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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Introduction

Peter A. Allard School of Law

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Juris Doctor

Juris Doctor > Introduction

The Juris Doctor degree is granted on the successful completion of a three-year course and prepares students for admission to the practice of law (subject to further requirements that are set out below) and for business and public service. The number of students entering the practice of law in Canada has increased in the last few years and a degree in law is no guarantee of a position in either the necessary year of articles or in the practice of law.

Alumni who received an LL.B. degree from UBC can elect to convert their degree to a J.D. degree by submitting a Law Alumni J.D. Degree Application Form (<http://secure.students.ubc.ca/senate/vancouver/lbtojd.cfm>).

Juris Doctor > Admission

General Applicants

To be eligible for selection, an applicant must have:

1. obtained an undergraduate degree in an approved course of studies from a degree-granting university; or
2. successfully completed the first three years (minimum 90 credits) or more of an approved course of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at UBC or completed the equivalent at a degree-granting university; or
3. successfully completed the first two years of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at UBC or other degree-granting university, and be currently enrolled in the third year of the degree program. (An offer of admission will be conditional on successful completion of the third year by June 30 with a minimum of 90 credits at UBC, or the equivalent at a degree-granting university, and maintenance of the academic average obtained in the first two years of studies. 30 of the 90 credit requirement must be completed at the senior level).

Note: Courses completed toward a diploma program and subsequently transferred to a degree program will not be considered until the degree has been granted. Prospective applicants should be aware that almost all of our students have completed a four year degree.

Applicants should regard their satisfaction of the entrance requirements as meaning only that they are eligible for selection. The median applicant



accepted has an academic average of approximately 83%, with an LSAT score of 166 (93rd percentile). The academic average and LSAT score are weighted equally. In calculating the academic average, only those years of undergraduate study making up the first undergraduate degree that are complete at the time of deadline for application are considered, except for item 3 above, where the applicant must maintain the overall standing of the first two years of studies. Generally, no greater weight is attached to one series of academic courses or disciplines than to another. Performance courses are counted towards the required minimum 90 credits but the grades earned in such courses are not usually counted in computing the academic average. Second degrees or graduate degrees are not taken into account, except within the Discretionary category discussed below. The personal statement may be used to assess admissibility and it will be used, in conjunction with the academic average and LSAT score, to determine entrance scholarship offers.

All courses completed towards an undergraduate degree will be considered for admission. Courses in progress, during the final year of an undergraduate program, will not be used in the calculation of the admission GPA. For applicants with a four-year undergraduate degree, the lowest 12 credits (equivalent to four UBC term/semester courses or two year-long courses) will be eliminated from the calculation of the admission GPA. For applicants in the third year of an undergraduate degree program at the time of application, the lowest 6 credits (equivalent to two UBC term/semester courses or one year-long course) will be eliminated from the calculation of the admission GPA.

A personal statement is required in all categories. General applicants may request that special circumstances be considered in determining their academic average. The special factors or circumstances (such as medical or other emergency matters) must be documented fully. If a general applicant requests the Committee to consider making an adjustment to the academic average (not including certain courses or a year), the facts must be verified and supported by appropriate documentation. If the special circumstances are medical, then a doctor's letter is required. Not all special circumstances can be considered in the general category. Certain factors such as financial hardship, learning disabilities or other disadvantages, or ethnic background, can only be considered in the Discretionary category.

General applicants will be advised via e-mail as soon as possible whether their application has been accepted, rejected or placed on the wait list. No e-mails denying admission will be made prior to receipt of the January LSAT scores. Early offers within the General category begin in late November. The majority of decisions within the General and Indigenous categories are made by the end of April. Applicants placed on the wait list may receive a final decision as late as August.

Discretionary Applicants

Because of special factors in life, an applicant may not satisfy one or more of the requirements for general applicants, but may have other relevant achievements and experience. The Admissions Committee has the discretion to respond to this type of situation by taking into account factors such as disability or special needs, financial disadvantage, membership in a historically disadvantaged group, and any other factors that the applicant wishes the Admissions Committee to consider. They may have other relevant personal achievements, work experience, contributions to their community, or personal challenges in their lives that are extraordinary and would not normally be experienced by other applicants to the law school. The process by which the Admissions Committee reviews these Discretionary category applications is designed to provide the opportunity for applicants of this nature to receive individual and exceptional scrutiny of their special circumstances in order for these candidates to be able to join and contribute to the richness and diverse nature of the academic community and ultimately to the practice of law in the society that is served by the Allard School of Law.

Discretionary applicants are normally required to have completed the first two years of an approved course of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at an approved college or university. A personal statement, LSAT score, and two letters of reference are required, and where appropriate, documentation such as medical reports should be submitted. Each application is considered individually on its merits. If an applicant has completed an undergraduate degree they will also automatically be considered within the general category as well.

Discretionary applicants must submit a personal statement detailing the special factors, including their achievements and work experience that they wish the Admissions Committee to consider. Each application is considered individually on its merits. It is important that applicants send detailed accounts of their circumstances, including their involvement in community or charitable organizations. In this category it is also important that applicants submit documentation (e.g., medical reports, if applicable or letters of reference) in order for the Admissions Committee to evaluate their files. Incomplete applications cannot be evaluated and it is the responsibility of applicants to ensure their applications are complete. Decisions in this category are made at the end of May.

Indigenous Applicants

Canadian applicants who self-identify as Aboriginal, including First Nations, Metis or Inuit, are encouraged to apply in the Indigenous category. Those applying in the Indigenous category will automatically be considered in the General category as well.

Applicants via the Indigenous category, are strongly advised to contact the Associate Director of Indigenous Legal Studies (ilsp@allard.ubc.ca)



early in the application process to discuss application requirements.

The Faculty considers the applicant's involvement with a commitment to Indigenous communities and organizations, and the applicant's intention to use his or her legal training to advance Indigenous concerns and interests. All applicants are required to provide evidence of their eligibility to apply in the Indigenous category by supplying a photocopy of their Indian status card, Métis card, or Government of Canada or respective provincial or territorial government documentation supporting their self-identification. Non-status Indians should contact the Associate Director of the ILSP for additional information. In addition, a personal statement is required, two letters of recommendation, LSAT score, and official transcripts are required.

Other Admission Categories (other than to first year)

Each year there are many requests for admission to the upper years. Only a few applicants, however, can be accommodated.

Degree Categories

Applicants who have started their LL.B. or J.D. degree at another Canadian common law school can apply under the Transfer category. Applicants who have graduated from a foreign law school can apply under the Advanced Standing category; however their credentials must be reviewed by the National Committee on Accreditation and they are required to write the LSAT. They must successfully complete two years of legal studies at Allard Law to receive a degree from Allard Law.

1. **Transfer.** Students at other Canadian common law schools who have completed their first year of legal studies may apply for transfer to Allard Law. The Admissions Committee may give preference to applicants who:
 1. would have been admitted to the first year of legal studies at Allard Law at the time of being admitted to their present institution;
 2. have achieved satisfactory academic performance in their legal studies at their current institution; and
 3. have compelling reasons for transferring to Allard Law, which include compassionate grounds in which the applicant has no control over the circumstances.

Applicants must submit a personal statement, a copy of their LSAT score, official undergraduate and law transcripts, and two letters of reference from law professors with their application.

2. **Advanced Standing.** Graduates of foreign law schools who have been evaluated by the National Committee on Accreditation and received advanced standing, or graduates of Quebec civil law schools, may apply to complete two years of legal studies at Allard Law to obtain a J.D. Applicants must have written the LSAT and must submit official undergraduate and law transcripts, a personal statement explaining the reasons for the request, a letter from the National Committee on Accreditation, and two letters of reference. Applicants who hold law degrees from foreign jurisdictions are advised to contact the Master of Laws (Common Law) (LLM CL) (<http://www.law.ubc.ca/master-laws-llm-common-law-program>) program or the Distance Learning (<http://www.law.ubc.ca/admissions/distance-learning-program>) program.

Non-Degree Categories

Please note that applicants admitted in the following category are not eligible to receive a J.D. from the Allard School of Law.

- **Visiting (Letter of Permission).** Students enrolled in an LL.B. or J.D. program at an approved law school may request permission from their current school to attend one year or one term of either the second- or third-year program at the Allard School of Law on a letter of permission basis. Students must submit a letter of permission from the Associate Dean of their current law school, a copy of their LSAT score (if applicable), a personal statement with compelling reasons for their request, official undergraduate and law transcripts, as well as two letters of reference from law professors. Criteria for selection are the same as for transfer requests (see above). Visiting status will be granted to successful applicants for a maximum of one year.
- **Unclassified.** The J.D. program will no longer be accepting applications from Unclassified (NCA) students. Applicants who hold law degrees from foreign jurisdictions are advised to contact the Master of Laws (Common Law) (LLM CL) (<http://www.law.ubc.ca/master-laws-llm-common-law-program>) program or the Distance Learning (<http://www.law.ubc.ca/admissions/distance-learning-program>) program.

Canadian Civil Law Programs

Graduates from a civil law program at a Canadian law school may:



- apply to the National Committee on Accreditation and apply to the LLM CL program or Distance Learning program at the law school; or
- apply for Advanced Standing (see above).

Students currently enrolled in a civil law program at a Canadian law school are not eligible to transfer to the Allard School of Law. They may, however, request visiting (letter of permission) status at the Allard School of Law if permitted to do so by their current law school. Visiting status will be granted for a maximum of one year only.

Juris Doctor > Application

All applicants for admission must submit the following documents by the deadlines set out below:

- completed application form
- personal statement
- transcripts (originals sent directly from your university to):

Allard School of Law
Admissions Office
1822 East Mall UBC
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

- an LSAT score (we access directly from LSAC)
- an application fee
- other documentation where necessary (may be e-mailed to admissions@allard.ubc.ca)

General, Discretionary, and Indigenous Applicants

The application form, application fee, and personal statement must be submitted on or before December 1. All supporting documentation must be submitted on or before January 31. If an offer is made, final official transcripts (see below) with grades for courses in progress must be submitted upon completion of their degree.

Transfer, Letter of Permission, Advanced Standing

The application form, current transcripts, other documents, and application fee must be submitted on or before April 30. Final official law school transcripts (see below) must be submitted by the first week of June.

Application Forms

Application forms are available online (<http://www.allard.ubc.ca/apply-peter-allard-school-law-jd-program>).

Transcripts

The academic average (GPA) is calculated on all the academic years of study leading to the applicant's first undergraduate degree, minus the lowest 12 credits (equivalent to four UBC term/semester courses or two year-long courses) for applicants who have completed a four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent. For applicants in the third year of an undergraduate degree program at the time of application, the lowest six credits (equivalent to two UBC term/semester courses or one year-long course) will be eliminated from the calculation of the admission GPA.

Separate transcripts must be sent from each institution attended. An official transcript is one sent directly to the Faculty by the issuing institution. A final official transcript is a transcript sent directly to the Faculty, Allard Law at UBC, J.D. Admissions, 1822 East Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, by the issuing institution on the completion of the current academic year.

Applicants still taking courses leading to an undergraduate degree should arrange for one current official transcript to be sent immediately, to expedite the processing of their applications, and for two final official transcripts to be sent upon completion of their degree. Applicants still in the



process of completing the minimum 90 credits will receive an offer conditional on maintenance of the GPA achieved on the first 60 credits.

It is not necessary to send UBC transcripts, as they are available to the Faculty.

Law School Admissions Test (LSAT)

All applicants, except Letter of Permission applicants attending non-North American law schools, are required to submit a valid LSAT score. Applicants may take the test more than once, and the highest score will be used. Scores are valid for five years and must be valid as of September. The Admissions Office can access LSAT scores directly from LSAC if the applicant's registration is current.

We will accept the November as well as the January writings of the LSAT. However, we strongly encourage applicants to take the LSAT prior to the January test date. An applicant who wishes to rely on the January LSAT may diminish his or her chance of gaining admission due to the delayed review of his or her file.

LSAT information (<http://www.lsac.org>) is available online. An applicant wishing to apply to American law schools must use the American registration material which includes registering for the Credential Assembly Service (CAS).

Application Fee

A non-refundable application processing fee must accompany the application form. For application fee, see Application and Administrative Fees (Calendar page: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=14,297,0,0#18099>).

Personal Statement

All applicants must submit a personal statement as part of their online application. This document should be approximately 750 words for the General category and two to three pages for all other categories. The personal statement is an applicant's opportunity to outline those features of the application that distinguish the candidate. The personal statement is also an opportunity for a candidate to highlight his or her non-academic contributions, as well as any circumstances that may have contributed to or detracted from the applicant's academic and non-academic success.

Other Documents

Other documents include letters of reference, medical certificates, special circumstances letters, or National Committee on Accreditation letters, where relevant.

Interviews are not part of the admissions procedure but the Admissions staff are available to answer any questions in person, by telephone (604.822.6303), letter, fax (604.822.9486), or email (admissions@allard.ubc.ca). Applicants wishing to meet in person for advising should make an appointment.

Language Proficiency

Applicants who do not have adequate command of the English language will not be admitted. Applicants may be required to take a test to demonstrate adequate facility with the English language.

Admission Offers

Application processing begins in October. Offers are made to General applicants as early as December with the majority of the offers made between January and the end of April. Admissions are on a rolling basis and will continue through to the end of August. The majority of final decisions will be made by the end of June. Offers to Indigenous applicants are usually made in mid-March, and to Discretionary applicants in mid-May.

Deposit



Canadian citizens, permanent residents or landed immigrants who accept the offer of a place at Allard Law must make a non-refundable deposit which is placed towards tuition at the time of acceptance.

Appeals

An applicant who is denied admission may request the Admissions Committee to reconsider its decision, but only on the ground that the applicant has material information that was not reasonably available to the applicant at the time the Admissions Committee's initial decision was made. Such new information must be set out in the request for reconsideration. The Committee will then determine whether the information is indeed new material. At this time the Admissions Committee will consider whether to alter its initial decision based upon the new material and the availability of space within the law school class at the time when the reconsideration decision is rendered. The Admissions Committee must receive the request for reconsideration within 14 calendar days of the applicant's initial letter and decision from the Law Admissions Office.

Juris Doctor > Academic Regulations

Examinations

The following regulations regarding re-examination apply only to students pursuing the J.D. Program (including those pursuing the dual J.D./M.B.A.

Courses will be evaluated by final examination unless an additional or alternative method of evaluation is deemed appropriate. In certain circumstances, as set out below, a student is entitled to a re-examination in a particular course after the regular evaluations for the year are completed.

1. Academic standing is determined for each student as of the end of each Winter Session and each Summer Session.
2. The passing grade in a course is 50%. The passing average for a session is a weighted average of 55% over all courses taken in the session.
3. A student receives credit for courses passed in a session even if he or she stands failed for the session.
4. A student registered in first year who attains a passing average for a session but fails up to 6 credits of first year courses is on academic probation in the next Winter Session that the student attends, and must retake in that session the course(s) that were failed. If, in that session, the student fails a first year course a second time, he or she stands failed for that session whether or not a passing average is attained.
5. A student registered in first year stands failed for a session if he or she fails more than 6 credits of first year courses or receives a failing average for the session.
6. A student registered in second or third year stands failed for a session if he or she receives a failing average for the session.
7. By way of exception to rule 6, a student registered in second or third year who took fewer than 12 credits in the session is in good standing as of the end of a session if the student (a) failed no more than one course in the session, and (b) has a cumulative weighted average at the Faculty, including the session in question, of at least 55%.
8. A student who stands failed for a session will be required to discontinue his or her studies for 12 months. Normally, the student will be required to discontinue studies at the University starting immediately. However, a student registered in and attending one or more courses will be permitted to complete those courses if the determination of an academic standing of failed is only made after the last date for withdrawal without a "W" being recorded on the transcript.
9. A student who has stood failed must apply for readmission and must demonstrate that the circumstances that led to the failure have been overcome. In exceptional circumstances permission may be granted to apply for readmission before the end of the 12 month period referred to in rule 8.
10. The following rules apply to a first year student who is readmitted after standing failed:

10.1 The student must retake any first year courses failed. If the student fails a first year course a second time, he or she stands failed for the session whether or not a passing average is attained.

10.2 If, in the year the student stood failed, the student failed no more than 11 credits of first year courses, and in the year the student was readmitted he or she retakes and passes all of the failed courses and attains a passing average, the student is entitled to have the notation of failed standing for the session (but not the failed letter and percentage grade for an individual course) removed from the transcript.

10.3 Until the student has passed all first year courses, he or she may not register for any upper year course without the permission of the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs.



11. The following rules apply to re-evaluations:

11.1 If a student fails one or two, but not more than two, courses in a Winter Session but attains a passing average for the session, the student is entitled to a re-evaluation in the courses failed. Notwithstanding this rule, a student who fails more courses than he or she passes is not entitled to a re-evaluation.

11.2 If a student passes every course in a Winter Session but receives a failing average for the session, the student is entitled to a re-evaluation in the two courses for which the lowest marks were received.

11.3 If a student fails one, but not more than one, course in a Summer Session but attains a passing average for the session, the student is entitled to a re-evaluation in the course failed. A student is also entitled to a re-evaluation in the course failed if it was the only course taken in the session.

11.4 Notwithstanding that a student would otherwise be entitled to a re-evaluation in a course, a student is not entitled to a re-evaluation if the student received a failing grade in that course due to a penalty being imposed for plagiarism or academic misconduct.

11.5 A re-evaluation is only available for a final examination, and only where the final examination is worth 60% or more of the total grade for a course. A re-evaluation is not available for a paper.

11.6 If the grade received on the re-evaluation, plus the mark on any non-examination component, is at least 50%, the final grade for a course in which the student is re-evaluated will be raised to 50%. If the final grade of 50% yields a failing average for that session, and the student's original grade received on the re-evaluation, plus the mark on any non-examination component, would result in a passing average if recorded on his or her academic record, the final grade will be raised to whatever minimum grade is necessary to yield a passing average for the session; otherwise, the original grade will stand. If a student registered in second or third year took fewer than 12 credits in the session and his or her standing, pursuant to rule 5, depends on cumulative weighted average, the preceding rules apply using a cumulative weighted average of 55% instead of a sessional weighted average of 55%.

11.7 Ordinarily, students eligible for re-evaluation and wishing to be re-evaluated must notify the Director of Student Academic Services within two weeks of the Winter Session or Summer Session official grades release date.

This does not preclude students making use of the Review of Assigned Standing (<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/proof/edit/index.cfm?tree=3,49,0,0>) procedures.

Grades Results

Grades and transcripts are available to students online at the Student Service Centre (<http://students.ubc.ca/ssc>). Official results for the Winter Session are available in mid- to late May, and for Summer Session by the end of August.

Juris Doctor > Degree Requirements

Regular Program

The Juris Doctor program requires a student to acquire a minimum of 92 credits in three Winter Sessions in the Allard School of Law. First year consists of compulsory courses totaling 32 credits. The second and third years (or upper years) consist of two Winter Sessions totaling 60 credits. Each Winter Session consists of two consecutive terms. Students may not enroll in more than 18 credits per term or 34 credits per Winter Session.

In the upper years, students must take three compulsory courses:

1. LAW 372 (Administrative Law)
2. LAW 300 (Jurisprudence and Critical Perspectives)
3. LAW 468 (Ethics and Professionalism)

A student may not enroll in a course for which another subject is a prerequisite, unless the required course was taken and passed earlier. In special circumstances the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, in consultation with the Faculty member teaching the subject, may waive this



stipulation.

Seminar or Directed Research: A student must undertake, in either the second or third year, at least one independent research project and submit a substantial paper (or series of papers) embodying the results of this research. This obligation usually will be satisfied within a 3 credit seminar but students may fulfill this obligation by completing a project, for at least 3 credits, under LAW 493, 494, 495, or 496 (Directed Research)

Experiential Learning Credit Requirement: Beginning with the entering class of 2018, J.D. students in the Peter A. Allard School of Law are required to complete one experiential course or program before graduation. This experiential requirement is met through successfully completing:

- a for-credit clinical program;
- a for-credit competitive moot; or
 - one of the courses approved by the Associate Dean Academic and the Faculty's Curriculum Committee as having a substantial experiential component and listed on the Faculty's Degree Requirements website (<http://www.allard.ubc.ca/student-resources/jd-academic-services/registration-advising-exams/degree-requirements>).

The Experiential Learning Credit does not change the number of credits required for the J.D. degree.

Maximum Credits for Experiential Learning: Commencing for students entering second-year Law in September 2017, students are limited to a total of 20 credits of clinical offerings, competitive mootings and Law 486 Law Review Credit; and students may not take more than two clinical offerings during their Juris Doctor program.

Business Law Concentration

During the Juris Doctor program, students may undertake a range of courses (outlined below) that emphasize areas of law which are essential to the practice of business law. This cluster of courses constitutes the "Business Law Concentration."

It is an optional program signaling that students have completed legal studies providing them with a solid theoretical, doctrinal, and practical education in business law.

Business Law Concentration Requirements

To complete a Business Law Concentration, students must complete 7 mandatory courses and an additional 6 credits from a list of optional courses, as designated by the Director of the Centre for Business Law and listed on the Faculty's website:

- **Seven mandatory courses:**
 - LAW 407 Taxation
 - LAW 437 Commercial Transactions
 - LAW 438 Secured Transactions
 - LAW 451 Trust Law
 - LAW 459 Business Organizations
 - LAW 463 Securities Regulation
 - LAW 466 Business Law Capstone

The Business Law Capstone is designed to draw together all the elements of the business law curriculum, in a practical manner. In order to undertake this course, students must have completed at least five courses from the Business Law Concentration, including Business Organizations (Law 459), Taxation (Law 407), Securities Regulation (Law 463) and other courses from the Concentration comprising at least 6 credits. This course is required for completion of the optional Business Law Concentration.

The Business Law Concentration constitutes approximately 50% of the total upper-year requirements to fulfil the J.D. Program and will be awarded if students complete and pass six mandatory courses in the Concentration and other courses in the Concentration comprising at least six credits.

Other Courses for Credit in the Juris Doctor Program

Students may, in their second and third years (which may include the Summer Sessions between first year, second year, and third year),



take courses in other departments and schools of the University for credit in the law school. Such courses may be credited for not more than 6 credits toward the second or third-year credit requirements, but shall not reduce the hours or credits in the winter sessions below the minimum requirement of 30 credits. Each student must receive advance permission to register in such courses from the Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, who will base their judgement on the relevance of the proposed course or seminar to the study of law or to a career in law and of the appropriateness of the proposed course or seminar in the light of the student's course of study in the law school. More information, including how to apply for permission to take a non-Law course can be found on the Allard Law website (<http://www.allard.ubc.ca/student-resources/jd-academic-services/registration-advising-exams/program-policies-faqs>).

Part-Time Students

Ordinarily, part-time students must complete not less than 50% of the normal course load in each academic year. In first year, 50% of the normal course load is 16 credits. In the upper years, 50% of the normal course load is 14 to 17 credits.

Juris Doctor > Combined Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration

Please see the [J.D./M.B.A. Combined Program](#).

Juris Doctor > International Degree Partnership Programs

- [UBC-Melbourne Law School J.D./LL.M. Degree Partnership](#)
- [UBC-Tsinghua University School of Law LL.B./J.D. Degree Partnership](#)
- [Joint Legal Education Agreement with the University of Hawai'i](#)
*this agreement is currently under review
- [Joint Legal Education Agreement with the University of Hong Kong](#)

UBC-Melbourne Law School J.D./LL.M. Degree Partnership

Eligible students enrolled in the J.D. program at UBC have the opportunity to complete the final term of their J.D. studies through the LL.M. degree program at the University of Melbourne Law School (MLS). Likewise, eligible students enrolled in the J.D. program at MLS may complete their final semester of their J.D. studies through one of the LL.M. programs at UBC. Students who successfully pursue this opportunity will receive (as appropriate):

- a J.D. from MLS and either an LL.M., LL.M. Common Law (LL.M. C.L.), or LL.M. in Taxation (LL.M. Tax.) from UBC; or
- a J.D. from UBC and an LL.M. from MLS.

Eligibility and Admission

Students gain admission by applying separately to MLS and UBC for the degree they wish to complete at each institution, as follows:

1. Students wishing to complete their J.D. at MLS apply first to MLS following the procedures specified by MLS. Subsequent to successful completion of three semesters of full-time study (or the equivalent) at MLS, students may apply in their fourth semester of full-time study (or the equivalent) for admission to the LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. program at UBC and otherwise following the appropriate UBC admission procedures. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements for admission to the UBC Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Decisions regarding admission will be made by UBC only after receipt of grades for J.D. law courses taken at MLS equaling a minimum of 200 credit points (normally, corresponding to 4 semesters of full-time study in the J.D. program). The fact that a student has previously been accepted to the J.D. program at MLS is not an indication or guarantee of admission to UBC.
2. Students wishing to complete their J.D. at UBC apply first to UBC. Applications to the UBC J.D. program follow the criteria and process described in the [UBC Academic Calendar](#). Subsequent to successful completion of four terms of full-time study (or the equivalent) in the J.D. program at UBC, students may apply in their fifth term of full-time study (or the equivalent) for admission to the LL.M. program at MLS with a Letter of Permission (Calendar page: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,47,0,0#254>) from UBC and otherwise following the appropriate MLS admission procedures. Decisions regarding admission will be made by MLS only after receipt of all grades for J.D. law courses taken at UBC, which must equal a minimum of 77 credits (normally, corresponding to 5 terms of full-time study in the J.D. program). The fact that a student has previously been accepted to the J.D. program at UBC is not an indication or guarantee of admission to MLS.



Academic Requirements

1. MLS J.D. students must complete at least 250 law credit points in the J.D. program at MLS and, subsequent to this, a further 30 law credits (minimum) at UBC in the LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. degree programs, or 36 law credits (minimum) at UBC in the LL.M. program. Students must complete all MLS J.D. compulsory subjects at MLS prior to enrolling at UBC.

MLS J.D. students accepted into LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. studies at UBC begin at UBC following the successful completion of the fifth semester of the J.D. program at MLS. Successful completion of the equivalent of 50 MLS credit points in the LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. programs at UBC by MLS J.D. students will normally be accepted by MLS in fulfilment of the total 300 credit point requirement for the MLS J.D. program. Coursework undertaken at UBC by MLS J.D. students that is substantially similar to courses already taken at MLS will not be eligible to be counted as credit towards the MLS J.D. degree. MLS J.D. students accepted into the LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. programs at UBC under the terms of the agreement between UBC and MLS are required to consult with the MLS Associate Dean (J.D.) prior to registering in courses at UBC.

2. UBC J.D. students must complete at least 77 law credits in the J.D. program at UBC and, subsequent to this, a further 100 law credit points (minimum) at MLS in the LL.M. program. Students must complete all mandatory course requirements for the UBC J.D. program at UBC prior to enrolling at MLS, with the exception of the seminar requirement, which can be waived with the approval and at the discretion of UBC.

UBC J.D. students accepted into the LL.M. program at MLS begin their program of study at MLS following the successful completion of the fifth term of the J.D. program at UBC. Successful completion of the equivalent of 15 UBC credits worth of courses in the LL.M. program at MLS by UBC J.D. students will normally be accepted by UBC in fulfilment of the total 92 credit requirement for the UBC J.D. program. Coursework undertaken at MLS by UBC J.D. students that is substantially similar to courses already taken at UBC will not be eligible to be counted as credit towards the UBC J.D. degree. UBC J.D. students accepted into the LL.M. program at MLS under the terms of the agreement between UBC and MLS are required to consult with the UBC Assistant Dean Students prior to registering in courses at UBC.

Registration

Students will be governed by the applicable academic rules, codes of conduct, and the like which are in effect at the institution at which they are studying at any given time.

Students will pay regular tuition and other applicable fees to the institution they are attending each semester/term. Students will be entitled to apply for bursaries, scholarships or other financial aid offered by the institution they are attending in a particular semester/term for which they are otherwise eligible.

Graduation

1. MLS J.D. students will be entitled to receive a J.D. degree from MLS upon successful completion of the equivalent of 50 MLS credit points in the LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. degree (as appropriate) at UBC, subject to the conditions and terms of the agreement between UBC and MLS. The J.D. degree must be awarded by MLS before the LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. degree is awarded by UBC, even if the LL.M., LL.M. C.L., or LL.M. Tax. degree has otherwise been earned.
2. UBC J.D. students will be entitled to receive a J.D. degree from UBC upon successful completion of the equivalent of 15 UBC credits in the LL.M. program at MLS, subject to the conditions and terms of the agreement between UBC and MLS. The J.D. degree must be awarded by UBC before the LL.M. degree is awarded by MLS, even if the LL.M. degree has otherwise been earned.

UBC-Tsinghua University School of Law LL.B./J.D. Degree Partnership

Eligible students enrolled in the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) program at Tsinghua University may earn an LL.B. degree from Tsinghua University together with a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from UBC in five years of full-time study, plus the successful completion of a degree thesis at Tsinghua University.

Students will complete three years of full-time study in the LL.B. program at Tsinghua University and complete two further years of full-time study in the J.D. program at UBC, comprised of two full winter sessions and one summer session, before returning to Tsinghua University to complete the degree thesis.

Eligibility and Admission

To be eligible to apply to UBC in the J.D. program, Tsinghua students must successfully have completed two years of full-time study in the LL.B. program at Tsinghua University (equivalent to 60 UBC credits in course work) and be enrolled full-time in the third year of the LL.B.



program with a course load equivalent to 30 UBC credits, 21 of which must be in upper/senior level law courses. In addition, eligible Tsinghua students must demonstrate sufficient English language proficiency through one of the approved English language proficiency examinations. The examining body must send results directly to the Peter A. Allard School of Law, Attention: J.D. Admissions, Tsinghua-UBC Dual Degree Program. For TOEFL examinations, UBC's institution code is 0965 and the Allard School of Law's department code is 03. UBC requires the following minimum scores:

- TOEFL: minimum score of 100, of which the reading, listening and writing component minimum is 75; or
- IELTS: minimum overall band of 7.0 with a reading and writing band minimum of 7.0; or
- GCE: A-level English examination with a standing of at least "B".

Test results are considered valid for two years after the date the test is taken.

Tsinghua students eligible to apply to the UBC J.D. program must follow the regular admissions process as specified in the UBC Academic Calendar, with the following modifications:

- The Tsinghua University School of Law will be responsible for: (i) collecting all application materials (except TOEFL or equivalent test scores) to be submitted to UBC by Tsinghua students and (ii) forwarding on a set of complete application packages to UBC, Attention: J.D. Admissions, UBC-Tsinghua LLB/JD Degree Partnership.
- Applicants are not required to submit an LSAT score.
- Applicants must submit a score from a TOEFL, IELTS or GCE test taken within two years of the application.
- Applications must include a form or letter from the Tsinghua University School of Law indicating: (i) approval from the Tsinghua University School of Law to apply to the UBC J.D. program and indicating that the applicant meets all eligibility requirements as stated above; (ii) the applicant's overall grade average to date; (iii) the overall grade ranking for students enrolled in the Tsinghua University LL.B. program, per year/cohort; and (iv) the applicant's grade average for all law courses taken at Tsinghua University to date (i.e., all courses taught within the School of Law).
- All application materials must be in English, except for transcripts, which must be provided in the original with an accompanying official English language translation, both issued by Tsinghua University in a sealed envelope.
- Initial application materials must be received by UBC by April 5.

An offer of admission from UBC will be conditional on: (1) successful completion of the third year of study at Tsinghua, as specified above, by **July 31**; (2) maintenance in the third year of the academic average obtained in the first two years of studies, including the average for all law courses; and (3) successful completion of the equivalent of 21 UBC credits in upper/senior level law courses by the end of the third year. Transcripts documenting that these three conditions have been fulfilled must be received by UBC not later than **July 31**, following the procedures outlined in (a) and (e) above.

Degree Requirements

Students must have completed all mandatory program requirements in the LL.B. program at Tsinghua prior to enrolling in the J.D. program at UBC, except for the LL.B. degree thesis. In addition, they must have completed the equivalent of 21 UBC credits in upper/senior level law courses at Tsinghua University. Students must complete 71 credits in the J.D. program at UBC, including all mandatory first-year and upper-level curricular requirements. Courses taken at UBC must not substantially replicate courses already taken at Tsinghua, except where the course must be taken at either UBC or Tsinghua to fulfill mandatory degree requirements. All J.D. coursework at UBC must be completed within two academic years (September-April), inclusive of the intervening Summer Session.

Tsinghua LL.B. students enrolled at UBC in the J.D. program are not eligible to participate in any UBC exchange programs.

Registration and Continuation

Students who have applied to and been accepted into the J.D. program at UBC will be registered as UBC students and subject to UBC policies and procedures, including UBC's continuation policies for the J.D. program.

Graduation

Students will be eligible to receive an LL.B. from Tsinghua University on the successful defense of their LL.B. degree thesis. Absent exceptional circumstances, UBC will grant the J.D. degree to Tsinghua LL.B. students who have completed all of the requirements for the J.D. degree at UBC as specified above and by UBC policy.



Joint Legal Education Agreement with the University of Hawai'i

The Joint Legal Education Agreement with the University of Hawai'i (UH) and the University of British Columbia (UBC) allows eligible students to complete Juris Doctor (J.D.) degrees at both institutions in four years of full-time study.

Students enrolled in the J.D. program at UBC have the opportunity to complete the final year of their J.D. studies through the J.D. program at UH, where they will complete two years of full-time study. Likewise, eligible students enrolled in the J.D. program at UH may complete the final year of their J.D. studies through the J.D. program at UBC, enrolling in two years of full-time study.

*Please note this agreement is currently under review

Eligibility and Admission

To be eligible, UBC J.D. students must have successfully completed the first year curriculum of the J.D. program at UBC and 30 additional UBC credits of upper level courses, including all required courses for the J.D. degree

UH J.D. students must have successfully completed at UH at least four terms of full-time study with at least 60 credits, including the "First Year Curriculum," Constitutional Law I, Professional Responsibility, Second Year Seminar and 2 credits of skills or clinic courses.

Interested UBC J.D. students eligible to participate must apply to the UH J.D. program by January 30 of their second year of study, for entry into the UH J.D. program in their third year of study.

Interested UH J.D. students eligible to participate must apply to the UBC J.D. program by January 30 of their second year of study, for entry into the UBC J.D. program in their third year of study.

Applicants to either law school must take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and have their scores reported, prior to January 30 of their second year of study, to the law school to which they are applying. An LSAT score that was used for original admission to their the UBC or the UH J.D. program will be accepted by UH or UBC for application through the Joint Legal Education Agreement to their respective J.D. programs.

Applicants will be selected according to their academic and personal qualifications through the standard application process at each institution. Each law school has sole discretion to determine admissibility into its academic program.

Academic Requirements

If successfully admitted to the UH J.D. program, UBC J.D. students will complete a further two years of full time study at UH, including all mandatory curriculum and degree requirements for the UH J.D. UBC will accept the equivalent of one (full-time) year of academic credit earned by UBC J.D. students completing their degree program at UH through the Joint Legal Education Agreement.

If successfully admitted to the UBC J.D. program, UH J.D. students will complete at UBC all required courses and credits for the UH J.D. program not already fulfilled at UH, as well as all courses and credits necessary for fulfillment of the UBC J.D. degree requirements. UH will accept the equivalent of one (full-time) year of academic credit earned by UH J.D. students completing their degree program at UBC through the Joint Legal Education Agreement.

Registration

Students will be governed by the applicable academic rules, codes of conduct, and the like which are in effect at the institution at which they are studying at any given time.

UBC J.D. students enrolled in the UH J.D. program under the Joint Legal Education Agreement will pay tuition and fees to UH. UH J.D. students enrolled in the UBC J.D. program under the Joint Legal Education Agreement will pay tuition and fees to UBC. Students will be liable for the tuition and fees determined by the law school in which they are enrolled in accordance with the residency and citizenship.

Graduation



Students must fulfill the graduation requirements of each degree-granting institution. The fulfillment of these requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis for each student applying for degree conferral by the respective degree-granting institution; UBC and UH.

Joint Legal Education Agreement with the University of Hong Kong

The Joint Legal Education Agreement between the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the University of Hong Kong (HKU) allows eligible students enrolled in law degree programs at either institution an option to pursue the professional qualifications required to practice law in both Hong Kong and Canada.

UBC law students will complete the first two years of their J.D. degree program at UBC and, if admitted by HKU to the LL.B. program, will subsequently enroll in the LL.B. program at HKU for one year, after successful completion of which UBC will award them a J.D. degree. UBC J.D. students enrolled in the LL.B. program at HKU may apply to HKU's Post Graduate Certificate of Law (PCLL) program in their third year of study, which they would complete the following year, if admitted. (Completion of the PCLL program is a condition for pursuit of professional qualifications in Hong Kong.)

HKU law students will complete the first three years of their LL.B. degree program at HKU and, if admitted by UBC to the J.D. program, will subsequently enroll in the J.D. program at UBC for two years, after the successful completion of which they will be awarded a J.D. degree from UBC.

Eligibility and Admission

To be eligible, UBC J.D. students must have successfully completed the first year curriculum in the UBC J.D. program and 30 UBC credits of upper level courses, including all required courses for the UBC J.D. degree, with a cumulative grade average of at least 74%.

Interested UBC J.D. students must apply to HKU by January 30 of their second year of study; and by April 30 of their third year of study for admission to the PCLL program.

To be eligible, HKU LL.B. students must have successfully completed 180 HKU credits, including 132 credits of the compulsory core and 48 credits of university required courses, with a cumulative grade average of at least 3.1.

Interested HKU LL.B. students must apply to UBC for admission to the J.D. program by January 30 of their third year of study.

Applicants will be selected according to: (a) their academic and personal qualifications; and (b) the standard application process at each institution. Each law school has sole discretion to determine admissibility into its academic program(s).

Academic Requirements

If successfully admitted to the HKU LL.B. program, UBC J.D. students will fulfill any pre-requisites for the PCLL course not already fulfilled at UBC.

HKU LL.B. students will complete all PCLL pre-requisite courses not available at UBC prior to enrolling at UBC. If successfully admitted to the UBC J.D. program, HKU LL.B. students will complete at UBC all required courses and credits for the LL.B. program not already fulfilled at HKU, as well as all courses and credits necessary for fulfillment of the UBC J.D. degree requirements.

Registration

UBC J.D. students enrolled in either the HKU LL.B. program or the HKU PCLL program under the Joint Legal Education Agreement will pay tuition and fees to HKU. HKU students enrolled in the UBC J.D. program under the Joint Legal Education Agreement will pay tuition and fees to UBC.

Graduation



Students must fulfill the graduation requirements of each degree-granting institution. The fulfillment of these requirements will be determined on a case-by-case basis for each student applying for degree conferral by the respective degree-granting institution; UBC and HKU. UBC students must meet all requirements for the J.D. degree from UBC prior to commencing the PCLL program at HKU.

Graduate Programs

See [Graduate Degree Programs](#).

Exchange Programs

Students may earn credits toward their Juris Doctor studying abroad in an exchange program. Education Abroad Programs are institution-to-institution reciprocal agreements approved by Senate. Students selected for such programs remain registered at UBC, pay tuition and student fees only to UBC, and remain eligible for UBC awards and financial assistance. Law students may participate in a one term or full year of studies. Transfer students may only participate in a one term exchange. Joint Legal Education or Degree Partnership students are not eligible to participate in an exchange term. Allard School of Law students interested in pursuing an exchange should review the exchange offerings and requirements on the UBC Go-Global website (<http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global>).

Law Society of British Columbia

The possession of a Juris Doctor does not in itself confer the right to practise law in British Columbia. Admission to the Bar of the Province of British Columbia is governed by the *Legal Profession Act* and the regulations of the Law Society of British Columbia (<http://www.lawsociety.bc.ca>). An applicant for admission to the Bar must comply with the requirements of the Law Society as to academic standing, professional training, and ethical standards. These requirements presently include an Admission Program of approximately one year, during which the applicant must serve as an articled student with a practising member of the Bar and complete a training course and qualifying examinations. Information may be obtained from the Law Society of British Columbia (<http://www.lawsociety.bc.ca>).

Applicants who intend to practise law in other jurisdictions must obtain information concerning the requirements for entry to the profession, from the governing body of the legal profession in those jurisdictions.

Possession of a criminal record may prevent admission to the Bar. Applicants must consult the appropriate Law Society.

Awards and Financial Assistance

Through the generosity of donors, the Faculty is able to award a number of entrance and continuing student scholarships and awards on academic merit and financial need.

Information about financial aid and a list of other entrance awards, including government student loans, UBC bursaries, and scholarships, can be found on the Enrolment Services (<http://students.ubc.ca/enrolment/finances>) and Allard Law (<http://www.allard.ubc.ca/admissions/jd-admissions/funding-your-studies>) websites. Please refer to these websites for application deadline dates. Admitted students will receive emails from Allard Law Admissions in late spring about how to apply for entrance scholarships (by application). An application should be made even if admission to the Faculty has not yet been granted.

The UBC Law Review

In 1949 the students of the Faculty of Law commenced publication of *Legal Notes*, which was an annual volume containing articles and comments written both by students and by outside contributors. By 1959 the publication had increased both in size and in the number of subscribers to the point where the editors felt that the name should be changed to *The University of British Columbia Law Review*. It is a refereed journal, now publishing three to four issues yearly. Students are responsible for soliciting and editing of the material, and for the advertising and sales which make the Law Review self-sufficient. Members of the Faculty give advice and assistance to the Editorial Board of the *Law Review* (<http://www.ubclawreview.ca/>), but the chief responsibility is that of the Board.

The Canadian Journal of Family Law



The *Canadian Journal of Family Law* is published at the Allard School of Law at UBC. It is a refereed publication issued semi-annually. Submissions made to the *Journal* are reviewed by qualified external readers, and the format includes articles, commentaries, and book reviews. In the past, the *Journal's* subject matter has included writings on topics such as child welfare, evidentiary issues, child abuse, young offenders, and other topics impacting on the family unit.

The *Journal* (<http://faculty.allard.ubc.ca/cdnjfl/>) was started in 1978 and was published under the auspices of the Osgoode Hall Law School in Ontario. In 1982-83 its publication base was moved to the law school at UBC. It is the only student-run academic journal exclusively dedicated to the study, analysis, and articulation of the increasingly important field of family law.

Academic Staff

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