

WORKING CURRICULUM STRATEGIC PLAN

The unique identity and special strengths of UND School of Law inform the content and delivery of our curriculum. Our educational environment reflects the value we place on practice readiness in a variety of settings, including solo and small-firm practice; open-mindedness and intellectual receptivity; federal Indian and tribal law; international and foreign law, particularly Norwegian and Canadian law; the need to draw upon knowledge from other fields; and our curriculum's connection to real-world practice.

Consistent with our curricular mission and unique identity, we adopt the following learning outcomes:

LEARNING OUTCOME 1: Foundational Knowledge

Our curriculum will provide students with foundational knowledge. After completing our program of legal education, students will:

- a. Understand core substantive and procedural legal doctrines and foundational legal concepts
- b. Understand legal systems and institutions at the local, state, tribal, national, and international levels
- c. Understand the role of attorneys in society and the profession/have a holistic view of the attorney's role
- d. See connections among areas of doctrinal knowledge, lawyering skills, and professional values

LEARNING OUTCOME 2: Foundational Skills

Our curriculum will provide students with education and training in foundational skills necessary to the legal profession. After completing our program of legal education, students will have developed competencies in:

- a. Legal analysis
- b. Legal research
- c. Written communication
- d. Oral communication
- e. Identifying and assessing issues
- f. Critical thinking
- g. Interviewing
- h. Investigation
- i. Active listening
- j. Counseling
- k. Advocacy

- l. Negotiation
- m. Technology
- n. Problem solving

LEARNING OUTCOME 3: Ethics and Professionalism

Our curriculum will emphasize ethics and professionalism in legal practice and provide students with the tools to identify and resolve ethical and professional dilemmas. After completing our program of legal education, students will understand the ethical and professionalism issues and consequences concerning:

- a. Attorney-client relationships
- b. Interactions with legal tribunals and other legal professionals
- c. Conduct and decorum
- d. Law practice management
- e. Personal and professional wellness and stress management
- f. Independence and self-sufficiency as legal professionals
- g. The attorney's obligations as a legal professional

LEARNING OUTCOME 4: Leadership, Collaborative, and Adaptive Skills

Our curriculum will provide students with the skills and knowledge to solve problems and function effectively in any setting. After completing our program of legal education, students will have the abilities to:

- a. Learn from experience
- b. Self-reflect and "other"-reflect
- c. Recognize possible pitfalls, admit mistakes, and self-correct
- d. Engage in innovative and creative problem analysis, including imagining and implementing solutions
- e. Be sympathetic and empathetic; manage self-empathy and engage in self-care
- f. Exercise leadership and teamwork skills
- g. Collaborate and cooperate in multiple roles
- h. Effectively work with and for diverse individuals and communities
- i. Identify and adapt to customs of practice

LEARNING OUTCOME 5: Service to Society

Our curriculum will emphasize an attorney's obligation to serve society. After completing our program of legal education, students will understand and be able to address:

- a. The obligation of attorneys to critically examine and improve the law
- b. The responsibility of attorneys to contribute to society and community
- c. The responsibility of attorneys to serve justice
- d. Gaps in legal services, especially to impoverished and underrepresented populations

Adopted by vote of the faculty on November 19, 2010; Amended by vote of the faculty on November 12, 2013.