

## **GUIDELINES FOR DUAL JD COURSE SELECTION**

*Prepared for Winter 2023 Course Registration*

**Please note: for further details regarding requirements and rules, please consult the 2022-2023 Dual JD Reference Guide.**

Remember that you can perform a degree evaluation at any time to monitor your progress using My Portal (Detroit Mercy Law). You can also view your Windsor Law transcript on uWinsite. If you have any questions or you would like assistance with course planning, please contact Katie Fisher ([fisherkj@udmercy.edu](mailto:fisherkj@udmercy.edu)).

### **PART I: DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Dual JD students need **105** credits to graduate. **60** credits must be from Detroit Mercy Law and **45** credits must be from Windsor Law.

2. The following courses are required of all Dual JD students:

Course	Credits	Year and Semester <small>F = Fall; W = Winter; S = Summer</small>	Minimum Passing Grade
Comparative Legal Writing and Research I	5	1L F	To remain in good academic standing, a Dual JD student must maintain a GPA of at least 2.2 at Detroit Mercy Law and meet the passing average requirement of 60% at Windsor Law.
Comparative Legal Writing and Research II	4	1L W	
CDN & US Property Law	6	1L F + W	
CDN & US Contract Law	6	1L F + W	
CDN & US Criminal Law	6	1L F + W	
CDN Constitutional Law	5	1L F + W	
Indigenous Legal Orders	3	1L W	
US Constitutional Law	4	1L S	
US Civil Procedure	3	1L S	
CDN & US Torts	5	2L F	
CDN & US Professional Responsibility	4	2L F	
CDN Civil Procedure	4	2L F	
CDN & US Business Organizations	5	2L W	
CDN & US Evidence	5	2L W	

3. All Dual JD students are also required to take the following:

- (1) A course that satisfies the Upper Level Writing Requirement (Detroit Mercy Law);
- (2) A Clinic course (Detroit Mercy Law);
- (3) A Law Firm Program course (Detroit Mercy Law);

- (4) Six credits that satisfy the Transnational Law Requirement (Detroit Mercy Law); and
- (5) Administrative Law (Windsor Law).

4. Students should take notice of the final exam schedule when selecting courses. Final exams may only be changed if two exams are given at the same day and time or if a student has three exams scheduled on two consecutive days.

5. The clinics and LFP courses are designed to be capstone courses. Students will get the most benefit from these courses if they wait until the second half of their course of study to take them (i.e. the winter term of 2L or in 3L).

## **PART II: CREDIT RULES**

1. All students must abide by Windsor Law's "**13/29**" rule. This means you must take between 13-18 credits per term and 29-32 credits per academic year (which is defined as the fall and winter terms – the summer term at Detroit Mercy Law is not included). **This rule applies to your combined courses between Windsor Law and Detroit Mercy Law.** The rule is strictly applied and there are no exceptions.

*Note: you cannot take 13 credits in the fall and winter terms. This only totals 26 credits for the year.*

2. If you are a 3L student, you must comply with the **in-person requirement imposed by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada**. This means you must take **a minimum of 29 in-person credits for the 2022-23 academic year and a minimum of 13 in-person credits each term.** If you wish to take a course that is offered online at either Windsor Law or Detroit Mercy Law, you must meet the 29 in-person credits first.

*Note: if you took 13 in-person credits in the Fall 2022 term, you must take 16 in-person credits in the Winter 2023 term to meet the required 29 in-person credits for the year.*

3. The American Bar Association (ABA) prohibits students from taking more than 20 credits in a term. **This rule applies to your combined courses between Windsor Law and Detroit Mercy Law.**

4. The ABA has recently imposed a rule that **no more than 20 credits can come from online courses taken at Detroit Mercy Law.** This rule is in effect starting Fall 2022. Please note that online courses taken at Detroit Mercy Law *prior* to the Fall 2022 term are not counted in this 20 credit limit.

5. If you intend to take more than **18** credits in a term or more than **32** total credits for the academic year (between Windsor Law and Detroit Mercy Law), you must apply for a

credit variance at Windsor Law by filling out [this form](#) and emailing it to the Academic Coordinator for approval ([lawac@uwindsor.ca](mailto:lawac@uwindsor.ca)).

6. If you intend to take more than **16** credits in a term (between Windsor Law and Detroit Mercy Law), you must request permission to do so from Dean Henning at Detroit Mercy Law via email ([henninkm@udmercy.edu](mailto:henninkm@udmercy.edu)). Please also copy Dean Khan on that email ([khanss@udmercy.edu](mailto:khanss@udmercy.edu)). List all courses you are taking (at Windsor Law and Detroit Mercy Law), their credit values, and the reason why you are seeking the variance.

7. You cannot take Business Associations (LAWG 5877) or The Legal Profession (LAWG 5939) at Windsor Law due to overlap with your required Detroit Mercy Law courses.

### **PART III: IMMIGRATION RULES**

1. As a border commuter student holding F-1 visa status, **you cannot take more than 3 online course credits per term.**

2. The signature on your I-20 (SEVIS form) is only valid for one year. If you obtained your visa in the Winter 2022 term, you will need to obtain an updated travel endorsement from Director Winbigler prior to the start of the Winter 2023 term.

3. If you are thinking of pursuing an externship in the Winter 2023 term, remember that you must have held active F-1 student visa status for **one full academic year**. You cannot be granted authorization for Curricular Practical Training (CPT - which is required to complete an in-person externship) unless you have held an active F-1 student visa for one full academic year.

4. If you are thinking of working in Detroit during the summer of 2023, you will need to go through the Optional Practical Training (OPT) approval process. To be eligible for OPT, you need to have held active F-1 student visa status for **one full academic year**. If you have questions about this process, please reach out to Director Winbigler.