

A tall, Art Deco-style building with a prominent central tower, light-colored stone facade, and teal-colored decorative elements around the windows. The building is set against a blue sky with white clouds. In the foreground, there are green trees and a sidewalk.

SOUTHWESTERN

LAW SCHOOL
Los Angeles, CA

A Law School
That Fits You

Southwestern: A Legacy of Innovation and Excellence

Why Southwestern?

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For more than 110 years, Southwestern Law School has educated lawyers ready to serve clients, the profession, and our society with excellence. We empower students to reach their potential. We cultivate inclusion and belonging. We promote equity and justice. We champion trailblazers, develop dealmakers, and inspire intellectual curiosity. We innovate. We shape the law and public policy through teaching, scholarship, and service.

We encourage you to find your fit here, from among several different J.D. program options, both on-campus and online; a variety of curricular concentrations; and a student body teeming with diverse cultures and perspectives, yet united by the shared pursuit of justice.





Southwestern's **on-campus** J.D. programs take place on the Southwestern Law School campus, located just west of Downtown Los Angeles. From accelerated to part-time options, you can find an optimal fit for you and your learning style.

■ **2-Year Accelerated J.D. Program (SCALE):**

Complete your J.D. within a close-knit cohort of students. SCALE features a guaranteed externship; small, interactive classes; and flexibility to pursue your interests.

■ **3-Year Full-Time J.D. Program:**

Pursue the full-time J.D. path and take advantage of myriad electives and co-curricular options, develop a broad legal network, and establish yourself on the career path of your choice.

■ **4-Year Part-Time Day Caregiver J.D. Program (PLEAS):**

Designed for child- and elder-caregivers, your first-year courses occur in the morning, so later in the day you can provide care for those who need you most.

■ **4-Year Part-Time Day J.D. Program:**

Earn your J.D. during the day but at a pace that allows for greater flexibility. Ideal for those who work evening hours or have outside responsibilities beyond school.

“I’m proud to know that my daughter is witnessing me embark on a journey: a single parent attending law school and working full-time. Receiving unconditional support from my family and friends has fortified my mamba mentality not to give up.”

-Laura Carter '24
4L, Parents Attending Law School
President

Unparalleled Flexibility:

Tailor Your Educational
Experience



On-Campus J.D. Programs



Online J.D. Programs

■ 3-Year Full-Time

Online J.D. Program:

Southwestern's Full-Time Online J.D. Program is tailored for individuals seeking a comprehensive legal education that can be completed in three years. This option provides a robust and dynamic learning experience with a structured curriculum, fostering a deep understanding of the law, and preparing graduates to excel in a range of legal careers.

■ 4-Year Part-Time

Online J.D. Program:

Designed for those with significant professional or personal commitments, our Part-Time Online J.D. Program allows students to complete their legal education in four years. This program maintains the same high standards and comprehensive curriculum as the full-time option, offering flexibility for students to manage their studies alongside other responsibilities.

Please check <https://www.swlaw.edu/online> for updates as to whether we are able to accept residents of your state for admission to the Online J.D. program.*

*As of the printing of this brochure on October 1, 2023, we are not authorized to offer online programs in Alaska, but we are hoping to make the Online J.D. program available to residents of Alaska through an exemption. If the exemption is approved, Alaska students should be aware that our authorization to enroll residents of Alaska in our Online J.D. would be under AS 14.48 and 20 AAC 17.015 because the program is online or distance delivered and does not have a physical presence in the state.



Your future,
Your schedule

Online J.D. Programs

Southwestern Law School Curriculum

Southwestern offers a variety of J.D. programs, both on-campus and online. The charts below list required courses, and students have the opportunity to explore electives and practical training experiences during their second, third, or fourth year, or during the summer.

On-Campus J.D. Programs Accelerated J.D. - SCALE (2 years)

1L	2L
10-13 Units Per Quarter Required Courses:	9-12 Units Per Quarter Required Courses:
Quarter 1 (11 weeks)	Quarter 5 (10 weeks)
Contracts I	Cal Bar Writing: Skills and Strategies
Foundations of Law and Practice	Community Property
Introduction to Lawyering	Constitutional Law I
LAWS I	Legislation, Mass Media, or Elective
Torts	Quarter 6 (10 weeks)
Quarter 2 (12 weeks)	Business Associations
Civil Litigation	Constitutional Law II
Contracts II	MBE: Skills and Strategies
Criminal Law	Required Fall Elective in lieu of Legislation or Mass Media
Evidence Law and Practice I	Fall Elective
Quarter 3 (11 weeks)	Quarter 7 (10 weeks)
Evidence Law and Practice II	Interession Course
Legal Profession	MBE: Skills and Strategies
Property	Representing Entrepreneurs or Spring Elective
Quarter 4 (10 weeks)	Wills and Trusts
Copyright, Crimmigration, or Negotiation and Dispute Resolution	Quarter 8 (10 weeks)
Criminal Procedure	Mandatory 8-week Externship
Jurisdiction	MBE: Skills and Strategies
LAWS II	Required Spring Elective
Lecture Series on the Profession	Trial Advocacy or Spring Elective
Remedies	
Summer Session (10 weeks)	
Independent Study on the Profession	
Options:	
Summer-Abroad Program	
Summer Elective Course(s)	
Summer Externship	

Bar Readiness Curriculum (all programs)

Before Graduation
Required Courses:
Cal Bar Writing: Skills and Strategies
Community Property
MBE: Skills and Strategies
Remedies
Wills and Trusts

Course selection is subject to change. Course descriptions are available at www.swlaw.edu/courses.

On-Campus J.D. Programs

Full-Time Day J.D. (3 years)

1L

10-16 Units Per Semester

Required Courses:

Civil Procedure I and II
Contracts I and II
Criminal Law
Elective
Foundations of Law and Practice
LAWS I and II
Property
Torts

2L

Business Associations
Constitutional Law I and II
Evidence

Before Graduation

Constitutional Criminal Procedure
Experiential Requirement
Legal Profession
Upper-Division Writing Requirement

Part-Time Day J.D. (4 years)

1L

8-11 Units Per Semester

Required Courses:

Contracts I and II
Criminal Law
Foundations of Law and Practice
LAWS I and II
Torts

2L

Civil Procedure I and II
Constitutional Law I and II
Electives
Property

3L

Business Associations
Evidence

Before Graduation

Constitutional Criminal Procedure
Experiential Requirement
Legal Profession
Upper-Division Writing Requirement

Online J.D. Programs

Full-Time J.D. (3 years)

1L

10-16 Units Per Semester

Required Courses:

Constitutional Law I and II
Constitutional Criminal Procedure
Contracts I and II
Criminal Law
Foundations of Law and Practice
LAWS I and II
Property
Torts

2L

Business Associations
Civil Procedure I and II
Electives
Evidence
Experiential Requirement I
Legal Profession
Remedies
Upper Division Writing Course

3L

Cal Bar Writing: Skills and Strategies
Community Property
Electives
Experiential Requirement II
MBE: Skills and Strategies
Wills & Trusts

Part-Time J.D. (4 years)

1L

8-11 Units Per Semester

Required Courses:

Contracts I and II
Criminal Law
Foundations of Law and Practice
LAWS I and II
Torts

2L

Civil Procedure I and II
Constitutional Law I and II
Constitutional Criminal Procedure
Property

3L

Business Associations
Community Property
Evidence
Legal Profession
Remedies
Upper Division Writing Course

4L

Cal Bar Writing: Skills and Strategies
Electives
Experiential Requirement
MBE: Skills and Strategies
Wills & Trusts



Concentration Options:

Southwestern offers optional concentrations that allow students to pursue tailored courses of study and prepare themselves for practice within specific fields of law. Students in an Online J.D. program have four concentration options, as noted by the laptop icon below, and students in an on-campus program may pursue any of the listed options.

Civil Litigation & Advocacy*

The Civil Litigation & Advocacy Concentration, part of the Parish Civil Justice Program, prepares students for the courtroom and for law practice as litigators in law firms. Students take courses in litigation skills and assist with real litigation matters through clinics, externships, or practicum courses.

Criminal Law & Advocacy

The Criminal Law & Advocacy Concentration provides a robust and engaging curriculum of specialized electives, clinics, and externship opportunities. This concentration is ideal for students interested in joining a District Attorney's or Public Defender's Office, exploring private practice, or becoming a judge.

Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies

The Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies Concentration challenges students to examine the law through a critical theory lens, focusing on race, gender, and sexuality perspectives. Coursework covers subjects such as civil rights, criminal law, employment law, family law, and immigration law, allowing students to develop a broad theoretical basis for understanding the law. Theory is then informed by hands-on experiences in clinics, externships, and practica.

www.swlaw.edu/concentrations

Customize Your Curriculum!

Entertainment & Media Law*

The Entertainment & Media Law Concentration offers students a comprehensive program of innovative courses, the Entertainment & the Arts Clinic, and externship opportunities in one of the world's leading entertainment hubs. Offered in cooperation with the Biederman Entertainment & Media Law Institute, Southwestern's industry-focused curriculum is top-rated nationally. Externship opportunities include SAG-AFTRA, Universal, and Warner Bros.

Labor & Employment Law

The Labor & Employment Law Concentration offers training in up to a dozen distinct practice areas relating to workplace law, from employment discrimination and wage-and-hour disputes to collective bargaining and workers' compensation. Students also develop strong advocacy skills through externships and classroom simulations.

Public-Interest Law*

The Public-Interest Law Concentration provides an engaging curriculum that encourages students to provide access to justice for underserved individuals and communities. The concentration offers a rich array of courses rooted in clinical and experiential-based skills building, substantive and theoretical legal training, and public-service opportunities, which are complemented by our unique location in the center of the Los Angeles public-interest-law corridor.

Technology Law & Entrepreneurship*

The Technology Law & Entrepreneurship Concentration prepares students for the fast-changing world of high-growth technology start-ups. Students can focus on the business-law side or the technology-law side, or select courses from both areas. Students also engage in practical skills courses to prepare for real-world practice.



*Also available in the Online J.D. Program.



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-  swlaw.edu/linkedin
-  twitter.com/southwesternlaw

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