

## Academic Advising Info Sheet

### **A. Where you stand after completing your 1L year: What does it take to graduate?**

1. At the completion of year one, 30 credits of the 90 necessary to graduate are completed. You have 60 more credits to complete. [Additional requirements remain.](#)
2. Before graduating you must take these 3 [additional required classes](#):
  - a. Evidence (4 credits)
  - b. Legal Profession (3 credits)
  - c. Administrative Law (3 credits)
3. It makes sense to complete Evidence and Legal Profession as soon as possible, as these are necessary (Legal Profession) and helpful (Evidence) in experiential learning opportunities you will encounter during 2L, 3L, and 4LE years.
4. Before graduating you must satisfy the [Upper Level Legal Writing requirement](#). It can be met in four different ways.
5. Before graduating you must satisfy the [Public Service requirement](#). This can be fulfilled in many different ways, for example, through the clinics and certain externships.
6. Before graduating, you must complete the [Professional Skills requirement](#).
7. See "[Academic Requirements Overview](#)" online at "[Student Handbook](#)" on the SCOL website.

### **B. Thinking about the rest of law school.**

1. As you near completion of your first year of law school, think of the road ahead this way: When the first year is out of the way, you have 30 credits down and 60 more to go. Ten of these are taken by 3 more required courses. You now have 50 credits remaining – that's 16 or so classes. The choices you make tailor the particular legal education you wish to receive at Denver Law.
2. Inform yourself about the possible paths ahead. Then follow your own path.

### **C. Things to think about and possible paths to take.**

1. Bar preparation is a first-order concern. The [DU Bar Success Program](#) is excellent. Speak with [Bar Success faculty members](#) if you want to learn more. Make sure you take Legal Analysis Strategies in your final semester of law school. It's taught by the Director of our Bar Success Program and it's a great way to start practicing bar-type questions before you graduate.
2. You can specialize in an area (or areas) of the law. Five [academic programs](#) let you follow a specialized curriculum and earn a certificate.
3. If it's a different area of the law you want to pursue, you can design your own track. Consult [professors](#) working in that area. We're updating a list of professors who specialize in specific subject matter and who have expressed a willingness to meet with students to help them develop track-specific course plans.
4. A new development at Denver Law is the [Experiential Advantage Curriculum \(EAC\)](#), which makes available to 2L, 3L, and 4LE students a list of courses that include skills-based and professional identity formation elements.
  - DU Law is on the cutting edge regarding legal education reforms. There are only 15-20 law schools offering experiential learning.

- The EAC is 30 credits (third of law school curriculum). By the end of your first year, you will have 6 of the 30 credits as a result of completing Lawyering Process. That leaves 24 remaining credits.
  - Two ways to think about EAC: General array of options designed to immerse yourself in a variety of experiential learning opportunities, e.g. good mix of externships, simulated courses and clinics (have fun with it and immerse yourself)--OR if you have a specific career goal, be strategic in selecting experiential opportunities geared toward that goal.
  - Soon, you will receive an email describing the process for expressing your intent to do EAC. Even if you're just considering it, please provide a notice of intent so that we may ensure there are enough offerings available for the number of students interested in doing EAC.
  - The EAC Committee is now in the process of developing templates/tracks, which will be made available to all students by this upcoming summer or fall.
5. You are permitted to take up to 8 (out of your total 90) law school credits in another DU graduate unit. Because the rest of DU runs on a quarter system, that translates to 12 credits in another department or at another school. More information on this can be found in the Student Handbook under "[Other University of Denver Graduate Courses.](#)"
  6. You are also permitted to take up to 25 out-of-class credits, including the 8 non-JD credits just mentioned, and an array of other options. More information on this can be found in the Student Handbook under "[Limitation on Out of Class Credits.](#)"
  7. You may pursue a [Dual Degree](#). With one or two extra semesters, you can earn a Master's degree in another field—Public Policy, Social Work, Business, International Studies, MSLA , etc.
  8. If you land certain senior positions on the DU Law Review or other journals, you can earn credit for your work. More information on this can be found in the Student Handbook under "[Law Review and Journal Credits.](#)"
  9. [Directed Research](#)
  10. [Clinics](#)
  11. [Externships](#)
  12. [Semester in Practice](#)
  13. [Trial Advocacy Program](#)