Law School Memorandum

From: Associate Dean Gordon Smith
To: 2L and 3L Students
Date: July 12, 2013

How To Choose Your Courses 2013-14

During your second and third years of law school, you will have substantial discretion to choose the courses you wish to take. To graduate you will be required to take a Professional Responsibility course and to fulfill the Substantial Writing and Professional Skills requirements (described in greater detail below). Beyond those requirements, it will be up to you to choose which courses to take.

As you make those decisions, you should keep in mind the importance of gaining a broad, general background in the law; the benefit of taking courses that challenge you to think carefully and analytically; and the need to expose yourself to areas covered by the bar exam. Some degree of course focus may be appropriate for students who are confident that they know where they want to specialize. An intense focus in one area may also enhance the learning experience as you build on knowledge and expertise gained in previous courses.

On the other hand, many lawyers end up practicing in a field that is different from the one they envisioned while in law school, and you should be reluctant to design your course emphasis too narrowly. Even for students who end up predicting their field of specialty accurately, a broad-based educational foundation is crucial, as is an education that presents an opportunity to challenge and expand your way of thinking about legal problems.

With that background, some specific considerations that may influence your course selection decisions are set forth below.

1. **Graduation Requirements**

   Graduation requirements are described in section VIII of the Law School’s Policies and Procedures, which are accessible on the Law School’s website. For advice about graduation requirements, you may contact the Law School Registrar.

2. **Required Upper-division Course**

   All students must take Professional Responsibility.
3. **Substantial Writing**

Each student must individually prepare, during his or her second or third year, a substantial paper. The paper must be written for credit in connection with a Law School course or seminar, a cocurricular law journal, or Directed Research. Courses that offer the substantial writing option are so designated in the Law School course materials. For more information about this requirement, please see section II of the Law School’s Policies and Procedures.

4. **Professional Skills Requirement**

Each student must fulfill the Professional Skills Requirement by completing one of the following: (a) at least two hours of externship credit; or (b) at least one of the second-year or third-year courses designated as a Professional Skills Course in the Law School course materials. For the 2012-13 school year, the following courses have been so designated:

- Appellate Practice and Procedure
- Advanced Appellate Brief Writing
- Basic Mediation
- Basic Estate Planning
- Child Advocacy
- Civil Discovery
- Civil Trial Practice 1
- Civil Trial Practice 2
- Community Lawyering
- Computer-Based Practice Systems
- Criminal Trial Practice
- Criminal Trial Advocacy
- Current Issues in Constitutional Litigation
- Domestic Relations
- Domestic Violence Intervention
- Elder Law
- International Moot Court
- Intellectual Property Moot Court
- International Public & Commercial Arbitration
- Legal Drafting
- Legal Interviewing & Counseling
- Mediation Practicum
- Public Speaking for Lawyers
- Real Estate Development
- Transactional Lawyering
5. **Bar Examination Subjects**

For information about bar examination subjects, please contact the state bar association of the state where you plan to take the bar exam. Utah and 12 other jurisdictions (Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming) have adopted the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) which provides portability of UBE scores within those jurisdictions subject to various restrictions and additional requirements in some jurisdictions. Administering and grading the examination uses the jurisdiction’s resources, so it is for each UBE jurisdiction to decide whether it will allow persons who are not seeking admission there to sit for the examination. The UBE is composed of two Multistate Performance Test (MPT) tasks, the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), and the Multistate Essay Examination (MEE).

The MPT is designed to test an examinee’s ability to use fundamental lawyering skills in a realistic situation. Each test evaluates an examinee’s ability to complete a task that a beginning lawyer should be able to accomplish. The MPT is not a test of substantive knowledge. Rather, it is designed to examine six fundamental skills lawyers are expected to demonstrate regardless of the area of law in which the skills arise.

The MBE covers the following topics:
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Conflict of Laws
- Evidence
- Real Property
- Torts

The MEE may cover the following topics:
- Business Associations (Agency and Partnership; Corporations and Limited Liability Companies)
- Conflict of Laws
- Constitutional Law
- Conflict of Laws
- Contracts
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Evidence
- Family Law
- Federal Civil Procedure
- Real Property
- Torts
- Trusts and Estates (Decedent's Estates; Trusts and Future Interests)
- Uniform Commercial Code (Negotiable Instruments and Bank Deposits and Collections; Secured Transactions)
In addition, bar admission applicants are required to take and achieve the required score on the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) for admission to the bars of all but three U.S. jurisdictions (Maryland, Wisconsin, and Puerto Rico). The purpose of the MPRE is to measure the examinee's knowledge and understanding of established standards related to a lawyer's professional conduct based on the law governing the conduct of lawyers, including the disciplinary rules of professional conduct currently articulated in the American Bar Association (ABA) Model Rules of Professional Conduct, the ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct, and controlling constitutional decisions and generally accepted principles established in leading federal and state cases and in procedural and evidentiary rules.

6. **Courses Recommended for All Law Students**

The following courses are recommended for all law students, regardless of their eventual area of practice. For course information, please see the Course Descriptions on the Law School’s website.

- Administrative Law
- Business Associations
- Criminal Procedure
- Evidence
- Federal Income Taxation 1
- Secured Transactions
- The First Amendment or The Fourteenth Amendment
- Wills and Estates

7. **Courses Offered in 2012-13 that Are Unlikely to Be Offered in 2013-14**

For planning purposes, please note that the following courses offered in 2013-14 are unlikely to be offered in 2014-15. This list does not mean that other courses are guaranteed to be offered in 2014-15.

- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Disaster Law
- Federal Tax Research
- History of Mormon Lawyers
- International and Comparative Family Law
- Law & Corpus Linguistics
8. **Final Examination Schedule**

Please consult the final examination schedule when selecting courses. If you register for courses that have exams on the same day or on sequential days, you will be required to take the exams as scheduled. Please note that the final exam schedule on the Law School’s website is correct. The final exam schedule on the University’s AIM system is not used by the Law School and is not correct.

9. **Externships**

Externships in a variety of settings are available for credit. Please contact the Career Services Office regarding placement opportunities, or the professors listed as supervising the externships. Please also contact the Law School Registrar for registration finalization and credit approval.

10. **Advisement**

For advice about choosing courses, you may contact Assistant Dean Wendy Archibald or professors who teach in your area of interest.

For advice about career planning, you may contact Assistant Dean Mary Hoagland, Beth Hansen, Director of Career Services, or professors who teach in your area of interest.

If you have concerns that are affecting your ability to perform in law school, such as academic issues, health issues, family problems, disabilities, etc., please contact Assistant Dean Wendy Archibald.

11. **General Subject Areas of Courses**

The following list categorizes the Law School’s courses (other than the first-year courses and including co-curricular programs) according to general subject areas. For course information, please see the Course Descriptions on the Law School’s website. Please note that some courses have prerequisites and not all of these courses are offered every year.

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Basic Mediation
- Fundamental Lawyering Skills
- International Public and Commercial Arbitration
- Mediation Practicum
- Mediation Externship
- Negotiation
- Negotiation and Conflict Resolution Clinic
Business and Commercial Law
Accounting for Lawyers
Business Associations
Business Reorganizations
Community and Economic Development Clinical Alliance
Community and Economic Development Representation
Debtors and Creditors
Deals
Employment Law
Employment Discrimination
Health Law and Policy
Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic
Secured Transactions
Securities Regulation
Trademarks and Copyright
Transactional Lawyering

Constitutional Law
Civil Rights
Cyberlaw
Immigrant Rights
Origins of the Constitution
Presidential Power
The First Amendment
The Fourteenth Amendment
U.S. Church and State
U.S. Foreign Relations

Criminal Law and Procedure
Advanced Criminal Procedure
Criminal Procedure
Criminal Trial Advocacy
Criminal Trial Practice
Sentencing
White Collar Crime

Education
Co-curricular: Education and Law Journal
Law of Higher Education
Law and Public Education
Environmental Law and Natural Resources
Environmental Law
Environmental Litigation Seminar
International Environmental Law
Public Lands and Natural Resources
Water Law

Estates and Trusts
Basic Estate Planning
Wills and Estates

Family Law
Child Advocacy
Community Lawyering
Domestic Mediation
Domestic Relations
Domestic Violence Intervention
Family Law
Family Law Skills Lab

Government
Administrative Law
Disaster Law
Federal Indian Law
Government and Legislative Clinical Alliance
Government and Legislation Representation
Judicial Process
State and Local Government
Law of Armed Conflict
See courses listed under Constitutional Law

Intellectual Property and Technology
Intellectual Property Moot Court
Patent Law 1 – Conditions for Patentability
Patent Law 2 – Infringement and Remedies
Trademarks and Copyright
International and Comparative Law
Advanced Comparative Law 1
European Union Law
Federal Indian Law
Immigration Law
International Human Rights
International Moot Court
International Public and Commercial Arbitration
Law of Armed Conflict
Public International Law

Labor and Employment
Employment Discrimination
Employment Law
Health Law and Policy

Law Practice and Professional Development
Computer-based Practice Systems
Law Office Management
Solo and Small Firm Practice

Legal History
History of Mormon Lawyers
Jewish, Greek, and Roman Law in the New Testament
Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, and the Law

Legal Interviewing and Counseling
Fundamental Lawyering Skills
Legal Interviewing and Counseling

Legal Research and Writing
Advanced Appellate Brief Writing
Advanced Legal Research
Co-curricular: International Law and Management Review
Co-curricular: Education and Law Journal
Co-curricular: Journal of Public Law
Co-curricular: Law Review
Co-Curricular: Moot Court
Directed Research
Federal Tax Research
Legal Drafting

Legal Studies
Judicial Process
Jurisprudence
Law and Literature
Legal Reasoning and Persuasion
Legal Scholarship

Litigation
Advanced Appellate Brief Writing
Appellate Practice and Procedure
Civil Discovery
Civil Trial Practice 1
Civil Trial Practice 2
Co-Curricular: Moot Court
Co-Curricular: Trial Advocacy
Conflicts of Law
Evidence
Federal Courts
International Moot Court
Judicial Process
Negotiation
Public Speaking for Lawyers
Remedies

Public Interest Law and Pro Bono
Child Advocacy
Community and Economic Development Clinical Alliance
Community and Economic Development Representation
Domestic Relations
Domestic Violence Intervention
Elder Law
Mediation Practicum

Real Property
Real Estate Development
Real Estate Finance
Land Use Planning
Taxation
Charitable Organizations
Federal Income Taxation 1
Federal Income Taxation 2
Federal Tax Research
International Taxation
U.S. Taxation of Religious Organizations