

Two-Year Juris Doctor for Foreign-Trained Lawyers

The Two-Year J.D. for Foreign-Trained Lawyers (<https://law.ku.edu/academics/degrees/2yr-jd/>) is for overseas students who already hold a foreign law degree and are prepared to complete a J.D. on an accelerated timetable. The program prepares attorneys who can compete in a global economy with full credentials in the United States and one or more additional jurisdictions.

While on campus, students benefit from classes taught by distinguished faculty members; enjoy life in Lawrence; and meet other highly motivated colleagues from around the country and the world. From KU Law's perspective, students with foreign law degrees bring valuable diversity and professionalism to the classroom and expand the school's global professional network of students and graduates.

Program Structure

Your route to completing the Two-Year J.D. (<https://law.ku.edu/academics/degrees/2yr-jd/>) for international attorneys depends on whether you obtained a foreign law degree in a common law jurisdiction¹. Common law students do not need to follow the first-year curriculum, and will spend both of their years in the Two-Year J.D. Program taking upper-level courses.

Students who did not obtain a degree in a common law jurisdiction will begin the program with the standard first-year curriculum. During the second year of study, these students are eligible for any second- or third-year course available to all other J.D. students and will need to complete the same required coursework.

Students in the Two-Year J.D. Program are subject to the same grading system that applies to other J.D. candidates. All other law school and university rules apply, as appropriate, to students in the Two-Year J.D. Program. These include rules governing credits from outside the law school and cross-listing of courses.

The Two-Year J.D. Program is not limited to foreign citizens. American citizens who have foreign law degrees are also eligible, whether they were born or raised overseas, or elected to complete their education abroad after high school.

¹ *Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, England, India, New Zealand, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore and Sri Lanka will typically qualify as common law jurisdictions. Hong Kong and Macau also currently qualify. The dean or a designated faculty member makes the decision about whether or not certain other countries qualify.*

Code	Title	Hours
Credit hour source		
Transfer from LL.B		30
First Year Courses		
LAW 804	Civil Procedure	4
LAW 809	Contracts	4
LAW 814	Criminal Law	4
LAW 806	Introduction to Constitutional Law	4

LAW 820	Lawyering Skills I	2
LAW 821	Lawyering Skills II	3
LAW 826	Property	4
LAW 831	Torts I	4
Second Year Courses		
3 courses from the following:		9
LAW 892	Business Organizations	
LAW 881	Conflict of Laws	
LAW 878	Criminal Procedure: Investigation	
LAW 908	Evidence	
LAW 909	Family Law	
LAW 845	Jurisdiction	
LAW 873	Commercial Law: Secured Transactions	
LAW 996	Trusts and Estates	
Experiential Coursework		6
LAW 972	Professional Responsibility	2
Total		
Professional & Scholarly Writing Coursework		9
Elective Coursework		5
Total Hours		90

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Acquire Knowledge and understanding of substantive and procedural law.
- Develop legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, problem-solving, professional skills, and written and oral communication in the legal context.
- Exercise proper professional and ethical responsibilities to clients and the legal system.