

J.D. URBAN, LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW EMPHASIS AREA REQUIREMENTS

UMKC students can engage in a course of study within the J.D. degree with an emphasis in Urban and Land Use Law, Environmental Law or both.

Admission Requirements

Students in their second or third year may elect to specialize in the "Urban, Land Use and Environmental Law" curricular emphasis program. To do so, a student should apply no later than the end of the second year. Advice about compliance with the requirements is available from the Emphasis Faculty Advisors Professors Julie Cheslik, John Ragsdale, and Irma Russell.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from this program will:

- Students will demonstrate mastery of core doctrinal knowledge within emphasis area
- Students will demonstrate mastery of skills necessary for objective legal analysis.
- Students will demonstrate mastery of the skills necessary for effective legal research in the emphasis area.
- Students will demonstrate mastery of legal writing.
- Students will demonstrate mastery of the duties of attorneys as members of the legal profession.
- Students will demonstrate ability to work with people in a professional environment
- Students will demonstrate competency in professional work habits
- Students will demonstrate entry-level proficiency in lawyering skills especially relevant to the emphasis area.

Program Requirements

Minimum Total Hours Required

Students must complete at least 15 semester hours of approved course work in the emphasis including at least two of three Group A Core Courses, at least two Group B Specialized Courses, and at least one Group C Elective and Interdisciplinary Courses. All courses used to satisfy the emphasis requirements must be taken for a grade (with the exception of those courses for which a grade option is not available) and a grade of B- or higher must be earned.

Advanced Research and Writing Requirement

Students must complete an academic research paper of publishable quality concerning a topic within the purview of the emphasis area. This requirement may be filled (1) in conjunction with any of the approved emphasis courses, (2) as part of the law school's Research and Writing requirement, (3) as part of an Independent Study, (4) through one of the Law School's journal offerings, or (4) through a research project pursued through an internship, externship or other practical experience. Emphasis faculty advisors must approve of the topic and paper quality in order to satisfy this requirement.

Practical Skills Requirement

Students must satisfactorily complete a one-semester practical skills experience or its equivalent. The following coursework and clinics satisfy this requirement:

Code	Title	Credits
LAW 8773C	Environmental Compliance Auditing and Permitting	3
LAW 8773N	Negotiating SuperFund Settlements	1-2
LAW 8773R	Environmental Law Internship	3-6
LAW 8921	Selected Projects in Law, Technology and Public Policy	1-6
LAW 8925	Entrepreneurial Urban Development	1-4

Abandoned Housing Clinic

EPA Law Clinic Region VII, EPA Law Clinic Agricultural Center, and placement with an approved governmental or other private or public agency including the City of Kansas City and other entities as approved by a Emphasis Faculty Advisor.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Group A: Core Courses; must take a minimum of two:		2-6
LAW 8764	Administrative Law	
LAW 8766	Land Use Law	

LAW 8773	Environmental Law	
Group B: Specialized Courses; must take a minimum of two:		2-8
LAW 8725	Water Law	
LAW 8725E	Energy Law	
LAW 8728	Law And The American Indian	
LAW 8765	Federal Jurisdiction	
LAW 8783P	Preservation of Land & Natural Resources	
LAW 8783	Federal Public Land & Resource Law	
LAW 8783P	Preservation of Land & Natural Resources	
LAW 8848R	State and Local Taxation	
LAW 8861	Real Estate Finance	
LAW 8863	Fair and Affordable Housing Seminar	
LAW 8870	Seminar in Educational Equality and the Law	
LAW 8875	Real Estate Transactions	
LAW 8898	Construction Law	
Group C: Elective and Interdisciplinary Courses; may count one additional course from Group C		1-6
LAW 8641R	Legislation	
LAW 8706	Class Actions and Multidistrict Litigation	
LAW 8734	Mediation	
LAW 8771	Public Finance	
LAW 8773C	Environmental Compliance Auditing and Permitting	
LAW 8773N	Negotiating SuperFund Settlements	
LAW 8773R	Environmental Law Internship	
LAW 8783B	Buffalo National River: Issues in National Park Law & Management	
LAW 8796	Economics And The Law	
LAW 8870R	Education Law: Government & Legal Aspects Of Education	
LAW 8900	Takings Law	
LAW 8909	State and Local Government Law in a Nutshell	
LAW 8921	Selected Projects in Law, Technology and Public Policy	
LAW 8925	Entrepreneurial Urban Development	
Any graduate level course in PUB-ADM		
Any graduate level course in RL-EST		

Important Note: Because the School is committed to keeping up with changes in the practice of law, the requirements for emphasis areas may change during the course of a student's enrollment at the School. The requirements at the time a student is granted admission into the emphasis area are the requirements that govern completion of the student's emphasis requirements. For possible revised requirements that will take effect with the next academic year, ask the emphasis area advisor for the most recent iteration of requirements. A course not listed above can meet emphasis area requirements if approved by the emphasis area advisors, Professors Julie Cheslik, John Ragsdale, and Irma Russell.