Summer-Abroad Law Programs Policy

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook. Established as a standalone policy August 2022.

Related policies: [TBD].

Scheduled Review Date: June 2023 (Dean of Students and Diversity Affairs Office)

Southwestern sponsors a summer-abroad law program. Participants in the program must have completed their first year of study and be in good academic standing before the start of the program to be eligible to participate. Additionally, the director of the summer program has the discretion to limit enrollment to those students who have compiled an academic record that exceeds good standing.

If more than one summer abroad program is offered, students may generally attend one Southwestern summer-abroad law program during their time at Southwestern. Students may attend a second Southwestern summer-abroad program at the discretion of director of the program in consultation with the Dean of Students. A maximum of 8 units from Southwestern abroad programs may be applied toward completion of the Juris Doctorate degree. A director of a Southwestern-sponsored summer-abroad law program and the Dean of Students must approve in writing any deviation from the eight-unit maximum requirement. In determining whether a student may attend a second program, the director will consider whether space exists in the program so that the student seeking to attend a second program would not displace a student who has not yet had the opportunity to participate in a summer abroad experience. Students interested in participating in summer abroad programs sponsored by other law schools should consult the Transfer and Visiting Students Policy for procedures for approval and maximum unit restrictions.

Students should be aware that there may be limitations on the availability of financial aid for these programs and are strongly advised to contact the Financial Aid Office as early as possible before registering or paying any program fees.