Florida State University College of Law
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Student Handbooks

1973

Student Handbook (1972-73)

Florida State University College of Law

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DEAR ENTERING STUDENT:

Getting the proper start in law study is most important to success. Some suggestions may be helpful at the beginning. You are undertaking a new discipline developed over centuries of time. It is not expected that you will obtain at once the knowledge, understanding and skills of an experienced lawyer. This is not easy and requires patience and devotion. The rewards are worth the effort and most law students become so engrossed in their work that it becomes a real pleasure. In a sense, they catch fire in their law study and experience an intellectual growth previously unknown to them.

Consider the following ideas which are more fully developed in other parts of the bulletin.

1. Do not get overwhelmed or discouraged when you find that it is difficult to discover the real issues and to determine the right answers in your daily preparation. Other students are facing the same problem. You must learn to read so as to understand, to analyze and to evaluate competing rationalizations. This requires persistent and thoughtful effort. Beginning law students are always confused, but after more experience all that you have studied will begin to fit into place.

2. Be prepared for each class. How long does it take? Study until you understand; that is the test. Blind reading for long periods of time is worthless. Read to see first what is the exact problem, then to discover the solution given and the reasons sustaining it, and finally to consider ideas testing the validity of the decision. Law is not learned but is acquired through thinking out problems and understanding them.

3. Prepare careful briefs of cases and materials. Read each case at least three times. Take extensive notes in class. Enlarge them soon after class to reflect ideas about every problem considered. If working over notes is postponed, there will be nothing later to revive your dormant memory. Your notes must be meaningful if they are to be helpful in the critical days of examination time.

4. Become acquainted with members of the faculty. They are glad to visit with you to become acquainted or to discuss problems. They are anxious to have you do well. A close relationship between faculty and students builds a strong law college. This friendship and association continues long after graduation.
Dear Entering Student:

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4. Become acquainted with members of the faculty. They are glad to visit with you to become acquainted or to discuss problems. They are anxious to have you do well. A close relationship between faculty and students builds a strong law college. This friendship and association continues long after graduation.
5. Live a day at a time, but plan your time to include some recreation, major events in the law school and University life, some regular exercise, and some association with your fellow students. Your law school friends last a lifetime; further, time used in discussing and arguing legal problems with other law students is time well spent.

Read this handbook carefully. It gives important information to a student beginning law study at Florida State University.

Sincerely,

Joshua M. Morse, III
Dean

P.S. The law is a jealous mistress. J.M.M.
Orientation Program

At 7:00 P.M., Friday evening, September 15, 1972, the orientation program will begin in the Banquet Room, Northwood Mall, North Monroe Street. Members of the faculty and guests will be introduced to the students, and remarks will be made by them in respect to your commencement of the study of law. A social program is planned.

Orientation will continue Monday morning, September 18, at the College of Law. The plan for student advising will be explained at orientation, faculty and student advisers will be designated, and the names of the students assigned to each adviser will be distributed.

The plan of using faculty advisers gives every student close association with members of the faculty. Students may seek counsel of their adviser individually or in groups with respect to matters pertaining to their work in the law school. The offices of the Dean and other members of the faculty are also open to law students for advice and assistance at times which can be conveniently arranged. It is hoped to encourage a close relationship between faculty and students so that students will be able to accomplish the most possible in their study of law.

Each new law student must file an application for registration with the Florida Board of Bar Examiners within 150 days following the commencement of the study of law. To aid our new students in this registration, a representative of the Board of Bar Examiners will visit the law school early in the Fall. At this time, each student will receive the materials necessary to complete his registration and will be provided with other necessary information.

To register for the Bars of other states, students should make their own arrangements. The Office of the Dean will assist.

The first classes will be held Tuesday, September 19, 1972. A schedule of classes will be posted well in advance at the College of Law.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE - READ CAREFULLY

All students will register at Tully Gym on Friday, September 15. Your Registration Ticket will specify an appointment time. It is important for our entering students to honor this registration time.

Every student should bring to registration the Registration Ticket, the trial schedule and the Certificate of Admission to the College of Law. The Certificate of Admission should already have been forwarded to you by the College of Law Admissions Office. Notify the Student Records Office secretary (599-4640) if you do not receive these items prior to registration time.

Detailed registration instructions will be available at the College of Law and at Tully Gym; however, the student should be prepared to pay his registration fees and bring the registration certificate for his motor vehicle. All students with automobiles must register them with Campus Security. Parking stickers and a copy of the automobile regulations may be obtained at registration. Outstanding delinquent accounts of all kinds (library, traffic, etc.) should be settled in advance of registration.

Health Insurance for students and their dependents will be available at registration. This insurance program is sponsored by the Florida State University Student Government.
CASEBOOKS

Casebooks used in the law school may be purchased at the University Bookstore or off-campus bookstores. Ordinarily, the bookstores will know the title, editions, and authors of the books which will be needed each quarter. The University Bookstore and off-campus bookstores have used books, when available, as well as new. Notebooks and other materials are also available at the University Bookstore and off-campus bookstores.

Supplementary books and study aids for law courses are sold at the bookstores. Many of these are of limited value and should not be purchased until one can judge which are helpful. Several copies of books desirable for collateral reading for each course will be available in the law library. The purchase of supplementary materials should be deferred until one’s needs are determined and the availability of the books in the law library is known.

Students should obtain their casebooks before registration if possible. Professors may require that reading be done before the first class. Assignments for the first classes are posted on the main bulletin board. Note the sectioning of courses.

PRE-LAW READING

The faculty of the College of Law has selected the following books as being desirable pre-law reading. At a minimum, it is expected that each entering student will read one of these books.


Llewellyn, Karl N. *The Bramble Bush: On Our Law and Its Study* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1942) 160 pp. ($5.00 - available in hardback only)

The law faculty believes that entering students should have some acquaintanceship with political philosophies and assumes that each student is acquainted with at least one philosopher’s political theory. This knowledge should provide the students with a unified overview of society and afford a better perspective for evaluating law school course readings and class discussions.

LIBRARY

The Law Library and its facilities are open according to the following schedule:

- **Monday - Friday**: 7:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
- **Saturday**: 8:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.
- **Sunday**: 1:00 P.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Schedule changes are posted in advance; additional information concerning the Law Library may be found in the Law Library’s Reader’s Guide, distributed to all students in September.
SUGGESTIONS FOR LAW STUDY

Reading and Briefing A Case

First, a case must be read carefully in order to understand it as a whole and in every part. Beginning students should always read each case at least three times.

The purposes of the briefing process are: (1) to insure that you really understand the case; (2) to serve as a refresher when the case is discussed in class; and (3) to act as a memorandum for purposes of review for examination, when a knowledge of the cases and what they stand for will be indispensable. The following are offered as suggestions:

1. Divide your brief into at least three parts, the facts, issue, and the holding. Sometimes it is preferable to divide into facts, exact issue or issues before the court, holding, rule, and reasons. Other subdivisions may be more appropriate for certain cases.

2. Brief the case in the chronological order of procedural events. In briefing an appellate decision, note particularly the ruling of the lower court which is being reviewed in the higher court and include data leading up to this matter. Always state who won in the court below, who carried the case to the appellate court and which appellate procedural device was used. It is helpful to note the procedural devices by which the issue arose and how the case reached the appellate court. Particularly at the outset, a law dictionary is helpful.

3. Adopt a system of abbreviations. For example, "p" or "pl" for plaintiff, "D" or "def" for defendant, "decl" for declaration, "V" for verdict, "J" for judgment, "K" for contract, and so forth. Whatever system you adopt, utilize it in briefing and in taking class notes.

4. The main things to be winnowed from the procedural background of the case are the issue, the holding and the underlying policy. Consider--what was before the court for decision? Then-- how was this matter decided and why? Did the court finally dispose of the case or just send it back to the lower court to complete the record? There may be two or more holdings in the case; if so, all should be stated, perhaps setting them off separately. Remember, however, the court does not hold everything which it declares is the law. For example, if A sues B in connection with a business deal and the court says on the facts B is not liable but that C (not a party to the case) is, the first statement is a holding, but the liability of C was not before the court so that statement is mere dictum. The dictum may be correct but the case cannot be cited as authority for the liability of C. Note an important dictum in your brief, but indicate that it is not a holding.

5. State the rule of law upon which the holding is based. This is usually found in the opinion, but when it is not, you should construct the rule upon which the decision is based. Often the reason for the rule is stated and if so you should include it. If no reason is stated, include what you think the reason should be. What underlying policy questions prompted the court to decide as it did?

6. Note the final disposition of the case - thus, if the opinion if an appellate one, was the judgment below affirmed, reversed, remanded or modified?

7. While it is not a necessary part of a brief, each case in a series should be appraised in relation to other cases you read. How does it compare with the case before and the case following? How does it
relate to cases in other courses? Are they consistent, inconsistent or distinguishable? Can you account for the differences of viewpoint and which do you prefer? How do you evaluate competing reasons and policies influencing a decision? In short, why did the compiler put this case in the casebook? What is its contribution?

Illustrative Case Brief

Dickinson v. Dodds, 2 Ch. Div. 463 (1876), p._____(page in casebook)

On June 10 Dodds delivered to Dickinson a memorandum agreeing to sell Dickinson certain premises for £800, to which he attached a postscript stating "this offer" to be open until June 12, 9 a.m. In the morning of June 11, Dickinson decided to accept, but did not communicate his acceptance to Dodds. The same afternoon Dickinson learned that Dodds had agreed to sell the premises to one Allan. Thereafter and before 9 a.m., June 12, Dickinson gave Dodds his acceptance in writing. Dodds refused to convey. Dickinson brought suit in equity against Dodds and Allan for specific performance of the alleged agreement.

The cause was tried before Vice-Chancellor Bacon, who decreed specific performance. The defendants appealed.

Issue: Is knowledge of sale to another without formal notice a valid revocation of a prior offer?

On appeal the plaintiff's bill was finally dismissed. Dickinson was not entitled to recover because:

1. The memorandum contained a mere offer, which was revocable at any time before acceptance.

2. The revocation of an offer is effective as soon as the offeree knows that the offer has been revoked, even though the offeror has given him no notice thereof.

3. Sale to another is a revocation of a prior offer.

Methods of Taking Class Notes

Taking careful notes in class and expanding them after class is a very important part of law study. There is not just one way to take class notes or to prepare your notebook, but it is important that you find a way to develop good notes. There is no substitute for day-by-day careful preparation of your cases, assigned reading and class notes. This gives you the greatest assurance of success in law study. The problems presented in the class materials will be discussed at length with many additional associated problems. Issues will be raised by the professor conducting the class through the questioning of students, an interchange of discussion with them, or through his own analysis of the subject matter. Your class notes should reflect your understanding and constitute a textbook of your own covering each subject taken in law school. Your notebook should be so complete that you can use it alone for final examination review.

Often in class you will be unable to complete notes on every point. These should be completed during the same day while your memory is fresh. If you do not understand problems, this is the time to
clarify and develop the issues and possible solutions with articulate care in your notes. Working out a careful statement in writing is a useful study aid. If you cannot state a matter, you do not understand it. You must learn to communicate your thinking accurately.

Working over your notes will also help you to learn to communicate your ideas in writing. The effort to make comprehensive notes is most valuable in a sound legal education. If you take pride in your notes and make good notebooks they will refresh your recollection in reviewing for law school tests and later for your State Bar examinations. Some lawyers even keep and use their notes for reference when in law practice.

Use any type of notebook you like but keep notes for each course in a separate book. For law students who will use handwriting in all their notes, permanently bound law school notebooks with wide margins are recommended. Students who type easily or who plan to rewrite their notes may prefer looseleaf notebooks.

You may be asked to show your notebooks to your faculty adviser. This will be done to help you because good notes personally made by you are your best assurance of success in writing. Your notebook is much more than an outline and should contain completed sentences having an articulate meaning. It is not until you attempt to write what you feel you know that you discover the need for further study and more exact thinking.

In modern legal education, much emphasis is placed upon the ability to communicate both orally and in writing. This is accomplished not only through classes devoted to research and writing but should be a part of everything you do, including the taking of careful notes and revising them after class.

Frequently you will leave the classroom confused over some problems. You will obtain a great deal of benefit from discussing these problems with your fellow students in an effort to clarify your thinking. In fact, one of the best parts of legal education is the discussion students have with each other in which they argue various points until they have ironed out the difficulties. But again, sometime fairly soon after these discussions take place you should write into your notes supplemental statements of your thinking. This helps you to be articulate and brings to light errors in your thinking. The effort to communicate in writing the ideas which you have may show the need for further study.

Suggestions on Content for Class Notes

1. Questions raised in class. Write down questions asked by the professor. These will raise the pertinent issues and help identify the problems. Until you understand the precise problem and grasp its meaning, you are unable to appreciate the legal issues surrounding it. Students will ask questions, and often good ones. Include these questions also because they suggest the trouble points and present various ramifications of the problem. Stating valid questions helps to indicate your comprehension of the problem. The questions are often as important as the answers. Some questions will not be answered in class to your satisfaction; these suggest the course for further study and are guides to your thinking upon the legal solutions.

2. Other fact situations developed in class. Hypothetical illustrations presented in class fill the gaps between cases, bring out distinctions, and integrate the particular problem to its expanded application. Put these in your notebook and study their meaning. In the study of law, you examine factual
situations to which the law applies. Law study requires imagination to see how basic concepts and principles fit into the solution of problems. Law study is a thinking process in which understanding is a basic objective. The concepts and principles developed in one case are important in the solution of analogous situations. Look for the connections and the applications and include them in your notes.

3. Changing concepts and conflicts. Dean Roscoe Pound stated, "The law must be stable but it cannot stand still."

There should be no change just to have change, and many basic legal principles seem to be everlasting. Precedents are important for certainty and security of transactions and acquisitions. They serve as guides to conduct and assure equal treatment of the same problems. Nevertheless, nothing is more constant than change. Law is in a process of growth to meet new demands of civilization. Some decisions, very desirable at the time rendered, need revision to fulfill needs of the present and future. Some decisions may be historically significant but outdated. Consider the reasons underlying decisions and weigh them to see how they fulfill present needs. Many decisions are in conflict. Conflicts often appear in a single decision, as when a court considers both sides of the problem and selects the position believed most desirable. Casebooks frequently contain two cases each taking the opposite view. Reference is frequently made to the Restatements of the Law which state the Institute's idea of the most desirable view. These have significantly influenced American law. Reference to the restatement may be helpful in study. Law reviews give critical consideration of legal problems and are valuable references for better understanding. You must study both sides of conflicts, the rationale involved, and also policy considerations which are so important in the law. Your notes should include statements on those factors which have influenced the growth of the law.

4. Non-case materials. Leave room after each case for a summary of your additional reading. Where a case seems unsolved or is particularly difficult, do some further reading to straighten out your understanding of the problem. Most cases will have footnote references to various reference material. Either before or after class, read these where you feel the need for additional background. Include in your notes further comments in respect to them.

5. Legislation and rules of court. Much important law is found in state and federal statutes. They are controlling and involve statutory interpretation when the statutes are applied to the various factual situations under their control. Statutes must be examined in the light of the purpose which they seek to serve and the historical background giving rise to their enactment. Whole fields of the law are covered by statutes such as the recent Uniform Commercial Code. Statutory law is now prominent as a means of improving the law and accomplishing change. In the practice of law the first source of inquiry is whether there is a statute covering the subject matter. Statutes are annotated in the various states, showing their application and interpretation through judicial decision. A student must always be aware of the possibility of statutes as the primary source of applicable law. More emphasis is being given to the study of legislation in law school and in certain courses the study of legislation is a primary objective. This section seeks to create an awareness of the great importance of legislation in American law. Somewhat different techniques may be involved in the study of statutes although the analytical process involves similar skills to the study of all law. In your notes, where statutory matters are involved, they should be clearly indicated as such. In procedural matters, rules of court will have all of the significance of statutes as a source for application and interpretation.

This lengthy statement on note-taking is designed to help you appreciate the importance of the note-taking process. Quite apart from what is learned by the process, it helps to develop the capacity to communicate ideas, so important in law school and in law practice.
Satisfactory completion of the Law 500 course series is required for graduation. In the Fall and Winter Quarters, Law 500A and B consist of sessions devoted to use of the law library, legal research techniques, and preliminary legal writing. Law 500 C (Legal Writing) occupies the Spring Quarter. During this time law students brief and argue assigned moot court problems. The Law Librarian, assisted by other faculty members and the Board of Student Advisors, administers this program.

In conjunction with Law 500, individual advisee groups meet with faculty advisers several times throughout the year at times to be announced. These meetings usually will not deal directly with formal coursework. Rather, they will involve analysis of problems common to all law students and lawyers. Emphasis will be on broadening understanding of the interrelation between law and society and the ways in which the legal profession continually seeks to adjust the rule of law in our dynamic modern society.

RULES AND CHANGES TO RULES

The faculty of the College of Law provides rules concerning the academic work and conduct of law students. Because of the high moral and ethical responsibility of those entering the legal profession, these rules are a necessity. The faculty reserves the privilege to modify or revoke rules and to exercise complete discretion in providing or changing rules in the interest of the College of Law. This handbook contains the major current rules of the College of Law. Students are charged with notice of these rules.

In addition, the Florida State University reserves the right to exclude at any time, under established procedures, a student whose conduct is deemed improper or prejudicial to the College of Law or to the University community.

HONOR SYSTEM

An honor system governs all student academic activities of the College of Law. It is particularly relevant to examinations and use of library materials. Administered by faculty and students, the honor system observes those standards of professional ethics which the public expects of practicing lawyers, and which they require of each other. Since much of actual law practice is conducted through informal agreement between lawyers, students will appreciate the fact that personal honor will be an invaluable asset in future years. The personal reputation of the practitioner is clearly as important as his professional ability; indeed, the two can hardly be separated. Failure to observe the honor system will result in disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the College of Law.

Each law student is subject to the University honor system administered by the student judicial system, which may also impose penalties. Your attention is called to the requirements of this system which can be found in the Pow-Wow.

CONDUCT

Appearance and dress are important to the success of a lawyer in his practice. It is also important that one be careful about his appearance in law school, since we have visiting lawyers and guests. Your
appearance, courtesy and conduct help to form a favorable impression of you and of the law school. There are no fixed standards concerning dress. If the student keeps in mind that he is a professional, he will make every effort to present a neat and appropriate appearance.

In the same vein, students are expected to act in a manner appropriate for a student of the law. Any act or omission which is dishonest or designed to gain unfair advantage of any other student is not tolerated. Obvious examples of prohibited conduct include plagiarism, cheating on the examination by giving or receiving assistance, and especially, misuse of library materials which are intended to be available to everyone in the law school.

The right is reserved to dismiss a student whose conduct at anytime is deemed improper or prejudicial to the interest of the College of Law or the University community.

The College of Law takes particular pride in the appearance of the building and grounds. Maintenance of this appearance is an equal responsibility of all the students, and carelessness will not be tolerated. No smoking is permitted in the first floor classrooms during classes.

POLICY ON FULL-TIME STUDENT STATUS

Law students are expected to carry at least fifteen hours of approved credit work each quarter and are required to carry at least twelve hours of approved credit work each quarter, with the following exceptions:

(a) for good cause, students may be granted permission to withdraw from courses and thereby drop below twelve hours, as more fully explained below under Withdrawal Procedure;

(b) transfer students need not carry twelve quarter hours during their first quarter in residence if suitable courses are not offered for them;

(c) reduced loads may be carried by any student during the Summer Quarter, by students awarded a Legislative Staff Internship, and by seniors during their last quarter in residence;

(d) in advance of registration, the Assistant Dean may grant special underload permission to entering students when the best interests of the College of Law so require.

All other students must register for at least twelve hours of approved credit work each quarter. The term “approved credit work” includes all regular College of Law courses and seminars, approved outside courses and seminars which may be taken for law school credit, and all programs within the College of Law that carry academic credit (e.g., Moot Court, Public Defender, Board of Student Advisors, Law Review, Directed Individual Study, etc.)

The faculty advisers counsel students concerning this policy and assist the Office of the Dean in enforcing it. Students should neither seek nor expect to receive authority for deviations from it. Students should know that enrolling for less than twelve hours of work in a quarter results in a proportionate loss of residence credit.
CLASS ATTENDANCE

Every student is expected to attend all class meetings and prepare all assignments for the courses in which he is registered. Credit is given only for resident study, which requires class attendance. For sickness or other fully justifiable reason, special consideration may be given to students who have been forced to miss some classes. They should consult the faculty members whose classes are missed. Each case is judged on its own merits. Instructors may disenroll students and/or award a grade of 50-F for chronic unexcused absenteeism.

WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE

From Courses

Once a student is enrolled in a course, he is expected to complete the course and take the examination in it unless there is some justifiable reason for withdrawing. Students initially registered for at least twelve hours of approved credit work in a quarter may, for good cause, obtain permission to drop one or more courses. This permission is normally granted only for medical or similar reasons and is not granted by reason of outside employment. Permission is granted by the Assistant Dean during the first week of a quarter, and by the Assistant Dean with the consent of the instructor thereafter. No grade is assigned for any course dropped under the above procedure. Courses dropped at any time without permission will be recorded as F and a grade of 50 entered on the student's record.

From the College of Law (University)

To withdraw officially from the College of Law, a student must first clear the Student Records Office. The student must then contact the University Counseling Center, 316 Bryan Hall, prior to withdrawal, so that clearances may be arranged. If a student withdraws without making proper arrangements, grades of F and 50 will be assigned in all courses in which the student is registered.

Readmission of Withdrawing Students and Students Deemed to HaveWithdrawn

Every student who withdraws from the College of Law at any time is required to seek readmission through a readmission form provided by the University Registrar and by petition filed with the Admissions Committee. Every current student who fails properly to enroll for any following quarter (except for the summer quarter) prior to graduation shall be deemed to have withdrawn and is required to petition for readmission. Readmission in all cases is a matter of discretion for the Committee and not a matter of right. The Committee will examine the student's entire file and record, including activities subsequent to withdrawal. A withdrawing student should understand that withdrawal may result in a denial of readmission.

Cancellation of Registration

Prior to the start of classes, a student may cancel his registration for the particular quarter.

GRADING

The faculty gives numerical grades for work in most courses and seminars when the student completes the required work. Students receive letter grades by mail from the Office of the Registrar. A
letter grade derives from a numerical grade on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numerical Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-84</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A few law courses and clinical programs are graded on a “Pass-Fail” (S/U) basis. Some sequential courses have one final grade covering two quarters of work. Tentative grades of “I” (Incomplete) are awarded in these courses pending grading of the final examination. On occasion, and consistent with University policies, a grade of “I” may be awarded when a student does not complete his work during the appropriate quarter. These “I” grades involve special circumstances and require instructor approval.

Numerical grades are posted in the College of Law when they are available. Students are not authorized to obtain partial or individual release of grades. Neither faculty nor staff members will release grades in advance of the consolidated posting for each course. Grades are not furnished over the telephone or to messengers.

**EXAMINATIONS**

Many examinations in the College of Law are essay examinations. Most questions require answers involving anywhere from fifteen minutes to one hour’s time. All essay examinations must be answered in the standard examination “blue book.” These are available in bookstores and must be obtained by the student. When objective examinations are given, students must supply their own No. 2 pencils.

If a student, before or during an examination, believes he cannot take or complete the examination by reason of illness, he must immediately contact the instructor. Otherwise, permission to take a later examination is automatically denied. An unexcused absence from an examination is recorded as F and a grade of 50 entered on the student’s record.

**POLICY ON COURSES OFFERED BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

Upperclass students with a grade point average of 72 or better may register for a total of nine quarter hours of credit in graduate-level courses or seminars outside the College of Law. No more than one such course or seminar may be taken in any one quarter. An outside course cannot be taken for law school credit if it is being used toward completion of any other degree requirements; or if it is not deemed relevant to the study of law; or if it essentially duplicates academic work previously taken at law school or elsewhere. Permission to register in outside courses must be obtained in advance of registration from the Curriculum Committee Chairman, and is initiated by filling out the “Request for Approval of Enrollment in Outside Courses” form obtainable from the Student Records Office secretary. The student must obtain all permission required by the department offering the course. A student must meet all requirements for satisfactory completion of each outside course, and will not be permitted to graduate with an Incomplete (“I”) in any outside course. Grades from outside courses will be recorded on the College of Law transcript on a “Pass-Fail” basis, with a grade of B or better required for “Pass.” Grades in courses meeting the requirements of this policy will be used in computing law school credit hour and residence requirements, but will not be used in computing law school grade point averages.
SEMINARS

Seminars are open to qualified upperclass students, normally on a “first come, first served” basis. Usually enrollment is limited to sixteen students. Many seminars require a paper of approximately 25 to 30 pages in length, of substantial quality, and based on individual research. In others, memoranda or other legal writings are typically required.

DIRECTED INDIVIDUAL STUDY (DIS)

To provide opportunities for sustained individual research, enrollment in one or more DIS programs (Law 791) is authorized. These ordinarily carry two or three hours of academic credit based on a numerical grade. (An “S” is reported to the Registrar under University regulations.) A DIS requires intensive research under close faculty supervision in an area of particular interest to the student, culminating in a research project. The number of credit hours to be awarded is determined by the directing professor. Registration in DIS programs is open only to second and third year students. A student who desires to enroll in a DIS must obtain a “Request for Directed Individual Study” from the Student Records Office secretary, prepare a topical outline, and obtain approval of the proposed directing professor. Final approval must be received from the Curriculum Committee. All requests must be submitted at least one week prior to the last day of regular registration. (During the Fall Quarter, requests may be submitted on or before September 22, 1972.)

CLINICAL AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS (Law 790 and 792 Series)

The College of Law has established several clinical and special programs designed to provide practical experience combined with scholarship and research in a context of service to the school or to the community. Special requirements, prerequisites and other information may be obtained from the faculty member in charge. Advance permission for registration, obtained from the faculty member in charge, is required. Registration is listed as Law 790 (A-F) and Law 792 (B-D) as appropriate. Law 789, Clinical Orientation, is a prerequisite to registration in all clinical programs except Law 790C.

Academic credit from 1 to 15 hours on a “Pass-Fail” basis is awarded. Consult the College of Law catalog, posted quarter schedules, and faculty members in charge for details.
REQUIRED AVERAGE

When a law student shall have attempted thirty-five or more quarter hours of law school course work he must have, and thereafter maintain, a grade point average of 64 to be eligible to continue law study. The 64 grade point average rule applies to transfer students, irrespective of total hours attempted, at the end of the grading period in which they receive their fourth final grade at the College of Law.

A cumulative grade point average of 65 in all work attempted at law school is required for graduation.

Academic dismissal from the College of Law is automatic upon determination of an unsatisfactory average. The dismissed student is notified by the Office of the Dean. There is no probationary period or right to return.

READMISSION OF ACADEMICALLY DISMISSED STUDENTS

After a student is academically dismissed, a readmission petition may be filed with the Admissions Committee. The Committee will examine the student’s entire file and record, including activities since academic dismissal. The petition is not granted as a matter of right but as a matter of discretion. If the petition is granted, normally readmission will commence no earlier than one year after dismissal. The Committee may direct that required courses failed by a readmitted student prior to dismissal be retaken, or impose other conditions. Readmission petitions are seldom granted and only special circumstances warrant readmission.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student is eligible for the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree when he:

1. Has taken all required courses;
2. Successfully completes the Law 500 series;
3. Successfully completes 129 hours of approved credit work under the quarter system with a final grade point average of 65 or better (126 hours for students who entered prior to September, 1971);
4. Satisfies the residence requirement.

Successful Completion

A course or seminar is successfully completed if a passing grade (D or better) is awarded. “Pass-Fail” programs are successfully completed only if a “Pass” is awarded. A student need not retake a failed course (required or elective) although he may do so. Failed courses, however, are not counted in computing the required 129 hours.

Residence Requirement

Residence involves the equivalent of 96 weeks in residence at law school. To meet this requirement, a student must have the equivalent of nine quarters of law study, each consisting of twelve
or more credit hours. If a student successfully takes less than twelve hours of work during a quarter, he receives proportionate residence credit. A student does not receive increased residence credit by taking more than twelve hours of work in a quarter. A student taking twelve or more hours of work in a quarter receives full residence credit provided he passes at least nine of the hours. Whenever less than nine hours of work are passed during a quarter, a student receives residence credit only for the ratio that the hours passed bear to nine. If a student enrolls for twelve to fifteen hours of work each quarter, residency is normally not a problem.

Transfer Students

A transfer student must complete a minimum of 50 hours of approved credit work at the College of Law in order to obtain a degree. Grades below C are not transferred. Transfer students must take or have taken all required courses and meet all other graduation requirements.

DETERMINATION OF CLASS AND CLASS STANDING

Students are considered second-year (junior) students when they complete forty hours of work and third-year (senior) students when they complete eighty-five hours of work. All students graduating at any time between September and the following August are considered members of the same class. Class standing is computed at least once annually for each class. This information is not posted, nor is it normally released without authorization from the student.

BULLETIN BOARDS - NOTICES

The locked bulletin board in the College of Law building contains official notices concerning curriculum matters. Emergency telephone messages and miscellaneous notes to individual students, placement information, the Florida Bar matters, and other matters are placed on other bulletin boards. For some programs or courses (Public Defender, Trial Practice), instructors post special information. The Student Bar Association and fraternal organizations have bulletin board space in the building.

Students should check these boards regularly and are specifically charged with notice of all matters posted on the official bulletin board. Students are requested not to post material on the walls.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Statement by Student Bar Association

A law student must develop extremely complex professional skills, a task involving difficult intellectual concentration. At first glance it might appear that mastering the basics of law and then augmenting his knowledge should be his only activities, but the very nature of the legal profession places other responsibilities on the student. The lawyer is a leader in most communities, and further, his profession brings him in contact with people of all socioeconomic levels. As community leader, responsible citizen, advocate and counselor, the lawyer must possess social as well as professional attributes essential for interaction with clients, professional associates and others.

The Student Bar Association helps to facilitate development of such skills. Student Bar Association programs provide an opportunity to meet distinguished members of Bench and Bar both academically
and socially, and to benefit from the visits of others to community and campus. These programs also make available intraschool services necessary to equip the student for law study; assist the faculty in developing academic and social affairs; and provide liaison between the student body, the University, and the community, with specific concentration on maintaining beneficial contacts with the Florida Supreme Court, the Florida Bar and the legal community in general.

The Student Bar Association is involved in Freshman Orientation, Homecoming, Law Day, Moot Court, and various social events. Speakers of national prominence are involved in the major events of the year.

The new law student will have an opportunity to meet the executive officers of the Association at Freshman Orientation and will participate in the election of the Freshman Class Vice President, late in the Fall Quarter. The structure and purposes of the Student Bar Association will be explained in greater detail at Freshman Orientation and throughout the first year.

Fraternities and Sororities

Three legal fraternities are in existence at the new College of Law. These groups perform useful educational functions while also performing the normal fraternal activities. Many lawyers remain active in their legal fraternities or sororities throughout their professional careers. The College of Law encourages legal fraternities and sororities; however, membership is optional. The beginning first-year student should consider his primary function that of getting his academic work in order prior to becoming seriously interested in fraternal activities. Each fraternity sets certain academic requirements for membership. The fraternities with chapters at the new College of Law are Delta Theta Phi, Phi Alpha Delta, and Phi Delta Phi.

FSU Law Wives

The College of Law considers the Law Wives organization a valuable adjunct to the academic and social functions of the College of Law. In addition to sponsoring numerous social activities, the Law Wives also serve as a service organization for the College of Law. This past year their activities included several social functions, lectures and panel discussions relating to the law and the life of a law student's wife, and coffee bars during examinations.

Alumni Activities

As the College of Law builds up alumni, it is expected that in addition to participating in the activities of the Alumni Association of Florida State University, the law school alumni will develop their own programs and meetings. Some of the friendships made in law school last throughout a lifetime and these meetings are a way to maintain friendships developed during the attorney's law school career. The College of Law will attempt to maintain alumni records in cooperation with the University Alumni Association so that notices of alumni activities and information concerning the school, in general, can be provided to our alumni.
Other Events

During the year there will be several events and meetings featuring prominent speakers and guests from the Bar and the Bench, and many university events which will interest law students. These add to the cultural development of law students and to the breadth of vision expected of men in the legal profession. They all help to provide the special opportunity for legal education offered at Florida State University through its location at the seat of state government. From time to time there will be important events of government, hearings in courts, and affairs of the bar associations made available to law students. These will help to enrich your experience and associations as you pursue your legal education at Florida State University. Students will be informed of these events as they arise.