Requirements

Business Law and Entrepreneurship Emphasis

The Business Law and Entrepreneurship (“BLE”) Emphasis has five requirements:

I. Mandatory Meetings with BLE Advisor
II. Mandatory Courses (10 credits)
III. Additional Courses by Track (12 credits)
IV. Skills Requirement (at least 2 credits)
V. Writing Requirement (at least 1 non-classroom credit)

A course’s inclusion in this list of requirements is not a guarantee that the course will be offered regularly. In addition, the faculty may add or subtract courses as the curriculum changes. Finally, the course numbers associated with listed courses may change.

Students must track their own completion of BLE Emphasis requirements. In addition, students must submit periodic “BLE Advisor Forms,” a “BLE Externship Form” (if required), and a “BLE Paper Topic Approval Form,” as directed below.

Mandatory grade requirement: Starting with students beginning the BLE emphasis in Fall 2014 (Class of 2016), BLE students must earn:

- a minimum grade of C in each course taken to satisfy emphasis requirements, and
- a cumulative 2.50 grade point average over all courses used to satisfy BLE emphasis requirements.

I. Mandatory Meetings with BLE Advisor

Each student pursuing the BLE Emphasis will be assigned a BLE Advisor from among the faculty teaching in this area. A student’s BLE Advisor will not necessarily supervise the student's BLE Emphasis writing requirement.

Each student must meet with his or her assigned BLE Advisor at least once per semester. Therefore, you must meet with your BLE Advisor at least once during each of the following semesters: Spring of your 2L year; Fall of your 3L year; Spring of your 3L year.

It is the student’s sole responsibility to contact his or her BLE Advisor to schedule each meeting at a mutually convenient time, to obtain the BLE Advisor’s signature confirming each meeting on a “BLE Advisor Form,” and to submit the “BLE Advisor Form” as directed on the form.

II. Mandatory Courses (10 credits)

- Law 919, Business Associations (4 cr)
- Law 925, Property Security (3 cr)
- Law 930, Taxation (3 cr)
III. Additional Courses by Track (12 credits)

Each student must complete the requirements for one (and only one) of the following three tracks: Commercial Law, Enterprise Organization, or Intellectual Property and Technology Law.

**Commercial Law Track (12 credits)**
The Commercial Law Track is designed for students to focus their studies on the various laws that govern commercial transactions.

**Required courses:**
- Law 923, Negotiable Instruments, Bank Collections and Deposits, and Other Payment Systems (3 cr)
- Law 924, Sales (3 cr)

**Elective courses:** At least 6 credits from the following list:
- Law 854, Corporate Taxation (2-3 cr)
- Law 907, Administrative Law (3 cr)
- Law 911, Suretyship and Guaranty (2 cr)
- Law 926, Bankruptcy (3 cr)
- Law 927, Partnership & LLC Taxation (2-3 cr)
- Law 984, Real Estate Transactions (3 cr)
- Law 990, Consumer Law (3 cr)

**Enterprise Organization Track (12 credits)**
The Enterprise Organization Track is designed for students to focus their studies on the legal issues surrounding the formation, operation, and governance of businesses.

**Elective courses:** At least 12 credits from the following list:
- Law 851, Advanced Torts (3 cr)
- Law 854, Corporate Taxation (2-3 cr)
- Law 901, Environmental Compliance for Business (3 cr)
- Law 903, Introduction to Intellectual Property (3 cr)
- Law 907, Administrative Law (3 cr)
- Law 908, Workplace Law (4 cr)
- Law 910, Antitrust (3 cr)
- Law 920, Securities Regulation (3 cr)
- Law 921, Accounting for Lawyers (2 cr)
- Law 922, Trademarks & Trade Dress (2 cr)
- Law 924, Sales (3 cr)
- Law 927, Partnership & LLC Taxation (2-3 cr)
- Law 984, Real Estate Transactions (3 cr)
- Law 992, White Collar Crime (3 cr)
Intellectual Property and Technology Law Track (12 credits)
The Intellectual Property and Technology Law Track is designed for students to focus their studies on the legal issues surrounding the protection of intellectual property and the management of intellectual property rights.

Required courses:
- Law 903, Introduction to Intellectual Property (3 cr)
- Two of the following three courses:
  - Law 922, Trademarks & Trade Dress (2 cr)
  - Law 931, Patents (2 cr)
  - Law 980, Copyrights (2 cr)

Elective courses: At least 5 credits from the following list:
- Law 907, Administrative Law (3 cr)
- Law 910, Antitrust (3 cr)
- Law 918, Cyberlaw (3 cr)
- Law 922, Trademarks & Trade Dress (2 cr) (if not taken as a required course)
- Law 931, Patents (2 cr) (if not taken as a required course)
- Law 980, Copyrights (2 cr) (if not taken as a required course)
- Law 989, Mass Media Law (2 cr)

IV. Skills Requirement (at least 2 credits)

One course from the following list:
- Law 912, Civil Mediation (2 cr)
- Law 917, Negotiation and Appropriate Dispute Resolution (3 cr)
- Law 932, Estate Planning (3 cr)
- Law 973, 975, or 976 Externship in a relevant placement (3+ cr)
  - An externship must be pre-approved as relevant to the BLE Emphasis by the BLE Advisor and by the Externship Director or Coordinator. Each student must obtain the BLE Advisor’s signature and the Externship Director or Coordinator’s signature on the “BLE Externship Form” and submit “BLE Externship Form” as directed on the form.
- Law 978, Small Business Legal Clinic (3+ cr)
- Law 994, Economic Development Clinic (3+ cr)
- Law 998, Tax Clinic (3+ cr)
V. Writing Requirement (at least 1 non-classroom credit)

Each student must complete an in-depth research paper that:
(1) the student’s BLE Advisor agrees is relevant to the track chosen by the student in Part III;
(2) satisfies the Upper Division Writing Requirement; and
(3) earns at least one non-classroom credit through one of the following:
   Law 981, Critical Legal Studies Journal
   Law 982, Law Review
   Law 983, Directed Study.

A student may use a research paper initially written for a class to satisfy the BLE writing requirement. Upon completion of the class, however, the student must enroll in a directed study to continue working on the paper until it satisfies the Upper Division Writing Requirement. A student’s BLE Advisor will not necessarily supervise the student’s BLE Emphasis writing requirement. Each student must obtain the BLE Advisor’s signature on the “BLE Paper Topic Approval Form” and submit the “BLE Paper Topic Approval Form” as directed on the form.