Non-Law Student Enrollment Policy

Non-degree/Guest Students

Community members who have not been formally admitted to a degree program at the University of Minnesota are considered “Non-degree/Guest” students. The Law School allows non-degree-seeking community members to enroll in a selection of Law courses pursuant to the following policies. These options are designed to facilitate community member enrollment in coursework at an accessible level.

Non-degree/Guest students may enroll in certain coursework at the Law School at the 3000- and 5000-level. Undergraduate (3000-level) courses may be taken for credit, or on an audit basis with instructor approval. Graduate (5000-level) courses may be taken on an audit basis only and must have instructor approval.

How to Register

Please note: Having taken coursework at the University previously does not confer degree-seeking status. Due to accreditation standards of the American Bar Association (ABA), students who complete Law coursework before formal admission to the Juris Doctor program at the University of Minnesota are not eligible to use coursework completed as a non-degree/guest towards law degree requirements. Individuals interested in pursuing a degree at the University of Minnesota should review online admissions procedures, deadlines, and requirements for the department in which a degree is sought.

Community members seeking to enroll in Law coursework should register with the College of Continuing and Professional Studies (CCAPS) as a nondegree/guest student. For more information, visit: https://ccaps.umn.edu/nondegree-guest-students.

Non-degree/Guest students are eligible to take 3000- and certain 5000-level courses on a space-available basis. Non-degree/Guest students are not eligible to earn credit for Law courses, and will instead be enrolled on an “audit” basis. The exception to this are 3000-level courses which may be taken for credit, or taken as an auditor (with instructor approval). Auditing entitles the guest to attend class and follow course assignments, but not to take exams or quizzes, participate in graded group assignments, or submit other written work. Auditors are visitors, observers, and listeners in the course. Note that even as an auditor non-degree/guest, students will be charged tuition by CCAPS.
Additional policies to consider prior to enrolling in Law courses:

- Enrollment is limited to open seats in 3000- and certain 5000-level Law courses.
- Petitions should be submitted as early as possible to allow time for processing. You will be notified via email of the status of your petition. All approvals are issued through the Law School Registrar’s office, not the instructor.
- Enrollment decisions for Non-degree/Guest students will not be confirmed until two weeks before the start of the semester; students enrolling in 3000-level courses may self-register.
- Enrolled Non-degree/Guest students must have access to a laptop and/or computer with internet capability in order to access course materials. The Law School does not have in-house technology assistance, computing equipment, or access to student common areas or student printing available for non-degree seeking students.
- Enrolled Non-degree/Guest students are responsible for the cost of any required books or materials for the course.
- Non-degree/Guest students must adhere to Law School policies on exams and assignments and must take exams (if any) on the same schedule as law students (although some 3000-level classes may have exams on the undergraduate schedule). Exceptions are available only for extraordinary circumstances. (Does not apply to auditors, who are not permitted to sit for exams nor complete assignments.)
- All students enrolled in Law School courses are subject to the Law School Honor Code. Violations may result in grade reductions. Detailed information about the Honor Code is available on the Law School website.