



**SOUTHWESTERN**

LAW SCHOOL  
Los Angeles, CA

# Law School That Fits You, In Person or Online

Explore Southwestern's J.D. Programs and Concentrations



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## **Programs and Concentrations Tailored to Your Goals**

Southwestern offers six J.D. programs and a range of concentrations, allowing you to tailor your legal education to your goals. Whether you're interested in entertainment law, public interest, civil or criminal litigation, or technology, you'll gain practical, hands-on experience that prepares you for a successful legal career. With options for on-campus and online learning, Southwestern provides the flexibility to fit your life and ambitions.

# EXPLORE SOUTHWESTERN'S J.D. PROGRAMS

Learn More



[swlaw.edu/jd-programs](http://swlaw.edu/jd-programs)



“Southwestern is an amazing place to learn and grow. The hands-on experience I gained through the clinics and externships was invaluable, giving me real-world legal skills that textbooks just can’t provide. Plus, the close-knit community and supportive professors made it a fantastic environment in which to prepare for my legal career.”

David Olmedo-Barrera, 2L Accelerated J.D.  
Academics Chair, Trial Advocacy Honors Program  
Former Professional Baseball Player





# Residential J.D. Programs

For those seeking an in-person legal education, Southwestern's residential J.D. programs provide a range of options. Set on our historic Los Angeles campus, these programs offer everything from the accelerated two-year SCALE program to part-time options that accommodate your professional and personal responsibilities. Each pathway combines classroom learning with hands-on experience through clinics, externships, and a collaborative community.

- **2-Year Accelerated J.D. Program (SCALE):**

Complete your J.D. as part of a close-knit cohort of students. SCALE features a guaranteed externship; small, interactive classes; and flexibility to pursue your interests.

- **3-Year Full-Time J.D. Program:**

Pursue your J.D. at the traditional pace. Take advantage of myriad electives and co-curricular options, develop a broad legal network, and establish yourself on the career path of your choice.

- **4-Year Part-Time Day Caregiver J.D. Program (PLEAS):**

Designed for parents and caregivers, your first-year courses occur in the morning, so later in the day you can care for those who need you most.

- **4-Year Part-Time Day J.D. Program:**

Earn your J.D. during the day but at a pace that allows for greater flexibility. Ideal for those who work evening hours or have outside responsibilities beyond school.

# Online J.D. Program



**Southwestern's ABA-accredited Online J.D. Program provides flexible, high-quality legal education, taught by the same full-time faculty as our in-person courses.** This innovative program combines interactive, mainly asynchronous courses with real-world legal training and a supportive virtual community, preparing you to succeed in your legal career on your schedule. Students may take on-campus electives if their schedules and locations permit.





## What Sets Us Apart:



### Flexible Learning

Learn on your schedule in the nation's first Online J.D. program offering **full- and part-time options**. With asynchronous classes, you'll enjoy the flexibility to study from anywhere, at any time.



### Real Experience

Gain real-world legal training through one of the nation's largest externship networks, ensuring you're ready to practice law from day one.



### Scholarship Support

Online students are also eligible for generous merit-based scholarships and need-based federal financial aid, making high-quality legal education within reach.

Learn More



[swlaw.edu/online](http://swlaw.edu/online)

## RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

**Accelerated J.D. (2 years)**

9-13 Units Per Quarter

**1L****Quarter 1 (11 weeks)**

Contracts I  
 Foundations of Law & Practice  
 Introduction to Lawyering  
 LAWS I  
 Torts

**Quarter 2 (11 weeks)**

Civil Litigation  
 Contracts II  
 Criminal Law  
 Evidence Law & Practice I

**Quarter 3 (11 weeks)**

Evidence Law & Practice II  
 LAWS II\*  
 Legal Profession  
 Property

**Quarter 4 (11 weeks)**

Criminal Procedure  
 Elective (including Copyright)  
 Jurisdiction  
 LAWS II\*  
 Independent Study: The Profession\*  
 Remedies

**Summer Session (10 weeks)**

Required:  
 Independent Study: The Profession\*  
 Options:  
 Summer-Abroad Program  
 Summer Elective Course(s),  
 including Externship Course

**2L****Quarter 5 (10 weeks)**

Bar Writing Skills & Strategies  
 Community Property  
 Constitutional Law I  
 Elective(s)  
 Independent Study: The Profession\*

**Quarter 6 (10 weeks)**

Business Associations  
 Constitutional Law II  
 Elective(s)  
 Multiple Choice Skills and Strategies

**Quarter 7 (10 weeks)**

Elective(s)  
 Multiple Choice Skills and Strategies  
 Wills and Trusts

**Quarter 8 (10 weeks)**

Elective(s)  
 Mandatory 8-week Externship  
 Multiple Choice Skills and Strategies

\*Multi-term course

**Full-Time J.D. (3 years)**

10-16 Units Per Semester

**1L**

Civil Procedure I & II  
 Contracts I & II  
 Criminal Law  
 Elective  
 Foundations of Law & Practice\*  
 LAWS I & II  
 Property  
 Torts

**2L**

Business Associations  
 Constitutional Law I & II  
 Electives  
 Evidence

**Before Graduation**

Bar Readiness Curriculum\*\*  
 Constitutional Criminal Procedure  
 Experiential Requirement  
 Legal Profession  
 Upper-Division Writing Requirement

**PLEAS and Part-Time J.D. (4 years)**

8-11 Units Per Semester

**1L**

Contracts I & II  
 Criminal Law  
 Foundations of Law & Practice\*  
 LAWS I & II  
 Torts

**2L**

Civil Procedure I & II  
 Constitutional Law I & II  
 Electives  
 Property

**3L**

Business Associations  
 Electives  
 Evidence

**Before Graduation**

Bar Readiness Curriculum\*\*  
 Constitutional Criminal Procedure  
 Experiential Requirement  
 Legal Profession  
 Upper-Division Writing Requirement

\*\*Currently includes Bar Writing Skills and Strategies, Community Property, Multiple Choice Skills and Strategies, Remedies and Wills and Trusts, but is subject to change as we monitor changes to the bar exam.





Professors are genuinely invested in our success, offering valuable guidance inside and outside the classroom. Southwestern has provided me with the tools and opportunities to lead in legal practice and advocacy.”

Jennifer Alvarez, 3L Full-Time Day  
Dean’s Fellow and Co-Chair, Public Interest Law Committee

# Curriculum Comparison

The charts list required courses in our various J.D. programs. Students complete electives and practical training experiences as upper-division students. We also offer summer classes.

## ONLINE PROGRAMS

### Full-Time J.D. (3 years)

10-16 Units Per Semester

1L
Constitutional Law I & II
Constitutional Criminal Procedure or Elective
Contracts I & II
Criminal Law
Foundations of Law & Practice*
LAWS I & II
Property
Torts
2L
Business Associations
Civil Procedure I & II
Electives
Evidence
Practical Lawyering Skills
3L
Bar Writing Skills & Strategies
Community Property
Electives
Multiple Choice Skills & Strategies
Wills & Trusts
Before Graduation
Constitutional Criminal Procedure
Experiential Requirement
Legal Profession
Upper-Division Writing Requirement

### Part-Time J.D. (4 years)

8-11 Units Per Semester

1L
Contracts I & II
Criminal Law
Foundations of Law & Practice*
LAWS I & II
Torts
2L
Civil Procedure I & II
Constitutional Law I & II
Electives
Practical Lawyering Skills
Property
3L
Business Associations
Electives
Evidence
4L
Bar Writing Skills & Strategies
Multiple Choice Skills & Strategies
Before Graduation
Community Property
Constitutional Criminal Procedure
Experiential Requirement
Legal Profession
Upper-Division Writing Requirement
Wills & Trusts

# PROFESSION-ORIENTED CONCENTRATIONS

Southwestern offers optional concentrations that allow students to pursue courses of study and prepare themselves for practice within specific fields of law. Students in the Online J.D. Program have four concentration options, as noted by the laptop icon below, and students in the residential programs may pursue any listed options.

## ■ Civil Litigation & Advocacy

- Ideal for students who wish to become civil litigators
- Focuses on developing pretrial and trial skills used in the courtroom and litigation-oriented firms and organizations

## ■ Criminal Law & Advocacy

- Ideal for students interested in being public defenders, district attorneys, private defense attorneys, or judges
- Focuses on developing skills such as trial practice, client interviewing, and mastering the rules of procedure and evidence

## ■ Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies

- Ideal for students seeking to examine the law through a critical theory lens, focusing on race, gender, and sexuality perspectives
- Develop an understanding of the origins of law, the social impact of our legal system, and how individuals and their intersectional identities both shape and are impacted by this system

## ■ Entertainment & Media Law

- Ideal for students who want to break into the industry and join a network of accomplished alums from our top-rated program
- Focuses on cutting-edge developments within the entertainment and media space and helps students navigate a competitive environment



Also available in the Online J.D. Program.



**Discover**  
how our concentrations  
drive student success at  
[swlaw.edu/JDConcentrations](http://swlaw.edu/JDConcentrations)



## ■ Labor & Employment Law

- Ideal for students who want broad-based training in workplace law
- Focuses on building knowledge in areas like collective bargaining, discrimination, accommodation, occupational safety, whistleblower protection, and more

## ■ Public Interest Law

- Ideal for students wishing to pursue justice for underserved individuals and communities
- Focuses on skills like client interviewing, trauma-informed lawyering, provisioning direct services, and building a lifelong drive for service

## ■ Technology Law & Entrepreneurship


- Ideal for students seeking to enter the world of high-growth technology start-ups
- Focuses on the business law and technology law aspects of start-ups and primes students to implement innovative legal strategies in an ever-changing landscape





## Connect with Us!



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 [swlaw.edu/linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/swlaw)

 [facebook.com/southwesternlawschool](https://www.facebook.com/southwesternlawschool)

 [youtube.com/@southwesternlaw](https://www.youtube.com/@southwesternlaw)

Learn about upcoming events at [www.swlaw.edu/AdmissionsEventsCalendar](https://www.swlaw.edu/AdmissionsEventsCalendar)

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As of this September 25, 2024 printing, our Online J.D. Program is available to residents of Alaska through an approved exemption. The program is exempt from authorization under AS 14.48 and 20 AAC 17.015 because the program is online or distance delivered and does not have a physical presence in the state. This institution is authorized by: The Indiana Commission for Higher Education/ The Indiana Board for Proprietary Education, 101 West Ohio Street, Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46204-4206. Please check [swlaw.edu/online](https://www.swlaw.edu/online) for updates about whether we are able to accept residents of your state for admission into the Online J.D. program.