documents and oversee the self-proving signing protocol for those documents. Enrollment limited to students who have (1) completed at least 43 law school credit hours; (2) successfully completed Professional Responsibility; (3) successfully completed Wills and Trusts; and (4) are certified by the Dean as being of good character with requisite legal ability and training to perform in the clinical context. Wills & Trusts and eligibility for NC State Bar Student Practice Certification are prerequisites for this course. ***All clinical courses at the law school are subject to a “no drop” policy. This means that after the course registration period has closed, students will be permitted to drop a clinical course only with the permission of the clinical faculty.***

### **III. Student Governance**

#### **Student Bar Association**

The Student Bar Association (SBA) is the official representative body of the students. All students enrolled at Elon Law are automatically members of the SBA. The SBA seeks to benefit all members by furthering student interests and sponsoring events of both an academic and social nature. The SBA's Mission Statement reads: "Our Mission is to create a forum for student leadership, community service, and social networking to support the University's goals of engaged learning, professionalism and civic participation through open communication with Elon students, Elon faculty, and the community."

The SBA is funded by the Law School on a per capita basis. The SBA is the governing body that serves as the umbrella organization and funding source for other law school organizations and committees.

Contact:

E-mail: [sba@elon.edu](mailto:sba@elon.edu)

#### **Honor Council**

The Honor Council is responsible for the administration of the procedures set forth in the Honor Code. The Honor Council also is responsible for the interpretation of the Code.

Contact:

E-mail: [lawhonorcouncil@elon.edu](mailto:lawhonorcouncil@elon.edu)

#### **Other Student Organizations**

Elon Law's student body, with its wide variety of interests outside of the classroom, has developed numerous student organizations. These organizations reflect students' social, political, service or professional interests and enrich students' educational experience with workshops, panels, concerts, networking opportunities and conferences throughout the academic year. Through involvement with student organizations, students find connections to further their career and personal goals. A complete list of current student organizations is available on the Law School's website.

<http://www.elon.edu/e-web/law/students/organizations.xhtml>

Any student interested in starting a new organization should contact an SBA representative to find out more about the approval process.

## **IV. Leadership, Experiential Learning, and *Pro Bono* Opportunities**

### **Leadership Program**

Elon University School of Law is committed to developing successful lawyers who are also leaders – in their firms, in the legal profession, and in the community and society at large. The school’s goal is to develop civic-minded lawyer-leaders who throughout their careers are engaged in improving the profession and community for the public good.

Throughout their time at Elon, students will learn about the theories of leadership in the classroom, as well as the practice of leadership through simulations and experiential opportunities.

### *Preceptor Program*

One of Elon Law's distinctions is the Preceptor Program, through which more than 50 experienced lawyers from a broad range of practice settings mentor law students.

Each first year student is assigned to a Preceptor at the beginning of the academic year. During the academic year, Elon Law hosts periodic receptions with practicing attorneys and judges, creating an opportunity for students to interact with Preceptors and other practicing lawyers in a casual setting. Preceptors also observe first-year students in law classes and provide feedback, facilitating a reflection process that helps students continuously improve in their preparation and development as lawyers.

Preceptors also invite students to accompany them to observe trials, client interviews, depositions, and mediations. While primarily involved with first-year law students, Preceptors regularly interact with second- and third-year law students, as well as with alumni of the Law School.

### *Leadership Fellows Program*

As part of the Law School’s mission to infuse its legal education with an emphasis on leadership development, the school formed the Leadership Fellows program in 2009.

To be considered for the Leadership Fellows program, applicants to the law School must complete a separate application for the Leadership Fellows Program. Students invited into the Leadership Fellows Program demonstrate exceptional leadership through community, collegiate, military, or other leadership experiences, as well as academic achievement. They also identify, through an essay in the Leadership Fellows application process, how the leadership skills they have acquired could be further developed and utilized at the Law School, in the practice of law, and in their communities.

Leadership Fellows are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.67, assist administration and faculty with the Leadership Lecture Series and other leadership programming, and undertake a Capstone project during their third-year of study.

Contact:

Faith Rivers James, Associate Dean for Experiential Learning and Leadership and Professor of Law

Phone: (336) 279-9332

E-mail: [friversjames@elon.edu](mailto:friversjames@elon.edu)



## **Business Fellows Program**

The Business Fellows Program seeks to encourage and cultivate students' interest in business law. The goal of the Program is to prepare Business Fellows to represent a variety of business clients, from small, start-up companies to large multinationals.

Applicants to the Law School must submit a separate application to be considered for the Business Fellows Program. Rising 2L students may also apply for the Program. The Program seeks students with strong business backgrounds (either based on their previous academic studies or through work experience) and a manifested interest in pursuing a career in business or business law. Business Fellows are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.67, participate in activities sponsored by the Business Fellows Program, and take specific courses identified by the business law faculty as essential for a solid grounding in business law.

Contacts:

Andrew J. Haile, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Associate Professor of Law

Tom Molony, Associate Professor of Law

E-mail: [ahaile@elon.edu](mailto:ahaile@elon.edu) or [tmolony@elon.edu](mailto:tmolony@elon.edu)

## **Residency in Practice**

Elon Law's Residency in Practice (which is a law school course) promotes "learning by practice" by strategically placing upper-level law students with supervising judges and attorneys ("supervisors") in practice. While most students are placed in their residency based on their expressed preferences, some students may choose to propose an independently arranged placement for approval as a residency. The residency gives students valuable hands-on experience by focusing on the application of law learned in the classroom, to the realities of law practice.

The Residency is designed for students to work full-time for 10 weeks in an approved governmental, judicial, non-profit, corporate or private law firm residency field placement, under the supervision of a lawyer or judge, with the support of a faculty member. Students work with their supervisor and a faculty member to create a learning plan for their residency placement, insuring that the student maximizes their educational opportunities during the residency.

While participating in their residency, students will take an accompanying course with a member of the law faculty. Accompanying courses are designed to support student practice by focusing on the area of law or the skills used in the resident's practice. Accompanying courses will be offered at the law school and through distance learning technology, so that students have the possibility of completing a residency and the accompanying course away from the law school.

All entering Elon Law students will complete a Residency before graduation.

Contact:

Margaret Robison Kantlehner, Director of Externships and Associate Professor of Law

Phone: (336) 279- 9205

Email: [mkantlehner@elon.edu](mailto:mkantlehner@elon.edu)

## **Clinical Programs and Externships**

Elon Law's clinical programs put legal theory into practice, providing students with essential lawyering skills through casework management, research, writing, client interaction and courtroom advocacy, while also helping individuals in need.

### *Humanitarian Immigration Clinic*

Elon University School of Law established the Humanitarian Immigration Law Clinic in December of 2010, allowing students, under the supervision of law faculty, to provide free legal services to low-income refugees and asylum seekers in North Carolina.

Under the supervision of law faculty, Elon Law students manage all aspects of refugee and asylee cases, meeting with clients, performing intake interviews, analyzing cases for legal remedy, gathering evidence, drafting and filing applications and briefs, and maintaining client correspondence. Students also observe and participate in hearings before federal administrative agencies and courts.

Faculty advisor:

Heather Scavone, Assistant Professor of Law & Director of Humanitarian Immigration Law Clinic

Phone: (336) 279-9354

E-mail: [hscavone@elon.edu](mailto:hscavone@elon.edu)

### *Small Business and Entrepreneurship Clinic*

The Law School's Small Business and Entrepreneurship Clinic is a law office which provides business-related legal services to entrepreneurs and small business owners who would not otherwise be able to afford legal representation. The clinic has offices in (i) the [Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship](#), a business incubator located approximately two miles from the Law School, and (ii) the [Greensboro Partnership's Collab facility](#), located adjacent to the Law School. Services provided by the clinic include, but are not limited to, choice of entity advising, organizational document drafting and review, contract review and drafting, employment and human resource advising, regulatory compliance, and drafting financing documentation.

Faculty Director:

John Flynn, Distinguish Practitioner in Residence,

Phone: (336) 279-9200

E-mail: [jflynn4@elon.edu](mailto:jflynn4@elon.edu)

### *Wills Drafting Clinic*

Elon Law's In-House Wills Drafting Clinic gives student lawyers, who have their Limited Practice Certification from the NC State Bar, the opportunity to represent low-income homeowners referred by Habitat for Humanity of Greater Greensboro and Legal Aid of North Carolina. Student lawyers interview clients, draft documents to meet the needs of clients, meet with clients to explain and review documents, and oversee the self-proving signing protocol for those documents.

The wills drafting course operates as a law firm. Student lawyers alternate serving as the firm's managing partner. In firm meetings, student lawyers lead discussion of ethical dilemmas related to

wills drafting and engage the class in a detailed exploration of legal issues surrounding the transfer of property at death in North Carolina.

Faculty Director:

Margaret Kantlehner, Associate Professor of Law and Director of Externships,

Phone: (336) 279-9205

E-mail: [mkantlehner@elon.edu](mailto:mkantlehner@elon.edu)

### *Guardian Ad Litem Clinic*

In the Guardian Ad Litem Clinic, students work under the supervision of a faculty member and the Guardian Ad Litem Appellate Counsel in North Carolina to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in appeals of juvenile matters in the North Carolina Court of Appeals and North Carolina Supreme Court.

Faculty Director:

Alan Woodlief, Associate Professor of Law and Director of Moot Court Programs

Phone: (336) 279-9203

E-mail: [awoodlief@elon.edu](mailto:awoodlief@elon.edu)

### *Externships*

Elon Law provides students the opportunity to perform a variety of legal work for governmental agencies and organizations, non-profit organizations, and in-house counsel offices. Externship students are required to spend at least 130 hours working under the supervision of an attorney at their externship placement. Students therefore spend at least 10 hours at their externship placement every week. Students also meet with the externship faculty supervisor and attend weekly classroom sessions or discussion board meetings on topics such as professional ethics and research and writing in various practice settings. Students earn three credits for an externship, graded on a pass/fail basis.

Faculty Director:

Margaret Kantlehner, Associate Professor of Law and Director of Externships,

Phone: (336) 279-9205

E-mail: [mkantlehner@elon.edu](mailto:mkantlehner@elon.edu)

### **Moot Court Program**

The Moot Court Board at Elon Law is comprised of students who have excelled in the school's annual intramural moot court competition. The top 20 competitors in the annual fall competition are invited to membership on the Board.

Members of the Board join teams coached by the Law School's faculty, competing in interscholastic competitions with other law schools throughout the nation.

Representative competitions include the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition, the National Moot Court Competition, and the Craven Competition at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Members of the Board who fulfill their service requirements are eligible to receive one academic credit for each interscholastic competition in which they compete, up to a total of two academic credits.

Each fall, the Moot Court Board hosts the annual intramural moot court competition, giving second-year Elon Law students an opportunity to showcase their written and oral appellate advocacy skills. In the spring, the Board also plays a key role in coordinating the Billings, Exum & Frye National Moot Court Competition.

Contact:

Alan Woodlief, Associate Professor of Law and Director of Moot Court Programs

Phone: (336) 279-9203

E-mail: [awoodlief@elon.edu](mailto:awoodlief@elon.edu)

### **Mock Trial Program**

Elon University School of Law participates in two national trial advocacy competitions, creating an opportunity for second and third year students to expand their advocacy skills. The Mock Trial program, which started at Elon Law in 2010, allows students to participate on an Advocacy Board. The Advocacy Board plans for regional and national competitions and conducts an intramural competition which determines selection for the Advocacy Board. Students on the Board may participate in one of two national competitions: the Texas Young Lawyers Association national criminal trial competition and the American Association of Justice national civil trial competition. Students participating on national competition teams receive academic credit for their work on the team.

Contact:

Catherine Dunham, Professor of Law and Director of Legal Skills Programs

Phone: (336) 279-9241

E-mail: [cdunham@elon.edu](mailto:cdunham@elon.edu)

### ***Pro Bono* Opportunities**

In keeping with the legal profession's obligation to serve the poor and under-represented, the Law School's service initiatives offer students opportunities to develop and apply lawyering skills, as well as to experience working for and studying in the public interest. From student and faculty participation in *pro bono* work to community service programs and projects, the Elon Law community is dedicated to fostering a service ethic.

There are several *pro bono* and community service projects sponsored by student organizations designed to provide support, services, and assistance to populations in need throughout the Greensboro area and beyond. All students are eligible to volunteer for community outreach and advocacy projects. Students interested in participating in *pro bono* opportunities should email [probono@elon.edu](mailto:probono@elon.edu).

### **North Carolina Third Year Practice Certificate**

Certification under the Third-Year Practice Rule allows Elon Law students to gain practical experience, including appearing in court, under the supervision of a licensed North Carolina

attorney. An information packet and the forms for seeking certification are available through the Registrar's Office.

Elon Law students who have completed at least three semesters or trimesters (or 43 credit hours) and are in good standing are eligible for third-year practice certification. The North Carolina State Bar issues the third-year practice certifications. The certification process is detailed in the North Carolina State Bar Rules Governing Practical Training of Law Students, Subchapter C, Sections .0200 through .0207.

Certification allows students to represent indigent clients, the state in criminal prosecutions, a criminal defendant represented by the public defender, and government agencies, under the supervision of a licensed North Carolina attorney. Potential employers include government agencies and non-profits such as Legal Aid, the Public Defender's Office, the District Attorney's Office, and the Attorney General's Office. Students working with private law firms are also eligible for certification, but their certification extends only to *pro bono* matters. If a student or supervising attorney has questions about the scope of the representation allowed under the certification, they should consult the rules and/or contact the North Carolina State Bar.

## V. Admission to the Law School

Law School students and faculty are fully and constructively engaged in the optimum development of each student's knowledge, skills and personal attributes, and in the improvement of our system of justice. The Law School evaluates applicants' potential for academic success and professional growth, focusing on their demonstrated achievement, aptitude for the study and practice of law, and interest in civic engagement and leadership. Because achievement of Elon's educational mission mandates that its Law School be relatively small, all of the well-qualified applicants who apply to Elon Law may not be accepted for admission.

### General Application Procedures

The Law School enrolls first-year students only in August.

To be considered for admission, all applicants (regular decision or early decision) must follow this procedure:

1. **Application and Fee.** The applicant must submit a law school application, along with the \$50.00 application fee. This fee is not refundable and is not credited toward other fees in the event of admission. (This fee may be waived at the discretion of the administration).
2. **Law School Admission Test (LSAT).** Each applicant must take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), which is administered by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC). A Credential Assembly Service (CAS) Report will be requested by the Law School. The results of a test taken more than five years prior to the date for which the applicant seeks admission will not be considered in the absence of unusual circumstances. Applicants may contact LSAC at (215) 968-1001 or [www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org). The Elon University School of Law LSAC code number is 5500.
3. **LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (CAS).** Each applicant must register with the CAS, so that Elon Law will receive a current Law School Report. It is the applicant's responsibility to meet all of LSAC's requirements and to ensure that Elon Law receives a completed CAS report.
4. **Resume.** Applicants who have a resume should include it with their application. Even if a resume is submitted, however, the applicant must still respond to all questions on the application.
5. **Letters of Recommendation.** The applicant must provide at least two (2) letters of recommendation. It is recommended that these letters be forwarded to CAS, which will then forward them to the Law School. A letter may be sent directly from a recommender to the Law School when it addresses an applicant's fitness for Elon's particular program.
6. **Interview.** The law school conducts interviews of candidates who are competitive for admission. This is part of the school's holistic approach to evaluating candidates and allows the candidate and law school to learn more about each other than brochures, web sites, or application documents can reveal. Applicants who are invited for an interview will meet with a faculty member or administrator. In-person visits to the law school are preferred, as they allow the applicant to tour the facility with a student admissions ambassador, speak with current students, potentially sit in on a class and get a true sense of the Elon Law community. Recognizing that many applicants are located in other states, the law school also offers telephone and Skype interviews. Every applicant who is ultimately admitted will have an interview, though every applicant will not necessarily be invited for an interview. All applicants and prospective students, whether invited for an interview or not, are

welcome to visit the law school to speak to an admissions professional and/or a student admissions ambassador.

*The application and supporting materials should be submitted through LSAC. Additional application materials or addenda should be submitted to the Elon Law Admissions Office, 201 North Greene Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27401. Phone: (336) 279-9200; Fax: (336) 279-8199; E-mail: [lawadmissions@elon.edu](mailto:lawadmissions@elon.edu). Requests for more information and questions should also be directed to this office.*

*The Law School will attempt to notify an applicant if a required item is missing from the application file. However, the applicant remains ultimately responsible for ensuring that the application file is completed in a timely fashion.*

Applicants should retain copies of their law school applications, since many state boards of law examiners request copies of applications in connection with taking a state bar exam.

All materials submitted in support of an application become the property of the Law School.

#### *Regular Decision - Rolling Admission Option*

Under this option, applicants will be considered and admission decisions made periodically throughout the year. Those applicants who select the Regular Decision-Rolling Admission option, who do not select an option, or who applied Early Decision but did not fulfill its requirements or whose decision was deferred, will be considered under the Regular Decision - Rolling Admission option. It is expected that most admission decisions will be made by April 1. However, applications will be accepted and considered as long as spaces are available in the entering class. Applicants admitted under the Regular Decision-Rolling Admission option must submit a non-refundable deposit of \$250 by April 15, or within 2 weeks of their admission, whichever is later. A second \$500 non-refundable deposit must be submitted by May 15, or within 2 weeks of their admission, whichever is later. These deposits will be credited toward fall tuition.

#### *Early Decision Option*

The Early Decision option is available for prospective students who, after careful consideration of their future plans and a thorough investigation of a variety of law schools, have concluded that Elon Law will provide them with the legal education that best fulfills their needs and expectations. Applicants who are certain that Elon Law is their first-choice institution are encouraged to apply as Early Decision candidates.

Early Decision candidates must submit their applications by December 1, and all items necessary for completion of the application must be received by December 15 (except December LSAT results, which will be accepted through January 15). Only completed applications are considered for admission. An application is considered complete when all required documents have been received including: the application itself, the application fee, a CAS report, the personal statement, two letters of recommendation, and the character fitness statement (if necessary). Early Decision candidates must take the LSAT no later than the December test date to be considered for this option. Applicants should also consider, and incorporate into their application timelines, the time it will take for their CAS reports to be processed and transmitted to the Law School.

Early Decision candidates agree that they will not submit an early decision application to any other law school. Early Decision candidates will be notified by the end of December whether their application for admission has been accepted, denied or deferred for further review, in which case it is kept active and considered along with all other applications under the Regular Decision-Rolling Admission option. It is anticipated that some candidates deferred for further review at the Early Decision stage will ultimately be offered admission through the Regular Decision-Rolling Admission option. If an Early Decision applicant is denied admission or the decision is deferred for further review, the applicant may continue being considered for admission to law schools to which he/she had previously applied and may initiate applications to additional law schools.

Early Decision candidates agree that, if admitted to Elon Law under the Early Decision option, they will withdraw any pending applications to other law schools and not submit any additional applications. The accepted Early Decision candidate will submit a non-refundable deposit of \$750 to Elon University within two weeks of admission. This deposit will be credited toward tuition.

Applicants admitted under the Early Decision option will be notified of the receipt of a law school scholarship prior to their deposit deadline; however, other financial aid awards, including loan packages, will not be determined until later in the spring.

The Law School reserves the right to provide other law schools with the names of applicants accepted under its Early Decision option.

### **Procedure for Accepted Applicants**

In addition to submitting the enrollment deposits described above, all accepted applicants must submit an Enrollment Confirmation Form and scholarship agreement (if applicable).

During the application phase, applicants will submit their postsecondary school transcripts to CAS, and the Law School will receive copies of these transcripts from CAS. While this is sufficient for the application phase, accepted applicants must submit an official transcript indicating the award of a bachelor's degree prior to enrolling in Elon Law. Generally, applicants must have received a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution prior to enrollment in the Law School. In rare instances, the school may, consistent with ABA Standards, admit exceptionally well-qualified applicants who have successfully completed three-fourths of the work acceptable for a bachelor's degree.

### **Transfer/Visiting Applicants**

Elon Law accepts applications for transfer and visiting students. In addition to complying with the general admission procedures, a transfer applicant must submit a letter of good standing and a transcript from their current law school, one of which should indicate the applicant's current class rank. A student from a law school approved by the American Bar Association may be admitted to advanced standing as a candidate for a degree. To receive a law degree from Elon, a student must complete two-thirds (2/3) of the course work required for the degree at Elon. Because Elon's program incorporates leadership training not available at most law schools, accepted transfer students may be required to attend the leadership development portions of first-year orientation, as well as the first and second year leadership courses, if applicable.



With the approval of the Admissions Committee, it may be possible for students from other law schools to matriculate at Elon as visiting students. Visiting students must have the permission of their home law school and must be in good academic standing there. They are limited to one year in residence at Elon. Visiting students will not be eligible for an Elon degree. In addition to complying with the general admission procedures, a visiting applicant must submit a letter of good standing and permission to visit and a transcript from their home law school, one of which should indicate the applicant's current class rank.

### **International Applicants**

In addition to complying with the general admission procedures, international applicants must submit their foreign transcripts through the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS). If applicants have completed any postsecondary work outside the United States (including its territories) or Canada, they must use this service for the evaluation of their foreign transcripts. The one exception to this requirement is if they have completed the foreign work through a study abroad, consortium, or exchange program sponsored by a United States or Canadian institution, and the work is clearly indicated as such on the home campus transcript. This service is included in the CAS subscription fee. A Foreign Credential Evaluation will be completed by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), which will be incorporated into the CAS report. If the Admissions Committee determines that an applicant must submit a TOEFL score, the applicant must contact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and request that the TOEFL score be sent to LSAC. LSAC's TOEFL code for the CAS is 0058. The applicant's TOEFL score will be included in the Foreign Credential Evaluation document that will be included in the CAS law school report.

To use the CAS, applicants should log in to their online LSAC account and follow the instructions for registering for the service. A Transcript Request Form should be printed out for each institution and sent promptly to them. More time is usually required to receive foreign transcripts. Questions about the CAS should be directed to LSAC at (215) 968-1001, or [LSACInfo@LSAC.org](mailto:LSACInfo@LSAC.org).

Admitted international students are eligible to receive scholarship awards from the law school. Due to U.S. government regulations, federally-sponsored financial aid is not available to international students. However, international students with an eligible co-borrower may apply for alternative loans with private lenders.

## VI. Financial Information

### Tuition

Pursuit of a legal education requires a significant financial investment; however, with proper planning and use of available resources, such as the scholarships, loans, and part-time employment described in this chapter, it can be affordable.

Tuition for the 2016-17 academic year for full-time third-year students taking between 12 and 17 credits each semester is \$37,924.

Tuition for full-time, first-year students entering in August 2017 is:

#### 2016-17

August Term	\$5,500
Fall Trimester	\$12,500
Winter Trimester	\$12,500
Spring Trimester	\$12,500

#### 2017-18

Leadership & Prof. Resp.	\$5,500
Fall Trimester	\$12,500
Winter Trimester	\$12,500
Spring Trimester	\$12,500

#### August/Fall 2018

Bar Foundations	\$1,500
Fall Trimester	\$12,500

**Total Program**                    **\$100,000**

Tuition for full-time, second-year students continuing their studies in August 2016 is:

#### 2016-17

Leadership & Prof. Resp.	\$5,500
Fall Trimester	\$12,500
Winter Trimester	\$12,500
Spring Trimester	\$12,500

#### August/Fall 2017

Bar Foundations	\$1,500
Fall Trimester	\$12,500

**Total Program                    \$100,000\***

\*includes first-year tuition paid in 2015-16

There is no part-time tuition available for upper-level or first-year students.

All scholarships (academic, donor, or service) and Law School grants are intended for full-time enrollment. Reduction in course load below the minimum required for full-time status will result in reductions or cancellation of awarded scholarships.

All charges are due as billed. Students unable to pay the entire bill at that time must make alternative arrangements with the Bursar's Office.

### **Indirect Expenses 2016-2017**

Indirect expenses are those not actually charged by Elon Law. The amount a student spends on these indirect expenses is within the student's control. The numbers below represent the maximum amount a student may receive in financial aid for these indirect costs. Many, if not most, students will incur less expense than this based on the choices they make, and students are encouraged to be as conservative as possible in their spending and particularly their borrowing to fund these expenses.

Indirect costs will depend greatly on the choices a student makes. It is important that students consider all choices carefully, e.g., housing location, whether to have a roommate with whom to share costs, whether to take advantage of public transportation, such as the free city bus pass provided by the law school rather than driving, whether to park in the free parking lot provided by the law school, rather than spending the allotted \$65.00 per month to rent a parking space in the city parking deck across from the school, etc. Living expenses can vary significantly according to these lifestyle choices. These in turn impact on costs of attendance and future loan debt. The chart below incorporates estimated annual costs.

#### *Third-Year Students (2016-2017)*

Room - \$7,500  
Board - \$5,000  
Utilities - \$1,300  
Personal - \$3,200  
Transportation - \$3,500  
Health Insurance - \$2,668  
Rental Insurance - \$300  
Books and Supplies - \$1,750  
Parking - \$500

**Total Indirect Costs for Second and Third-Year Students                    \$ 25,718**

#### *First and Second Year Students (2016-17)*

Room	\$1,070
Board	\$715
Utilities	\$185

Personal	\$455
Health Insurance	\$2,668
Rental Insurance	\$43
Books and Supplies	\$300
Parking	\$55
Transportation	\$500
<b>Total Indirect Costs for August Term</b>	<b>\$5,991</b>

Room	\$7,490
Board	\$5,005
Utilities	\$1,295
Personal	\$3,185
Health Insurance	\$0
Rental Insurance	\$299
Books and Supplies	\$1,800
Parking	\$495
Transportation	\$3,500
<b>Total Indirect Costs for Fall, Winter &amp; Spring Trimesters</b>	<b>\$23,069</b>

**Total Indirect Costs 2016-17:      \$29,060**

### **Tuition Payments**

Students are billed for the next term's tuition a few weeks before the term begins, and tuition payments for each term are due on or before the date of registration or the first day of classes for the term. Students may visit <https://ebill.elon.edu> to view their account online and make a payment. Payments may also be mailed to the Bursar's Office at P.O. Box 398, Elon NC 27244.

### **Financial Aid/Financial Planning**

Assistance may be in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, or employment. Subsidized Federal Stafford Loans and Federal Perkins Loans are awarded on the basis of financial need; other non-need based loans are also available.

The Office of Financial Planning is located on the Elon University Campus, but does hold weekly office hours at the Law School. This office assists students in obtaining funds to meet their educational costs and living expenses while in law school. Many students borrow funds to finance their legal education. To be eligible for Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans, applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Elon's federal school code is 002927. Law students may be eligible to borrow additional funds through the Federal GradPlus loan program. Applicants should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1. It is important that a student's FAFSA data be received and processed by the federal processors by March 1 (preceding fall registration), Elon Law's priority deadline for the Federal Perkins Loans. After that time, campus-based funds may be depleted. For more detailed information on application

procedures or financial aid, please go to the financial aid section of Elon Law's website: <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/law/admissions/FinancialPlanning.xhtml>. The FAFSA may be obtained online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

Admitted international students are eligible to receive scholarship awards from the law school. Due to U.S. government regulations, federally-sponsored financial aid is not available to international students. However, international students with an eligible co-borrower may apply for alternative loans with private lenders.

Questions regarding financial aid should be directed to the Office of Financial Planning:

Contact: Lynette Lorenzetti

Phone: (336) 278-7640

E-mail: [lorenzet@elon.edu](mailto:lorenzet@elon.edu)

### **Scholarships & Fellowships**

Most scholarships awarded by the Law School are merit-based. Merit scholarships, which range from \$5,000 to full tuition, are awarded based on applicants' potential for outstanding contributions to the Law School, the legal profession and society. All admitted students are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships, and students selected to receive these scholarships will generally be notified within two to four weeks of their admission.

Continuing students may apply to increase their scholarship amounts after the spring grades have been posted. These scholarships and grants are based on the availability of funds.

Students selected as Leadership, Business or Advocacy Fellows will receive additional scholarship awards for the academic year, as well as stipends covering the tuition cost and a portion of living expenses for a summer externship experience.

### **Veterans Educational Benefits**

In addition to the scholarships and financial aid generally available to law students, veterans of the United States military may be eligible to receive educational assistance based on their military service. Such benefits may include the Montgomery GI Bill, the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Yellow Ribbon Program. To discuss this potential, applicants and students may contact the VA Certifying official at Elon University, Jeremy Teetor, in the Financial Planning Office, at (336) 278-7640 or [jteetor@elon.edu](mailto:jteetor@elon.edu), or Lynette Lorenzetti at (336) 278-7640 or [lorenzet@elon.edu](mailto:lorenzet@elon.edu).

### **Employment Programs**

Student research assistantships are provided to selected second and third-year students with excellent academic records. The program enables students to work closely with faculty members engaged in significant legal research. Research assistants are paid on an hourly basis.

Outside Employment: The Law School requires students to devote substantially all of their working hours to the study of law. This means that an upper level, full-time student may not work in excess of 20 hours per week while attending law school. Entering students may not accept any outside employment during their first year.

Second and third-year students often benefit enormously from employment as law clerks, not only in terms of their finances, but also by adding practical experience to their school education and strengthening their resumes for future employment. However, full-time students must limit their outside employment in accordance with the restrictions set forth above.

## VII. Academic Programs & Policies

### Curriculum

#### *General Information*

In the 2014-2015 academic year, the Law School adopted an innovative new curriculum that becomes effective with the class entering in August 2015 (the Class of December 2017). Under that new curriculum, the Law School's standard course of study shifts from a traditional 6-semester, 3-year program to a 7-trimester, 2.5-year program. Members of the Class of December 2017 will have a 5-week August Term, followed by a 12-week Fall Trimester, 10-week Winter Trimester, and 10-week Spring Trimester.

Members of the Class of May 2017 remain on the traditional 6-semester, 3-year model, though these students are permitted to petition to graduate following their 5<sup>th</sup> semester, if they satisfy all graduation requirements at that time. Permission for students in the Class of May 2017 to graduate in fewer than 6 semesters is within the complete discretion of the Law School.

In addition to the required first-year curriculum, all students must take a number of upper level required courses. These upper-level required courses provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to pass the bar examination and to practice successfully, as well as keeping students engaged throughout their law school careers.

Elon Law's curriculum provides instruction in the fundamentals of law, including instruction in legal writing, professional responsibility, skills training, and oral advocacy. In the tradition of Elon University (the "University"), the Law School curriculum also emphasizes active student engagement and leadership studies. The curriculum is designed to provide students with a rigorous intellectual foundation to become successful lawyers. In addition to the traditional doctrinal and skills courses, Elon provides instruction in speaking and presentation skills, study skills, time management, and leadership development.

The Law School's academic program is enhanced by the proximity to Greensboro's legal and judicial offices and through the program's close relationship with the North Carolina Business Court. Instruction takes place in a technology-enriched environment and is complemented with frequent interactions with local professionals.

### **Class of May 2017**

#### *General Juris Doctor (J.D.) Requirements for the Class of May 2017*

The Law School requires 90 credit hours for graduation and prescribes a core curriculum of 48 required credit hours for members of the Class of May 2017. Students must pass all required courses in order to graduate. At least 65 of the 90 credit hours required for graduation must be earned by attendance in regularly-scheduled law school class sessions.<sup>1</sup> This does not include externships, moot court, trial competitions, law review, directed research programs, or courses

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<sup>1</sup> If approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, these 65 hours may include coursework at another law school for which a student receives credit toward the J.D. degree by the Law School.

taken in parts of the University outside the Law School for which credit toward the J.D. degree is granted.

Full-time students are required to take a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester and are limited to a maximum of 17 credit hours per semester. The Law School’s academic year consists of more than 140 days on which classes are regularly scheduled. The academic year is approximately nine months long, consisting of the Fall Semester and Spring Semester and a Winter Term in January.

To graduate from Elon, students generally must be enrolled as full-time students in residence for a minimum of six semesters or seven trimesters.<sup>2</sup> A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or higher is required for graduation.

*Program of Study for the Class of May 2017*

The First Year

The required first-year program consists of 31 required credit hours. The first-year class at the Law School is divided into three sections of roughly equal numbers. Each section is split into roughly equal cohorts for the Legal Method & Communication course, with each cohort having approximately 18-20 students. Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism (a required course in the Winter Term of the first year) is taught, in part, in small break-out groups. Other than the small break out groups for Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism and some sections of Legal Method & Communication, all first-year courses are taught by full-time faculty.

<b>FIRST YEAR CURRICULUM</b>		
<b>CLASS OF MAY 2017</b>		
<b>FALL</b>	<b>WINTER</b>	<b>SPRING</b>
Contracts I (2)	Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism (2)	Contracts II (3)
Torts I (3)		Torts II (2)
Civil Procedure I (3)		Civil Procedure II (2)
Property I (3)		Property II (2)
Legal Method & Communication (3)		Legal Method & Communication (2)
Legal Construction and Analysis (1)		Criminal Law (3)
<b>Total: 15</b>	<b>Total: 2</b>	<b>Total: 14</b>

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<sup>2</sup> The Law School’s residency requirement excludes Winter Term and Summer Sessions. Students who transfer to Elon after their first year at another law school are deemed to satisfy this requirement upon completion of four trimesters at Elon. An Elon student who visits another law school for a semester with the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall also be deemed to be “in residence” for that semester.



## The Second and Third Years

The upper-level curriculum is a combination of required courses and electives. Elon Law recognizes that, to prepare for the effective practice of law, its graduates should acquire foundational knowledge and skills beyond those required in the first year. Therefore, all students are required to complete courses in Business Associations, Constitutional Law, Evidence, and Professional Responsibility. Constitutional Law and Professional Responsibility must be taken during the second year. Business Associations and Evidence may be taken any time during the second or third years. In addition, the Law School requires that all students in the Class of May 2017 take a 2-credit Leadership & Public Law course during the Winter Term of their second year. This course is a component of Elon Law's comprehensive leadership program. Elon Law also recognizes that, in order to develop client-ready attorneys, a broader background in other basic courses is important. Therefore, the Law School encourages students to take courses such as Family Law, Sales, Criminal Procedure, Wills and Trusts, and Secured Transactions, though these courses are not required.

The second-year curriculum for the Class of May 2017 requires the following courses:

SECOND YEAR CURRICULUM		
CLASS OF MAY 2017		
FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Constitutional Law I (2)	Leadership & Public Law (2)	Constitutional Law II (3)
Professional Responsibility (2)		
Business Associations (4) and/or Evidence (4)*		Business Associations (4) and/or Evidence (4)*
Electives		Electives
<b>Total: 12-17</b>	<b>Total: 2</b>	<b>Total: 12-17</b>

*\* Students are required to take Business Associations (4 credits) and Evidence (4 credits) during their second or third years. These courses are required for graduation and serve as pre-requisites for many other courses.*

The third-year curriculum is entirely elective, unless a student has not taken Business Associations or Evidence in his or her second year, in which case the student must take the course the student's third year:

THIRD YEAR CURRICULUM		
FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Electives (12-17)*	Electives (1-3)**	Electives (12-17)*
<b>Total: 12-17</b>	<b>Total: 1-3</b>	<b>Total: 12-17</b>

*\*Any student who has not taken Business Associations or Evidence during his or her second year must take these courses during the third year, as the courses are graduation requirements.*

*\*\*During the 3L Winter Term, students may elect to take one to three hours of elective course offerings. Elective courses offered during Winter Term differ from year to year.*

## **Class of December 2017 and Subsequent Classes**

### *General Juris Doctor (J.D.) Requirements for Members of the Class of December 2017 and Subsequent Classes*

The Law School requires 90 credit hours for graduation. Students must pass all required courses in order to graduate. At least 65 of the 90 credit hours required for graduation must be earned by attendance in regularly-scheduled law school class sessions.<sup>3</sup> This does not include externships, moot court, trial competitions, law review, directed research programs, or courses taken in parts of the University outside the Law School for which credit toward the J.D. degree is granted.

Full-time students are required to take a minimum of 10 credit hours each trimester and are limited to a maximum of 14 credit hours per trimester. The Law School's academic year consists of more than 140 days on which classes are regularly scheduled. The academic year is approximately ten months long, consisting of an August Term, Fall Trimester, optional December Term (in the second year), Winter Trimester and Spring Trimester.

To graduate from Elon, students generally must be enrolled as full-time students in residence for a minimum of seven trimesters.<sup>4</sup> A cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or higher is required for graduation.

### *Program of Study for Students in the Class of December 2017 and Subsequent Classes*

#### The First Year

The required first-year program consists of 41 credit hours. The first-year class at the Law School is divided into six sections of approximately 20-22 students. Other than small break out groups for the first-year leadership course (Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism) and the lab component to the first-year Criminal Law course, all first-year courses are taught by full-time faculty.

<b>FIRST YEAR CURRICULUM CLASS OF DECEMBER 2017</b>	
<b>TERM/TRIMESTER</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
<b>August Term</b>	
Introduction to Legal Studies	3
Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism	1
<b>Total Credits for August Term</b>	<b>4</b>

<sup>3</sup> If approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, these 65 hours may include coursework at another law school for which a student receives credit toward the J.D. degree by the Law School.

<sup>4</sup> The Law School's residency requirement excludes August Term, December Term, and Summer Sessions. Students who transfer to Elon after their first year at another law school are deemed to satisfy this requirement upon completion of four trimesters at Elon. An Elon student who visits another law school with the approval of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs shall also be deemed to be "in residence" for that visit term.

<b>Fall Trimester</b>	
Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism	*
Torts	5
Contracts	2
Civil Procedure	2
Legal Method & Communication	2
Legal Research	1
<b>Total Credits for Fall Trimester</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Winter Trimester</b>	
Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism	1
Contracts	3
Civil Procedure	3
Criminal Law	3
Criminal Law Lab	1
Legal Method & Communication	2
<b>Total Credits for Winter Trimester</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Spring Trimester</b>	
Constitutional Law	5
Property	5
Legal Method & Communication	2
<b>Total Credits for Spring Trimester</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits for First-Year Courses</b>	<b>41</b>

\* *Lawyering, Leadership & Professionalism continues during the Fall Trimester, but credit for the course is awarded at the end of the Winter Trimester.*

## The Second Year

The second-year under the Law School's new curriculum combines required courses, elective courses, and experiential learning through a residency-in-practice requirement. Second-year students return from an 8-week summer break to take Professional Responsibility and Public Law & Leadership, the Law School's 2L leadership course, during a 3-week August Term. All second-year students are required to take Business Associations and Evidence.

Also during one trimester of the second year, students must complete a Residency-in-Practice, which is a full-time field placement combined with an accompanying course offered by the Law School. Residency-in-Practice placements may include a position in a judge's chambers, with a non-profit legal organization (such as Legal Aid), with a district attorney or public defender's office, in a corporate counsel office, or in a private law firm. In the Residency-in-Practice, students work approximately 30-35 hours/week, while taking a related accompanying course at the law school (either in person or via distance learning depending on the proximity of the student's Residency-in-Practice placement).

During each trimester that a second-year student is not doing a Residency-in-Practice, the student must take at least one "communication" course, selected from a group of such courses as designated by the Law School faculty. These courses continue the communications focus of the first-year curriculum.

The second-year curriculum also includes an optional two-week December Term, during which students may elect to take short, intensive courses.

The chart below shows a sample second-year schedule, though a student's actual second-year schedule may differ substantially, as the Residency-in-Practice may be taken in one of the other trimesters, and Business Associations and Evidence may be taken in either the Fall Trimester or the Winter Trimester:

<b>SAMPLE SECOND YEAR SCHEDULE CLASS OF DECEMBER 2017</b>	
<b>TERM/TRIMESTER</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
<b><u>August Term</u></b>	
Professional Responsibility	2
Public Law & Leadership	<u>2</u>
<b>Total Credits for August Term</b>	<b>4</b>
<b><u>Fall Trimester</u></b>	
Business Associations	4
Evidence	4
Elective(s)*	<u>2-6</u>
<b>Total Credits for Fall Trimester</b>	<b>10-14</b>
<b><u>December Term</u> **</b>	
Elective course	<u>1-3</u>
<b>Total Credits for December Term</b>	<b>1-3</b>
<b><u>Winter Trimester</u></b>	
Residency-in-Practice	7-10
Residency-in-Practice Accompanying Course	<u>2-3</u>
<b>Total Credits for Winter Trimester</b>	<b>10-13</b>
<b><u>Spring Trimester</u></b>	
Elective Courses*	<u>10-14</u>
<b>Total Credits for Spring Trimester</b>	<b>10-14</b>
<b>Total Credits for Second-Year Courses</b>	<b>35-48</b>

\* Students are required to satisfy a "Communications Requirement" in every second-year term that is not the student's Residency term. This may be done through courses designated as "Communications Courses" at the Law School or through various activities such as moot court or mock trial.

\*\* The December Term is a two-week elective term. Students may opt to take short-courses during this term.

### The Final Trimester

The final trimester under the Law School's revised curriculum is intended to prepare students to pass the bar examination and to transition to practice. As such, students return for August Term to take the Law School's Bar Foundation course. This course reviews core bar-tested subjects.

In the Fall Trimester of the third year, students are required to take a "Bridge-to-Practice" course, selected from a list of such courses as designated by the Law School faculty, which serves to transition students from the study of law to the practice of law through the use of simulations and other practice-focused teaching techniques.

The chart below shows a typical final-trimester schedule for students under the Law School's new curriculum:

SAMPLE FINAL-TRIMESTER SCHEDULE CLASS OF DECEMBER 2017	
TERM/TRIMESTER	CREDITS
<b>August Term</b>	
Bar Foundations	<u>2-3</u>
<b>Total Credits for August Term</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>Fall Trimester</b>	
Bridge-to-Practice Course	2-3
Elective Courses*	<u>8-11</u>
<b>Total Credits for Fall Trimester</b>	<b>10-14</b>
<b>Total Credits for Third-Year Courses</b>	<b>12-17</b>

*Upper-Level Writing Requirement: All Classes*

The faculty has approved an Upper-Level Writing Requirement which must be completed by all law students during their second or third year as a graduation requirement. The goals of the Upper-Level Writing Requirement are:

- (1) To further develop students' basic writing and research skills;
- (2) To provide students with an opportunity to analyze, synthesize, and organize a substantial body of knowledge; and
- (3) To provide students with an opportunity for in-depth engagement in a narrow legal subject area.

A student satisfies the Upper-Level Writing Requirement by completing one or more written projects that require rigorous intellectual effort. Projects must be completed under the active and regular supervision of a faculty member who provides instruction, guidance, and feedback on the student's work, and who is available for individual meetings to discuss the student's progress toward successful completion of the Upper-Level Writing Requirement.

The requirement can be met by writing, among other things, a scholarly paper, a law review note or comment, legal briefs or memoranda, or other legal documents. Generally, the length of the documents to be drafted in order to complete this requirement should be at least twenty (20) pages of text in the aggregate, but the professor supervising completion of the project or projects shall have the discretion to determine the required length.

The courses that may be used to satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement are noted in the registration materials sent to students each term.

In addition, a student may satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement in the context of an Independent Study course for credit, as approved in advance by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the Upper-Level Writing Requirement may not be satisfied outside a regular course offering in the spring of a student's final year.

An Intent Form must be submitted to the Law School Registrar within one week of the first day of the term when the student intends to complete the requirement. To receive credit for satisfactorily completing the Upper-Level Writing Requirement, the student must submit a Completion Form,

signed by the faculty member supervising the Requirement, which certifies that the Requirement has been satisfactorily completed.

## **Academic Regulations and Procedures**

### *General Information*

#### Changes in Class Schedule

The Law School reserves the right to cancel or discontinue any course because of insufficient enrollment or for any other reason. In order to assure quality instruction, the University and the Law School reserve the right to close registration when the maximum enrollment has been reached and to make changes in schedule and/or faculty when necessary. Notice will be given to enrolled students as changes are made in the law program.

#### Dropping Courses/Withdrawal

Students may not withdraw from a required course. For elective courses (other than externships, clinical courses, courses where students commit to parties outside the law school, or where withdrawal may adversely affect the education of other students), the Law School provides a drop/add period at the beginning of every semester or trimester. The drop/add period typically lasts for the first week of class. A specific deadline for the drop/add period is included in the registration materials sent to students. After the drop/add period closes, a student may officially withdraw from an elective course with a "W" (withdraw without penalty) up until halfway through the term. The length of the term is determined by counting all calendar days from the first day of classes through the last day of exams, including the first and last day. Any exception to this policy is within the discretion of the Dean or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

A student who withdraws from the University for any reason (except for a medical reason) receives a grade of "W" if the withdrawal is before the designated half-term time period.

To remain enrolled as full-time students, all members of the Class of May 2017 must maintain at least 12 credit hours each semester. Members of the Class of December 2017 must maintain at least 10 credit hours each trimester to be considered full-time students. It is important that students realize that registration changes that place them below full-time status may unfavorably affect financial aid and scholarship requirements, veteran's rights, foreign student visas and other benefits and requirements. The student is responsible for any changes in his or her course registration and for maintaining his/her status as a full-time student.

### *Examinations and Grading*

#### Taking Final Examinations

In many courses, students are evaluated by an examination at the end of the course. Faculty may use other types of assessments as additional or alternative bases for evaluating student achievement. Exam times and room assignments are distributed by the Registrar.

## Anonymous Grading

Law School exams are anonymous and self-identification of any kind is not permitted. Students are not to put their name, class level or personal comments (which could be used to identify a student) anywhere on exam materials. Instead, students are given an exam identification number each term by the Registrar's Office. Faculty grade examinations anonymously, referring only to the exam identification number.

Each exam period students will receive a new exam identification number. Students should memorize or bring this number to each exam. Numbers will not be given out over the phone or to a third party.

## Examination Accommodations

See Section I of this Handbook for information about requesting accommodations, including examination accommodations, based on disability.

### Rescheduling a Final Examination

Students are required to take all of their exams at the times scheduled unless granted approval by the Registrar to reschedule an exam. A student may request that a scheduled exam be rescheduled when the student has two exams within a 24 hour period.

The student has the burden of seeking approval to reschedule an exam, and exams will not be rescheduled unless a student seeks such approval. In order to protect anonymity, students should not contact their professors if they need to reschedule a final exam.

The Registrar will determine which exam will be rescheduled and when the rescheduled exam will be administered. Exams that qualify for rescheduling due to multiple exams within a 24 hour period will generally be rescheduled for the individual student's next available exam slot that does not create a new conflict under this rule. Rescheduled examinations are generally scheduled for after the regularly scheduled examination slot.

All requests for rescheduled examinations based on a scheduling conflict must be in writing and presented along with any supporting documentation to the Registrar. The form to request rescheduling of an exam based on a scheduling conflict is available at the following web address: <http://www.elon.edu/docs/e-web/law/Examination%20Schedule%20Conflict%20Form.pdf>. All such requests must be made at least twenty one (21) calendar days prior to the beginning of the examination period.

An illness or death in the family, illness of the student, or other compelling circumstances may also warrant a change in exam scheduling. If an emergency situation arises that prevents exam attendance, the student should immediately notify the Registrar.

### Failure to Take a Final Examination

If an exam is not taken, the student will receive an "F" for the exam and may fail the course for the semester or trimester.

## Grading Scale

Students are graded in most courses on a letter and number grading scale, as set forth in the chart below:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point</b>
A	4.0
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.0
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.0
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.0
D-	0.67
F	0

## First-Year Courses

First-year courses are subject to a mandatory grade distribution as follows:

- (A) At least 15% of the class must receive a grade of 3.33 (B+) or above
- (B) At least 10% of the class must receive a grade of 1.67 (C-); or below
- (C) At least an additional 5% of the class must receive a grade of 1.33 (D+) or below;
- (D) The median grade for the class must be between 2.67 - 3.00;
- (E) In exceptional circumstances the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs has the discretionary power to waive compliance by a faculty member with the requirements of the mandatory curve.

## Upper-Level Courses

Upper level courses are not subject to a mandatory grade distribution, but are subject to a mandatory mean of between 3.0-3.33. This mandatory mean is not to be applied in any course that is assessed on a pass/fail basis. In exceptional circumstances the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs has the discretionary power to waive compliance by a faculty member with the requirements of the mandatory mean for upper-level courses.

## Other Grading Information

Certain courses in the curriculum may be graded on a pass/fail basis. Students in a pass/fail course may receive one of the following:

“H” – Honors – indicating that the student performed with distinction in the course.

“P” – Pass – indicating that the student satisfied course requirements at an expected level of performance.



“LP” – Low Pass – indicating that the student satisfied course requirements but below the expected level of performance.

“F” – Fail – indicating that the student failed to satisfy course requirements.

Assuming a student receives an “H”, “P”, or “LP” in a pass/fail course, the student will receive credit hours for the course but will not receive any quality points and the course will not factor into the student’s grade point average. A student who receives an “F” in a pass/fail course does not receive credit hours for the course and the failure will be included in the calculation of the student’s grade point average.

In addition to the other grades discussed herein, students may receive a grade of “I” for Incomplete. As a general rule, a grade of “I” for incomplete must be removed within thirty (30) calendar days from the date the “I” grade is posted. Unless an “I” is removed by the date designated, or the date is extended by the Dean or Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, an “I” grade is automatically changed to an “F”.

A student may also receive a grade of “WD” (Medical Withdrawal) upon documentation of a medical condition that has impacted the student’s ability to complete coursework and any exam in the course.

Generally, a student’s grade point average is computed by dividing the total quality points on work attempted at Elon by the number of hours attempted, except for pass/fail courses in which the student passed and courses with grades of “I” (Incomplete), “WD” (Medical Withdrawal), or “W” (Withdrawal).

#### Dissemination of Grades

Once received by the Registrar, all grades will be posted through the University’s OnTrack system. Generally, students can expect to receive grades within 30 days following the last examination of the term. Students are able to review their current as well as past grades through the OnTrack system. As a general rule, grades for first-year students will not be available until grades for at least three first year courses have been received by the Registrar’s Office.

#### Feedback on Grades

Students are encouraged to review their exams with faculty members after grades have been posted. While exams are not allowed to leave the building, students will have access to their exam to have a productive meeting with faculty. Generally, items may not be copied, and in no instance may an exam be copied without the permission of the professor. Each faculty member may have individual policies regarding setting an appointment to discuss an exam. Students should review the class syllabus for more information.

#### Change of Grades

After a faculty member has submitted a grade to the Registrar, a faculty member may change the grade only if it was incorrect due to mathematical, administrative or other mechanical error. If a faculty member discovers a mathematical, administrative or other mechanical error in one student’s grade, then discovers the same error was also made in the grading of other students’

papers, the faculty member must change the grade of all the students affected by the error. A grade may not be changed as a result of a substantive reevaluation of a student's work or otherwise.

### *Academic Support*

The Law School seeks to provide a comprehensive academic support program to its students. While all students are invited to participate, any student with a cumulative GPA<sup>5</sup> below 2.50 is required to participate in the Law School's Advanced Legal Construction and Analysis Program. The Advanced Legal Construction and Analysis Program focuses on improving students' individual academic weaknesses and seeks to improve their organizational, writing, and study skills. The Program involves individual and small group instruction with the Director of Academic Support and may, depending on common needs of students, take the form of a traditional classroom setting. Satisfactory participation in the Advanced Legal Construction and Analysis Program by any student with a cumulative GPA of below 2.50 is a requirement to graduate.

### *Academic Standards*

The Law School strives to ensure proficiency by its students in all required-course subjects. As such, the Law School mandates curative action in the event that a student earns a 2.33 (C+) or lower in any required course.<sup>6</sup> This curative action requires the student (i) to continue his or her study of the subject independently and (ii) to demonstrate proficiency by successfully completing a separate and distinct examination testing the student's knowledge of the subject area. The Director of Academic Support oversees student progress and performance with respect to the independent study and the examination. If a student earns a 2.33 (C+) or lower in a required course during the student's first or second year, the student must demonstrate proficiency in that subject area by August 15 immediately preceding the student's 3L year. If a student earns a 2.33 (C+) or lower in a required course during the student's third year, the student must demonstrate proficiency in that subject area prior to graduation.

In order to ensure students are able to devote sufficient time and attention to their academic performance, any student with a cumulative GPA below 2.50: (i) will be restricted from running for office in any Student Body organization; (ii) must have his or her course registration (including registration for Winter Term and any summer session, either at the Law School or elsewhere) and any request to study abroad approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs prior to registration, and (iii) will have all requests to engage in paid work subject to individual review and approval by the Associate Director of Career and Student Development.

### *Exclusion*

Any student who falls below a cumulative GPA of 2.00 (C) at the completion of the Spring Trimester of his or her first year will be excluded from continued matriculation at the Law School. Of those students, any student who attains a cumulative GPA of 1.80 or above is entitled to petition for readmission. Any student whose cumulative GPA falls below 1.80 shall not be permitted to petition for readmission.

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<sup>5</sup> For all purposes herein the term "GPA" means the student's grade point average as recorded on the student's official transcript.

<sup>6</sup> The mandatory curative action described in this paragraph applies if a student earns a 2.33 in either term of a two-term course. For example, if a student earns a 2.33 (C+) in Contracts I and a 3.00 (B) in Contracts II, the student must still undertake the described curative measures.

Second year students must maintain at least a cumulative GPA of 2.00 (C) at the completion of each trimester. Any student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.00 (C) at the completion of either trimester will be excluded.

Any third year student who fails to maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 (C) at the completion of any semester or trimester of the third year will be excluded.

The faculty's Academic Standards Committee or another ad hoc committee as established by the Dean shall serve as the committee to review student readmission petitions. The Committee has full authority to review and evaluate such petitions.

If a student is re-admitted, the Committee may fashion appropriate conditions of probation in addition to those set forth herein, and may set performance standards, such as a minimum grade in a course or a minimum grade-point average for a trimester or semester, or require the completion of certain courses as applicable, to continue in the program.

#### Effect of Exclusion on Summer Enrollment

A student who takes a summer course at the Law School and is notified during the course that he or she has been academically excluded may be allowed to complete the course for credit or may withdraw from the course. Summer school grades for courses taken after a student has been academically excluded (*e.g.*, grades for summer school courses taken after a student's first year, if the student has been excluded as a result of his or her first year grades), are not taken into consideration in determining a student's entitlement to petition for readmission. If an academically excluded student withdraws from a summer school course after the drop-add period is over, no refund for tuition is available. In addition, any student who takes (i) a summer study abroad course through the Law School or (ii) a summer session course through another law school (whether such course is offered domestically or abroad), and is notified during the course that he or she has been academically excluded from the Law School shall not be eligible to receive a refund.

#### Return of Law School Property

Upon notification of academic exclusion from the Law School, the student must return all of the following Law School property:

- a. Student locker key
- b. Phoenix Card
- c. Parking passes
- d. Any library materials in the student's possession
- e. Any other property issued by the University to the student

Failure to return Law School property in good condition may result in repair or replacement charges to the departing student.

#### Return of Student Property

When a student departs the Law School, any student personal property must be removed from the Law School within ten (10) days of the effective date of departure. After the expiration of the ten (10) day time period, the property will be considered abandoned by the student and disposed of by the Law School.

## *Readmission following Exclusion*

### Right to Petition for Readmission

A student who has been academically excluded but has a cumulative GPA of 1.80 or higher as of the end of the Spring Trimester for first-year students may petition for readmission. The faculty's Academic Standards Committee shall serve as the committee to review student readmission petitions. The Academic Standards Committee (the "Committee") or another ad hoc committee as established by the Dean has full authority to review and evaluate student petitions for readmission.

All petitions for readmission shall be in writing and addressed to the Committee. The petition must be received by the Law School Registrar within seven (7) days of the date of the letter notifying the student that s/he has been academically excluded. The petition shall set forth in detail the relief sought and the reasons that relief should be granted. While there is no fixed page limit, the suggested page limit for a readmission petition is no more than 10 pages. There is no specific format for a student petition for readmission.

The Committee will meet to consider the student's petition as soon as practicable after its receipt. A student may request in the petition that he or she be allowed to appear before the Committee prior to its decision on the petition. At this appearance, the petitioner may orally present information that is not contained in the original petition concerning the merits of the petition. The Chair of the Committee will conduct the meeting and may regulate the conduct of the meeting, including but not limited to the length and allowable scope of the petitioner's presentation. Because no transcript or recording of any proceedings or meetings on the petition will be made, the petitioner may submit any additional information raised in his or her oral presentation in a supplemental written statement.

The petition process and the meetings and other proceedings therein, including any appearance by the petitioner before the Committee, is restricted to the Elon Law student and faculty directly involved in the petition proceeding. Recognizing that the petition process is an in-house procedure, attorneys, other legal counsel, and other individuals are not permitted to participate in the petition process or to appear at any meeting, hearing or any other proceeding. Other than the appearance by the petitioner allowed in the preceding paragraph, all meetings, proceedings and deliberations of the Committee will be closed and attendance limited to members of the Committee.

There will be no transcript or recording of any meetings or proceedings regarding the petition. Rather, the record of the petition process and hearing will consist of the written statements submitted by the petitioner and the written decision on this petition prepared by the Committee.

### Standard for Readmission through the Petition Process

A student who has been academically excluded has the burden of persuading the Committee that he or she should be readmitted. In determining whether the petitioning student should be readmitted, the Committee will apply the following standard:

The petitioning student must establish by clear and convincing proof that: (1) he or she has identified the problems or issues that led to his or her exclusion; (2) he or she has taken sufficient steps, or has made sufficient plans, to prevent those or similar problems or issues from interfering with his or her performance in subsequent trimesters; and (3) he or she is

capable of satisfactory academic performance in each subsequent trimester and is capable of satisfactorily completing his or her law studies.

#### Requirements for Readmission; Conditions

When a petition for readmission is granted, the Committee may impose any conditions on readmission including, but not limited to, requiring the petitioner to retake a particular course or courses, prescribing the level of academic performance which will again result in exclusion for academic deficiency, limiting the student's outside employment and involvement in co- and extra-curricular activities, or any other conditions or restrictions the Committee may deem appropriate.

Upon reaching its decision, the Committee will prepare a written decision and provide a copy of this decision to the petitioning student and the Dean.

#### Appeal Process

After a student's petition for readmission has been considered on its merits and a decision reached by the Committee, the petitioning student may appeal this decision to the Dean. Any such appeal of the Committee's decision shall be made by the student, in writing, within seven (7) days of the date of the Committee's decision. Unless otherwise determined by the Dean, this appeal will be decided based on a review of the information considered by the Committee, without further submissions or appearances. Upon reaching a decision on the appeal, the Dean will notify the petitioning student and the Committee of this decision. There is no right to petition or appeal beyond the Law School Dean.

Denial of a readmission petition shall be without prejudice to the right to apply for readmission as an entering first year student, as described below.

#### Right to Apply for Readmission

A student who has been excluded for academic deficiency after the first year of law school may apply for readmission *de novo* to join a first year class entering the Law School one or more years after the student is notified of his or her exclusion. The Admissions Committee may readmit the reapplying student if the members of the Admissions Committee believe there is a substantial likelihood that the applicant is presently able to complete law school successfully. In making this decision, the Admissions Committee shall consider the applicant's post-exclusion course work, work activity, or study, and the applicant's GPA and LSAT score.

If the Admissions Committee decides to readmit the student, the Admissions Committee Chairperson shall sign and place in the student's file a statement of the considerations that led to the decision to readmit the student.

If the Admissions Committee denies an application for readmission after academic exclusion, the decision of the Admissions Committee shall be final.

## Courses taken Elsewhere

### *Policies Applicable to All Students*

The rules set forth in this section apply to students admitted to the Law School as transfer students, and to students permitted by the Law School to take courses at another law school or at another school or department within the University. Students should also consult the appropriate section below (“Transfer Students,” or “Courses Taken by Elon Law Students Outside the Law School”) for additional policies. Please note that all candidates for the J.D. degree graduating with the Class of May 2017 are generally required to complete six full-time semesters in residence at the Law School.<sup>7</sup> Candidates for the J.D. degree graduating with the Class of December 2017 are generally required to complete seven full-time trimesters in residence at the Law School and receive at least 60 credits toward the J.D. degree at the Law School.<sup>8</sup>

Students may receive credit for work at another law school only upon the receipt of an official transcript from the other school. The Law School will not request the transcript; the student has the responsibility to do so.

No credit toward the Elon J.D. degree will be given for any course taken at another law school or another school or department within the University in which the grade received is less than a “C.” No quality points will be awarded for grades for any course taken at another law school or another school or department within the University; this means that such credits for any course taken outside the Law School, if applicable toward the Elon J.D. degree, will apply on a pass/fail basis. Students should be aware that if they take a course outside the Law School in their final term and fail to earn a “C” or higher, no credits will be granted toward the J.D. degree for that course. If this occurs, a student may fall short of the 90 credits required to graduate. The Law School reserves the right to require a grade higher than a “C” for courses taken elsewhere if the particular circumstances warrant.

### *Transfer Students*

The Law School welcomes applications from students who have compiled strong academic records at other law schools and wish to transfer to the Law School. A transfer application will be considered only if the applicant has attended a school accredited by the American Bar Association. Up to 30 academic credits may be recognized for courses taken by a transfer student at another law school. Transfer students who have completed more than one full year of law study will generally be limited to a maximum of no more than 30 credits for work at the other law school.

Whether a particular course or courses a student has taken at another law school may be used to satisfy the specific J.D. course requirements of the Law School will be determined upon admission. Transfer students are not automatically eligible for membership on Law Review on the basis of class rank at another law school. The editorial board of the Law Review may, at the transferring

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<sup>7</sup> Winter Term and Summer Sessions do not count toward the residency requirement. Students who transfer to Elon after their first year at another law school are deemed to satisfy the residency requirement upon completion of four trimesters at Elon.

<sup>8</sup> August Terms and December Term do not count toward the residency requirement, a student’s residency-in-practice does. With respect to the Class of December 2017 and later classes, students who transfer to Elon after their first year at another law school are deemed to satisfy the residency requirement upon completion of four trimesters at Elon.

student's request, review the transfer student's transcript and invite an exceptionally well-qualified transfer student to become a member without participating in the writing competition.

### *Courses Taken by Elon Law Students Outside the Law School*

In limited circumstances, the Law School permits students to receive credit towards their J.D. requirements for courses that are not taken at the Law School, whether at another law school or at another school or department within the University. In all cases, students must obtain advance permission from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs if the student wishes to receive credit towards the J.D. degree for courses taken outside the Law School. If advance permission is not obtained, no credit will be granted toward the J.D. requirements. Under no circumstances will permission be granted retroactively.

### Summer Sessions at Other Law Schools

Generally, a student may receive a maximum of six credits for courses taken during the summer at another accredited law school toward his or her J.D. requirements (for a total of twelve credits taken over two summers). A request to receive credit towards the J.D. degree for courses taken during the summer school of another accredited law school must be submitted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs prior to taking those courses. The [form](#) is available online.

Whether a particular course or courses a student takes during summer school at another law school can be used to satisfy the specific J.D. course requirements of the Law School will be determined in the discretion of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. As previously stated, any student with a GPA below 2.50 must have his or her summer course registration (whether such course or courses are taken at the Law School or elsewhere, including any registration to study abroad) approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. See *Academic Regulations and Procedures—Academic Standards*, above.

### Visiting Status During a Regular Academic Term

If a student has a strong academic record and presents a compelling educational reason involving rigorous curricular offerings that are not available at the Law School, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may permit the student to attend another accredited law school for one regular academic term as a visiting student, while still receiving the J.D. degree from the Law School (assuming satisfactory completion of all J.D. degree requirements). The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may, in rare circumstances, consider a petition to visit another law school based on extraordinary compelling personal circumstances that make such visit necessary.

Petitions for permission to visit another law school must be submitted to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs prior to attending the other law school. Students submitting such petitions must

1. Demonstrate compelling reasons to attend the other law school; and
2. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or above immediately before attending the other law school.

Students who are granted permission to visit another law school must complete their last term at the Elon Law, except in extraordinary circumstances. If permission is granted for a student to visit another accredited law school, the term of the visit is deemed to satisfy the general six semester/seven trimester "in residence" requirement set forth above. See *Curriculum—General Juris Doctor (J.D.) Requirements*, above.

## **Visiting Students from Other Law Schools**

The Law School is pleased to admit a limited number of visiting students from other ABA-accredited schools (“transient students”) who are in good academic standing at their home law schools and who have the permission of their home schools to study at the Law School.

Transient students are expected to adhere (1) to the requirements and standards of their home institution; and (2) to the academic and other standards specified in this Student Handbook, the Law School Honor Code, and other policies of the Law School. A transient student is solely responsible for ensuring that any course work completed at the Law School will be recognized by and will satisfy the applicable graduation requirements of the transient student’s home school.

Students requiring financial assistance should contact the Financial Aid Office at their home schools and/or the Office of Financial Planning at Elon University for assistance and application materials. Students who have been approved for transient status at the Law School should seek the advice of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to complete registration.

## **Transcript Request**

To request a transcript, go to <http://www.elon.edu/e-web/law/academics/transcriptrequest.xhtml>  
There is a charge of \$8/transcript.

## **Course Catalog**

A list and description of the courses offered at the Law School is available on the following website:  
<http://www.elon.edu/e-web/law/academics/CourseCatalog.xhtml>



## VIII. Honors, Prizes and Awards

### Honors

Class rank and honors will be determined by the cumulative grade-point average. The Law School Registrar calculates class rank after all grades are received each term (each semester for third-year students; each trimester for first and second-year students).

### Degree Honors

The degree of Juris Doctor will be awarded with honors under the following circumstances:

*Summa Cum Laude:* Any student who graduates in the top two percent of the graduating class shall be designated as graduating *summa cum laude*. For example, a student who graduates ranked 2/105 is in the top 2% of the class ( $2/105 = 1.90\%$ ) and will receive the honor of *summa cum laude*. On the other hand, a student who graduates ranked 3/105 is in the top 3% of the class ( $3/105 = 2.86\%$ ) and will receive the honor of *magna cum laude*.

*Magna Cum Laude:* Any student who graduates between the top three percent and the top seven percent of the graduating class shall be designated as graduating *magna cum laude*. As explained above, a student graduating ranked 3/105 will receive the honor of *magna cum laude*, as that ranking puts the student in the top 3% of the class. A student graduating 7/105 ( $=6.67\%$ ; top 7%) will also receive the honor of *magna cum laude*, whereas a student graduating ranked 8/105 ( $=7.62\%$ ; top 8%) will receive the honor of *cum laude*.

*Cum Laude:* Any student who graduates between the top eight percent and the top fifteen percent of the graduating class shall be designated as graduating *cum laude*. As an example, a student graduating ranked 8/105 will receive the honor of *cum laude* ( $8/105=7.62\%$ , which is top 8% of the class). Likewise, a student graduating ranked 15/105 will receive the honor of *cum laude* ( $15/105 = 14.28\%$ , which is top 15%), while a student graduating 16/105 will not ( $16/105=15.24\%$ , which is top 16%).

The award of honors is determined exclusively by the final cumulative grade-point average.

### Dean's List

After each term (fall and spring trimesters for third-year students; each trimester for first and second-year students), the Dean will publish a "Dean's List." To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must be a full-time student and earn a semester/trimester grade point average that places the student in the top 15 percent of his or her class for courses taken during that term.

### Awards Given by the Faculty and Administration

#### *Gergen Leadership Award*

Each year the members of the faculty at Elon Law select for recognition an individual from the graduating class whose activities represent the twin principles of leadership and professionalism. This award is named in honor of David Gergen, whose professional life and contributions have embodied the highest levels of selfless leadership and service. Gergen has served as adviser to four

United States presidents. He is the Director of the Center for Public Leadership and Professor of Public Service at the Harvard Kennedy School, one of the country's preeminent political commentators, and Chair of Elon's Law School Advisory Board.

### *Distinguished Service Award*

In the Spring of 2012, the Law School Faculty created the Distinguished Service Award to recognize a graduate student for service to the law school through engagement in and contributions to the life of the school and demonstrated commitment to its mission.

### *"Strongest Comprehensive Performance"*

These awards are presented by the faculty for performance in required classes. The "Strongest Comprehensive Performance" award is given to the student that, in the opinion of the faculty member teaching the required course, has had the strongest performance in the course. This assessment is not limited to the highest grade – it can include participation, oral and written work, group work as well as final grade.

## **Additional Recognition/Awards**

### *North Carolina Advocates for Justice Student Advocacy Award*

This award recognizes a graduating student for demonstrated commitment to public service and excellence in trial and/or appellate advocacy skills.

### *ALI-CLE Award*

This award is to recognize a graduate who best represents a combination of scholarship and leadership, the qualities embodied by the parent organization, the American Law Institute.

### *American Bankruptcy Institute's Medal for Excellence*

This award is given by the American Bankruptcy Institute on behalf of its more than 5,000 members, to the student having demonstrated excellence in the study of bankruptcy law.

### *CLEA's Outstanding Student Award*

(Clinical Legal Education Association) This award is for excellence in representing clients; excellence in the student's course work, including exploring the legal, ethical, strategic and pertinent issues raised in representing clients; and the student's overall contribution to the clinical community.

### *International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award*

This award recognizes a graduating student who demonstrates an overall ability in trial advocacy by high achievement in trial practice, evidence, and pleading and procedure courses.

### *Marshall-Thompson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Constitutional Law Studies*

Created by Barron Thompson, a graduate of the Law School's charter class, this award comes with a stipend and recognizes excellence in the study of Constitutional Law.

### *National Association of Women Lawyers Recognition*

This award goes to the graduate who has shown academic achievement, motivation, tenacity and drive, and who is likely in the future to contribute to the advancement of women in the society.

### *North Carolina Bar Association Pro Bono Recognition Awards*

This award from the North Carolina Bar Association recognizes those members of the graduating class who have provided at least 75 hours of *pro bono* legal service to the community.

### *North Carolina State Bar Student Pro Bono Award*

This award recognizes the public service rendered by one law student at each North Carolina law school and is presented annually at the October meeting of the NC State Bar.

### *Order of Barristers*

The Law School established a chapter of this national organization in the spring of 2012 and, per the organization's constitution, may select up to 10 members for induction each year. Membership in this national organization recognizes graduating law students who have excelled in moot court and mock trial activities.

## **IX. Student Withdrawal from the Law School**

### **Withdrawal**

A student may withdraw voluntarily from the Law School before the start of his or her first examination in any term, provided formal written notice is given to the Registrar. Readmission following withdrawal is subject to the following conditions:

1. There is no right to automatic readmission.
2. A request for readmission will be considered on the basis of the admission standards prevailing at the time readmission is sought. The student must comply with any new admission requirements even if such requirements differ from those existing at the time he or she was originally admitted to the Law School. A request for readmission may be made by sending a letter to the Office of Admissions.
3. If a student who has withdrawn is readmitted, law school credits earned five or more years prior to the date of reenrollment will not be recognized. All requirements for the J.D. must be completed within five years of initial enrollment.
4. A first-year student who withdraws before completing all the requirements of the first trimester will, if he or she is subsequently granted readmission, be required to reenroll as a beginning first-year student.
5. The exclusion, suspension, or withdrawal of a student with a pending conduct or Honor Code violation does not deprive Elon Law of jurisdiction. However, at its discretion Elon Law may suspend action until a student who withdrew or was dismissed requests readmission or, in the case of suspension of a student, until the suspension is lifted. Unless the Dean provides otherwise, no student who withdraws or is dismissed while any action on the complaint is pending will be eligible for consideration for readmission if the application for readmission is made more than one year after the effective date of the student's withdrawal or exclusion. If application is timely made, the student normally will be eligible to be considered for readmission only after the complaint has proceeded to ultimate disposition through conduct and/or Honor Code procedures. If a student withdraws from the Law School while a matter is pending and then applies to another law school, that law school will be notified that the student withdrew leaving a disciplinary matter unresolved, and a letter of good standing will not be issued on behalf of that student.

### **Medical Withdrawal**

If a student has a documented medical condition that has impacted his/her ability to complete course work and will keep him/her from taking exams, the student should consult the Office of Career and Student Development for a medical leave of absence which will remove the student permanently (with grades of WD) from all classes. Students seeking a medical withdrawal must withdraw from all courses; they may not obtain a medical withdrawal from only selected courses. Students with medical withdrawals will not be permitted to complete courses. Medical withdrawals must be processed before the last day of classes.

Any student who is granted a Medical Withdrawal must provide medical documentation in order to apply for readmission. This documentation should be provided to the Office of the Registrar.

## **Return of Law School Property**

Upon withdrawal, the student must immediately return all of the following Law School property:

- a. Student locker key
- b. Phoenix Card
- c. Parking passes
- d. Any library materials in the student's possession
- e. Any other property issued by the University to the student

Failure to return Law School property in good condition may result in repair or replacement charges to the departing student.

## **Return of Student Property**

When a student departs the Law School, any student personal property must be removed from the Law School within thirty (30) days of discontinuing enrollment. After the expiration of the thirty (30) day time period, the property will be considered abandoned by the student and disposed of by the Law School.

## **Tuition Refund**

No tuition or fee refunds are available for summer school or study abroad programs.

With respect to upper-level students on the semester system, tuition and fees for fall and spring semesters are refunded as follows:

Students will receive refunds on a pro rata basis during the first eight weeks of the semester. Following is a table of pro rata charges:

1 <sup>st</sup> week pro rata charge	10%
2 <sup>nd</sup> week pro rata charge	20%
3 <sup>rd</sup> week pro rata charge	40%
4 <sup>th</sup> week pro rata charge	60%
5 <sup>th</sup> week through 8 <sup>th</sup> week pro rata charge	75%
9 <sup>th</sup> week	No Refund

With respect to first-year students, tuition and fees for the August Term and fall, winter, and spring trimesters are refundable as follows:

If a student withdraws by the end of the first week of the August Term (August 7, 2015), the student will receive a full refund of the tuition paid for that term. There are no refunds beyond this date.

First-year students will receive refunds on a pro rata basis during the first six weeks of a trimester. Following is a table of pro rata charges:

1 <sup>st</sup> week pro rata charge	10%
2 <sup>nd</sup> week pro rata charge	20%
3 <sup>rd</sup> week pro rata charge	40%
4 <sup>th</sup> week pro rata charge	60%
5 <sup>th</sup> week through 6 <sup>th</sup> week pro rata charge	75%
7 <sup>th</sup> week	No Refund

For any student (upper-level or first-year) to be eligible for a refund upon withdrawal, the student must meet with the Associate

Director of Career and Student Development regarding his/her intentions. The student must also check out with the Financial Planning and Bursar's Offices. The effective date of withdrawal is determined by the Law School and any applicable refund is calculated as of the date of withdrawal.

Unpaid charges owed by the student will be deducted from the calculated refund. The acceptance deposit is nonrefundable. Medical withdrawals will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

### **Transfer to Another Law School**

A student who wishes to apply for transfer to another law school is required to submit a written notice of intent to the Office of Career and Student Development. A letter of good standing (if applicable) and an unofficial copy of a transferring student's grades will be sent to the school into which the student seeks to transfer, pursuant to a request made by the student.

## **X. Graduation and Admission to the Bar**

In addition to the academic requirements included in this Handbook, all students must satisfy their financial obligations to the institution prior to receiving their diploma. This includes any library fines and any other outstanding charges from the University Bursar.

### **Commencement Ceremony**

To honor its graduates, the Law School conducts a Commencement Ceremony in May each year (December for students entering in August 2015 and thereafter). It may, at its discretion, also conduct other commencement ceremonies. In conjunction with the Ceremony, the Law School often hosts a reception for the graduates and their spouses, families, and friends.

Information regarding announcements, invitations, and other details of time and place will be available through the Office of Career and Student Development. All potential degree candidates should consult that office at the beginning of their last term.

### **Admission to the Bar**

The student should make a timely inquiry concerning requirements for admission to the Bar, including character and fitness qualifications. Failure to follow proper procedure and to adhere to announced deadlines may result in considerable delay in approving an application for admission to the Bar. All credit and residence requirements must be completed (with a grade recorded or certification by the faculty member to the Registrar) before an applicant may sit for the Bar Examination.

Applications for admission to the North Carolina Bar Examiners are available on-line. (To ensure privacy, when using Law School computers to access the application, students should take care to save the application only to personal files.) Careful attention must be given to the completion of the application. Students may seek advice concerning Bar requirements from the Office of Career and Student Development.

The North Carolina Bar Examiners will request certification information from the Law School for every student sitting for the exam. It is the responsibility of every third-year student to make sure all requirements have been met for certification.

All students who are applying for disability accommodations for the Bar examination should meet with the Associate Director of Career and Student Development prior to filing their petitions.

All coursework must be completed by the end of the grading period in order to ensure that the Dean can certify graduation and eligibility to the Bar. Students with incompletes from previous semesters or trimesters should be aware that their coursework is not considered completed until a grade has been recorded by the Office of the Registrar.

Moreover, under no circumstances can the institution make certification of graduation unless all requirements have been completed by the deadline of the jurisdiction to which the student is applying.

Graduating students must accordingly take care to assure that all graduation requirements have been met, *e.g.*, that incomplete work resulting in a grade of “I” has been finished and a grade recorded, and that the upper-level writing requirement has been satisfactorily completed by the end of the student’s final term. Students completing requirements thereafter will not be able to sit for the bar examination.



## **XI. INTERPRETATION OF RULES**

### **Waiver of Rules**

To seek a waiver of any rule, policy or procedure in the Law School Student Handbook, to the extent those matters are subject to waiver, a student should submit a written petition to the Office of Career and Student Development. If the petition deals with a subject that is not within the purview of the Office of Career and Student Development, the petition will be referred to the appropriate official, committee, or body for action. Any waiver of a rule, policy, or procedure set forth in this Handbook is at the sole and exclusive discretion of the Law School.

### **Change of Rules**

The Law School reserves the right to change with immediate effect any rule, policy, or procedure set forth in the Law School Academic Catalog or any other official document.