

Institutional Learning Outcomes
University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
May 2017

The School seeks to educate the complete lawyer through a dynamic curriculum that integrates theory, doctrine, and experiential learning; provides unique global perspectives through transnational educational opportunities; and emphasizes ethics and service to others. In support of this mission statement, the Law School has adopted the following Learning Outcomes and Competencies.

1. Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of the substantive and procedural law that forms the core of the American legal system.

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of terms and rules of law in their courses.
- Students will demonstrate their ability to identify legal rules and synthesize those rules into a larger analytical framework.

2. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to apply their understanding of legal principles to new factual problems.

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to identify issues presented by new factual scenarios.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use their understanding of legal rules to engage in analogical and deductive reasoning to solve legal problems presented by new factual scenarios.

3. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively.

Competencies:

- Students will communicate their written analyses of legal problems in a clear, well-organized, and professional manner.
- Students will communicate their oral analyses of legal problems in a clear, well-organized, and professional manner.

4. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to engage in legal research necessary to determine the legal rules involved in solving new factual problems.

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of hierarchy of law principles and the relationship between primary and secondary sources.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to conduct thorough and efficient legal research.

- 5. In addition to the skills identified in Learning Outcomes 3 and 4, graduates will demonstrate competency in the legal practice skills identified below.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to use documents and other information in developing an understanding of a client's case.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively interview and counsel clients.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to draft documents used in legal practice.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to develop effective strategies to address clients' goals.

- 6. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to practice law in a professional and ethical manner.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize ethical issues that may be presented in a particular factual scenario.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the ethical duties imposed on counsel.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to apply that understanding of ethical duties in new factual scenarios.

- 7. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of the transnational nature of the practice of law in the twenty-first century.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the structure and principles of a legal system other than the core American legal system.
- Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of international or comparative law principles.

- 8. Graduates will be exposed to the value of serving in their communities and promoting the legal profession.**

Competencies:

- Students will have opportunities to contribute to the betterment of the local communities.
- Students will have opportunities to serve the underrepresented and traditionally marginalized communities.
- Students will have opportunities to participate in legal and professional organizations that are dedicated to improving and educating the legal community and the Law School on current legal issues.