



University of Minnesota Law School

Learning Outcomes for the JD Program

Approved by the Faculty on May 5, 2016

Students graduating from the University of Minnesota's Juris Doctor program will be able to:

1. *Identify, research, and analyze legal issues, including the ability to:*

- i. Locate, interpret, and synthesize relevant legal authorities
- ii. Gather and assess relevant facts
- iii. Identify, and provide critical analysis of, competing positions and options
- iv. Understand the interaction between law and public policy
- v. Recognize when consultation, collaboration, or referral is advisable or required

2. *Communicate orally and in writing, including the ability to:*

- i. Present analysis and engage in legal dialogue, negotiation, and argument
- ii. Communicate with the appropriate tone and sophistication for the relevant audience
- iii. Communicate directly, with organization, focus, purpose, and clarity
- iv. Tailor communication and advocacy to applicable format restrictions and comply with procedural requirements

3. *Provide client-oriented legal service, including the ability to:*

- i. Demonstrate broad knowledge of the law and the legal system of the United States
- ii. Listen to and engage with clients to identify client objectives and interests
- iii. Advocate for clients
- iv. Counsel clients by assessing, developing, and evaluating creative options to meet client goals
- v. Manage complex workflow diligently, reliably, and within deadlines

4. *Collaborate, including the ability to:*

- i. Work in a team
- ii. Respect diverse views and perspectives and work effectively across difference
- iii. Understand issues relating to equity and inclusion

5. *Conduct themselves professionally and ethically, including the ability to:*

- i. Know and comply with rules of professional conduct
- ii. Be honest and candid with clients, lawyers, institutions, and others
- iii. Respond effectively to criticism and other feedback
- iv. Identify and minimize biases
- v. Understand the importance of pro bono and other forms of law-related public service
- vi. Seek and use resources where necessary to address personal challenges