COURSES; CHANGING COURSES 6.1-6.11

6.1 Course of Study

(a) All first-year students shall take the required first-year courses.

(b) All students shall successfully complete the upper-level required courses and a course or courses satisfying the Professional Skills Requirement as listed on the law school website.

(c) All students matriculating in law school as of the summer of 2016 or thereafter must complete six credits of experiential learning, drawn from any combination of:

1. legal clinics,
2. externships for credit, and
3. simulation classes satisfying the Professional Skills Requirement as listed on the law school website.

(d) Full-time students must take upper-level required courses during their second year of law school, except a student in good standing may defer not more than two upper-level required courses until the student’s third year. Students on academic probation may not defer an upper-level required course, except with the permission of the Dean. Legal Research & Writing III, however, must be taken in the second year and may not be deferred to the third year. The law school does not guarantee that each required course will be offered each semester.

6.2

(a) Subject to subparagraph (b) below; no law student shall be permitted to register for more than 17 nor less than 10 hours for credit toward a J.D. degree in any semester without the prior consent of the Dean.

(b) No law student in a combined degree program shall be permitted to register for more than 21 hours during any semester. No more than 17 hours of those 21 hours shall be hours for credit toward a J.D. degree.

(c) No law student may register for any law school or other Creighton University course the scheduled meeting times of which conflict with another such course for which the student has registered.

(d) No student may receive credit for online or distance education courses except those specifically approved by the law school and in compliance with ABA standards. No student may enroll in online or distance education courses qualifying for credit toward the J.D. degree until that student has completed at least 28 credit hours. No student may receive more than four credit hours in any semester or summer, nor more than a total of 12 credit hours, toward the J.D. degree for online or distance education courses.

6.3 No student shall enroll in a course in a school other than Creighton Law School without the prior consent of the Dean. (See also Academic Rules 6.9 and 6.10.)

6.4 A student’s registration may be changed in the following manner:

(a) Courses, except seminars and trial practice courses, may be added during the first week of class.

(b) Seminars and trial practice courses may be added during the first two weeks of class.

(c) Except as prohibited by other rules, such as Rule 6.1, a student may withdraw from a course, except seminars and trial practice courses, any time before the last day of class, provided the student is not in violation of the attendance requirements for the course and will remain registered for at least 10 hours.

(d) A student may withdraw from a seminar or trial practice course only during the first two weeks of class.

All changes in registration must be made through the Office of the Dean.

6.5 Second- and third-year students who are registered for a minimum of 10 hours may audit a course with the consent of the instructor. No student who has audited a course may register for credit in that course. A student receives no credit for auditing a course, and auditing a course fulfills no graduation requirement.

6.6 Course prerequisites may be waived for individual students by the instructor concerned.

6.7

(a) Second- and third-year students may receive academic credit for participation in activities which do not involve attendance at regularly scheduled class sessions in law school if:

1. The participating student receives a significant educational benefit from the activity;
2. The time and effort expended by the participating student is commensurate with the hours of credit received;
3. The activity is conducted or periodically reviewed by a Faculty member to insure that in actual operation (a) the educational objectives of the program are being met, and (b) the time and effort expended by the participating student are commensurate with the credit being allowed;
4. The activity does not involve an actual or potential monetary payment (other than a scholarship) which may be rewarded on the basis of the student’s participation in the activity;
5. The faculty has approved the granting of credit and the number of credit hours in advance of the student’s participation, pursuant to established procedures for curriculum approval; and
6. The competitions listed below at 6.7(b) may qualify as experiential learning credit under Academic Rule 6.1(c), if there is a classroom instructional component.

(b) The Regional or national interschool competitions which have been approved as satisfying the requirements of Rule 6.7(a) are the following:

1. Advanced Appellate Advocacy Competitions, including the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition, Jessup International Moot Court Competition, National Moot Court Competition, Pace Environmental Moot Court Competition, Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition, and substantially equivalent competitions in which the Dean has approved participation;
Students participating in approved moot court competitions will receive two non-class credits for the participation, provided that the student both prepares a satisfactory brief for the tournament and participates satisfactorily in oral argument at the tournament. A student participating in an approved tournament where no brief is required shall receive one non-class credit.

Credit may be denied for inappropiate conduct by a student during a competition.

(c) Members of approved student organizations are entitled to receive one hour of non-class academic credit for each forty-five hours of approved non-classroom educational activities if:

(1) They otherwise are not receiving credit for these activities; and

(2) They satisfy the requirements of all other applicable academic rules, including Academic Rule 6.7(a).

The following non-class educational activities have been approved for the purpose of Rule 6.7(c):

(a) problem drafting;

(b) editing;

(c) bluebooking, page-proofing, and spading;

(d) judging or critiquing performances;

(e) preparing a bench brief;

(f) legal research and writing;

(g) serving, or preparing to serve, as a client, negotiator, trial witness, counsel, or judge in mock proceedings;

(h) preparing students for participation in mock proceedings by means of formal demonstrations or practice rounds; or

(i) evaluating briefs, articles, or other documents.

The hours completed pursuant to Rule 6.7(c) shall be certified each semester by the faculty advisor(s) of the appropriate student organizations.

Students may accumulate hours in approved activities toward credit under this rule over more than one semester and with more than one approved student organization.

Students may receive no more than three hours academic credit in any one semester under Rule 6.7(c). See also Rule 6.10, providing that at least 53 of the 57 hours beyond the first year be earned in required courses and regularly scheduled class sessions in the law school.

Hours earned under rule 6.7(c) do not count towards the experiential learning requirement under Rule 6.1(c).

6.8

(a) Students may take no more than 7 hours of “non-classroom” courses for credit toward a J.D. degree. “Non-classroom courses” are elective offerings taken for credit but not involving regular classroom sessions in the law school. Examples of non-classroom courses include, but are not limited to, moot court competitions, negotiations competitions, law review, moot court board service, courses the major enterprises of which constitutes the teaching by law students of persons not enrolled in the law school, and courses taken at academic units of the University other than the law school or at academic institutions other than Creighton University.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) above, students enrolled in the J.D./M.B.A. or J.D./M.S. in Information Technology Management combined degree programs may apply up to 12 hours of credit awarded in the respective Masters component of the combined degree program toward satisfaction of credit requirements for the second and third years of law school. These credits shall qualify as non-classroom course credits as described in paragraph (a) above.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) above, students enrolled in J.D./M.A. in International Relations combined degree program may apply up to 9 hours of credit awarded in the Masters component of the combined degree program toward satisfaction of credit requirements for the second and third years of law school. These credits shall qualify as non-classroom course credits as described in paragraph (a) above.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) above, students enrolled in the J.D./M.S. in Government Organization and Leadership combined degree program may apply up to 5 hours of credit in the courses listed below, awarded in the masters component of the combined degree program toward satisfaction of credit requirements for the second and third years of law school. These credits shall qualify as non-classroom course credits as described in paragraph (a) above. GOAL courses that qualify to satisfy J.D. credit requirements are “Counsel Roles and Leadership in Government (3 credit hours) and “Ethics in Government” (2 credit hours).

(e) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) above, students enrolled in J.D./M.S. in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution combined degree program may apply up to 9 hours of eligible credit awarded in the Masters component of the combined degree program toward satisfaction of credit requirements for the second and third years of law school. These credits shall qualify as non-classroom course credits as described in paragraph (a) above.

(f) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) through (e) above, students enrolled in this combined degree program shall be permitted to take up to 3 credit hours in law school non-classroom courses.

6.9 Students may register at academic units of the University other than the law school or at academic institutions other than Creighton University to take courses for which no credit toward the J.D. degree shall apply only upon receipt of prior approval of the Dean. Approval is in the discretion of
the Dean but shall not be granted if the student holds a law school grade point average less than 2.0 at the time the student seeks approval.

6.10 Up to six hours in courses in other divisions of Creighton University or other fully accredited institutions (excluding law schools, the credit hours from which are governed by Rule 6.3) may be taken for elective credit to satisfy the law degree requirement of 57 credit hours beyond the first year. Hours being used to earn a separate degree at any institution may not be used under this option to apply towards the law degree.

Hours applied towards a combined degree program approved by Creighton University are not included in this rule.

This option is available to second- and third-year students in good standing who receive approval from the Curriculum Committee to take such courses. Regarding any such courses to be taken during the second semester of the academic year or during a summer session, application for such approval must be made prior to registering for the course and at least two weeks prior to the last day of law school classes in the law school semester preceding the course. Regarding any such course to be taken during the first semester of the academic year, application must be made at least two weeks prior to registering for such course. This approval process is waived for required courses in the certificate program in Health Services Administration.

In order to secure approval for such a course, the applicant must demonstrate that the proposed course is related to the study of law and is not available in the curriculum of the law school. The Committee will not approve a course which in the Committee’s opinion is so similar to a course previously taken by the student that it will not further the student’s legal education.

For those students who have received such approval, law school credit will be awarded for such courses in which a grade of B or higher has been received. However, the grade transferred to the School of Law will be recorded and computed on a pass-fail basis.

6.11 A student may receive credit for up to 12 hours of credit for law-related courses earned at Universidad Pontifica Comillas de Madrid ("Comillas") to satisfy the law degree requirement of 60 credit hours beyond the first year. These credit hours will be elective credit hours and count towards residency requirements. (See also Rules 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 for semester of residency requirements.)

This option is available only to second- and third-year students in good standing who qualify to participate in the program under the Law Student Exchange Program Agreement between Creighton University School of Law (the “Law School”) and Comillas and who comply with the requirements established by the Law School. Any student wishing to participate in the program must apply to the Dean for acceptance into the program. After acceptance by the Dean, the student’s academic program and course of study at Comillas must be approved in advance and monitored by a faculty advisor designated by the Dean.

A student in the program will receive credit only for hours where the equivalent of a C or higher has been received. The grade transferred to the School of Law will be recorded and computed on a pass-fail basis.