

SOUTHWESTERN

LAW SCHOOL

Los Angeles, CA

Southwestern Summer Courses and January Intersession

Faculty policy. Effective immediately.

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook; established as part of the Academic Policies and Procedures standalone policy in August 2022; established as a standalone policy in August 2023; revised in December 2025 to clarify computation of GPA.

Related policies: SCALE Program Policies; Registration Policies and Procedures; Student's Right to Cancel and Tuition Refund Policy; Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) Policy; Summer-Abroad Law Programs Policy; Transfer and Visiting Students Policy; Academic Disqualification, Academic Probation, and Academic Improvement Program Policies

Scheduled Review Date: July 2027 (Student Services Office)

A. Summer Courses

Southwestern offers numerous courses during summer sessions and externships. For information on summer-abroad programs, see the *Summer-Abroad Law Programs Policy*. Current Southwestern students, as well as law students who have completed at least one year of law school and are currently in good standing at an ABA-approved or who have been admitted as a visiting student, may enroll in summer courses at Southwestern. Full-time students in the full-time program are not required to attend summer sessions. Part-time students are expected to attend at least two summer sessions to graduate within four years. SCALE students may take Southwestern summer session course(s) to fulfill their SCALE summer session requirement following Quarter 4. (See the *SCALE Program Policies* for more information.)

1. Computation of GPA for non-SCALE students

For purposes of computing the GPA, units earned in the summer session are used to compute a student's cumulative GPA. Grades earned in the summer session are not averaged with fall or spring semester grades. Units earned in summer sessions do not count toward determining academic disqualification based on a minimum GPA in two consecutive evaluation periods.

2. Academic disqualification

An academically disqualified student enrolled in a summer session may continue attending classes until notified by the Academic Standards Committee of its decision on their petition. If the petition is approved, credit will be granted for completed summer session work. If the petition is denied, no credit will be allowed, and no grades for summer session courses will be recorded. In the event of a denial, Southwestern will automatically process a full refund for 100% of summer session tuition, but cannot refund any Student Tuition Recovery Fund assessment, pursuant to California statute, or non-refundable convenience fees.

3. Adding and dropping courses

For guidance on adding and dropping courses during a summer session, review the *Registration Policies and Procedures* on the Institutional Policies webpage.

4. Prerequisites

Each student is responsible for completing the course prerequisites listed in the registration materials and online through Self-Service and the Southwestern website. Course credit will be denied to any student enrolled without the proper prerequisite(s) unless waived by the Associate Dean for Student Services. All students should consult the summer schedule online through Self-Service and registration materials to see which courses are open.

B. January Intersession

The January intersession is held for one week each year following the fall semester's conclusion and before the spring semester's commencement. The intersession provides opportunities for students to enroll in skills-based and other courses. Only upper-division students may enroll in the January intersession. Students must attend all class meetings to receive unit credit. Eligible students are permitted to enroll in one course per intersession.

1. Computation of GPA for non-SCALE students

Units earned during the January intersession are counted toward the total units completed but are not included in GPA calculations. January intersession courses are graded on a Credit/No Credit basis, so they do not affect the GPA. Credits earned during the intersession are also not considered when determining academic disqualification based on a minimum GPA over two consecutive evaluation periods.

2. Academic disqualification

Grades earned in the intersession will remain on the transcript of an academically disqualified student regardless of the decision from the Academic Standards Committee.

3. Adding courses and schedule changes.

January intersession courses may be added up to the first class meeting. Course schedule changes must be submitted online through Self-Service, except when made after the drop deadline for the January intersession. For guidance on adding and dropping courses during January intersession, review the *Registration Policies and Procedures* on the Institutional Policies webpage.

4. Prerequisites

Each student is responsible for completing the course prerequisites listed in the registration materials and online through Self-Service and the Southwestern website. Course credit will be denied to any student enrolled without the proper prerequisite(s). Students should consult the January intersession schedule online through Self-Service and the registration materials to see which courses are open.

C. Policy Revisions

Southwestern expressly reserves the right to change or modify any aspect of this policy at any time, with or without prior notice.