Southern Illinois University  
School of Law

Rules Relating to Academic Standing, Probation, and Withdrawal

[Excerpted from School of Law Rules for AY 2021-2022]

ARTICLE III - ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

2. Good Standing, Probation, Dismissal, and Voluntary Withdrawal [amended 4/15/2008, effective June 1, 2008; amended 4/20/10; 5/10/21]

(a) Good Standing and Dismissal at the End of the Second Full Semester. At the end of the second full semester (or the equivalent for a part-time student), a student with a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or above shall be considered to be in “good standing” and eligible to continue studies at the School of Law. A student whose cumulative GPA is less than 1.800 shall be dismissed from the School of Law, without right of petition or appeal.

Good standing will be determined based on all courses in which a final grade has actually been assigned.

(b) Academic Probation at the End of the Second Full Semester.

(i) At the end of the second full semester (or the equivalent for a part-time student), a student whose cumulative GPA is at least 1.800 but less than 2.000 is eligible to continue studies at the School of Law, but is not in good standing. Such student shall be placed on academic probation and shall be promptly notified of such action, which notice shall include a copy of this rule.

(ii) A student on academic probation must:

(A) prior to the start of the next full semester, meet with the Associate Dean;

(B) prior to the start of the next full semester, meet with the Director of Academic Success to develop a plan of remediation;

(C) achieve a GPA of at least 2.000 in each of the next two full semesters;

(D) achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 2.000 at the end of the student’s fourth full semester; and
(E) take at least 12 hours per semester.

(iii) A student who fails to meet any of the conditions set forth in the preceding subsection (ii) shall be dismissed from the School of Law without right of petition or appeal.

(c) Good Standing and Dismissal at the End of the Fourth Full Semester. At the end of the fourth full semester, a student with a cumulative GPA of 2.000 will be considered in “good standing” and eligible to continue their studies at the School of Law. A student whose cumulative GPA is less than 1.900 shall be dismissed from the School of Law, without right of petition or appeal.

Good standing will be determined based on all courses in which a final grade has actually been assigned.

(d) Academic Probation at the End of the Fourth Full Semester.

(i) At the end of the fourth full semester, a student whose cumulative GPA is at least 1.900 but less than 2.000, and whose GPA was 2.000 or above at the end of the second full semester, is eligible to continue studies at the School of Law, but is not in good standing. Such student shall be placed on academic probation and shall be promptly notified of such action, which notice shall include a copy of this rule.

(ii) A student on academic probation must, prior to the start of the next full semester:

(A) meet with the Associate Dean; and

(B) meet with the Director of Academic Success to develop a plan of remediation.

(iii) A student who fails to meet either of the conditions set forth in the preceding subsection (ii) shall be dismissed from the School of Law without right of petition or appeal.

(e) Voluntary Withdrawal from the Law School.

Only students who meet the following requirements may withdraw voluntarily from all courses at the School of Law and return without having to reapply for admission to the School of Law. Voluntary withdrawal is also subject to all University requirements and deadlines, as well as Rule III.5(f)(iv) (Deadline for Program Changes).

(i) Students Who Have Not Yet Completed Two Full Semesters
(A) **General Rule.** A student who has not yet completed two full semesters may voluntarily withdraw from the School of Law and may return without petition if the student does so within 15 months following the date of withdrawal. If more than 15 months have elapsed since the student’s withdrawal, the student may return only by petitioning the Dean, which petition shall be freely granted if justice so requires.

(B) **Completion of All First-Year Courses Required.** A student who voluntarily withdraws from the Law School before completion of two full semesters must, upon readmission, complete all required first-year courses before being permitted to take upper-level courses. If a first-year course is subsequently removed from the catalog or no longer offered in the same format, the Associate Dean will designate a course, or combination of courses, that the student must take to meet the degree requirement. [amended 5/17/21]

(C) **Retaking First-Year Courses after Withdrawal.** If a student withdraws from the Law School prior to completing two full semesters and has been assigned a final grade in any first year course, or all assignments in the course have been completed but a final grade has not been assigned, the student may not, upon readmission, re-take any such course prior to completing two full semesters.

(ii) **Students Who Have Completed at Least Two Full Semesters**

(A) **Students in Good Standing.** A student who has completed at least two full semesters and who is in good standing at the time of withdrawal may voluntarily withdraw from the School of Law and may return without petition if the student does so within 15 months following the date of withdrawal. If more than 15 months have elapsed since the student’s withdrawal, the student may return only by petitioning the Dean, which petition shall be freely granted if justice so requires.

(B) **Students on Academic Probation at Time of Withdrawal.** A student who has completed at least two full semesters and who is on academic probation under either Rule III.2(b) or III.2(d) at the time of withdrawal may voluntarily withdraw from the School of Law and may return without petition if the student does so within 15 months following the date of withdrawal. If more than 15 months have elapsed since the student’s withdrawal, the student may return only by petitioning the Dean, which petition shall be freely granted if justice so requires. Any student who is on academic probation at
the time such student voluntarily withdraws must, upon refusal to readmission, continue to satisfy the conditions of probation to which the student was subject prior to withdrawal.

(f) Students Matriculating at the School of Law Before August 1, 2010. For all students who matriculated at the School of Law before August 1, 2010, academic good standing, eligibility to continue study at the School of Law, graduation eligibility, withdrawal, and any other related matters not addressed by these Rules shall be determined under the Rules of the Southern Illinois University School of Law for Academic Year 2009-10 last amended February 16, 2010.


(a) Methods of Evaluation. The instructor shall evaluate student academic achievement by examinations of suitable length and complexity, papers, projects, or assessment of performances of students in class or in the role of lawyers. The instructor must specify the method(s) of evaluation in the course syllabus. Except for first-year courses whose focus is legal writing and legal research, each first-year course must involve at least one “regular” examination—that is, a graded, timed, written, non-take-home examination, and, in each such course, at least 50% of the course grade must be based on one or more such examinations.

(b) Anonymous Grading of Written Examinations. The Associate Dean, in consultation with the faculty, shall establish and maintain such policies and procedures as necessary to ensure student anonymity when grading written examinations.

(c) Saving Written Course Work. Unless the instructor returns examination answers, papers, or other written, graded course work to the students, the instructor must retain all such materials, and any written grading records, for one year following the date the instructor submits a grade in the course.

(d) Examination Conflict and Reschedule Policy. Students must take all examinations, whether in-class or take-home, at the time and place announced either on the examination schedule or by the instructor, unless the examination is rescheduled by the Registrar for one of the following reasons:

(i) a student has two examinations scheduled on the same day;

(ii) a student is prevented from taking the examination(s) because of the student’s illness or a death in the student’s immediate family; or

(iii) the Associate Dean has determined that a student is faced with other exceptional circumstances that justify rescheduling one or more examinations, which determination is not subject to review by grievance or otherwise.
A student may not reschedule an examination solely because the student has examinations on consecutive days. Any examination that is rescheduled shall be administered, if possible, on the reading day prior to the examination period. If rescheduling on the reading day is not possible, the examination will be rescheduled at such time as the Registrar shall determine.

(e) **Student Honor Code.** Students must comply with the Southern Illinois University School of Law Honor Code during all examinations and other evaluations. The Associate Dean, in consultation with the faculty, shall establish and maintain such policies and procedures as necessary to provide for proctoring or monitoring of examinations and evaluations.

(f) **Timely Submission of Final Examinations.** Instructors shall submit their final examinations to the Registrar each semester by the deadline(s) established by the Associate Dean. The deadline(s) shall be set with due regard for the time needed for instructors to adjust and finalize final examinations as the semester concludes and for the Registrar to prepare and distribute final examinations, including any need for them to be made available in alternative formats.

(g) **Student Grievances of Grades.** Individual student grades, the content of examinations and other assessments, and the internal control and conduct of a particular course are considered matters within the academic judgment of the faculty member. The person best able to evaluate the student’s performance is the faculty member who taught the course, because evaluation is affected by participation in the course, by the course objectives, by the materials covered in the course, by the method of presentation, and by reference to the general performance of the students in the course as a whole. A student may only file a grievance about a final course grade awarded to the student and only according to the following standards and procedures.

(i) **Standard for a Grade Grievance.** In order to prevail in such a grievance, a student must prove by demonstrable evidence that the grade was awarded due to prejudice or arbitrary and capricious conduct by the faculty member. A grade grievance may not be based solely on a claim that the faculty member exercised allegedly erroneous academic judgment—e.g., a student may not file a grievance that complains that the class standards were too high, the course load was too heavy, the grades were too low, too much (or too little) weight was allocated to a particular exercise, question, or examination, etc.

(ii) **Meeting with Faculty Member.** Before filing a written grievance, the student must make reasonable efforts to meet with the faculty member to discuss the grade.
(iii) Filing of Written Grievance; Deadline to File. If the matter is not settled during the meeting with the faculty member or if the faculty member fails to meet with the student after the student has made reasonable efforts to schedule a meeting, the student may file a written grievance with the Associate Dean. The written grievance must allege that the grade awarded was the result of prejudice or arbitrary and capricious conduct by the faculty member and must include the evidence reasonably available to the student which the student believes substantiates that allegation. Absent compelling circumstances, the written grievance must be filed with the Associate Dean no later than the first Monday in April with respect to a grade awarded in a course held in the preceding fall semester and no later than the first Monday in November with respect to a grade awarded in a course held in the preceding spring semester or summer session.

(iv) Associate Dean’s Determination; Dismissal or Referral to Academic Standards Committee. If the Associate Dean determines that the student’s written grievance creates a reasonable suspicion that the faculty member awarded the grade as a result of prejudice or arbitrary and capricious conduct, the Associate Dean shall refer the matter to the Academic Standards Committee (“the Committee”). If the Associate Dean determines that the student’s written grievance does not create reasonable suspicion that the faculty member has given a grade as a result of prejudice or arbitrary and capricious conduct, then the Associate Dean shall dismiss the grievance without further right of appeal in the law school. The Associate Dean shall make such determination no later than ten days after the date on which the written grievance was filed with the Associate Dean.

(v) Committee Investigation. The Committee shall make an appropriate investigation into the circumstances surrounding the award of the grade and shall provide an opportunity for the grievant and the faculty member to present relevant evidence; provided, however, that neither the grievant nor faculty member is entitled to have counsel or other representative present at any hearing or other proceeding that the Committee may conduct.

(vi) Committee Report. The Committee shall submit a written report to the Dean not later than 60 calendar days after the date on which the Associate Dean referred the grievance to the Committee, unless the Dean shall grant the Committee’s request for additional time for good cause shown. The report shall contain: the Committee’s findings of relevant facts; the Committee’s conclusion whether the faculty member assigned the grade as a result of prejudice or arbitrary and capricious conduct; and, if the Committee recommends a decision in favor of the grievant, the remedy to be awarded to the grievant. The Committee may include in the report any additional materials it deems relevant.
Dean’s Decision. The Dean shall defer to the Committee’s findings and may reject those findings only if they are not clearly supported by the evidence. If the Dean determines a grievance in favor of the grievant, the Dean shall award the remedy recommended by the Committee, unless the Dean concludes that the remedy is impracticable or inconsistent with University policy, in which case the Dean shall award an appropriate remedy. If the remedy awarded would cause the grades for the course to violate the mandatory mean or the mandatory grade distribution range rule or any other law school rule relating to grades, the Dean shall have the authority to allow a deviation from the mandatory mean or the mandatory grade distribution range rule or other rule. The Dean shall make such determination no later than ten days after the date on which the Dean received the Committee’s report. The Dean’s determination may not be further appealed in the law school. [amended 5/10/21]

Substitution of Faculty Member. If a student files a grievance against a faculty member who at the time is serving as the Associate Dean, the Dean, or a member of the Committee, then the Associate Dean (or the Dean if the Associate Dean is the faculty member involved) shall appoint another faculty member to act in connection with the grievance.

4. Auditing [amended 5/11/10]

Any student may audit a course with the permission of the instructor. An auditor shall not be required to take the final examination, but must satisfactorily complete the course, including any requirements by the instructor that an auditor adhere to rules applied to regular students such as class participation and attendance. [Transferred without change from Article I.7, 4/15/08]

5. Course and Degree Requirements [amended 5/11/10; 5/5/11]

(a) Required Courses. Required courses are Contracts I and II, Property I and II, Lawyering Skills I and II: Legal Writing, Lawyering Skills I and II: Legal Research, Torts I and II, Criminal Law, Civil Procedure I and II, Constitutional Law: Individual Rights, Constitutional Law: Powers of Government, Evidence, Legal Profession, Mastering Legal Education I, Mastering Legal Education II (except for those students eligible to opt out), and a course satisfying the senior writing requirement (see Rule IV.5). [amended 4/15/2008, effective June 1, 2008; amended 5/17/21, effective fall 2021]

(b) Passing Grade in Required Courses.

(i) Except as provided in paragraph (ii) below, in order to obtain a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree, a student must receive a passing grade (“D” or higher on or after August 2021; 1.8 or higher on the 0.0 to 4.0 scale for
students matriculating or taking first-year courses on or after August 2017) in all required courses. [amended 5/1/2017; 5/10/21]

(ii) A student must receive an “S” in the following required courses graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory scale:

(A) Professionalism and the Law, and

(B) Moot Court or Law Journal activities satisfying the senior writing requirement.

(c) Other Requirements for Graduation. In order to obtain a J.D. degree, a student must also:

(i) satisfy all admission requirements;

(ii) participate as required in the first-year Academic Success Program unless the student is a transfer student who did not enroll at the Law School as a first-year student;

(iii) comply with the course selection menu(s) approved by the faculty, and receive either (a) a passing grade (“D” or higher on or after August 2021; 1.8 or higher on the 0.0 to 4.0 scale for students matriculating or taking first-year courses on or after August 2017) in a graded menu course or (b) a grade other than “Unsatisfactory” in a menu course where all students receive a non-numeric or non-letter grade; [amended 4/18/14; 5/1/17; 5/10/21]

(iv) complete at least five full semesters while enrolled at the School of Law, except for students admitted under the two-year J.D. program who maintain a GPA that is at or above the median for that student’s first-year class, and except as provided in Rule II.3(c)(i), regarding transfer students, and in Rule III.9, regarding transient students and summer classes at other law schools; [amended 4/18/14]

(v) maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.000 in all work completed after the student becomes a third-year student;

(vi) have an overall cumulative GPA of at least 2.000;

(vii) receive credit for at least 90 hours;

(viii) receive credit for no more than 25 hours of the 90 hours required by Rule III.5(c)(vii) in courses outside “regularly scheduled class sessions at the law school.” Courses that count against this 25 credit hour limitation are those ABA Standard 304 indicates may not be counted as attendance in
regularly scheduled class sessions, including Field Placements, Advanced Appellate Moot Court, Advanced Mock Trial, Law Journal, Journal of Legal Medicine, Independent Research and Writing, graduate school courses and other courses taken in departments outside of the law school for which credit toward the J.D. degree is granted, and any other courses determined by the Associate Dean as falling within ABA limitations. Legal Clinic courses do not fall within the 25-credit hour limitation. [added 5/5/11]; and

(ix) for students matriculating after August 2014, perform no less than thirty-five hours of approved pro bono work prior to graduation. The work must be law related, uncompensated, supervised by an attorney, and not for academic credit. [added 10/25/13]

(d) **Time Limitation for Completion of J.D.** All the requirements for the J.D. degree must be completed within a maximum of six years from the time of first registration as a J.D. student at this Law School, except that in the case of transfer students, the maximum period shall be the lesser of: (i) five years from the time of first registration as a J.D. student at this Law School, or (ii) six years less the number of years already spent by the transfer student in another law school.

(e) **Credit Hour Limit.** No student may register for more than eighteen credit hours during the fall or spring semester, or more than nine credit hours during the summer term. [amended 10/20/09]

(f) **Regular Attendance.** Regular attendance to class meetings in all courses is expected and required of all students in accordance with the rule to be announced by the Instructor at the beginning of each course. Unless the instructor has announced a rule allowing fewer absences, or except for extraordinary circumstances, however, a student enrolled in a first-year course may not accumulate class hour absences in excess of twice the credit hours in any particular course during the term, and a student enrolled in any other course may not accumulate class hour absences in excess of three times the credit hours in that course during the term. Class hours will be calculated on a fifty-minute basis. Absent agreement of the instructor, missing all or part of a class counts as missing all of the class minutes for that class. Attendance will be taken in class and attendance records will be kept for one year. Violation of this attendance rule shall subject the student to the penalties of section (g) below. Upon the recommendation of the Instructor involved, the Dean or Associate Dean may waive violation of this rule for extraordinary circumstances. [amended 4/19/11]

(g) **Sanctions for Failure to Attend**

(i) **Non-required Courses.** Upon the student’s failure to attend class in accordance with the attendance rules in a non-required course the Instructor will advise the Associate Dean of this fact. The Associate Dean
will then withdraw the student from that course, except as provided in (iii) below.

(ii) Required Courses. Upon a student’s failure to attend classes in accordance with the attendance rules in a required course the Instructor will advise the Associate Dean of this fact. In the discretion of the Associate Dean, upon the recommendation of the Instructor, the student will be given either a “W” or the lowest possible grade, except as provided in (iii) below.

(iii) Optional Sanction for Failure to Attend. Notwithstanding sections 5(g)(i) and 5(g)(ii), a student who has accumulated absences in excess of the allowable number shall have the option, with the consent of the Instructor, of remaining in the course and having the student’s final grade for that course reduced by three tenths of a point on the 0.0 to 4.0 grading scale or by one step on the letter scale (e.g., “A” to “A-”; “C-” to “D+”), for each additional absence in excess of the allowable number. These additional absences may not exceed the number of credits of that course. In the event the student accumulates an excess additional absence, the sanctions of section 5(g)(i) or 5(g)(ii) shall apply. Exercise of this option may result in a failing grade.

Examples of sanctions for additional absences:

a. John Smith is enrolled in Contracts I, a required three-hour class that meets for fifty minutes three times a week. The Instructor announces that the maximum number of allowable class hour absences in the class is six. [amended 4/19/11]

   i. John Smith misses seven classes. If Smith obtains the consent of the Instructor, he may accept a reduction in his final grade of three tenths of a point. If he does not choose to accept such a reduction in grade or the Instructor does not consent, he will be withdrawn from the class or will be given the lowest possible grade pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).

   ii. John Smith misses nine classes. If Smith obtains the consent of the Instructor, he may accept a reduction in his final grade of nine tenths of a point. If he does not choose to accept such a reduction in grade, he will be withdrawn from the class or receive the lowest possible grade in the class pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).

   iii. John Smith misses ten classes. At this point, Smith loses his opportunity to accept a grade reduction sanction and he will be withdrawn from the class or receive the lowest possible grade in the class pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).
b. John Smith is enrolled in Contracts I, a required three-hour class that meets for fifty minutes three times a week. The Instructor announces that the maximum number of allowable class hour absences in the class is three. [amended 4/19/11]

i. John Smith misses four classes. If Smith obtains the consent of the Instructor, he may accept a reduction in his final grade of three tenths of a point. If he does not choose to accept such a reduction in grade or the Instructor does not consent, he will be withdrawn from the class or receive the lowest possible grade in the class pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).

ii. John Smith misses six classes. If Smith obtains the consent of the Instructor teaching the course, he may accept a reduction in his final grade of nine tenths of a point. If he does not choose to accept such a reduction in grade, he will be withdrawn from the class or receive the lowest possible grade in the class pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).

iii. John Smith misses seven classes. At this point Smith loses his opportunity to accept a grade reduction sanction and will be withdrawn from the class or receive the lowest possible grade in the class pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).

c. John Smith is enrolled in Family Law, a non-required three-credit class that meets twice a week for 75 minutes. The Instructor announces that the maximum number of allowable class hour absences in the class is nine, which translates into six 75-minute classes. [added 4/19/11]

John Smith misses seven 75-minute classes. If Smith obtains the consent of the Instructor, he may accept a reduction in his final grade of three tenths of a point. If he does not choose to accept such a reduction in grade or the Instructor does not consent, he will be withdrawn from the class or receive the lowest possible grade in the class pursuant to section 5(g)(ii).

(h) Minimum Hours Enrollment per Semester. Full-time students must enroll for a minimum of 12 hours each semester except the semester of their graduation. If for any reason the student withdraws or is withdrawn from a course that would cause the student to drop below 12 hours, the student will receive the lowest possible grade in that course unless the Associate Dean determines that the circumstances warrant a “W.”
(i) **Deadline for Program Changes.** Any program change initiated by the student (such as withdrawal from a course, or changing to an audit, etc.) must be made by the latest time authorized by the University.

(j) **Timing of Required Courses.** A first-year student, unless admitted as a part-time student, must take all required first-year courses offered each semester. All law students must take Constitutional Law no later than their fourth full semester, except those students who intend to graduate after five full semesters, who must take Constitutional Law no later than their third full semester. If the Associate Dean determines that circumstances otherwise warrant, however, the Associate Dean may permit a student to deviate from this Rule III.5(j). [amended 2/27/15]

(k) **Retaking Courses.** Except as provided in Rule III.2(e)(i)(C), a student who has failed a required course must retake that course in order to meet the degree requirements stated in Rule III.5(a) of these rules. If the course the student failed is subsequently removed from the catalog or no longer offered in the same format, the Associate Dean will designate a course, or combination of courses, that the student must take to meet the degree requirement. The student must enroll in that course no later than the next full semester it is offered. A student who has failed a non-required course may retake it. Except as provided herein, a student will not be permitted to repeat any course. [amended 5/17/21]

(l) **Prerequisites/Corequisites.**

(i) Any prerequisites or corequisites to a course shall be indicated in the description of that course filed with the Registrar.

(ii) At the discretion of the instructor, a student may be allowed to take a course even though the student has not completed the prerequisite or enrolled in the corequisite.

6. **Class Ranking** [amended 5/11/10]

(a) **Class Ranking.** At the end of each semester, the Registrar shall rank students in each class according to their cumulative GPA. There are two categories of ranking: regular and index.

(b) **Regular Ranking.** Students not described in subsection (c)(i)–(iv) shall be regularly ranked according to their cumulative GPA in relation to other regularly-ranked students in their class.

(c) **Index Ranking**

(i) **Purpose of Index Ranking.** Index ranking is designed to reflect the relative academic performance of students who do not qualify for regular ranking, without displacing any regularly-ranked student. To this end, index
ranking is a shadow ranking in that a student assigned an index rank is not included in the regular class ranking.

(ii) **Students Subject to Index Ranking.** Students shall be index ranked if:

(A) they have transferred to this law school from another law school;

(B) they do not graduate in or before the third May following their date of entering law school;

(C) at the end of their first year in law school, they have not completed every required course in the first-year curriculum; or

(D) at the completion of their law school work, they have fewer than 69 graded credit hours earned at this law school.

(iii) **Calculating Index Rank.** Index-ranked students shall receive the rank of the regularly-ranked student in their class that their cumulative GPA equals or exceeds without equaling the cumulative GPA of the next highest regularly-ranked student. (See illustration below.)

(iv) **Illustration of Class Ranking Rule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Name</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>Regular Ranked Students</th>
<th>Indexed Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>First</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Second</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Second</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Third</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>Fourth</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
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<td>Fifth</td>
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<td>Fifth</td>
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<td>H</td>
<td>2.65</td>
<td>Sixth</td>
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<td>I</td>
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<td>Sixth</td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Seventh</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(d) **Graded Hours Only.** Only graded hours earned at this law school shall be used in determining class ranking.

(e) **Class Rank.** An individual student’s class rank may be given to that student at the student’s request and will not be available until a reasonable time after release of grades under Rule III.1(g). [amended 2/22/11]

7. **Dean’s List** [moved and amended 2/22/11]
The top 15% of students in their class in each semester who earned at least twelve credit hours during the semester shall be on the Dean’s List. Students who have earned a minimum of eight hours are also eligible for consideration if they have a GPA no less than that of any student in the top 15% who earned at least twelve credit hours, but shall not displace any such student.

8. **Graduating Honors** [amended 5/11/10; renumbered and amended 2/22/11]

(a) **Regularly-Ranked Students.** The diploma, the university transcript, and the law school transcript shall reflect the following graduating honors:

(i) **Summa cum Laude.** The top 3% of the graduating students who are regularly ranked;

(ii) **Magna cum Laude.** The next 7% of the graduating students who are regularly ranked;

(iii) **Cum Laude.** The next 10% of the graduating students who are regularly ranked.

(b) **Indexed-Ranked Students.** Graduating seniors who are ranked in the indexed ranking list shall have their diploma, law school transcript, and university transcript reflect graduating honors if their cumulative GPA is equal to or higher than the cumulative GPA of a regularly-ranked student who has graduated with honors.

9. **Credit Awarded by Other Law Schools (Students Other Than Transfer Students).** [added 5/11/10]

Unless a student has been admitted to the School of Law as a transfer student in accordance with Section II.3, or as otherwise provided in this Section III.9, a student may not apply credit awarded by another law school toward satisfying the 90-hour requirement of Section III.5(c)(vii).

(a) **Summer school.** With prior approval of the Dean or Associate Dean, a student may receive credit at the School of Law for up to 12 hours earned in summer sessions offered by other law schools approved by both the ABA and the AALS, except as provided in III.9(b)(iii) below for transient students.

(b) **Transient students.** A transient student is one who first commenced study at the School of Law and who is allowed to apply credit awarded by another law school toward satisfying the 90-hour requirement of Section III.5(c)(vii), other than as allowed by Subsection III.9(a). A student may be a transient student only if all of the following requirements are satisfied.

(i) The Dean or Associate Dean must approve an application to become a transient student prior to the student enrolling in the other law school.
Such application will be approved upon a showing by the student that denial of transient status would constitute a hardship.

(ii) The other law school for which transient status is approved must be a law school approved by both the ABA and the AALS.

(iii) Except as provided in the next sentence, a transient student must complete 60 hours of credit awarded by the School of Law and is not allowed to apply more than 30 hours of credit awarded by the other law school toward satisfaction of the 90-hour rule of Section III.5(c)(vii). With approval of the Dean or Associate Dean, however, a transient student may apply toward the 90-hour rule up to an additional six hours of credit awarded in a summer school session at another law school approved by both the ABA and the AALS, for a maximum of 36 hours of credit earned at another law school. This may include credit previously approved under Section III.9(a).

(iv) The transient student must satisfy all requirements for graduation from the School of Law set forth in Section III.5, other than Section III.5(c)(iv). A transient student may satisfy the requirements of Sections III.5(a), III.5(b), and III.5(c)(iii) by taking courses at the other law school only if the Associate Dean determines that those courses are the substantial equivalent of School of Law courses that would satisfy those requirements.

(c) Grade Required

(i) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c)(i), the School of Law will grant credit only for a course from another law school in which a student has earned a grade that is equal to or better than the minimum GPA required by the other law school for graduation from that school.

(ii) In the discretion of the Associate Dean, a student may be awarded credit toward the 90-hour requirement of Section III.5(c)(vii) for a course at another law school that is graded S/U, pass/fail, credit/no credit, or the equivalent, but any such credit awarded shall count against the maximum number of S/U hours specified in Section III.1(d).