Doctor of Juridical Science Program

S.J.D. Program

Future academic leaders, government leaders, judges, and others with a strong interest in the interplay of legal scholarship and practice may be interested in the Doctor of Juridical Science (http://law.ku.edu/overview-sjd) Program. Candidates for the S.J.D. conduct in-depth legal scholarship and must hold both a basic law degree (LL.B. or J.D.) and a master’s degree (LL.M.), possess a prestigious academic record, and show promise for reaching the highest ranks of legal service in their home countries.

Summary of S.J.D. Program Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year and Semester</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Year - Fall</td>
<td>Coursework related to dissertation research for a total of 8 credit hours</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 credit hours of coursework</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. Dissertation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. First-Year Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Begin research/writing dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Year - Spring</td>
<td>Coursework related to dissertation research for a total of 8 credit hours</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 credit hours of coursework</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. Dissertation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. First-Year Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continue research/writing dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Summer</td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. Dissertation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Year - Fall</td>
<td>1 credit hour of Advanced S.J.D. Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Year - Spring</td>
<td>1 credit hour of Advanced S.J.D. Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Summer</td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. Dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Year - Fall</td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. Dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Year - Spring</td>
<td>1 credit hour of S.J.D. Dissertation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oral Examination at KU Law</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Passage of Dissertation</td>
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<td>22 credit hours required for graduation</td>
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</table>

1 1st Year must be in residence at the University of Kansas School of Law

Dissertation Passage Requirements

- Successful completion of all required courses with a grade of C or better.
- Production of a dissertation of no less than 200 single-spaced pages, including front material, footnotes, and bibliography. Paper type, font, margins, and other format and style matters must conform to KU’s Graduate School Instructions to Candidates for Doctoral Degrees in order for the dissertation to be deposited in the KU Libraries.
- Evidence that the candidate has identified a legal issue of relevance; constructed an original argument about that legal issue; defended that argument in a manner that is clear, organized, well-written and well-reasoned; and produced a work that would be publishable as a book, extended law review article, or linked series of law review articles.
- Successful, public defense of the dissertation to committee.