



VILLANOVA  
UNIVERSITY

Charles Widger School of Law  
**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**  
(Revised 10.16.17)

**STUDENT CHART**

Category	Course	Credit	Notes
<b>1L Required</b>	Civil Procedure (4) Criminal Law (4) Torts (4) Contracts (4/5) Property (5/4) Constitutional Law I (3) Elective (3) Legal Writing, Analysis & Research (5) 1L Module (1) Professional Development I (1)	34	
<b>Upper Level Required</b>	2L Module	1	
	Legal Profession	3	
	Constitutional Law II	3	
	Professional Development II	1	
	Professional Development III	1	
	Legal Writing III	2-3	<i>Fall or Spring of 2L year; Transactional or Litigation.</i>
	Practical Writing	2-3	<b>5000 level courses including clinics.</b> (Note: A clinic satisfies the practical writing requirement and counts towards the experiential learning requirement. In other words, a clinic “double counts” towards both practical writing and experiential learning.)
	Seminar	2-3	<b>6000 level courses;</b> Includes Directed Research; Participation on a Journal does not fulfill this requirement; No more than 6 credits of Directed Research and Seminars will be counted towards credits needed for graduation.
	Experiential Learning	6	<i>Six (6) credits may be earned in a clinic or externship.</i>  <i>A clinic satisfies the practical writing requirement and counts towards the experiential learning requirement. In other words, a clinic “double counts” towards both practical writing and experiential learning.</i>
<p><b>Limitations</b></p> <p><b>Concurrent enrollment prohibited:</b> No student may take more than one experiential class (clinic or externship) in a single semester.</p> <p><b>Credit limits for experiential courses:</b></p> <p><b>Total credits:</b> No more than a combined total of 17 credits from clinics and externships will be counted toward the total credits needed for graduation.</p> <p><b>Annual credits:</b> No more than a combined total of 14 credits from clinics and externships taken in a single academic year will be counted toward the total credits needed for graduation.</p> <p><b>Credits for externships:</b> No more than a total of 9 credits from externships will be counted toward the total credits needed for graduation.</p> <p><b>Exemption from credit limitation:</b> In some circumstances, such as participation in a full-time semester externship, the Associate Dean</p>			

for Academic Affairs may grant an exemption from the above limitations. Please see the Director of Experiential Learning.

**Second Semester Externships:**

A second semester of an externship with the same host organization is permitted with the permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. At a minimum, the second semester must involve significant additional development of the student's knowledge, experience, and skills. In most cases, enrollment in the second semester will not be permitted until a substantial portion of the first semester of the externship has progressed.

**Work Time Requirement:**

135 hours for 3 credits

180 hours for 4 credits

270 hours for 6 credits

540 hours for 12 credits

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may approve an externship for any credit amount between 3-12 credits. The appropriate work time requirement, equal to 45 hours per credit, would attach to any such externship.

**Judicial Externships:** Students participating in Judicial Externships may receive credit for a second judicial externship only if that externship is served with a different court at a different level (for example, a first externship with a trial court and a second with an appellate court). To be eligible for a second judicial externship, the student must obtain written permission from the Director of Experiential Learning verifying that the second externship will be served with a different court at a different level.

**Credit Limitations on Non-Instructional Courses (Including Co-Curricular Activities, Professional Development II, III and Experiential Courses):** No more than a combined total of 27 credits in total of courses that fall within the following categories will be counted toward the total credits needed for graduation without the permission of the Academic Dean: externships, journals, moot court, and courses taken in parts of the University outside the Law School for which credit toward the J.D. degree is granted.

<b>Electives</b>		<b>7000 level courses</b>
	<b>TOTAL REQUIRED</b>	91

**Students may not take fewer than 12 or more than 18 credits per semester.**

**Prerequisites:**

Students must check the course descriptions for every course before registering to determine if the course carries a pre- or co-requisite. Because we require students to register for a full year of classes during the registration period, the online registration program (NOVASIS) will not prevent you from registering for a class for which you do not have the prerequisite, **however, you will not be granted credit for any course you take without having completed the prerequisite, even if you complete the entire semester.** Full course descriptions are available on the Registrar's website, and students are required to review them before registering.