



Scholastic Honors for J.D. Students

Honor Roll

The names of full-time J.D. students who complete at least 10 graded law school hours and achieve a semester grade point average that is within the top 25% of semester grade point averages for the group of students with which that student is ranked will be recorded on the College of Law Honor Roll.

The names of part-time J.D. students who complete at least 7 graded law school hours and achieve a semester a grade point average that is within the top 25% of semester grade point averages for the group of students with which that student is ranked will be recorded on the College of Law Honor Roll.

Any J.D. student who receives an X grade will not be listed on the Honor Roll, regardless of his or her grade point average for the semester in which the X grade is earned.

Any J.D. student who receives an I grade in two or more two courses will not be listed on the Honor Roll, regardless of his or her grade point average for the semester in which the I grades are earned.

Dean's List

The names of full-time J.D. students who complete at least 10 graded law school hours and achieve a semester a grade point average that is within the top 5% of semester grade point averages for the group of students with which that student is ranked will be recorded on the College of Law Dean's List.

The names of part-time J.D. students who complete at least 7 graded law school hours and achieve in the work undertaken in a semester a grade point average that is within the top 5% of semester grade point averages for the group of students with which that student is ranked will be recorded on the College of Law Dean's List.

Any J.D. student who receives an X grade will not be listed on the Dean's List regardless of his or her grade point average for the semester in which the X grade is earned.

Any J.D. student who receives an I grade in two or more two courses will not be listed on the Dean's List, regardless of his or her grade point average for the semester in which the I grades are earned.

Graduation with Honors

For December and May graduations, a candidate who is in the top 2% of his or her graduating class will qualify for a degree summa cum laude. A candidate who is in the top 5% of his or her graduating class will qualify for a degree magna cum laude. A candidate who is in the top 25% of his or her graduating class will qualify for a degree cum laude.

For July graduations, a candidate's cumulative grade point average will be compared to those of the previous May graduation. If the July candidate's grade point average would have been in the top 2% of the May graduating class, then the July candidate will qualify for a degree summa cum laude. If the July candidate's grade point average would have been in the top 5% of the May graduating class, then the July candidate will qualify for a degree magna cum laude. If the July candidate's grade point average would have been in the top 25% of the May graduating class, then the July candidate will qualify for a degree cum laude.

Any candidate who has been on the Honor Roll or Dean's List in each fall and spring semester of the student's enrollment *and* for at least five such semesters, *and* who is in the top 30% of his or her graduating class, will qualify for a degree cum laude, regardless of final class rank.

In connection with the graduation ceremony, the College of Law will announce which students are anticipated to graduate with honors; however, the level of anticipated honors will not be noted. Anticipated honors will be based on a student's standing in his or her class following the end of the prior semester (i.e., spring for December graduates and fall for May and July graduates).

When grades are finalized and diplomas printed, actual honors at the summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude levels will be noted on each eligible student's diploma and official transcript. An individual may not represent that he or she graduated with honors based on the announcement of anticipated honors at graduation; instead, a representation that an individual is an honors graduate at a certain level must be based on final grades and the designation included on his or her official transcript.

In addition, for each May graduation, the College of Law may designate one or more valedictorians. Valedictorians will be selected by the Dean, Associate Dean for Academics, and Chair of the Honors, Awards, and Financial Aid Committee from the students who appear to be eligible for summa cum laude honors, based on their cumulative GPA following the calculation of fall grades and rankings. A valedictorian must have completed at least 65 credits hours at the College of Law. Any student designated as a valedictorian will be presented with a special cord or medallion to wear during the graduation ceremony.

Explanations and interpretations:

Standard rounding techniques will be used to determine class rank.

Scholastic honors are not calculated for any summer session.

Students who have been sanctioned under the Academic Honor Code for any sort of academic dishonesty may be denied scholastic honors in that semester and future semesters. This sanction will be determined by the Honor Code Investigator in cooperation with the Associate Dean of Academics.

Only graded credits taken at the College of Law will count toward the minimum number of credits that must be completed in a given semester. Courses taken at other schools pursuant to a dual-degree and courses graded on an S/U basis will not count.

The October 2008 amendments will take effect for grades issued for in the Fall 2009 semester.

Starting in May 2010, diplomas no longer will be awarded at the graduation ceremony; thus, the April 2010 amendments regarding honors at graduation will take effect for the May 2010 graduation.

Approved by the faculty, May 5, 2004; revised by the faculty November 2002; March 5, 2003, May 17, 2004; October 15, 2008; April 14, 2010.