

MEMORANDUM

To: All Students
From: Commonwealth Law Faculty
Re: Registration for Spring 2027

The memo will assist you in selecting your classes for the spring 2027 semester and keep you on schedule to meet all graduation requirements.¹ You are responsible for ensuring that you have taken the necessary Required, Menu, and other classes that you need in order to graduate. If you are unsure of the requirements or your progress in meeting them, please see the Registrar or the Dean of Students.

PARTICULAR REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SPRING 2027:

December 2027 graduates. You should register for all of your remaining Required classes if possible. Do not assume that all Required classes will be offered next fall.

All 1Ls. You will be registered automatically for your spring classes.

2RD students. You should register for at least two Required classes, particularly if you have three or four remaining Required classes to complete.

2ED students. You will be registered automatically for: Business Organizations, Property II, Professional Responsibility and Evidence. If you took ILA in the spring, you will be registered for Civil Procedure II in lieu of Professional Responsibility.

3ED students. You will be registered automatically for Business Organizations and Evidence. Then you may choose 4-5 credits of Menu, experiential, writing or elective classes.

ED students who have already taken any of the auto-registered courses should register themselves for an alternative course (contact the Registrar's Office for assistance).

Note for all Upper Level Students: You should consider the number of Menu courses that you are required to complete to ensure Menu requirements will be met prior graduation. Do not leave more than two Menu courses for your final semester.

Note for all ED Students: *Because not all required courses are offered each year in the extended division, deviations from the scheduling of required courses may only be done in consultation with the Dean of Students. Postponing a required class may delay your graduation or require you to take a day class. In particular, please note that Business Organizations and Evidence are offered in the evening every other year and will not be offered again until spring 2029.*

¹ For a complete list of graduation requirements, see §1-201 of the Academic Code.

THE CURRICULUM

REQUIRED CLASSES

Generally. The Required classes are divided between 1L Required Classes and Upper Level Required Classes. All RD students must take the 1L Required Classes in their first year; ED students must take these classes as they are scheduled in their first or second year. **Do not put off your Upper Level Required classes until your last semester because not all Required courses are offered every semester.**

Experiential Learning Classes. You must take 6 credit hours of Experiential Learning classes. Of those 6 credits, 2 credits must be satisfied by enrollment in a clinic, externship, or practicum.

Writing Requirement. Each student must successfully complete an intensive upper level writing experience through a designated course prior to graduation. It is *strongly* suggested that you do not wait until your final semester to complete the writing requirement. RD students should consider registering for a course that satisfies the requirement in the spring of their second year or fall of their final year and ED students during their third year or fall of their final year.

MENU CLASSES

When Determined. The number of Menu course credits you must take is determined at the end of the semester in which you have attempted 40 credits. For most RD students this will be after your third semester. For most ED students this will be after your fourth semester. In determining whether you have attempted 40 credits, any class in which you have received a letter grade, including an F or a Pass, is included.

How Determined. The number of Menu credits you must take depends on your GPA. For this purpose, your GPA is calculated based only on the grades earned in Required and Menu classes that you have taken to this point. Grades in elective classes are not included.

How Many. If your GPA is below a 3.000 after 40 attempted credits, you must take and pass three menu courses from the following list – Family Law, Federal Courts, Federal Income Taxation, Products Liability, and Remedies. If your GPA is above a 3.000 after 40 attempted credits, you will not have a menu course requirement.

Note for all Upper Level Students with GPA below a 3.000: If you have successfully completed Secured Transactions by the end of the Spring 2026 semester, you will be permitted to use that course as one of your three required menu courses.

COURSE SELECTION

Generally. As you begin to consider which classes to take next semester you should consider which Menu or Elective classes are of interest or may be useful to you. In particular, the more Menu classes you need to graduate, the earlier you should begin taking them. Also, remember to take any

prerequisite classes for the upper level classes that you want to take. If you have questions about which classes to take or if you are interested in a particular area of the law, please consult a faculty member who teaches in that area or the Dean of Students.

What If I Don't Know What Kind of Law I Want to Practice? If you are undecided about what kind of legal career you would like, we suggest that you choose classes to give yourself a broad range of different types of substantive classes and to acquire as many skills as you can. This will give you the greatest flexibility after law school and also help you decide what you like and don't like. Additionally, you should work with the Career Development Office to learn about the best ways to prepare for different legal careers.

What if I Want to Complete a Certificate Program? You have the opportunity to earn certificates in Law and Government (specifically: [Administrative/Constitutional Law](#), [Environmental Law](#), [Government Contracting](#), and/or [Legislation & Public Policy](#)) [Business Advising](#) and [Advocacy](#)) Each of these certificate programs has prerequisites classes for doing advanced coursework, which should be taken as soon as possible.

- For the Law & Government Certificate, RD students should take Administrative Law in the second year and ED students should take Administrative Law in the fall of their third year or fourth year.
- If you are interested in the Environmental Law Certificate, you should take Environmental Law during your second year or third year.
- For the Business Advising Certificate, RD students should take Business Organizations and Federal Income Tax in the fall of their second year. ED students should take Business Organizations in the spring of their second or third year and Federal Income Tax in the fall of their third or fourth year.
- For the Advocacy Certificate, RD students should take Evidence and Professional Responsibility in the fall of the second year and ED students should take these courses no later than the third year.

Clinics, Externships, and Certified Legal Intern Status. We provide students with a variety of opportunities to gain practical experience through our Clinics and Extern programs. To participate in the Civil Law Clinic, the Clinical Extern Program, or be a Certified Legal Intern, you must have successfully completed Professional Responsibility and Evidence. Academic Code §304(c) defines successful completion as earning a grade of C or better. **We urge RD students to take Professional Responsibility and Evidence in your second year. We urge ED students to take Professional Responsibility and Evidence in your second or third year.**

REQUIREMENTS AT A GLANCE

A. Required Classes – All classes must be taken:

1. First Year Required Classes:

Civil Procedure I & II	Torts I & II
Contracts I & II	Legal Methods I & II
Property I	Criminal Law

2. Upper Level Required Classes:

Administrative Law	Fundamentals of the Bar Exam
Business Organizations	Legal Methods III (Wri for the Bar if 1L GPA <2.5)
Constitutional Law	Professional Responsibility
Criminal Procedure	Property II
Evidence	Sales & Leases
First Amendment	
Upper Level Writing Requirement	
Experiential Learning: 6 credits, 2 of which must be clinic, externship, or practicum	

B1. Menu Classes – Number of classes or credit hours required depends on GPA:

1. Menu Classes – students with a GPA below 3.00 after 40 credits must choose three:

Federal Courts	Products Liability
Remedies	Federal Income Tax
Family Law	
Secured Transactions (if completed prior to the Fall 2026 semester)	

2. Menu Classes GPA & Requirements: Your GPA for Menu purposes is calculated using Required and Menu classes taken. It is not your cumulative GPA.