



Western Sierra Law School Curriculum

Effective January 1, 2023

Class Duration

Students receive **10 weeks** of instruction in a quarter, taking into consideration any holidays or winter break.

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance is required for **at least 80%** of the regular scheduled courses.

Minimum Requirements for J.D. Degree

Students must complete **120 units** to earn their Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Western Sierra Law School. The CA State Bar Committee of Bar Examiners requires a minimum of 27 units (270 hours of classroom attendance)/year for 4 years (any consecutive 12-month period) and passage of the First Year Law Students' Examination to receive a J.D. degree.

First Year Law Students' Examination

Students must take the First Year Law Students' Examination upon successful completion of their first year of law study. Students who pass the examination within the first three administrations of the examination after first becoming eligible to take it will receive law study credit up to the time of passage of the examination. Students who pass the examination on an attempt following the third administration of the examination after their first becoming eligible to take it will only receive credit for one year of law study toward qualifying to take the California Bar Examination.

Instruction Format (subject to change)

= Classroom

= Correspondence

= Distance Learning (via Zoom)

1L Courses	Quarter Offered	Units
Contracts I & II	Fall	8
Legal Analysis I – Contracts (Pass/Fail)	Fall	2
Torts I & II	Winter	8
Legal Analysis II – Torts (Pass/Fail)	Winter	2
Criminal Law I & II	Spring	8
Legal Analysis III – Criminal Law (Pass/Fail)	Spring	2
Legal Research	Summer	3
Total Units for 1L Courses		33



Upper Division Courses (2L-4Ls take courses based on a 3-year course rotation)

Rotation 1	Quarter Offered	Units
Civil Procedure I	Fall	4
Civil Procedure II	Winter	3
Evidence I	Fall	4
Evidence II	Winter	3
Professional Responsibility	Spring	4
Remedies I	Spring	4
Remedies II	Summer	4
Elective Units or Clinical Education	Elective: Summer Clinical Education: any	4
Total Units for Rotation 1		30
Rotation 2		
Advanced Legal Problems (Pass/Fail)	Any	3
California Civil Procedure	Fall	3
Civil Litigation Skills (Pass/Fail)	Fall	3
Criminal Litigation Skills (Pass/Fail)	Winter	3
California Evidence	Winter	4
Wills, Trusts & Estates	Spring	4
Community Property	Spring	4
Elective Units or Clinical Education	Elective: Summer Clinical Education: any	3
Total Units for Rotation 2		27
Rotation 3		
Property I	Fall	4
Property II	Winter	4
Constitutional Law I	Fall	4
Constitutional Law II	Winter	4
Criminal Procedure	Spring	4
Corporations I	Spring	4
Corporations II	Summer	3
Elective Units or Clinical Education	Elective: Summer Clinical Education: any	3
Total Units for Rotation 3		30

Clinical Education

The State Bar of California's Practical Training of Law Students (PTLS) program certifies law students to provide legal services under the supervision of an attorney. To be a Certified Law Student and register for Clinical Education, a student must be in good academic standing (GPA of 2.0+) and have either completed or be currently enrolled and attending courses in Evidence and Civil Procedure.