



CERTIFICATE OF SPECIALIZATION

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Juris Doctor students who have demonstrated a specialized proficiency in litigation and dispute resolution may receive a Certificate in Litigation and Dispute Resolution in addition to their Juris Doctor degree.

To qualify for the certificate, students must complete the following requirements:

1. Students must meet all general requirements for a J.D. degree.

2. Students must complete a total of 17 semester credit hours that must include:

Pre-trial Practice (3)

Trial Advocacy (3) or Appellate Practice (3)

or Mediation/Advanced Negotiation (3)

and 11 semester credit hours of elective study chosen from the following courses (not all of which are offered each year):

- Administrative Law
- Advocacy in Mediation Competition+
- Appellate Practice
- Arbitration
- Bankruptcy Negotiation Competition+
- Civil Procedure II
- Complex Civil Litigation
- Conflict Management
- Conflict of Laws
- Evidence
- Externship placement or clinic approved by Externship Director and Academic Dean
- Federal Courts
- Judicial Process
- Jurisprudence
- Lawyering Skills
- Legal Writing for Judicial Clerks & Interns
- Mediation/Advanced Negotiation
- National Moot Court Competition+
- Negotiation Competition+
- Pace Environmental Moot Court+
- Preparing and Examining Witnesses
- Remedies
- Seminars related to this field
- Supreme Court Practice
- Taking and Defending Depositions
- Technology and Modern Litigation
- Transactional LawMeet+
- Traynor Moot Court Competition+
- Trial Advocacy
- WWU Energy and Sustainability

Due to the evolving nature of the law school curriculum, new courses or seminars may count toward the certificate course requirements; inquiries about whether a particular course qualifies should be directed to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, who will consult with the relevant faculty members as necessary. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs also has the authority to remove courses from the above list of electives if they are no longer offered.

Non-law school courses may be taken to fulfill the elective credit requirement with prior approval by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Such courses will be approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in consultation with the relevant faculty members

3. Students must complete all certificate requirements with at least a B overall average and no grade lower than a B- in courses taken to satisfy the certificate.

4. Students must complete at least three hours of litigation-focused coursework in a clinic or externship. This coursework must be approved by the Academic Dean to count toward the certificate. Students may apply a maximum of 6 externship credits toward the certificate. The 6 credit limit for externship hours does not include the hours taken in a required course associated with the externship.

5. Students may apply a maximum of 2 semester credit hours earned while participating in the above noted (+) litigation or dispute resolution-related competitions.

6. A student may not exercise a CR/NC option in a course that counts toward the certificate.

