



INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
OF PUERTO RICO
SCHOOL OF LAW

JURIS DOCTOR & GRADUATE PROGRAMS CATALOGUE | 2025 - 2027

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(This Catalogue was revised on January 2025)

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The Executive Director is not a member of the Board.



History

The Inter American University of Puerto Rico is a private non-profit, Christian and ecumenical higher education institution. It was originally founded in 1912 as a grade and high school by Rev, J. Will Harris in the land now occupied by the San German Campus. In 1921 the first university level courses were offered, and in 1927 the first bachelor's degrees were awarded. In 1944 the University was accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The University was the first four-year liberal arts college to be accredited in Puerto Rico and outside continental United States. This accreditation has been maintained throughout the years.

The Inter American University of Puerto Rico has the Renewal License of the Puerto Rico Board of Education and all the academic programs, including online programs, are authorized by that agency. Also, the school is approved by the Puerto Rico State Approving Agency to provide academic training to the students under the various GI Bill ® programs. "GI Bill" ® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Eligible students intending to enroll and receive VA educational benefits should apply through the Department of Veterans Affairs portal.

The School of Law was founded in 1961 and is accredited by the Section on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar of the American Bar Association. The Optometry School was founded in January 1981, and in March 1982 the doctoral program in Education was inaugurated.

Inter American University is the largest and most important private University in Puerto Rico.

Governance

The governing body of Inter American University of Puerto Rico is its Board of Trustees, which self-perpetuates and whose members are freely elected without the intervention of any external authority.

The President of the University is the principal executive and academic officer of the institution. The Systemic Management Council is President's executive body whose purpose is to collaborate in the strategic decision-making process to implement the institutional policies approved by the Board of Trustees. This Council is composed of the Academic and Students Affairs Vice President, the Religious Affairs Vice President, the Management, Finance and Systemic Services Vice President, the principal executive officers of the university system, Executive Assistants to the President, the Monitoring, Evaluation and Planning Director, the President of the University Council, the Legal Counsel and the Executive Director for the Information and Telecommunications Center.

The Deans administration and the faculty of the School of Law and the Optometry School determine their own programs and regulations, subject to the approval of the President and the Board of Trustees. In all other matters these two professional schools are governed by the University's rules, regulations, and general policies.

The Academic Senates of each of the campuses and the University Council, which are the successors of the 1966 Academic Senate and the 1973 University Senate, are responsible for the academic well-being of the University through a rulemaking process among the different campuses. The Academic Senates formulate academic norms, and the University Council ratifies them, subject to the concurrence of the University President. Both bodies also make recommendations on matters of educational, administrative and research policy.

Campuses and Academic Degrees

Inter American University of Puerto Rico offers academic programs in eleven campuses. These are: Aguadilla, Arecibo, Barranquitas, Bayamón, Fajardo, Guayama, Metropolitan, Ponce, San Germán, and the two professional schools: the School of Law and the Optometry School.

Inter American University of Puerto Rico offers academic programs to undergraduate, graduates and professionals students leading towards: certificates and associate degrees in Arts and Applied Science; Bachelor's degree in Arts, Science, Social Sciences, Education, Business Administration, Health Related Professions; Master's degree in Arts, Science, Social Sciences, Business Administration, Library Sciences, Education, Health Related Professions; Doctoral degree in Education, Business Administration, Religion and History. The School of Law awards a Juris Doctor (Doctor of Jurisprudence), Master of Law (LL.M.), and Doctor in Judicial Sciences (J.S.D.); the Optometry School awards a Doctorate in Optometry.

The academic programs are supplemented with intensive courses seminars, internships, international experiences, and clinics. Institutes of short duration are given for continuing education purposes, addressing specific topics.

Institutional Mission and Goals

Inter American University of Puerto Rico' Mission is to offer post-secondary and higher education in the Arts and Sciences, through teaching, research, and community service, within the context of Christian ecumenism. It also offers educational programs at preschool, primary and secondary level.

The University contributes to society, educating persons that come from different socioeconomic sectors, from and outside of Puerto Rico. It incorporates in its offerings and services, innovative study methods supported by telecommunications and information systems. The University ambition is for its graduates to become responsible citizens, with democratic and Christian values, conscious of their social and ecological obligations, who can competently perform and show leadership in their professional and occupational context.

The University aims to maximize the student's educational potential in an atmosphere free from discrimination, in compliance with the local and federal laws, regulations and accreditation standards, in harmony with the pursuit of academic excellence, critical thinking, scientific knowledge, aesthetic sensibility, ethical responsibility and social skills.

Inter American University of Puerto Rico pursues the following institutional goals:

1. To promote in the university's community and atmosphere oriented towards a culture of peace, based on democratic and Christian-ecumenical ethical values directed to the development of integral student.
2. To promote a complete education that leads to the formation of a well-rounded person in the various fields of human knowledge, through the development of critical thinking, the competent use of communication skills in Spanish and English, through ethical and civic responsibility, ecological awareness, social integration skills, and a religious education within the context of Christian ecumenism.
3. To respond to the necessities of the student population and society in general through the offering of different programs, both in class and distance learning experiences, throughout the different educational levels in and out of Puerto Rico.

4. To promote academic excellence through the continual development of the faculty, both in their field of knowledge, as well as in the application of teaching techniques and methods, as required by the student population.

5. To promote the development of knowledge through research and creativity in the academic community.

6. To promote efficiency and effectiveness in the processes and services at the academic, administrative and student level, as required by applicable laws and regulations, and applicable accreditation standards.

7. To cultivate the leadership of university's community for it to contribute to the social and cultural enrichment of society and to economic development through the participation in community entrepreneurial and professional projects.





The School of Law was founded in 1961 as an evening school. It began its operations with 203 registered students and a faculty of nine adjunct professors. The library at the time had 10,000 volumes.

In 1965, the School of Law expanded its academic offerings by creating a day session and hiring full-time professors. That same year, the Legal Assistance Clinic started offering services in the marginal areas of San Juan.

The School of Law is licensed by the Puerto Rico Council on Education and accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and the Section on Legal Education of the American Bar Association. It is also affiliated with the American Association of Law Schools.

In August 1993, the School of Law inaugurated its current facilities at the New Centre of San Juan, close to the Federal District Court, the Financial District in Hato Rey, the General Post Office, and other commercial venues. The construction of this facility marked an important milestone in the history of the School of Law, as the new structure reflected its goals and aspirations in raising the quality of legal education in Puerto Rico. The Hipólito Marcano Building, named after the founder and first Dean of the School of Law, provides the optimal site for the formation of our students and professors. The building has six classrooms with a maximum capacity of 65 students each, four of which are amphitheatres that serve the needs of litigation skills courses. There are also five seminar classrooms, three of them located in the Domingo Toledo Alamo Library.

The library is recognized as one of the most complete collections in Puerto Rico. The library integrates modern technology in its information and audiovisual services. It has two stories to house the collection and 334 seats for its users.

The Law School has a parking area, a 300-seat theater, a student center, cafeteria, chapel, gym, nursing room, green roof and inner patio, a gallery, faculty lounge, and office space for student organizations, full-time and adjunct faculty, and administration. The courses are taught in Spanish or English.

The School of Law does not provide housing or dormitories for its law students; however, we have a collaboration agreement with the Metropolitan Campus of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, through which our students have access to the University Residence. Additionally, there are various residential areas near the law school where students may be able to rent living quarters.

School of Law Curricular Context

Puerto Rico is going through a time of changes and challenges. Puerto Ricans are facing social and legal problems and it is the lawyers who are called to play a fundamental role in solving them. To face these challenges, lawyers must act as agents of social change to achieve a more just society for all Puerto Ricans.

The School of Law is making great efforts to improve the quality of legal education and make it more relevant and innovative in the face of a rapidly changing world. In 1999, the School of Law revised its 1986 curriculum, amending the study program to prepare the students for legal practice and face the challenges of our time. The curriculum provides the student with an integral legal education, developing the necessary skills for the successful practice of the law, within the social, political, and economic context in which it evolves. The structure and curricular sequence and course descriptions are made part of this catalogue.

The exigencies of legal studies are varied, reason for which the School of Law encourages those with an interest in a legal career to rigorously cultivate their knowledge in the liberal arts. As the principal tool of a lawyer is the ability to communicate, each student must be able to have a good oral presentation. It is advisable that the student takes courses in composition and literature and makes a determined effort to develop a clear writing style. The ability to write well develops in great measure from frequent and broad reading habits. Moreover, those reading habits are tied to the development of understanding abstract ideas, of reasoning critically and systematically, and of communicating with precision and clarity. The study of political science, history, philosophy, psychology, literature, and economics will contribute to the understanding of our economic, political, and social institutions that every lawyer should have. The study of a more technical nature, such as mathematics and engineering, can also contribute to the study of law; insofar it has also included a substantial component of the social sciences and the humanities. In fact, knowledge of the natural sciences is becoming more important every day for lawyers. On a practical level, it is advisable to have some basic knowledge of accounting.

The study of law requires self-discipline and hard work. It requires the student to develop good study habits and effective time management. Students that have seriously thought over their decision to study at the School of Law must be committed to make a serious investment of time and energy.

On its part, Inter American University provides the best possible professional education. This commitment is reflected in the recruitment of an exceptional faculty, the development of a progressive curriculum, and the disposition to create new and interesting clinical and research programs.

The School of Law aims to serve Puerto Rico through its higher education. Within this context, the faculty and its administrators aim to provide its graduates not only with the legal skills, but also with a wide knowledge of the history and development of the law and its institutions, particularly those related to Puerto Rican society. This is necessary for the new lawyers to better understand the relationship between the legal profession and the society it serves and to participate in its development.

School of Law Mission

In 2012, the School of Law redefined its mission and goals, which were ratified in 2022. The mission is to educate on law, promote critical analysis, develop the professional skills necessary to exercise the legal profession, to advocate commitment with ethics, justice, and service to the country in collaboration and exchange with communities of varied legal systems. This mission is made viable through the achievement of five goals:

1. To develop professionals committed to justice and with the necessary qualifications for an ethical and competent performance of legal practice.
2. To stimulate study, research, critical analysis, and development of the Law considering changes in society.
3. To provide, promote, and facilitate excellent and continuous legal education for lawyers and professionals from other fields.
4. To foster a culture for innovation, creativity and openness in the learning context and the practice of the Law.
5. To promote a global vision of the Law and the exchange of experiences and knowledge with academic and professional communities of diverse legal systems.





FACULTAD DE DISEÑO
UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE PUERTO RICO
CALLE BRUNO ZELLA

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



The Inter-American University Law School is a distinguished institution committed to academic excellence. We cultivate an environment that fosters rigorous study, encourages meaningful interactions between students and faculty, and provides a physical space designed to inspire learning. Supported by a dedicated staff and a faculty of esteemed jurists—recognized for their pedagogical excellence, scholarly contributions, academic preparation, professional achievements, and social commitment—we ensure that our student body, composed of individuals with outstanding credentials, receive a comprehensive and solid legal education.

Our Law School is the ideal place to pursue legal studies. Here, profound discussions unfold on a vast array of legal and societal issues, complemented by dynamic extracurricular activities, professional skills development, and an unwavering dedication to public service. All of this takes place within a collegial and intellectually stimulating atmosphere, where the academic community continuously contributes to shaping meaning and purpose in our lives.

Beyond our renowned academic rigor, we take pride in housing a top-ranked Litigation Program, recognized among the top 40 in the United States. Our students benefit from innovative curricula in emerging fields, both in common and civil law, and access to a library equipped with innovative technology, reflecting our commitment to preparing them for a rapidly evolving legal landscape. The Ágora, an autonomous student space, fosters artistic exploration, critical discussions, and peer engagement, while the CEDEL serves as a vital center for research and development of trial advocacy skills and Inter- Mujeres, focused on gender studies.

Inter-American's alumni distinguish themselves in every sector by holding leadership roles across all branches of government, from the governorship and state legislature to the judiciary and federal agencies, as well as excelling in private practice, thus demonstrating their unwavering dedication to justice and the evolution of the law.

We invite you to pursue the challenge of studying in a rigorous and intellectually enriching academic environment, one deeply committed to its students and to ensuring that the law remains a powerful tool to evolve into a society thrived for justice and equality.

Julio E. Fontanet Maldonado
J.D., LL.M, and Doctor in Law
Dean and Professor

DEANS OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS STUDENTS AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION



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Dean of Academic Affairs



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Associate Dean of Academic Affairs



Lin Collazo Carro, J.D., LL.M.
Dean of Student Affairs



Walter Vázquez Vélez, J.D.
Associate Dean of Student Affairs



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Dean of Administration



Juan Carlos Maldonado Martínez, B.B.A.
Assistant Dean of Administration

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Services Coordinator



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Director Legal Aid Clinic



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AIC Director



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Development Program Director



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Executive Assistant



FULL TIME FACULTY





"Laws can open doors or close them, and those who study law have the responsibility to ensure that justice is accessible to everyone."

Michelle Obama

– Michelle Obama



Evelyn Benvenuti Toro

Associate Professor

B.A. University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (CAAM) 1981; Pontifical Catholic University, J.D. 1984; LL.M, 1991. Director in Continuing Legal Education and UPR School of Law Registrar 1989-1991. Private practice in civil matters since 1991. Associate commissioner in the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico Judicial Discipline Commission since 2011. Member of the Ethics Commission of the House of Representative of Puerto Rico representing the public interest, 1997. Coordinator for the Federal Department of Justice Institute of Judicial Studies for Latin America and the Caribbean since 2011. Executive Director of the "Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico", 1989. Full time professor since 2004 for the following courses: Obligations and Contracts and Animal Law. Was Dean of Academic Affairs from 2007-2012.



Francisco A. Borelli Irizarry

Contract Assistant Professor

B.A., 1982, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus; J.D., 1987, School of Law, Inter American University, 1988; Law Clerk, San Juan Judicial Center, 1990; Legal Practice, Legal Assistance Society, San Juan Office, 1992; Private Practice, 1992-2004; Superior Court Judge, Criminal Matters, 2004-2022; Master's in Human Rights, 2023, UNED, San José, Costa Rica.

He is the author of the book *Una justicia restaurativa para el proceso penal de Puerto Rico: Otra forma de abordar el delito* (Ediciones Gaviota, Dec. 2023). His other writings include *Consulta II: La Instigación o Autoría Intelectual en el Código Penal de Puerto Rico: sus elementos* (Revista Fórum, Year 6, No. 1, Jan-May 1990, p. 29), *La Acumulación de Delitos en un mismo Proceso y la Imposición de la Pena, según el Artículo 79 del Código Penal de 2004* (XL Rev. Jurídica UIA, No. 1, p. 71), and *Una Reflexión en Torno al Proyecto Para Un Nuevo Código Penal en Puerto Rico* (Ley y Foro, Revista Del Colegio de Abogados De Puerto Rico, 2012, No. 6, p. 4). Additionally, he has contributed to *El Acceso a la Justicia: Sugerencias Para Un Proceso Penal Restaurador en Puerto Rico* (Amicus, Vol. III, No. I, May 2020) and *Transformar la abogacía mediante la práctica de la restauración y la reintegración social; Un reto a la sostenibilidad de la profesión* (Ley y Foro, digital magazine of the Puerto Rico Bar Association, Oct. 23, 2023). *Contract Assistant Professor* at Inter American University School of Law for the following courses: Penal Law and Criminal Procedure.



Gerardo Bosques Hernández

Associate Professor

B.B.A. 1999, University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus; J.D. 2003 (Magna Cum Laude), Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico; LMI, Masters in International and Comparative Law 2008 (With Distinction), University of Tulane Law School; doctoral studies in course at the Buenos Aires University in Argentina. Legal Aide to the Joint Permanent Commission for the Revision and Reform of Puerto Rico's Civil Code, 2003-2007. Visiting Professor in the University of Gerona Law Faculty, Spain, January 2009-July 2010 for the following courses: Obligations and Contracts Civil Law II). Adjunct Professor at Inter American University School of Law 2006-2011. Associate Professor since 2011 for the following courses: Successions, Introduction to Law, Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I and II.



Pedro J. Cabán Vales

Associate Professor

B.A. (Summa Cum Laude), J.D. 2004 (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico; Diploma of Advanced Studies 2010, Doctor in Law 2011 (Sobresaliente Cum Laude), Complutense University of Madrid, Spain. Associate Editor of Volume 73 of the University of Puerto Rico Law Review (2003-2004). Law Clerk for Hon. Jaime B. Fuster Berlingeri, Associate Justice of Puerto Rico's Supreme Court (2004-2006). Auxiliary Aide to the Office of the Governors Chief of Staff (2006-2007). Auxiliary Solicitor General in the Solicitor Generals Office of Puerto Rico (2007-2008). Member of the Puerto Rico Bar Exam Correctors Committee (2007-2008, 2012). Temporary Investigator (2009- 2011) and Member of the Comparative Law Institute of the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain. Member of the Bar Examining Board (2013). Member of Puerto Rico's Department of Justice Committee for the revision of the Mortgage Law (2013). Faculty in UIPR School of Law since August 2011 for the following courses: Torts, Registry of Property, Research, Analysis and Writing I and II. 2001



Iris M. Camacho Meléndez

Associate Professor
Dean of Academic Affairs

B.A. in Labor Relations (Magna Cum Laude) and Juris Doctor (Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico. She holds a Doctorate in Law from the University of the Basque Country, where she received the highest rating: "Sobresaliente Cum Laude", for her thesis "Socio-Historical-Legal Analysis of Informal Models of Conflict Resolution with Special Reference to Family Mediation". Former Dean of Students at the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, School of Law where she has taught the courses of Family Law, Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I and II, History of Law and Theory of Conflict, among others.

She was Assistant Professor, Director of the Center for Legal Services and Coordinator of Student Affairs of Eugenio María de Hostos School of Law. She was the Director of the Institute of Practical Education of the Bar Association of Puerto Rico and was a lawyer of PRO-BONO, Voluntary Legal Services of the Puerto Rico Bar Association. She was advisor for the Permanent Joint Commission for the Revision and Reform of Puerto Rico's Civil Code, on the subject of Marriage and belonged to the Committee for the Review of the Child Support Guidelines.

Professor Camacho Meléndez was the academic coordinator of the ADR International Congresses held in Puerto Rico in 2001 and 2006. She was Interlocutor for consultations in Puerto Rico Law, for the Permanent Notary Office for International Exchange of the Union of the Latin Notary.



Lin Collazo Carro

Dean of Students

B.A. in Psychology, 2002 (Summa Cum Laude); M.A., 2008 (with Honors); JD Juris Doctor 2014 (Summa Cum Laude), LL.M. 2020 (with Distinction) Stetson University College of Law

Professor Lin Collazo Carro is a graduate of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law. She currently serves as Dean of Students at the School. In addition, she teaches the course of Real Property Law and has taught Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing, as well as Introduction to the Bar Exam for the students of the J.D. program in English. Professor Collazo Carro was admitted to practice law in Puerto Rico in February 2015. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and a Master of Arts degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, as well as a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Elder Law from Stetson University College of Law.



Carlos Concepción Castro

Assistant Professor

B.A. 1993, University of Massachusetts; M.A. 1995, New York University; J.D. (Magna Cum Laude) 1998, University of Puerto Rico; LLM (Honors) 2017, Temple University; Doctorate Candidate Inter American University of Puerto Rico. Prior to joining UIPR School of Law as an adjunct professor in 2009, he was Professor and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at the University of Puerto Rico School of Law, where he also participated in the founding of the Pro-Bono program and directed the Legal Research and Writing program.

He has also been a member at Stetson University School of Law, where he teaches master's courses related to litigation skills, and the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he teaches courses related to Evidence and Litigation. He has also participated in litigation programs in San Francisco (Golden Gate University), Stetson at Oxford and Ohio Northern University at Iceland, as well as has collaborated in the American Bar Association's program on criminal reform processes in Central and South America.

He teaches Evidence Law; Civil Procedure Law; Theory, Doctrine and Practice of Litigation; Advanced Litigation; Civil Procedure Workshop; Federal Civil Procedure Workshop. In addition, he coordinates the student's participation in litigation competitions and directs the "Puerto Rico Trial Advocacy Competition", UIPR School of Law mock trial competition, considered one of the best litigation competitions in the law competition circuit.



Andrés L. Córdova Phelps

Professor

B.A. 1982, College of the Holy Cross; M.A. Philosophy 1985, Boston College; J.D. (Magna Cum Laude) 1994, University of Puerto Rico. Associate Professor of Philosophy, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Fajardo Campus, 1987-1997. Private practice of the Law 1995-1997; Examining officer for the Office of the President of the University of Puerto Rico, 1996-1997. Author of multiple essays and commentaries on philosophy and law. Consultant in the area of Property Law for the Permanent Joint Commission for the Revision and Reform of Puerto Rico's Civil Code.

Dean of Academic Affairs at UIPR School of Law School, 2002- 2007. President of the Puerto Rico's Supreme Court Continuing Legal Education Board, 2015. Full time professor at the Law School since 1998 for following courses: Obligation and Contracts, Property, Sociology of Law, Law and Social Change, Introduction to Law and Jurisprudence.



Jorge M. Farinacci Fernós

Associate Professor

B.A. and M.A. and J.D. (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico (UPR) He was awarded the Prizes for Highest Overall GPA and Highest GPA in the area of Public Law. He was also Associate Director of the UPR Law Review. He obtained his LL.M. from Harvard Law School. He then obtained his S.J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. His Dissertation focused on the role of intent and history in the interpretation of modern, post-liberal and teleological constitutions.

He has published articles in the *Southwestern Law Review*, *Hastings International and Comparative Law Review*, *Tulsa Law Review*, *Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy*, *Montana Law Review*, among others. Visiting Assistant Professor at University at Buffalo School of Law from 2022 until 2023, where he offered a Seminar on the Ninth Amendment and taught Constitutional Law.

Faculty at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law where he teaches Puerto Rico Legal History, Administrative Law, Constitutional Law I and II and Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I and II.



Marta Figueroa Torres

Professor

B.B.A. 1986 (Magna Cum Laude), J.D. 1989 (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico; LL.M. 1991, Harvard University Law School; Diploma of Advanced Studies 2010, Complutense University Law Faculty in Madrid, Doctor in Law 2015 (Sobresaliente Cum Laude), Complutense University of Madrid, Spain.

Law Clerk for Chief Justice Victor Pons Nuñez (1989-90); Law Firm Goldman & Antonetti (1991-95). Professor at our Law School since January 1995 for the following courses: Family Law Seminars, Private International Law, International Commercial Law and Legislative Techniques. Has been a Visiting Professor at Stetson University Law School in Florida, and at the International and Comparative Law Institute in the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

She was the Founding Executive Director of the Permanent Joint Commission for the Revision and Reform of Puerto Rico's Civil Code. Has participated in multiples international forums on the reform for private and public law and published in the *Tulane European and Civil Law Forum* under the title *Recodification of Civil Law in Puerto Rico: A Quixotic Pursuit of the Civil Code for the New Millennium*, *XXIII Tulane European and Civil Law Forum* 325 (2008).



Julio E. Fontanet Maldonado

Professor | Dean

B.A., University of Central Florida (Dean's List); J.D., Inter American University of Puerto Rico (Cum Laude) LL.M., University of Chicago; Post Degree, Complutense University Law Faculty in Madrid; Doctor in Law, Euskal Herriko Unibersitatea, Basque Country in Spain. Lawyer for the Legal Services Corporation of Puerto Rico in 1987, and for the Legal Assistance Society of Puerto Rico, 1987-91.

Professor at UIPR School of Law since 1991 for the following courses: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Theory, Doctrine and Litigation Practice, Clinical Professor, International Criminal Law, Evidence, and Law and Psychology. Was Dean of Students from 1994-2001. Has published the following books: Principios y Técnicas de la Práctica Forense (1999) (2002) (2011), La Alegación Pre acordada en los Estados Unidos (Awarded First Prize as Legal Work of the Year 2009, by the "Federación Interamericana de Abogados"), El Proceso Penal de Puerto Rico (Awarded Legal Work of the year 2009, by the "Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico"). Collaborated in the text: "An Alternative to Criminal Prosecution a Mediation Exercise for a Criminal Procedure Course". Has written various law review articles, among them: Grand Jury Reform: The Quest for a Lost Shield; 38 Rev. Jurídica U. Inter. de P.R. 429 (2004) y The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: The Human Rights Revolution and the Criminal Reform Process in Latin America, 64 Núm. 2 Rev. Col. de Abogados.

Has collaborated as an international consultant in criminal reform and lecturer in Central and South America. Columnist for the daily newspaper El Nuevo Día. Member of the American Law Institute (2004-2006) and President of the "Ilustre Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico" (2004-2006).

Recently, he was appointed as a Founding Member of the Ibero-American Observatory of Criminal Justice at the University of Salamanca, where he participates in analysis, consideration, and scientific production to contribute to and influence the consolidation of the Rule of Law.



Margarita E. García Cárdenas

Professor

B.A. 1974, J.D. 1977, University of Puerto Rico; Doctor in Law, 2001, Complutense University Law Faculty in Madrid; Lawyer for the Legal Services Corporation of Puerto Rico, 1978-79; Law Firm Brown, Newson & Córdova, 1979-82; Lawyer for the Judicial Branch Administrative Offices in 1983. Professor at the Pontifical Catholic University Law School, 1983. Actively participates in the bar review courses and is founding member of the Notary Association of Puerto Rico. Professor at UIPR School of Law since 1984 for the following courses: Obligation and Contracts, Special Contracts, Property and Registry of Property.



Marilucy González Báez

Associate Professor

BBA (Accounting) 1984, University of Puerto Rico, J.D. 1987, Inter American University of Puerto Rico. Offers the following courses: Ethics, Introduction to Law, Special Education module at the Legal Clinic, and Coordinator of the Clinical Tutorials in non-government organizations and some public agencies. Also coordinates the Pro-Bono Program and is a member of the Women, Gender, and Law Studies Institute in UIPR School of Law. She was Dean of Students from 2001-2012. Since 1996 she is one of the lawyers in the class action suit Rosa Lydia Velez v. Department of Education in the Puerto Rico Superior Court in San Juan regarding special education. She has participated in various boards in the area of domestic violence such as the National Latino Alliance for the Elimination for Domestic Violence (Virginia), Violence Intervention Project (New York City), and in the Board of Directors of Legal Services of Puerto Rico, the Governing Board of "Ilustre Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico", the Board of the Puerto Rico and Caribbean Advanced Studies Center, and Director of the Pro-Bono Program, and Board Member of Inter- Mujeres.



Myrta Morales Cruz

Professor

B.A. from Georgetown University (Government and French), a J.D. from the University of Puerto Rico - School of Law, an LL.M. from Harvard Law School, a Magister Juris from the University of Oxford and an M.A. in Sociology of Law from the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law. She was a Visiting Researcher at Harvard Law School from 1997 until 1999. Teaches at Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law where she founded the Institute for Citizen Education and Participation in 2013 and is in charge of a clinical course affiliated to the Institute.

She also teaches a course on Lawyers and Social Movements, Introduction to Law, and Legal Research, Analysis and Writing. Until August of 2017, she was the coordinator of the J.D. in English program that was launched in 2015 at Inter American. She was a professor at the University of Puerto Rico School of Law from 2002 until 2008 (adjunct from 2002-2003, assistant from 2003-2007, and associate from 2007-2008) where she established the first community-based advocacy clinic in Puerto Rico and was in charge of a course on The Legal Profession and Law and Poverty course. She also co-taught Law and Social Change. Her work can also be found in two SELA publications (The Seminar in Latin America on Constitutional and Political Theory, 2005 and 2012 books).



Luis M. Negrón Portillo

Professor

B.A. (Magna Cum Laude), 1978; J.D. (Magna Cum Laude), 1981; M.P.A. (Public Administration), 1983, University of Puerto Rico; LL.M. 1984, Yale University; J.S.D. 1994, Stanford University, LL.M. 2019, Complutense University of Madrid. Doctor Honoris Causa, 2008, Inter American University of Morelos, Mexico, Visiting Research Fellow, 2006, 2007 and 2008, Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford. Attended the Program of Instruction for Lawyers of Harvard University Law School in 1988. Law clerk to former Chief Justice José Trías Monge, Supreme of Puerto Rico; Assistant Legal Counsel, and Advisor on Public Management to Puerto Rico's former Governor Rafael Hernández Colón; Assistant Dean and Assistant Professor at the University of Puerto Rico Law School; Associate at the law firm Fiddler, González and Rodríguez; Legal Counsel to the Administrative Office of the Courts of Puerto Rico; Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Director of the Center of Advanced Legal Studies of Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico Law School. Visiting Professor at the University of Paris Est (formerly University of Paris XII) from 2007 to 2018; Visiting Professor in the Master of Laws program of the University of the Basque Country (Spain) in Chile, Brazil, Dominican Republic and Bolivia; Visiting Professor at Nebrija University (Spain).

He has lectured in Europe, Latin America and the United States. Fulbright Senior Specialist in Uruguay (three times). He is the author of the following books: *Etica Profesional*; *Derecho Cambiario de Puerto Rico*; *Derecho Corporativo Puertorriqueño*, *Etica y disciplina judicial en Puerto Rico*; *Trece Lecciones sobre Etica y Responsabilidad Profesional*, *Teoría del Derecho*, *Reflexiones sobre Sociología del Derecho en Puerto Rico*, and co-author of the following books: *Reglas de Procedimiento Civil de Puerto Rico*, *Derecho Mercantil*, *Sumario de Legislación Comercial*, and *Curso de Derecho Notarial Puertorriqueño*.

He has published articles and other writings in professional journals and books in Europe and the United States. His writings have been cited on many occasions by the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals of Puerto Rico. Part-time teacher at our law school from 1989 to 1993, and full-time professor since 1993 in the following courses: Civil Procedure, Corporate Law, Legal Theory and Professional Responsibility.



Heriberto Quiñones Echevarría

Assistant Professor

B.A., 1972, J.D., 1977, University of Puerto Rico; LL.M., 1993, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico. Director of the Clinical Educational Program and Executive Director of the Legal Office of Santurce, 1988-1993. Professor at UIPR School of Law since 1986 for the following courses: Legal Clinic, Juvenile Justice, Disabilities Law, Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I and II.



Carlos E. Ramos González

Professor

B.A. 1974 (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico. Post Degree Diploma on Social Sciences from the University of Stockholm, 1975; J.D. 1978 (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico; LL.M. 1987, University of California at Berkeley, Doctor in Law, Euskal Herriko Unibersitatea, Basque Country in Spain (2022). Lawyer for the Legal Services Corporation, (Inmates Division), 1979-80. UIPR School of Law faculty in the Clinical Program and Legal Office in Santurce, 1980-86. Executive director of the Legal Office in Santurce, 1984-88. Assistant Dean, 1987-92; and Dean, 1992-2000. Collaborated with Prof. Serrano Geysls in his book Derecho Constitucional de Puerto Rico, Vol. II; co-author with Prof. Enrique Vélez of the book Teoría y Práctica de la Litigación en Puerto Rico. Professor of the following courses: Constitutional Law I and II, Theory Doctrine and Litigation Practice, Advanced Constitutional Law (Inmates Rights, Sexual Orientation, and the Law) and Seminars on Freedom of Expression.



Yanira Reyes Gil

Professor

B.A. 1992 (Magna cum Laude); J.D. 1996, University of Puerto Rico. Ph.D. 2002 in Sociology with a concentration in Sociology of Law and a minor in Family, Sex and Gender from Purdue University. She worked as a lawyer for the Legal Services Corporation. After completing her doctoral degree she was a professor at the University of Puerto Rico for courses in Social Sciences. She also directed the Student's Procurators Office in the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. She teaches Constitutional Law I and II, Introduction to Law, the doctoral course Research Methodologies, among others. She has published several articles and book chapters on topics related to human rights and women's rights. She is a feminist and an activist on human rights issues. She is a founding member of the Institute for Women, Gender, and Law (Inter-Mujeres) and a member of the Board of Directors of the Caribbean Institute of Human Rights.



Annie Rivera Cruz

Contract Assistant Professor

B.A., 2008, University of Puerto Rico, Cayey Campus, Magna Cum Laude; J.D., 2012, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras; LL.M., 2020, Inter American University of Puerto Rico (With Honors); Doctoral Candidate, Inter American University of Puerto Rico and University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras.

Before joining Inter American University School of Law in 2020, she worked at the Department of Housing and the ENLACE Project of the Caño Martín Peña. She has practiced privately, offering services to community organizations. In 2024, she received the Juan Santiago Medal from the Puerto Rico Bar Association.

She has published works on various legal topics and has written articles in legal journals. She has also represented Puerto Rico in international forums. Currently, as Contract Assistant Professor, she teaches Juris Doctor courses on Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I and II, Obligations and Contracts, Property Law, and Housing Law, as well as LL.M. courses on Research Methodology and Notarial Deontology.



Jessica Rodríguez Martín

Professor

B.A.1985, (Magna Cum Laude) U.P.R.; J.D., 1988 (Cum Laude) U.P.R.; Advanced Studies in Law, 2009, Complutense University in Madrid, Spain. Humanities Professor, Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico 1988-1990. Environmental Clinical Professor at UIPR School of Law in 1995-1998. Professor at UIPR School of Law since 1998 for the following courses:Environmental Law, Introduction to Law, Ethics. President of the Environmental Law Commission of the "Ilustre Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico", 1998-2000. Executive Producer of the documentary "Piñones de Punta a Punta" and "La Ilusión del Agua". She has lectured in Spain. Italy,Portugal, Cuba and the United States.She has legally represented the following clients:Movimiento Agua Pa'l Campo (Cubuy), Comunidades Opuestas a la Ruta 66, Asociación de Residentes de Piñones y la Comisiónde Ciudadanos al Rescate de Caimito (Quebada Chiclana). She has been a lawyer for the plaintiffs in the following Puerto Rico Supreme Court opinions: García Oyola vs. Junta de Planificación, 140 DPR 649(1996); García Oyola v. Junta de Calidad Ambiental 142 DPR 532 (1997); Asociación de Residentes de Piñones v. Junta de Calidad Ambiental, 142 DPR 599 (1997); Federación de Pescadoresv. Junta de Planificación, 148 D.P.R. 406; Colón Cortés v. Junta de Calidad Ambiental, 148 D.P.R. 434 (1999); ColónCortés v. Pesquera, 149 D.P.R. 53 (1999) y Colón Cortés v. Pesquera, 150 D.P.R. 724 (2000).



Luis José Torres Asencio

Assistant Professor

B.A. (Political Science), Inter American University of Puerto Rico at San Germán (2001); J.D., University of Puerto Rico School of Law (2005); LL.M., Harvard Law School (2009).

He has offered the following courses: Legal Aid Clinic, Access to Information Clinic, Research, Analysis and Writing I & II, Constitutional Law I & II, Seminar on Freedom of Speech, Seminar on Access to Information Law, Environmental Law, Appellate Practice Workshop and Introduction to Law. As clinical professor he has worked with students on cases and controversies involving issues in housing law, environmental law, land use, and planning law. He is Co-Director of the Access to Information Project of the Law School, a clinical project founded in 2009 via a collaborative agreement between the Centro de Periodismo Investigativo, Inc. and the Law School, which provides legal assistance and representation to journalists, researchers, activists, and non-governmental organizations in cases and controversies related to the defense of their fundamental rights to freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and access to information.



Enrique Vélez Rodríguez

Professor

B.A. 1971, St. Louis University; J.D. 1974, University of Puerto Rico (Cum Laude); M.A. 1977, New York University; Doctor in Law, 2006 University of the Basque Country, Spain; Lawyer for the Society for Legal Assistance, 1975-76; 1979-80. Member of the defense panel of lawyers under the "Criminal Justice Act" in the Federal District Court since 1983. Awarded Legal Book of the Year by the " Ilustre Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Puerto Rico" (2007). Author of various law review articles on Evidence and the book "La motivación y racionalidad del veredicto en el Derecho español y en el derecho norteamericano." With Prof. Carlos E. Ramos he co-authored "Teoría y Práctica de la Litigación en Puerto Rico." Professor at our School since 1980 he offers the following courses: Evidence, Criminal Procedure, Introduction to Law, Theory, Doctrine and Litigation Practice, Law and Literature. He served as Dean of Academic Affairs, 1985-1988.



Esther Vicente Rivera

Professor

J. D. (Derecho) 2002, University of London; LL.M., 1991, London School of Economics and Political Science; J.D. (Magna Cum Laude) 1976 y B.A. (Magna Cum Laude) 1973, University of Puerto Rico. Assistant Professor, 2003-present; Associate Professor, 1999-2003, Inter American University School of Law; Adjunct Professor, 1991-94, 1998 Inter American University School of Law. Commission on Women Issues, Office of the Governor of Puerto Rico, Associate Director 1993, Legal Counsel, 1991-1993; Director of the Violence Against Women Prevention, 1989-1990; Consultant 1986-89. Adjunct Professor University of Puerto Rico School of Public Communication, 1986-1990; Coordinator of the Women's Rights Project for the Civil Rights Institute, 1983-86.

Lawyer for the Legal Assistance Program for Haitian Refugees detained at Fort Allen, 1981-1982; Private practice, 1980-1981; Lawyer for the Legal Services of Puerto Rico Corporation, 1977-1979; She has published various books and law review articles. In 1999 she published with other co-authors "Políticas, Visiones y Valores en torno al Aborto en Puerto Rico", by the Social Investigations Center of the University of Puerto Rico. She is professor of the following courses: Family Law, Property, Administrative Law, Advanced international Law: Human Rights, Jurisprudence: Feminist Perspectives. She is President of the Board of Inter-Mujeres.



Charles Zeno Santiago

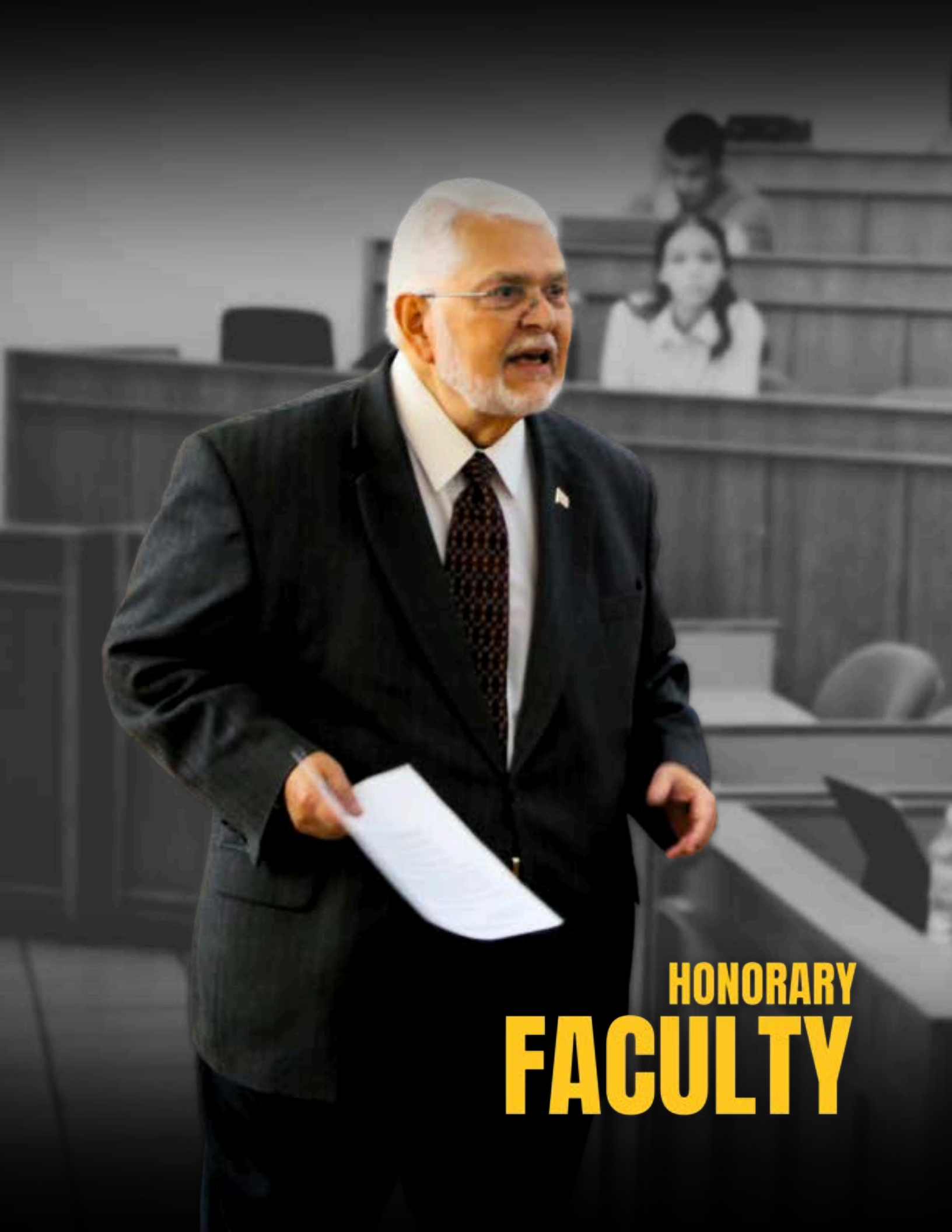
Professor

B.A. in Business Administration (Cum Laude) at the University of Puerto Rico in 1978. J.D. at Inter American University of Puerto Rico (Cum Laude) 1981. LL.M., Harvard University, (ad gradum Magistri in Legibus) in 1990; 2014, Doctor in Law (Sobresaliente Cum Laude) from Complutense University Faculty of Law in Madrid, Spain. He is professor at UIPR School of Law since 1985, having published the following books: "La responsabilidad civil extracontractual de los empresarios. Estudio comparado entre España y Puerto Rico" (2014); co-author of Tratado de Derecho del Trabajo, Vol. I (awarded Legal Work of the Year in 2004 by the "Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico"); Tratado de Derecho del Trabajo (Discrimen en el empleo), Vol II (2014); co-author of "El Derecho en clave histórica" (2014). He is also author of various law review articles, among them: "Limitaciones de la Jurisdicción de la Junta de Relaciones del Trabajo, sobre las Escuelas Parroquiales", Vol. XV, 1981, Núm. 3, Rev. Jur. I.U.A.; "Cambio en la Ley de Seguro Social a los beneficiarios por Incapacidad", año 2, Número 4, 1986, "Res. Ipsa Loquitur", San Juan, Puerto Rico; Reshaping the Wrongful Discharge Act in Puerto Rico, Vol. XV, mayo-agosto, 1991, Número 3, Rev. Jur. U.I.A.; "Nociones sobre la cláusula de Exclusividad del Remedio", Vol. XXVI enero-abril, 1992, Número 2, Rev. Jur. U.I.A.; Pursuit of Excellence in the Legal Profession Vol. XXVI, Sept-Dic. 1991, Número 1; "El Despido y la Política Social en nuestro Estado de Derecho", 34 Rev. Jur. U.I.A.P.R. 213, 214 (2000); "Proceso Probatorio Dispuesto Para Reclamaciones Por Despido Injustificado y Discriminatorio", Per Curiam Segunda Edición Nov.-Dic. 2004, Consejo de Estudiantes U.I.A.; "Teorías de Discrimen", Revista Colegio de Abogados, 66_1 RCAPR125, 1 enero 2005; "Re-enfoque empresarial de las represalias en el empleo", 40 Rev. Jur. U.I.P.R. (2006); "Compensabilidad en las Condiciones Mentales relacionadas con el trabajo", 23 Rev. Jur. U.I.A., 1988; "Desarrollos recientes de las reclamaciones sobre represalias en el empleo", 48 Rev Jur. U.I.A. 2 (2014). He has worked as Director of the Regional Office of the Industrial Commission of Puerto Rico, 1981-82; Legal Counsel for the Commission for the Review of Puerto Rico's Compensation for Accident in the Workplace Act, 1991-1992; Legal Counsel for the International Federation of Baseball (IBAF); Legal Counsel for the Baseball Federation of Puerto Rico and litigating attorney in civil practice in the Puerto Rico Courts and in the United States Federal District Court for Puerto Rico and the Federal Appeals Court for the First Circuit.



"Education gave me a view of the world and the confidence to know that I could change it."

Sonia Sotomayor
– Sonia Sotomayor



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HONORARY FACULTY



Carlos I. Gorrín Peralta

Honorary Professor

B.A. 1971, College of the Holy Cross; J.D. 1974 (cum laude), University of Puerto Rico; LL.M. 1985, Harvard University.

Before joining the Faculty, he worked at Legal Services of Puerto Rico, Inc. (1974-1981), holding various roles including lawyer, Coordinator of the Training Unit, and Supervisor of Specialized Units. He also served as a training consultant for the Legal Services Corporation.

He joined the Faculty in 1980, becoming a full-time professor in 1981. He currently teaches Constitutional Law I and II, Constitutional Law Seminar, and Advanced Constitutional Law (Constitutional Issues in Film). He has also taught courses such as Introduction to Law, Family Law, Law and Poverty, Law and Social Change, and Human Rights.

Admitted to practice in Puerto Rico and U.S. courts, he has participated in prominent public interest litigations and served as a consultant to the Senate of Puerto Rico. He has been involved in legislative processes in both Puerto Rico and the U.S. Congress.

He has served on the boards of Legal Services of Puerto Rico and Pro Bono of the Bar Association, and was a member of the Judicial Discipline Commission by appointment of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico.

Author of "Sources and Processes of Legal Research," he has published various book chapters and journal articles on legal education, human rights, and constitutional law, focusing on the constitutional relations between Puerto Rico and the United States.

He is a member of the Puerto Rico Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Inter-American Bar Association, where he served as President (1994-1995). He is also Vice President of the Inter-American Academy of International and Comparative Law.



Alberto O. Jiménez Santiago

Honorary Professor

B.A. 1970 (Cum Laude), J.D. 1973 (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico; LL.M. 1976, Harvard University.

Admitted to practice law in Puerto Rico in 1974 and in Massachusetts in 1978. Professor since 1980, teaching courses in Evidence Law, Civil Procedure, Extraordinary Remedies, and Administrative Law.

HONORARY FACULTY



Dora Nevares Muñiz

Professor

B.A. (Magna Cum Laude) 1968, J.D. (Cum Laude) 1972, University of Puerto Rico; M.A. 1976, Ph.D. 1981, University of Pennsylvania. Visiting Research Fellow, Harris Manchester College, Oxford University (2007, 2008); Researcher, University of Bologna (2008). Professor in UIPR School of Law since 1976 for the courses: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Criminology, Minors, and advanced courses and workshops in these fields of law. Full Professor since 1987. Legal Counsel on Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure. Principal drafter of the 2004 Puerto Rico Penal Code. Her publications have been cited in hundreds of occasions by the Puerto Rico Supreme Court. She is Trustee to the Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, private sector of the National Violence Commission, with headquarters in Washington, D.C.. author of the following books: Nuevo Código Penal de Puerto Rico, Comentado, ed. 2004- 2005, 4ta ed. rev. 2010; Sumario de Derecho Procesal Penal Puertorriqueño, 1979, 9na ed. rev. 2011; Derecho Penal Puertorriqueño: Parte General, 1983, 6ta.ed. rev. 2010; Código Penal de Puerto Rico, Revisado y Comentado, ed. 1974, 1986, 8va. ed. rev. 2003; Derecho de Menores, 1987, 6ta ed. rev. 2009; Crimen en Puerto Rico, 1996, 3ra. ed. rev. 2008; Practica Apelativa: Casos Criminales y de Menores Ofensores, 2001; y Delinquency in Puerto Rico, The 1970 Birth Cohort Study, 1992, con Marvin Wolfgang). She has also published multiple articles in professional journals. Previous experience: Commissioner for the Prevention of Violence Commission of Puerto Rico (2004-2007); Director, Penal Code Reform Project for the Puerto Rico Senate (2001- 2004); President, Advisory Committee for the Review of the Rules of Criminal Procedure for the Puerto Rico Supreme Court (1995-2003); Legal Counsel for the President of the Puerto Rico Senate (1986-1993); Legal Counsel for the Commission on Criminality Problems for the Senate (1986-1988); Member of the Admission to the Bar Board (1982-1987); Member of the Governor's Multisectorial Work Group to study criminality (1991-1992); Trustee Caribbean Consolidated Preparatory Schools (1987-2004); Professor, University of the Basque country, Spain (Summer, 2002); Lawyer, Society for Legal Assistance (1973-1976).

HONORARY FACULTY



Doel R. Quiñones Núñez

Honorary Professor

B.A. 1969 (Cum Laude), State University of New York, Buffalo; M.A. 1970, Boston University; J.D. 1976 (Magna Cum Laude), University of Puerto Rico; Diploma in International Law, 1977, Fundação Getulio Vargas and Inter-American Juridical Committee of the Organization of American States; Fulbright Senior Specialist, 2001; Doctor of Law, 2011 (Sobresaliente Cum Laude), Complutense University of Madrid; Visiting Research Fellow, Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, 2011, 2012.

Legal Advisor at the Office of Court Administration, 1977-78; Lawyer at Legal Services of Puerto Rico, Inc., 1978-79, and Unit Director, 1979-81; O'Neill & Borges Law Firm, 1981-88; private practice, 1988-1994. Adjunct Professor at this Law School, 1988-1994, teaching Theory, Doctrine, and Practice of Litigation, Consumer Law, Professional Responsibility, and Alternative Methods: Mediation. Full-time Professor at this Law School since January 1995, teaching Theory, Doctrine, and Practice of Litigation, Alternative Methods: Mediation, Legal Aid Clinic, Mediation Module, Professional Responsibility, and Conflict Theory. Dean of Studies, 1996-2002. Academic Coordinator of the Institute for Conflict Resolution at the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico School of Law.

He has collaborated with an American Bar Association initiative to develop mediation skills in Mexico and with a DPK project to train mediators in El Salvador. He has given lectures and seminars on mediation for various private and governmental entities in Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Venezuela. On this topic, he has published "Twenty Years Later: Mediation in Puerto Rico," UAD Labor Department Journal, Year 5, No. 9, December 2003, and "Civil and Commercial Mediation: Its Impact in Western European Countries," Interamericana No. 6, Year 2013. He is Puerto Rico's representative to the World Mediation Forum.

HONORARY FACULTY



Luis R. Rivera Rivera

Honorary Professor

B.A. 1974, M.P. (Environmental Planning), 1980, J.D. 1987, University of Puerto Rico. Doctor in Civil Law, 1997, Complutense University in Madrid, Spain. Planner for the Environmental Quality Board and the Planning Board. Law Clerk for the Honorable Antonio Negrón García, Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico (1988-90). He has worked as a lawyer for the Legal Services Corporation of Puerto Rico and in private practice.

Professor at our School since 1993 for the following courses: Property, Successions and Registry of Property. Member of the Supreme Court Board for Bar Candidates since 1997; President of the Civil Law Institute; President of the Editorial board of the Puerto Rico Bar Journal (2003-2008); Legal Counsel to the Permanent Joint Commission for the Revisión and Reform of Puerto Rico's Civil Code (1999-2008). External Researcher for the Comparative Law Institute of the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain. Author of the following books: *El contrato de transacción y sus efectos en situaciones de solidaridad* (1998), *Derecho Registral Inmobiliario Puertorriqueño* (2000), *El Derecho al revés: crónicas sin ton ni son* (2001), *La justicia en sus manos: historia del Tribunal Supremo de Puerto Rico* (2007) y *Cecil Snyder: entre Muñoz y Albizu* (2010).



Luis H. Sánchez Caso

Honorary Professor

B.A., 1975, University of Puerto Rico; J.D., 1978, Inter-American University of Puerto Rico; LL.M., 1983, Georgetown University.

Lawyer in public service and private practice from 1978-84. Interim Director of the Legal Office in Santurce and Director of the Legal Aid Clinic at the Law School from 1986-87. Dean of Studies at this Law School from 1992 to 1995. Professor at this Law School since 1984, teaching courses in Administrative Law, Torts Law, Labor Law, and Social Legislation.





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"Lawyers have the power to do good or harm, and legal education is the key to shaping minds that defend justice and drive positive change."

Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg

CLINICAL FACULTY



Rafael E. Rodríguez Rivera

Director of the Clinic
J.D. University of Puerto Rico
MBA, Inter American University of Puerto Rico
B.B.A., Accounting, University of Puerto Rico



Lilliam Miranda Rodriguez

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Judith Berkan Barnett

J.D. Harvard University Law School
B.A. Pre-Legal Education, Yale University



Carlos Pérez Pérez

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M.A. Public Admin., Univ. of Puerto Rico
J.D. University of Puerto Rico



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B.A. Political Science, Univ. of Puerto Rico



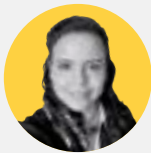
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Prof. Sheila Vélez Martínez

University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania









JURIS DOCTOR PROGRAM RULES AND PROCEDURES



FACULTAD DE DERECHO
UNIVERSIDAD INTERAMERICANA DE PUERTO RICO
EDIFICIO HIPOLITO MARCANO

General Considerations

The School of Law has day and evening Juris Doctor Program. The same general course offerings are available in both. The daytime academic program is completed in three years and the evening academic program is completed in four years.

The School of Law will make every reasonable effort to offer courses as announced but reserves the right to not offer or remove courses when necessary.

Admissions

Applicants for admission to the Juris Doctor program must apply and meet the following requirements:

1. Have obtained a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university or its equivalent.
2. Apply no later than May if applying to begin in August, no later than November if planning to begin in January. The application must be accompanied by a non-refundable check or money order for \$63.00 payable to Inter American University of Puerto Rico.
3. Have taken the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) and subscribed to the Credential Assembly Services (CAS).
4. Applicants must be fluent in Spanish and proficient in English.

5. Provide an official transcript from all universities or institutions the candidate did his/her undergraduate or graduate studies. Students in there last year about to graduate, who are applying before receiving his bachelor's degree, must provide an official final transcript upon graduation. All preliminary admissions shall be subject to compliance with this requirement.

6. Submit a criminal record certification issued by the Police Department of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or of the Police Department of the applicant's place of residence.

7. If the applicant is under age 21 must provide a medical immunization certificate.

Upon admission, the candidate must take the Preparatory Course which will facilitate their integration and adaptation to legal studies. The attendance to the Preparatory Course is mandatory.

Admission Criteria

The criteria governing the admissions process are determined by the Academic Senate, with the approval of the President of the University. The admission criteria will be the score on the LSAT and bachelor's degree grade point average, all of which they are given equal weight for purposes of admission's formula.

Unless otherwise specified, all correspondence regarding admission should be addressed to the Admissions Office, Dean of Students Office, Inter American University of Puerto Rico - School of Law, P.O. Box 70351, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00936-8351

Transfers

Transfer candidates from a law school accredited by the Section for Legal Education and Admission to the Bar of the American Bar Association (ABA), or from a non-ABA accredited law school for which the pertinent state has authorized taking the bar exam in its jurisdiction, and/or a law school affiliated with the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) must meet the following requirements:

1. Apply no later than May if applying to begin in August, no later than November if planning to begin in January. The application must be accompanied by a non-refundable check or money order for \$63.00 payable to Inter American University of Puerto Rico.

2. Maintained academic average of 3.00, or equivalent, from the transferring law school and submit an official University transcript.

3. If the applicant is under age 21 must provide a medical immunization certificate.

4. Provide an official transcript copy from all universities or institutions the candidate did the undergraduate or graduate studies.

5. Present the Credential Assembly Services (CAS) report.

6. Complete a Disciplinary Report which details the candidate's disciplinary record and Good Standing in the transferring law school.

Transfer without Credit Validation

Students from other law schools that have discontinued their legal studies, and do not have at least a 3.00 grade point average, may apply for admission. Students admitted under these criteria will not have any previous credits accredited, and will be referred to the Academic Support Program. These candidates must meet the following requirements:

- 1.They must meet all the requirements and criteria of a student applying for new admission in accordance with the catalogue.
2. They must submit a transcript from the Law School where they began to study.
- 3.They must not have been suspended for academic deficiency.
4. The applicant under 21 years of age must submit their immunization certificate.
5. Complete a Disciplinary Report which details the candidate's disciplinary record and Good Standing in the transferring law school.
- 6.The candidate must also submit a letter addressed to the Admissions Committee giving a full report of why they discontinued their legal studies at the previous institution and sign an agreement to the terms and conditions of their admission to Inter American School of Law. The Admissions Committee will make their recommendations to the Dean.



Transfer of Students Previously Disqualified for Academic Reasons

Any applicant that has previously been disqualified for academic reasons in another law school for more than a year, must meet the requirements and criteria of a **new student as set forth in this catalogue**.

Also,

1. If the applicant has been suspended for two years or more, he or she must apply for transfer and write a letter to the Admissions Committee.
2. If the time after suspension has been more than a year but less than two years, the applicant must submit the application, a letter to the Admissions Committee and a letter from the Dean of the previous law school explaining that the student has the capacity to pursue legal studies.

Besides the afore mentioned requirements, the applicant must also:

1. Send an official transcript from the disqualifying law school.
2. Address a letter to the Admissions Committee explaining the reasons why their admissions application should be granted and the experience or further education that the applicant has had since been disqualified from the law school.
3. Participate in an interview with the Admissions Committee, which will then recommend to the Dean whether the applicant be admitted or not, taking in consideration the proven qualifications of the applicant and the overcoming of any special circumstance that provoked the previous suspension.
4. Complete a Disciplinary Report which details the candidate's disciplinary record and Good Standing in the transferring law school.

Only courses passed with grades of A, B or C or equivalent will be considered for credits.

All transfer students will be referred to the Academic Support Program, and must complete two thirds of the degree in Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law in order to be eligible for the Juris Doctor degree.

The transfer student must also complete the degree requirements within the maximum time allowed as set in the catalogue.

Admission of Lawyers Graduated from non-ABA Approved Law Schools in the United States

Lawyers graduated from non-ABA approved law schools in the United States, but that have a valid license or permit from an accrediting state agency that allows them to take the bar exam in their jurisdiction may request admission under the following circumstances:

1. Apply to the School of Law's Admission Office no later than May if applying to begin in August,

2. Provide an official transcript copy from the graduating law school, which must detail the courses, grades, and grading scale.
3. If the grading scale is different to the one used in UIPR School of Law a certified evaluation of the credits and grade point average, prepared by a reputed credit evaluation agency must be provided.
4. Provide an official catalogue from the applicant's law school which contains a description and content of the courses.
5. Submit a criminal record certification issued by the Police Department of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or of the Police Department of the applicant's place of residence.

If the applicant under 21 years of age must submit their immunization certificate

A committee designated by the Dean of Academic Affairs will determine the quantity of credits that may be accredited in accordance with institutional policies and applicable accrediting agency regulations. Only courses in which the candidate obtains no less than a "C" grade, or equivalent, and meets institutional credit/hours ratio will be considered for accrediting.

Admission of Lawyers with Degrees from other Countries

Lawyers graduated from foreign law schools not approved by the ABA, but that have a valid license or permit from an accrediting state agency that allows them to take the bar exam or practice law in their jurisdiction may request admission under the following requisites:

1. Apply to the School of Law's Admission Office no later than May if applying to begin in August, no later than November if planning to begin in January, along with the \$63.00 non-refundable admissions fee.
2. Official academic record with the law degree from the university of origin, which must include courses, grades, and the grading scale. This record must first be certified by the Ministry of Education of the country of origin. Subsequently, the certified degree must be apostilled by the competent authority in that country. Additionally, a credit evaluation by a recognized agency is required to certify the equivalency of the degree and credits (a course-by-course evaluation). You can access this service at www.lsac.org. This requirement applies to bachelor's, master's, and/or doctoral courses.
3. If the grading scale is different to the one used in UIPR School of Law a certified evaluation of the credits and grade point average, prepared by a reputed credit evaluation agency must be provided.
4. Provide an official catalogue from the applicant's university which contains a description and content of the courses.
5. Submit a criminal record certification issued by the Police Department of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or of the Police Department of the applicant's place of residence.

6. If the applicant under 21 years of age must submit their immunization certificate

7. If the applicant is not a United States citizen and does not have a resident permit, or a study visa, the student must request a student visa F-1, as determined by the Immigration Department of the United States of America, which must include:

a. A sworn statement of the applicant's or sponsor's ability or economic sufficiency to cover his or her study expenses and cost of living for one year.

b. Letter from a bank or financial institution, certifying the applicant's or sponsor's ability or economic sufficiency to cover his or her study expenses and cost of living for one year.

A committee designated by the Dean of Academic Affairs will determine the number of credits that may be accredited in accordance with institutional policies and applicable accrediting agency regulations. Only courses in which the candidate obtains no less than a "C" grade, or equivalent, and meets institutional credit/hours ratio will be considered for accrediting purposes.

Admitted students under these criteria must complete no less than two thirds of the degree or 62 credits in Inter American School of Law in order to be eligible for the Juris Doctor degree.

Admission of International Students

Besides substantially complying with all admission requirements the student must:

1. Official academic record with the law degree from the university of origin, which must include courses, grades, and the grading scale. This record must first be certified by the Ministry of Education of the country of origin. Subsequently, the certified degree must be apostilled by the competent authority in that country. Additionally, a credit evaluation by a recognized agency is required to certify the equivalency of the degree and credits (a course-by-course evaluation). You can access this service at www.lsac.org. This requirement applies to bachelor's, master's, and/or doctoral courses.

2. Description and content of courses.

3. If the applicant is not a United States citizen and does not have a resident permit, or a study visa, the student must request a student visa F-1, as determined by the Immigration Department of the United States of America., which must include:

a. A sworn statement of the applicant's or sponsor's ability or economic sufficiency to cover his or her study expenses and cost of living for one year.

b. Letter from a bank or financial institution, certifying the applicant's or sponsor's ability or economic sufficiency to cover his or her study expenses and cost of living for one year.

Admitted students under these criteria must complete no less than two thirds of the degree or 62 credits in Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law to be eligible for the Juris Doctor degree.

Student Exchange Program

Anyone interested in participating in student exchange programs should:

1. Obtain authorization from the university of origin.
2. File an application and meet the requirements for special admissions.
3. Comply with the requisite number three of Admission International Students section for a J-1 visa, as established by the Immigration Department of the United States and the Department of State of Puerto Rico, if necessary.
4. The student exchange programs will be conditioned on prior agreements between Inter American University of Puerto Rico with the university of origin of the applicant.

Special Admissions

Lawyers and students from other law schools interested in taking a course at the School of Law must meet the following requirements:

1. Be authorized by the Dean of another law school where the person studies to take courses at our institution or possess a Juris Doctor degree.
2. Apply for admission along with the \$63.00 non-refundable admissions fee.
3. Juris Doctor degree certification (if applicable)
4. Admission will be valid for one semester. Those interested in studying more than one semester must express their intention in writing.
5. The applicant under 21 years of age must submit their immunization certificate.

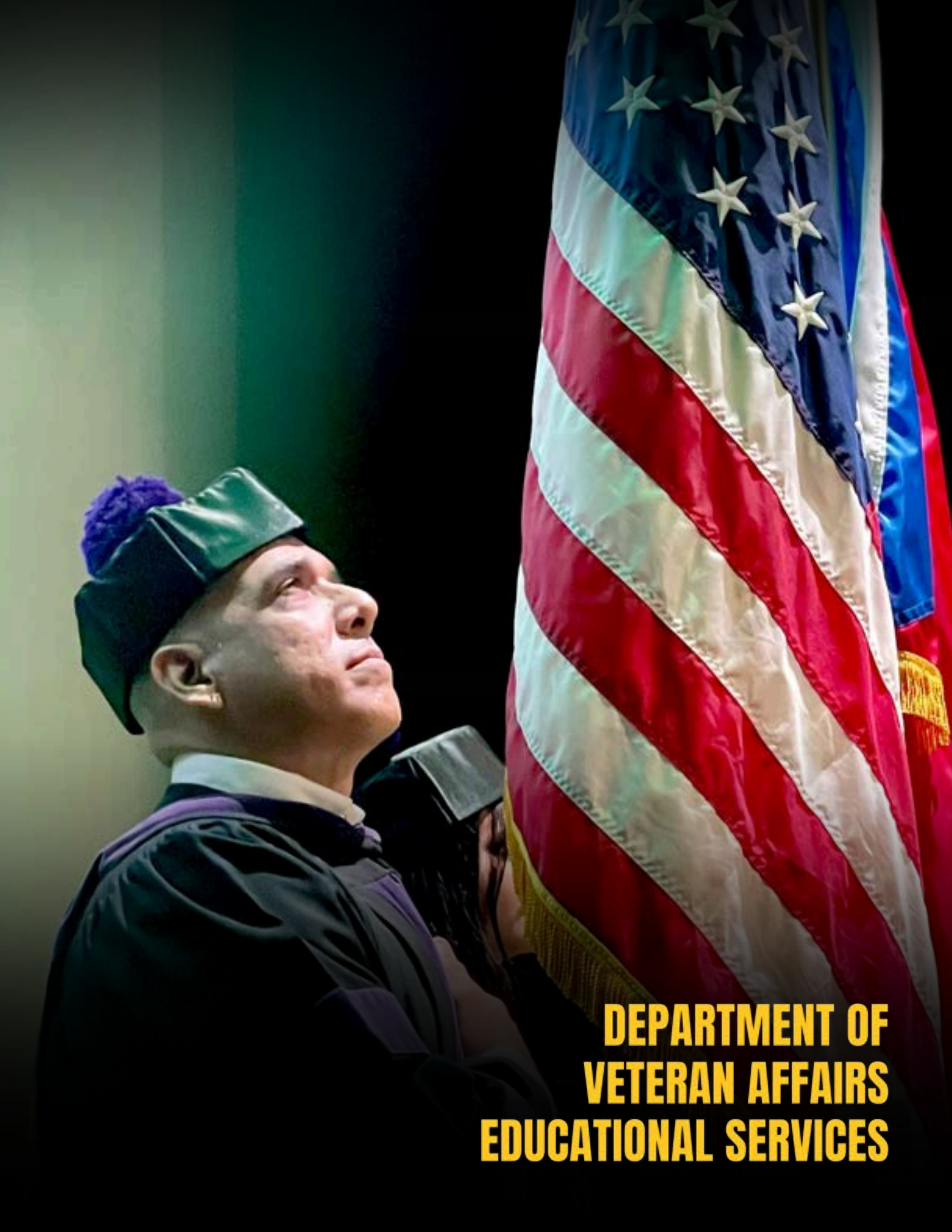
Note: Graduates of the Juris Doctor Program of the School of Law of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, interested in taking a course after obtaining the degree, must request readmission as a special student through the **Registrar's Office**.

Studying at other Law Schools

For students authorized by the Dean to study at any university accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) or the American Association of Law Schools (AALS), the courses in which the obtained grade was "C" or higher (or its equivalent) will be accredited in a "pass/fail" scale.







**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERAN AFFAIRS
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

VA Educational Benefits

The School is approved by the Puerto Rico State Approving Agency to provide academic training to the students under the various GI Bill® programs. "GI Bill"® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Eligible students intending to enroll and receive VA educational benefits should apply through the Department of Veterans Affairs portal.

A covered individual is any individual who is entitled to educational assistance under chapter 31 Veterans Readiness and Employment and chapter 33 Post-9/11 "GI Bill"®. Our policy permits any covered individual to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides to the educational institution a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 and chapter 33. A "certificate of eligibility" can also include a "Statement of Benefits" obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) website – benefits. Or a VAF 28-1905 form for chapter 31 authorization purposes and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

1. The date on which payment from VA is made to the institution
2. 90 days after the date the institution certifies tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility.

UIPR School of Law policy ensures that our educational institution will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds, on any covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the institution due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 and chapter 33.

Enrollment and Program Changes

The registration can be done by use of the WEB systems or with the assistance of an official of the Registrar's Office. Although there is a \$50.00 late registration fee, the School of Law reserves the right to refuse to register any applicant who fails to register at the indicated time and place.

The regular full-time (Day) student academic load is 13 to 16 credits per semester. The regular part-time (Evening) student academic load is 12 credits or less per semester. The regular academic load in the summer terms is 6 credits.

Academic extra load will be as follows: 17 credits for full-time students (unless otherwise specified); 14 credits for part-time students (unless otherwise specified); and 7 credits in summer session. Under this rule, "Summer Session" means the sum of credits taken during the academic terms of June and/or July. This extra load may be authorized only by the Dean, the Dean of Academic Affairs, or the Registrar.

Any extra load over 16 credits may be allowed for full-time honor students, and 13 credits for honor part-time students (with a grade point average of 3.50 or more), with the previous authorization from the Dean or the Dean of Academic Affairs under the following circumstances:

1. The additional course that the student is requesting is as an assistant to the professor in a mandatory course; or in Law Review courses I, II, III, IV or V, or CLAVE Journal courses I, II, III, IV or V

2. The professor in charge of the course certifies the need for the student's participation in the specific program.

3. One (1) credit courses.

If the student is a graduation candidate a maximum academic load of 17 credits for full-time students and 14 for part-times students may be authorized, with a prior assessment of the individual case by the Registrar's Office or Counseling Office. In these cases, the student may not take more than six (6) classes.

A student cannot drop the class Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I or II under any circumstances.

After registration, a student may change their course schedule, or change sections of the same course, following the officially prescribed procedures for dropping and adding courses. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a student:

1. Receiving a UW grade from those courses in which there has not been an official withdraw.

2. Not receiving credit for those courses that have not been officially added.

3. Receiving an AW or UW grade in those course sin which the student has been officially registered and in which he or she has not changed the sections in accordance to prescribed procedures.

A student may change their course schedule, drop, or add courses only under the following circumstances:

1. Add courses - Students may not add courses after the date specified in the official school calendar. When a student wishes to add a course, he or she can do it by using InterWeb before the beginning of classes or by completing the appropriate form in the Registrar's Office. The change will be subject to approval by the Registrar. When this process is completed, program change fees must be paid at the Bursar's Office.

2. Section changes - After registration, students may not change sections of the same course, unless prior approval by the Registrar's Office. For a section change of a registered course, the student must complete the appropriate form at the Registrar's Office.

3. Dropped Courses (Withdrawals)- A student may withdraw from a course without penalty until the last day of classes with a W notation in the transcript (see the applicable School of Law Academic Calendar for the specific date.) Withdrawal may have an impact on satisfactory academic progress.

A student who intends to drop a course should discuss the situation with the Registrar or the Academic Counselor. If, after the meeting, the student still wishes to drop the course, the following steps must be taken:

1. Complete the appropriate form.
2. Obtain the professor's signature.
3. Pay the appropriate fee at the Bursar's Office.
4. Submitting the form to the Registrar's Office.

Students who cannot continue their studies for personal reasons may request and receive an official total withdrawal (W). The student's file will indicate the withdrawal date and the courses the student took at the withdrawal time. Students who want to withdraw from the School must complete the official withdrawal form and submit it to the Registrar's Office. Students who discontinue class attendance without going through the withdrawal process will receive UW as a final grade.

Grade Scale and Quality of Academic Work

- (A) Excellent quality of work: 4 points per credit (90-100 points)
- (B+) Outstanding quality of work: 3.5 points per credit (87-89 points)
- (B) Superior quality of work: 3 points per credit (80-86 points)
- (C+) Satisfactory quality of work: 2.5 points per credit (77-79 points)
- (C) Average quality of work: 2 points per credit (70-76 points)
- (D+) Merely acceptable quality of work: 1.5 points per credit (67-69 points)
- (D) Minimum passable Rating: 1 point per credit (60-66 points)
- (F) Failure, zero per credit (0-59)
- (W) Course Withdrawal
- (X) (AU) Audit
- (I) Incomplete
- (P) Pass
- (NP) Not Pass
- (UW) Unofficial Withdraw
- (AW) Never Attended
- (TK) Taken
- (NK) Not Taken
- (T) Transfer

All required and elective courses must be passed with a minimum grade of C.

Grade Changes

Students have the right to inspect the exams and written evaluations required for the course's approval.

The maximum term for the student to request a reassessment of the final grade from a teacher will be 30 calendar days from the day the next semester begins. The student will present to the teacher a written request for this purpose, a copy of which will be submitted to the Dean of Academic Affairs. The professor has 30 calendar days after the interview with the applicant to review the grade and, if appropriate, recommend any changes to the assigned final grade.

Any changes must be submitted for consideration by the Dean in the official form, including the justification for it. The professor's change of grade should be guided by the following criteria:

1. Professors may submit the grade change to the Dean only in those cases where there has been mathematical or clerical error, an omission in correcting an answer, or that the professor makes a full or partial reevaluation of the exam for all the students.
2. Omission in correcting an answer includes those cases where the professor considers that the evaluation criteria should be changed. In these cases, however, the professor must make a correction to the question of all students.



Academic Progress

The School of Law of the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico requires that every student in the Juris Doctor program demonstrate satisfactory academic progress while studying. A student who does not meet any of the requirements of the satisfactory academic progress standard described below will be suspended academically and lose eligibility for federal, state, and institutional financial aid. The rule will be applied yearly. New students will be evaluated for the first time when they complete their first year of study. Any student who is suspended academically for not complying with the Academic Progress Rule can appeal this determination using the Appeal Process to restore financial aid and continue studies under academic probation.

Requirements for satisfactory academic progress

The requirements for satisfactory academic progress are divided into two components: qualitative and quantitative.

1. Grade Point Average Requirement

Every student must maintain the following GPA according to year of study.

Day Students (3 years)	Evening Students (4 years)
1L 2.25	1L 2.25
2L 2.50	2L 2.50
3L 2.75	3L 2.50
	4L 2.75
Each student must observe this academic progress, under penalty of (1) academic probation (first time) or (2) academic suspension (second time).	

The following transitional regulations are established for the application of the Academic Progress Standard to students admitted before August 2020:

Day Classes	1L	2L	Graduation
Class of 2018 (grad. May 2021)	2.00	2.00	2.50
Class of 2019 (grad. May 2022)	2.00*	2.50	2.75
Class of 2020 (grad. May 2023)	2.25	2.50	2.75
Passing approval	50%	55%	55%
* Any student in this class who completes the semester ending December 2020 GPA below 2.50 will be designated at high risk and referred to academic support; they will have until May 2021 to raise their GPA to at least 2.50.			

Evening Classes	1L	2L	3L	Graduation
Class of 2017 (grad. May 2021)	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Class of 2018 (grad. May 2021)	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.50
Class of 2019 (grad. May 2022)	2.00*	2.50	2.50	2.75
Class of 2020 (grad. May 2023)	2.25	2.50	2.50	2.75
Passing approval	50%	55%	55%	55%

* Any student in this class who completes the semester ending December 2020 GPA below 2.50 will be designated at high risk and referred to academic support; they will have until May 2021 to raise their GPA to at least 2.50.

2 . Course Credit Requirement

All students must pass 50% of the course credits attempted in the first-year courses in which they have registered, and from the second year on 55% of the course credits attempted until completing the degree.

a. Credits attempted

These correspond to the courses the student enrolls, excluding those in which they registered to audit (AU).

b. Passed credits

These correspond to required courses, directed elective courses or free elective courses in which the student obtains a grade of "C" or higher, or a "P" annotation, as appropriate.

c. Fails credits

These include courses that do not meet the requirements of subsection b, and those with "UW" (Unofficial Withdrawal) "W" (Official Withdrawal) and "NP" (Fail) annotations.

Maximum Period to Complete the Degree

All students admitted to the Program must complete all degree requirements in a period of seven years (or 84 months) from the day they began their Juris Doctor first course at Inter American University or any other School of Law. If a student does not conclude his/her studies in seven years (or 84 months) all accumulated course credits will expire. This means that they will not be considered for purposes of readmission.

Appeal process to request academic and financial aid probation

Those students who do not meet one of the criteria of the academic progress standard (grade point average or course passing pace) will receive an academic suspension and lose eligibility to receive federal, state or institutional financial aid. In these cases, the student may appeal the determination of academic suspension and suspension of financial aid.

1. For the appeal process you must:

a. Submit an appeal request to the Dean of Academic Affairs

b. Base the request on a meritorious reason and indicate how your circumstances have changed so that it is no longer an impediment for you to achieve satisfactory academic progress. Some meritorious reasons for requesting an appeal are, without being limited to the following:

- i. The suffering of a serious and severe illness,
- ii. The death of a member of their family nucleus,
- iii. The death of your spouse or partner
- iv. Family deployment

c. The student's request will be referred to the Appeals Committee, a team appointed by the Dean, composed of the Dean of Academic Affairs or his representative, the Academic Counselor, and Director of the Financial Aid Office.

d. In evaluating the appeal request, the Committee will determine whether the student will be able to meet academic progress according to the curriculum required at the end of each semester.

2. Possible results of the appeal process

a. Academic and Financial Aid Probation

i. Under this status the student will be allowed to study the next academic term and obtain financial aid. You will be referred and must comply with the Academic Support Program. It will be evaluated if it complies with the Academic Progress rule at the end of each term, until the end of the probation period.

b. Academic probation and denial of financial aid

i. Under this status the student will be allowed to study the next academic term, but cannot obtain financial aid. You will be referred and must comply with the Academic Support Program. It will be evaluated if it meets the norm of academic progress at the end of each term until the end of the probationary period.

c. Appeal Denial

i. In this case the student will remain suspended or suspended and may request readmission according to the procedure established in the catalog on section titled **Readmission after Academic Suspension**

All students in academic probation will be evaluated at the end of each term and will be referred to the Academic Support Program. If at the end of the probation term the student has not complied with the Plan of Study or with the requirements of the Academic Progress Rule, he or she will receive academic suspension.

The academic probation may be granted only once and its terms will be for one semester. The term may be extended to an additional semester in meritorious cases and upon recommendation of the Appeals Committee. In no case may the probation be extended for more than one academic year and there will be no second probation.

Course Repetition

All courses must be passed with a minimum of C. Students may repeat courses when the grade does not satisfy them. If a course is no longer offered, the student may substitute it with an equivalent course approved by the Dean of the School of Law, in consultation with the Vice President of Academic and Students Affairs.

When a student repeats a course, the higher grade will prevail, and lower grades will be excluded with an "E". The "E" annotation and the corresponding credits will not be considered for purposes of determining if the student completed the degree requirements.

Some advanced courses in the Juris Doctor program are offered in a sequential pattern based on what was covered in previous courses which are indicated as prerequisites. In order for a student to register in an advanced course, he or she must have obtained a minimum grade of C in the prerequisite course. Those students who may have registered in an advanced course in violation of this rule will be dropped from the course by the Registrar's Office.

Eligibility criteria for receiving financial aid from Federal Government funds require that the student maintains satisfactory academic progress and that the academic institution establishes rules to measure the students' academic progress in terms of grades and time frame throughout the program.

Academic Support Program

The purpose of the Academic Support Program (ASP) is to provide the student with the necessary tools to reach their maximum potential during their legal studies. To reach this goal, the program has the following objectives:

1. Help students with the development of their abilities, skills, and techniques to be academically successful at the School of Law.
2. Offer academic counseling to students that may need it.
3. Promote the development of a culture of academic assistance to help students reach their maximum academic potential.
4. Design and apply strategies to help students at risk of academic deficiency.
5. Offer counseling, strategies, and study techniques to first year students who find themselves at high academic risk due to the demands and rigor of legal education.
6. Provide academic assistance to students who passed the first year but are facing academic difficulties.

Offer academic counseling, training and direct assistance to those students that have been referred by their professors and those that voluntarily request assistance.

The ASP Office will have responsibility for the categories of students:

1. First Year Students.

Although admission to the School of Law is a selective process, students may have difficulty adjusting to the academic demands and rigor of legal education. The ASP will help the student develop the necessary tools to facilitate their adaptation. All new students are referred to the ASP. To facilitate their transition into Law school, those first-year students referred to ASP by the Students Affairs Dean's Office must attend the Adaptation and Academic Enhancement Workshops. Its aim is that students acquire and practice the skills, techniques and basic skills needed to succeed in their classes. The workshop will emphasize and deepen skills and techniques such as summarizing cases, note taking, organization, outlining, studying skills, test preparation and use of technology in the classroom.

2. Students at risk of academic deficiency

Students with 0.25 above the required GPA for his or her year of study will be referred by the academic advisor and the Dean of Academic Affairs to the ASP.

When students fall into the category of academic risk the **Protocol Case Management Students at Risk** will be activated. The aim of this protocol is to support students to overcome the risk by designing an academic plan for improvement. It is expected that student overcome the circumstances that hinder their academic progress. The meetings with the ASP Office and compliance plan shall be mandatory for the student.

Academic Community in General

The adaptation process to the demands and rigor of a law school can endure throughout the entire academic life. The ASP will be available for all students to benefit from their services, even though they are not in academic risk.

The ASP Office offers the academic community training activities such as lectures, seminars and courses on techniques, skills, and study skills. These training activities are open to all students of our academic community.

Faculty and staff can refer students they identify who may benefit from ASP even if they are not at risk of academic deficiency. Any students may voluntarily request services from the ASP Office. The office will provide personalized academic advising, training, and direct support for referred students or volunteers.

Guidance

The ASP Office will be available to offer individualized academic counseling to students who need it. The academic counseling may include:

1. Guidance on the techniques and strategies to adapt and continue in law school.
2. Tips in selecting courses for the next semester.
3. Developing a plan for academic improvement.
4. Identification of the need to refer to student to another service.

In meetings, ASP staff may identify the need to refer a student to another office or service. In consultation with the student, ASP staff will make referrals available to them for their benefit that may mitigate those circumstances that may be affecting them in their studies.

The School of Law offers the following students services to referred students:

1. Financial Assistance
2. Chaplaincy Counseling
3. Reasonable Accommodation
4. Academic Counseling

ASP Office may suggest health professional services in accordance with student's medical insurance plan.

Communication between students who benefit from the program and ASP's staff are confidential. This rule of confidentiality shall be subject to the same restrictions, limitations and exceptions of the legal framework that applies to universities and regulations of the School of Law.

Reasonable Accommodation

The Inter American University School of Law (IUPR) maintains its policies of no discrimination based on race, gender, disability, ethnicity, social condition, political ideas or religious ideologies. It intends to provide equal educational and participatory opportunities for people with disabilities as stated under local and federal laws (e.g., "The Rehabilitation Law of 1973" and "American with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008" (ADAAA)). The IUPR has established guides, norms, and procedures to assess applications for reasonable accommodation as requested by the students: Policy Document E-0623-011 entitled in Spanish, *Guías, normas y procedimientos para atender solicitudes de modificación razonable a estudiantes*.

The following document and its content have been drafted with the intention to ease the application process of reasonable accommodation. It must be read and interpreted in the light of the Policy Document E-0623-011.

Procedures to apply for reasonable accommodation

1. The application for reasonable accommodation is voluntary. It is recommended that services for reasonable accommodation be requested at the office of the **Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities** (hereafter, CSSD) within the first four weeks of the academic semester.
2. The petition for reasonable accommodation should include the appropriate documentation that provides sufficient evidence supporting the requested accommodation. To obtain copies of the appropriate documentation, student must contact the CSSD via email.
3. The documentation must fulfill the following:
 - Should be recent (no more than three years). Chronic or fluctuating conditions may justify for an update of the information to evaluate the accommodation's suitability.
 - Must be certified by the corresponding qualified professional or practitioner.
 - Contain a complete evaluation of the condition, including its actual manifestations and its consequential functional limitations.
 - Include information about the diagnostic(s) and accurate explanation of manifestations or functional limitations imposed by the condition(s).
 - Must indicate how at least one essential daily activity is affected by condition(s).
 - Justify the requested accommodation.

4. The student will provide a written consent allowing the CSSD to disclose relevant information about his or her condition(s) only when such disclosure is necessary to obtain the corresponding accommodation(s).

Note: The request for reasonable accommodation will be considered after all required documentation has been submitted and verified by the CSSD. While CSSD evaluates the documentation, a provisional accommodation can be granted. If considered necessary, once concluded with the evaluation of the documentation, the CSSD may adjust the accommodation.

5. Once all documentation has been submitted, the CSSD will determine the student's eligibility in a period of no more than ten (10) business days.

6. This determination will be informed to the student in writing. Depending on the accommodation(s), the CSSD will also inform the corresponding faculty members or any other official of the institution. Here on, the determination is official.

7. If the accommodation modifies the administration of tests, the student will have five (5) working days prior to the dates for test taking, to inform the CSSD in writing the name of the professor, course, date, time and room of the exam. This information can be sent via email to the CSSD.

8. If the applicant does not agree with the recommended accommodation(s) or with a denial of his/her petition, the student can appeal this determination following the indications of the document entitled "Procedimiento para atender querellas" – attachment 7 of Policy Document E-0623-011 entitled in Spanish, "*Guías, normas y procedimientos para atender solicitudes de modificación razonable a estudiantes.*" If the student has difficulty in obtaining or understanding the document, please contact the CSSD as soon as possible.

9. Unless the condition requires so, this documentation will not be required again. However, from then on, the initial petition for reasonable accommodation can be renewed at the beginning of each semester by an e-mail with the following information: name of each professor, the titles of corresponding courses, days / hours, and classroom of classes. This information can be sent via email to the CSSD. If the CSSD does not receive this information, it will be assumed that the student has decided not to renew his/her request for a reasonable accommodation.

Pregnant Students

Pregnant students, gestational persons, or individuals in parenting processes may request reasonable accommodations in accordance with the provisions of Title IX of the Federal Education Law. Our library has a lactation room available for nursing mothers.

Religious Accommodation

The Academic Senate of the School of Law has approved a Protocol for Religious Accommodation. Students who, for religious reasons, need to reschedule a previously established exam date or be excused from attending a make-up class must submit a certification letter of their religious belief or an alternative statement of religious affiliation to the Office of Student Services for Reasonable Accommodation. The letter or alternative statement must indicate the criteria that determine when the religious observance begins and ends. Students have a non-extendable period of 30 working days from the first day of class of the current semester to complete this process.

Readmissions

Persons who have discontinued their studies for a year or more must submit a readmission application at the Registrar's Office. Before being readmitted, the applicant will be subject to an evaluation to determine if he/she will be able to complete the program in the maximum period allowed. Readmitted students to the Juris Doctor Program will be subject to the approved academic norms contained in the existing catalogue, at the time of the readmission.

The readmission application must contain:

1. Official transcript from those institutions in which the applicant may have studied, if applicable.
2. The application must be submitted no later than April 30 if applying for the Fall semester, or later than October 30 if applying to the Spring Semester.
3. The LSAT results must maintain validity according to the LSAC regulations.

Readmission after Academic Suspension

Students that have been suspended due to academic deficiency must wait one year before applying for readmission. The application will be evaluated in accordance with the following:

1. That the student can in fact complete the degree requirements within the maximum time allowed of seven years (84 months).
2. The applicant must submit a letter in which the reasons for the academic deficiency are explained and the reasons a readmission are justified.
3. The Admissions Committee may request an interview with the student.
4. The Admissions Committee will make a written recommendation to the Dean.
5. Students that are readmitted after a suspension due to academic deficiency:
 - a. Will be referred to the Academic Support Program.
 - b. Must repeat all the failed courses (D, F, NP or NK grades)
 - c. Once readmitted the student must not incur in an academic deficiency.
6. There is only one opportunity for readmission after suspension for academic deficiency.
7. The readmitted student will be governed under the existing catalogue.
8. A readmission after a period of suspension does not imply that the student will be eligible to receive federal or state financial aid. In order to reinstate eligibility, the student must follow the appeals procedure described in this Catalogue.

Readmission after completing studies in a non-American Bar Association accredited Law School

Lawyers that began their legal studies in our law school, that concluded their studies in an institution not ABA, but have license or State authorization that permits them to sit for the bar exam or to practice in that jurisdiction, may apply for readmission and do not need to meet the existing admissions exams criteria.

At the time of evaluating the readmissions application, course credits taken at Inter American University School of Law will be considered so long as:

1. Course credits have not expired and
2. Those credits have not been considered by the University that granted the J.D. degree.

Also, the applicant under this section must meet the application requirements detailed in section governing the admission of lawyers graduated from non-American Bar Association accredited Law Schools.

Readmission as Special Student

Inter American University of Puerto Rico Juris Doctor graduates interested in taking a course after obtaining the degree, must request readmission as a special student through the Registrar's office.

Class Attendance, Incompletes, Leave of Absence and Audit

Class Attendance

The School of Law requires regular attendance to class. It is the student's responsibility to comply with this requirement. Each student is responsible for the course content during any absence and is obligated to keep up to date with the class work, as assigned by the professor. In the evaluation of the students' performance and in the final grade, professors may take into consideration any irregular attendance or tardiness.

The University sets the date to report if a student never attended courses during the first three (3) weeks from the start of classes, according to the semester academic/administrative calendar or its equivalent for other academic terms.

The withdrawal date (UW) for a student who stops attending class corresponds to the last date the student participated in an academic activity related to the course. The professor must document the student's participation and attendance at this last academic activity.

Incompletes

When a student meets all requirements in any course but cannot take the final exam or complete the final evaluation, the professor has the discretion to give a final grade or "Incomplete".

An "Incomplete" must be removed in the following semester. If the incomplete is not removed within that period, the student will receive the grade that accompanies the symbol "I". The incomplete grade may not be considered for purposes of GPA or academic progress.

The responsibility for removing the "Incomplete" rests with the student.

Leave of Absence

A leave of absence is granted to a student who, for one or more reasons previously defined by the University, is temporarily unable to comply with the academic activities related to their courses. Although not limited to these, some of these reasons may be illness for a limited period, family circumstances, being out of the country due to work, or the need to attend to some urgent matter abroad. Military leave and military discharge are not considered for purposes of a leave of absence and are treated administratively differently.

Students requesting a leave of absence must make a request using the form provided by the University and submit it to the Academic Counselor or the Registrar, along with the required official evidence. A leave of absence will be granted for the entirety of the student's class schedule for the academic term in which it is requested.

Final authorization rests with the chief executive of the Dean. A student may take a leave of absence or multiple leaves of absence from the university for no more than 180 calendar days in twelve months. If authorized, the student's record will reflect the reason for granting the leave of absence, the date the leave will start, and the end date. The student must complete the evaluation criteria that remained outstanding during the leave of absence before the leave concludes.

While the leave of absence is in effect, the institutional rules and procedures for returning funds to the federal government or any other agency providing financial aid will not apply. If the student does not return upon expiration of the leave, the Inter American University of Puerto Rico will officially terminate the student retroactively to the day the leave was granted and will calculate the amount to be returned from the grant of aid through Title IV and/or other state aid as of the day the license was granted and will calculate the amount to be returned, as established in the "Higher Education Act" 34 CFR 668, 22 (i)(1)(ii) and institutional rules, respectively. During the leave of absence, the student may not obtain or acquire additional Title IV funds or receive disbursements of Federal Family Educational Loan (FFEL) and Federal Stafford Loan (FSL) related funds. However, a student on a leave of absence may be disbursed and reimbursed for already approved financial aid from surplus or credit balances from Title IV funds on the student's behalf. If the student does not reintegrate into the study program at the stipulated time, the time granted for the leave of absence will count as part of the grace period associated with the repayment of student loans.

Audit

Courses in the School of Law may be attended as audit. A student who registers as audit will receive a certification of "AU" in the transcript. Students from other law schools, lawyers and other qualified persons may audit courses at the discretion of the Dean.

Anonymous Grading

Professors will utilize an anonymous correction method to assure objectivity in the correction of final exams.

Tuition Fees

Tuition fees will be those established at the time admission for each student and will be proportional to the number of credit hours for which the student is registered. All students will pay tuition and other fees.

Changes in Tuition, Fees and Other Charges

Inter American University of Puerto Rico provides its students bulletin regarding tuition, fees and other charges every academic term, as approved by the Board of Trustees. Also included is general information concerning norms for the payment of tuition and fees, deferred payments, and adjustments and reimbursement when a student withdraws from a class after it was paid for. The University reserves the right to review its tuition and other fees when:

1. There is an increase in educational and general expenses, and/or Mandatory Transfers.
2. Budget projections indicate a possible increase in these expenses.
3. After careful analysis of a special situation, the University administration understands that changes in fees reasonable and justified.

Payments

Payment of tuition, fees and other charges are due and payable in full at time of registration. The difference between the total of tuition, fees and other charges, and the amount of financial aid a student receives (except under the Work Study Program) is payable at the time of registration.

Payments can be made by order, check (payable to Inter American University of Puerto Rico), credits cards (Master Cards, VISA, American Express, Discover), ATH debit card or cash.

Deferred Payments

The University grants students the privilege of deferred payment up to 50% of the total semester tuition by signing the Only Promissory Note. To be eligible for the deferment, the student must have paid debts from previous academic terms. However, under no circumstance shall the total amount deferred exceed the balance due after discounting the financial aid or loans.

The Dean may, in exceptional cases, increase the percentage if he/she concludes that there is a reasonable certainty of collecting the debt and it is in the best interest of the Institution.

No extensions will be granted for amounts less than \$50.00.

The deferred payment of the total cost of tuition, fees, and other charges semester expires 75 days after the first day of classes. It is payable in a maximum of three equal installments during the semester.

The granting of the extension carries a fee to cover part of the administrative costs for this service. There will be a charge of 5% per installment not paid on the due date.

Each student is responsible to know when payments are due and to take appropriate measures to satisfy them.

Students who do not meet their financial commitments by the due date will be terminated and will not receive a grade in courses in which they have enrolled. Moreover, the student will not have the right to receive services from the University until they settle their debt, in conformity with Federal and Puerto Rico regulations.

There will be no deferred payment plan during the summer sessions except by expressed authorization of the Vice President for Management, Finance, and Systemic Services. Any such extension must be paid within 30 days from the last day of classes of the summer session in which the aid is granted.

Debts for Other Items

If a student or former student has an outstanding debt with the University for any cause, other than deferred payments to which the current catalogue refers to, regardless of any payment plan that has been granted or any collection procedure that may have been initiated, the student shall not be entitled to receive University services until payment has been received in full.

Students transferred from another university or colleges with which they have an existing debt on account of any federal financial aid program are not eligible for financial aid at the University.

Adjustments and Reimbursements

Partial drop per semester and summer session:

100% of the credits cost and fees before classes begin.

75% of the credits cost and fees during the first and second day of classes.

50% of the credits cost and fees during the third and fourth day of classes.

No refunds after the fourth day of classes.

These adjustments will apply to students who pay the full cost of their tuition on their own. Fees and other charges are not refundable after the beginning of classes.

Financial Aid

The objective of the Financial Aid Office is to provide students with the financial assistance required to cover the costs of a legal education. subject to the availability of funds, Inter American University of Puerto Rico grants financial aid to students with financial needs who meet the pre-established requirements and conditions for granting such aid. These requirements are reviewed during each academic year. Once the candidate to the School of Law has been officially notified of his/her admission, and is interested in applying for financial aid, they must follow pre-established procedures. The Financial Aid Office conditions its offers on student qualifications for assistance and the availability of funds, reason for which it reserves the right to make changes in assigned aid when necessary.

Financial Aid Awards

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

Originated with the Federal Department of Education USDE through the Inter American University of Puerto Rico. At a fixed interest rate, accumulated to the principal amount from the moment each disbursement occurs. It has an origination fee deducted, by the Federal Department of Education, from the original amount requested:

The repayment starts 6 months after ceasing of studies, graduation or being enrolled in less than 6 credits per Semester. The maximum amount annually awarded is \$20,500 to a maximum cumulative limit of \$138,500.00.

Note: *The USDE reserves the right to make changes to the loan's origination fee and annual interest. For the updated information, please refer to the official Student Aid website and navigate to the section on loan interest rates.*

Federal Direct Plus Loan for Graduates (Grad Plus)

- Also originated with the US Department of Education through the Inter American University of Puerto Rico
- At a fixed interest rate , accumulated to the principal amount from the moment each disbursement occurs
- Has an origination fee deducted, by the Federal Department of Education, from the originally amount requested
- Credit history is verified by the US Department of Education, if denied the following two options should be considered:
 1. Using a co-signer, or
 2. Starting an appeal resource with extenuating circumstances, by contacting (1-800-433-3243)
- There is no annual or cumulative maximum, it can be used for studies in semesters and summers, as long as the annual budget is not exceeded.

Note: *The USDE reserves the right to make changes to the loan 's origination fee and annual interest. For the updated information, please refer to the official Student Aid website and navigate to the section on loan interest rates.*

Federal Work Study Program

- The student participation will depend on the funds' availability. The participant will be placed in an office or with professors or supervisors.
- They must submit their payrolls to the Financial Aid Office every two weeks on the scheduled dates as determined by the calendar.
- In those cases where the submission of the payroll does not comply with the Payment Schedule, the payroll will not be processed, unless the student demonstrates just cause for the non-compliance.
- Students interested in participating in the program must visit the Financial Aid Office on the first day of classes in August.

Institutional Honor Scholarship

The School of Law awards merit scholarships with institutional funds to students with high academic achievement, considering the overall grade point average, the academic workload, the funds available, and the number of students who qualify each semester.

The Honor Scholarship funds intend to cover the student's general educational costs. The evaluation, determination, distribution, and disbursement of scholarship applications are carried out once the date for changes, registrations, and withdrawals has passed, as established in the Administrative Academic Calendar for each semester. If the student has no debts with the University, the Bursar's Office will make a full disbursement in their favor.

Eligibility criteria and conditions:

1. The Financial Aid Office will contact eligible students each semester, once it has assessed the following eligibility criteria and conditions:
 - a. Completing a Financial Aid file and FAFSA application.
 - b. Must be an active student and have completed a minimum of two semesters at the School of Law.
 - c. Having a cumulative grade point average of 3.85 or higher. The School of Law can reduce the required grade point average to 3.80, depending on the institutional funds available.
2. Upon notification from Financial Aid, the student must complete an application for the Honors Scholarship. In addition, approval is subject to verification of cumulative grade point average, credits enrolled, and availability of funds.
3. The amount awarded will depend on the availability of institutional funds, as well as the number of students who qualify and apply each semester.
4. No allocation of funds under the Honors Scholarship will be applied retroactively.
5. In the event of transfer to another university or total withdrawal, the aid granted here will be considered an institutional loan with the Inter American University of Puerto Rico.
6. Honor Scholarship funds are not awarded in summer or intensive academic terms.
7. The School of Law reserves the right to review and make, at any time, any changes it deems pertinent to the Honor Scholarship eligibility criteria and conditions.
8. Eligibility will be evaluated on a semester basis.

External scholarships

Students can also benefit from external scholarships provided by public and private entities. These scholarships are entirely separate from the institution and are managed exclusively by the students. The Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law is not responsible for the outcomes of students' scholarship management.

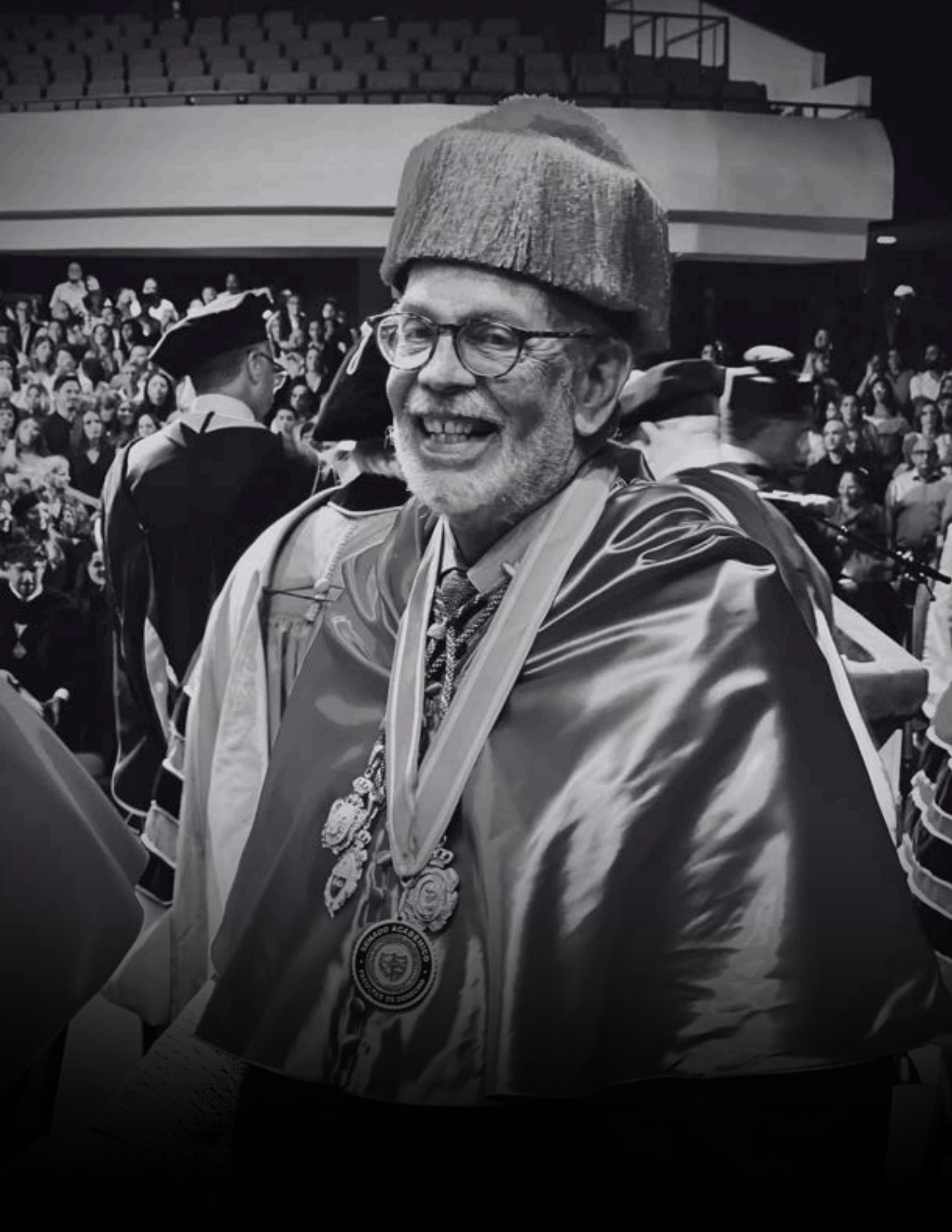
Bar Study Loan

The purpose of this loan is to cover the costs of the preparatory period during the study for the bar exam.

You can apply for this loan after paying the graduation fee, but no later than 12 months afterward. This loan is certified by the Registrar's Office.

Academic Counseling

The School of Law has a Licensed Professional Counselor who, together with the student, is responsible for the academic evaluation of academic progress once per semester. It is recommended that students request this service every semester to understand their progress regarding courses, approved credits, grade point average, and pending credits.





GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES





**JURIS DOCTOR
PROGRAM**

Graduation Requirements and Procedures

The Juris Doctor degree requires 92 credits, 62 credits in required courses and 30 credits in electives. Among the elective courses, students must take 2 credits in Theory of Law and 2 credits in International Law. The student must also undertake an individual research work (seminar).

Each student must take a minimum of 6 credit hours in experiential learning.

Students must take a Partial Simulated Bar Exam after completing their first two semesters for Full Time Students and three semesters for Part Time Students once they pass the required courses. The first-year subjects will be evaluated in this exam. The consequence of not passing this partial exam will be: (1) to compulsorily take and pass specialized courses in deficient areas and (2) to compulsorily participate in individual or group workshops offered by faculty and outstanding students.

All students must take a final Simulated Bar Exam as a graduation requirement, which must be taken by students prior to their last semester of studies; and the rule is established that those who do not pass the final Simulated Bar Exam will have to take and pass the Bar Preparation Workshop (Bar Prep) course.

Prior to completing their final semester, students will apply for graduation to the Registrar's Office in accordance with pre-established rules and procedures.

At student's request, the Registrar's Office will notify any pending required course. The applicant has the option to graduate under the requirements listed in the School of Law catalogue at the time of admission, or any subsequent catalogue issued prior to graduation. Any alleged error in the evaluation must be reported to the Registrar no later than two weeks after the date of mailing, or personal delivery to the student of the evaluation in question. Those students who apply after the final date will not be considered as graduation candidates. The Registrar's Office will not issue any documents showing completion of graduation requirements unless the student has followed the procedures and paid the graduation fees.

All the courses required for graduation must be completed within no more than seven years (84 months) after a student has commenced their law studies at the School of Law or a law school from which the school has accepted transfer credit. These time limits are not interrupted by voluntary drops.

The payment of any graduation fees or the inscription of the student's name in any graduation list or in any other related event concerning the conferring of degrees should not be interpreted as an offer or a guarantee of graduation. Only the compliance with all requirements of this catalogue or in any other official University guideline will entitle the students graduation status, regardless of representation to the contrary made by any official of this law school or the University.

Concentrations

At the end of their legal studies program the student may request the School of Law to make an annotation in the official transcript which certifies that the student has taken one or more of the concentrations offered by the School of Law.

The requirements for receiving said notation and certification are:

1. Voluntarily select one or more concentration upon completion of the first year at the School of Law, subject to the elective course offerings identified as part of the selected concentration. For just cause, requests will be accepted no later than the deadline to apply for graduation.
2. Complete twelve (12) credits in the elective courses identified a part of the selected concentration.
3. Receive no less than a B grade in the elective courses identified a part of the selected concentration;
4. The individual written work required for graduation, either through a seminar course or independent study course, must be in matter related to the selected concentration.

A course that could be available for more than one concentration may be assigned to only one of them. Courses taken in other universities, tutorial courses and intensive courses can only be applied to a concentration with the approval of the Dean of Academic Affairs.

The Dean of Academic Affairs will determine which courses a student may take for purposes of accreditation to a selected concentration.







HONORS AND AWARDS

Honors and Awards

1. **Outstanding Grade Point Average (GPA) Award:** Awarded to the student with the highest academic grade point average in the daytime and evening sessions.
2. **Summa Cum Laude:** Awarded to all students in the graduating class who have earned a GPA of 3.75 or more during their studies at the School of Law.
3. **Magna Cum Laude:** Awarded to all students in the graduating class who have earned a GPA of 3.50 to 3.74 during their studies at the School of Law.
4. **Cum Laude:** Awarded to all students in the graduating class who have earned a GPA of 3.25 to 3.49 during their studies at the School of Law.
5. **Dr. José Ramón Vélez Torres Award:** Awarded to the student in the graduating class who has obtained the highest average in Civil Law courses.
6. **Harvey B. Nachman Award:** Awarded to the most outstanding student of the Legal Aid Clinic.
7. **Award for the most outstanding student in Criminal Law, sponsored by the Institute for the Development of Law:** Awarded to the student with the highest average in courses related to Criminal Law.
8. **Dr. Antonio Fernós Isern Award:** Awarded to the student with the most outstanding average in courses related to Public Law.
9. **Award for most outstanding student in Real Property Recording Law and Notarial Law:** Awarded to graduating with the highest average in courses related to Mortgage Law and Notarial Law.
10. **Osvaldino Rojas Lugo Award:** Awarded to the outstanding graduating student in Labor Law courses.
11. **Microjuris Award:** Awarded to the outstanding graduating student in integrating Technology in Legal Studies.
12. **Corporate Law Award:** Awarded to the outstanding student in Corporate Law and in related activities.
13. **Ivette Coll Award:** Awarded by the Inter American University School of Law Review to the graduating associate who has exhibited the highest commitment to research, legal writing, and publishing excellence.
14. **Raúl Serrano Geys Award:** Awarded by the CLAVE, Journal of Critical Legal Studies, to the graduating associate whose academic performance, trajectory, and community service exemplify the firm and transcendent commitment to honor the profession.

15. **UIPR School of Law Graduate Association Award:** Awarded to the graduating student that has been noted for their academic performance, leadership, and service to the university community.

16. **Inter American University of Puerto Rico Alumni Association Award:** Awarded to the graduating student that has a profile of excellence as a student, and in their service to the university community and the community at large.

17. **Puerto Rican Judiciary Association of Puerto Rico Award:** Awarded to the graduating student who has excelled in academic performance, leadership, and ethical example throughout their student career.

18. **Pro-Bono Award:** Awarded to the most prominent graduating student for their voluntary legal work.

19. **Recognition to the highest simulated bar exam score:** Recognizes the graduate with the highest score in the final simulated bar exam.

Rules and Regulations

Inter American University of Puerto Rico publishes a series of rules and regulations of a general nature regarding the rights and responsibilities of students. They protect the student's right to dissent and protest, provided they do not disrupt the normal functions of the University. The regulation, also, includes provisions on the use and abuse of controlled substances and alcohol, rules prohibiting sexual harassment policies and procedures to comply with the provisions of Section 504 of the "American with Disabilities Act" and other applicable laws. There are rules and procedures for processing complaints of sex discrimination in accordance with the provisions of Title IX of the Federal Higher Education Act. Likewise, there are procedures related to Public Law 101-542 known as "Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act". All students are eligible to receive the School of Law's Emergency Management Plan.

The institution prohibits smoking within its physical facilities, except in specifically designated areas. Violation of the rules of student conduct entail penalties that will apply according to the rules established in the regulations. New students will receive copies of these rules and regulations at registration time.

In addition, students should be fully familiar with all the rules and procedures provided or mentioned in this catalogue and know that the School of Law reserves the right to review, revise or change its regulations, curricula, courses, degree requirements and other regulations affecting students when deemed necessary or desirable. In addition, the School of Law reserves the right to review the charges and costs as indicated above. The admission of students to the School of Law implies their right to pursue only those specified programs listed in the catalogue or in any subsequent catalogue during their tenure at the School of Law. The School of Law reserves the right to remove any course offering due to insufficient registration, or to change any program and graduation requirements at any time. Every student must examine the institutional e mail and the Schools website regularly.

Upon registration, students accept the agreement to comply with all present and future University and School of Law regulations.

When students register, they are required to indicate their address in the Registrar's Office. Address changes should be reported immediately to the Registrar. If this address is not updated, the University is not responsible for notifications to students. Any notice, official or otherwise, that is sent to a student as it appears on the records shall be deemed sufficient.


Copyright Law and Infringement Warning

1. The distribution or unauthorized reproduction, by any means, of material protected by copyright laws and regulations may entail the imposition of civil and criminal penalties.
2. The General Student Regulations contain provisions regarding academic honesty which include the protection of this type of material, and the violation thereof may result in disciplinary sanctions.
3. There are legitimate ways to obtain and distribute copyrighted materials. For assistance, please refer to the Information Access Center of the School of Law, where librarians can help you.





LAW REVIEWS, JOURNALS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

REVISTA  INSTITUTO DE
ESTUDIOS

JURÍDICA

UNIVERSIDAD INTERAMERICANA DE PUERTO RICO



Law Reviews, Journals and Student Organizations



A. Inter American University of Puerto Rico Law Review

The School of Law publishes three editions of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico Law Review during the academic year.

It is a professional review, written in Spanish and English for students, professors, lawyers and practicing lawyers, as a contribution to the study and understanding of the complex field of legal thought. The Law Review facilitates and promotes the free exchange of ideas in the process of articulating a coherent system of law.

Academically, the Law Review promotes the development of student's skills in the areas of research analysis, oral and written expression, as well as in depth knowledge in specific areas of law. It also seeks to promote appropriate attitudes and qualities of responsibility and professional dedication. Furthermore, students participate in special activities, such as symposia, conferences, and research workshops, which are offered every semester.

The Law Review is an integral part of the curriculum and is composed of five separate courses, which are offered free of charge to students who are eligible for admission. The courses are divided into two separate years. In the first year the student will complete a publishable article. If the student decides to continue as a member of the Law Review, after publishing, they can do so by being an editor or part of the Board of Directors of the Law Review.

The Editorial Board is composed of students appointed by the previous Board. They work under the guidance and supervision of a faculty counselor.

Students that have completed a minimum of 23 credits for evening students and 24 credits for day students, with a GPA of 3.00 may be admitted to the Law Review through an application process that assesses the criteria established by the Board. This can include but is not limited to a writing sample based on a fact pattern provided by the Board, resume and cover letter. After proper evaluation, the Board decides at its discretion if the student can be admitted, based on the quality of their research and their proven potential for reviewing and drafting quality legal documents.



B. CLAVE, Journal of Critical Legal Studies

CLAVE is a joint project of Latina/Latino Critical Legal Theory (LatCrit, Inc.), a progressive legal movement, and the UIPR School of Law. CLAVE explores the ways in which states, laws, and other forces and discourses are subject to nationalized, gendered, racialized, and sexualized profiles. It also examines the multiple modes of resistance to state power, colonialism, imperialism, and the diaspora. With an interdisciplinary approach to law, CLAVE accepts articles from various disciplines such as cultural studies, literary studies, political theory and science, sociology, philosophy, and ethnic and racial studies.

CLAVE is an academic journal published both in print and online. The School of Law publishes one or two volumes of the magazine each year. This publication is edited by an Editorial Board composed of students and supervised by law professors.

CLAVE I, II, III, and IV are two-credit courses each, which are part of the school's academic program. These courses are available to students with a minimum GPA of 3.0 who have completed the courses Research, Analysis, and Writing I and II with a grade of B, and a course in Theory of Law (which can be substituted by the presentation of a document for editorial consideration). These courses are free of cost. Each student must complete a legal research paper on an approved topic, which must then be presented as a publishable article with a critical approach. Only the best articles are selected for publication.

In line with the review's social commitment, each year CLAVE students organize conferences on issues important to the legal community and society. Some of the topics discussed in the past include race relations in Puerto Rico, police brutality, the medicalization of drugs, and hate crimes. Additionally, each year the Editorial Board participates in LatCrit conferences or critical legal studies events.

C. AMICUS Journal



The AMICUS Journal: Journal of Legislation and Public Policy, created in 2018, provides immediate access to legal sources on novel and current topics that are underdeveloped in traditional forums. AMICUS is characterized by the publication of short and precise articles on timely issues, both of a legal nature and public policy, offering the country writings that contain updated analyses on currently debated topics. In this way, it combines academic rigor with the discussion of contemporary issues.

D. IusGénero América Latina (IGAL)



IGAL is a biannual academic and scientific publication, of open access through its web page; it is funded by Red ALAS (Latin American Network of Feminist Law Professors) and the Law School at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico.

IusGénero América Latina (IGAL) aims at publishing original contributions in Spanish, English and Portuguese that: 1) contribute to our knowledge of the way in which law operates to reproduce and subvert the oppression of women and the exclusion of sexual diversity; 2) illuminate through theoretical, empirical or doctrinal interventions the way in which law shapes and deconstructs gender and sexuality; 3) reflect on the role of education, and legal education in particular, in reproducing hierarchies based on gender and sexuality. The Journal is specially interested in studies that incorporate intersectional and distributional analysis.



E. Students Council and Student Participation in Law Schools Affairs

The Student Council is the student representative body in the School of Law. It serves as the vehicle for student participation in the affairs of the School of Law and the University. The Student Council has representation in institutional bodies and participates in the accreditation processes of student organizations, as well as in Faculty Committees and the Academic Senate. The Council sponsors the annual reception for the incoming class and a dance in honor of the graduating class, along with various cultural, academic, and social activities.

F. Other Student Organizations

At our School of Law, students have access to a diverse range of specialized organizations that enhance their education through social, cultural, and professional experiences. These organizations aim to promote co-curricular, cultural, recreational, social, and sports activities. All organizations are required to conduct community service activities. The School of Law has an Accreditation Committee responsible for officially accrediting and recognizing student organizations.

Placement and Employment Services

The Office of Internationalization, Placement, and Employment provides placement and employment services for students a bridge between academia and the workplace. This office offers students the opportunity to develop complementary skills for insertion in the legal labor market. This office provides guidance on job search strategies, provides orientation on professional goals, and provides coordination in internship programs, among other activities. The Placement Office has as its goal to provide student and alumni the required skills and tools to plan and acquire legal employment or an internship. The Office aspires for the participant to have the opportunity to explore different employment alternatives in the local, as in the international level.





**ACCESS TO INFORMATION CENTER
DOMINGO TOLEDO ALAMO**



ACCESS TO INFORMATION CENTER

The library, which is also referred to as the Access to Information Center Domingo Toledo Alamo, was inaugurated in 1961, when the School of Law was founded. In 1981, it received the official name Domingo Toledo Alamo, a renown lawyer, jurist, and writer who for many years was a professor at the School of Law.

Our Library is highly developed, where the latest advances in information technology are integrated to meet the research needs of faculty and students, the legal community in general and other users.

Users have access, via an online catalogue, to all existing bibliographic material, both in our library and in all the university system. This catalogue provides access to materials in Spanish and English.

The Library collection includes printed materials, microforms, CDs, video discs, documents, photographs, and a large collection of law reviews, journals, and magazines. The collection has been augmented with valuable private collections donated by lawyers such as Domingo Toledo Alamo, Hipólito Marcano, José Vélez Torres, José Echeverría Yañez, and Antonio Fernós López Cepero, who throughout their lives were linked to our institution. The library also contains documents related to the tenure of former Associate Supreme Court Justice, Antonio Negrón García. The documents and memorabilia of Dr. Antonio Fernós Isern, who was president of the Constitutional Assembly and Resident Commissioner in Washington, DC, are housed in the museum room dedicated to him.

We provide students and faculty with access to the most advanced legal research resources through LEXIS/NEXIS, Westlaw, Microjuris, Hein OnLine, and vLEX. Additionally, we offer secure, closed Wi-Fi networks with restricted access for members of our community throughout the Law School. Our facilities include cubicles for individual study, eight rooms for group study, and two cubicles for students with disabilities. Professional librarians, supported by staff, provide services seven days a week.

The Inter American University of Puerto Rico has developed one of the most functional, complete, and attractive libraries in Puerto Rico. Our library emphasizes access to specialized digital legal information sources, as well as other related topics, ensuring that all academic members have the resources they need.

Clinical Education Program

The Clinical Education Program is a significant component of the curriculum of the School of Law. Through a comprehensive approach the program provides and promotes the development of essential skills that enable the student to practice those skills necessary for professional practice. The Theory, Doctrine and Practice Litigation course allows students to initiate litigation practices, by simulating cases, with emphasis on interrogation techniques, evidentiary procedures, and oral argument.

In the third year, students are offered the opportunity to register in the elective courses Legal Aid Clinic I and II, for four credits each. In these courses students can perform tasks related to the exercise of the legal profession under the supervision of a clinical professor or a specialist in clinical methodology. Each student will take an active role in solving real disputes using alternative methods or litigation throughout the various stages: client interview, discussion and selection of strategies, document drafting, appearing before administrative agencies and courts, among others.

This intense real case practice occurs under a consortium between the School of Law and the Legal Office for the Community, Inc., a non-profit organization created in 1982, itself under a proposal to Legal Services Corporation in Washington, and sponsored by other federal, local, and municipal entities, for purposes of providing free legal services in civil matters to the indigent population in San Juan.

Participation in Legal Aid Clinic has promoted the development of sensitivity to the needs of the most marginalized population groups and encouraged discussion of the ethical conflicts that arise in dealing with cases, and the role of lawyers in achieving access to the justice system of marginalized sectors of our society.



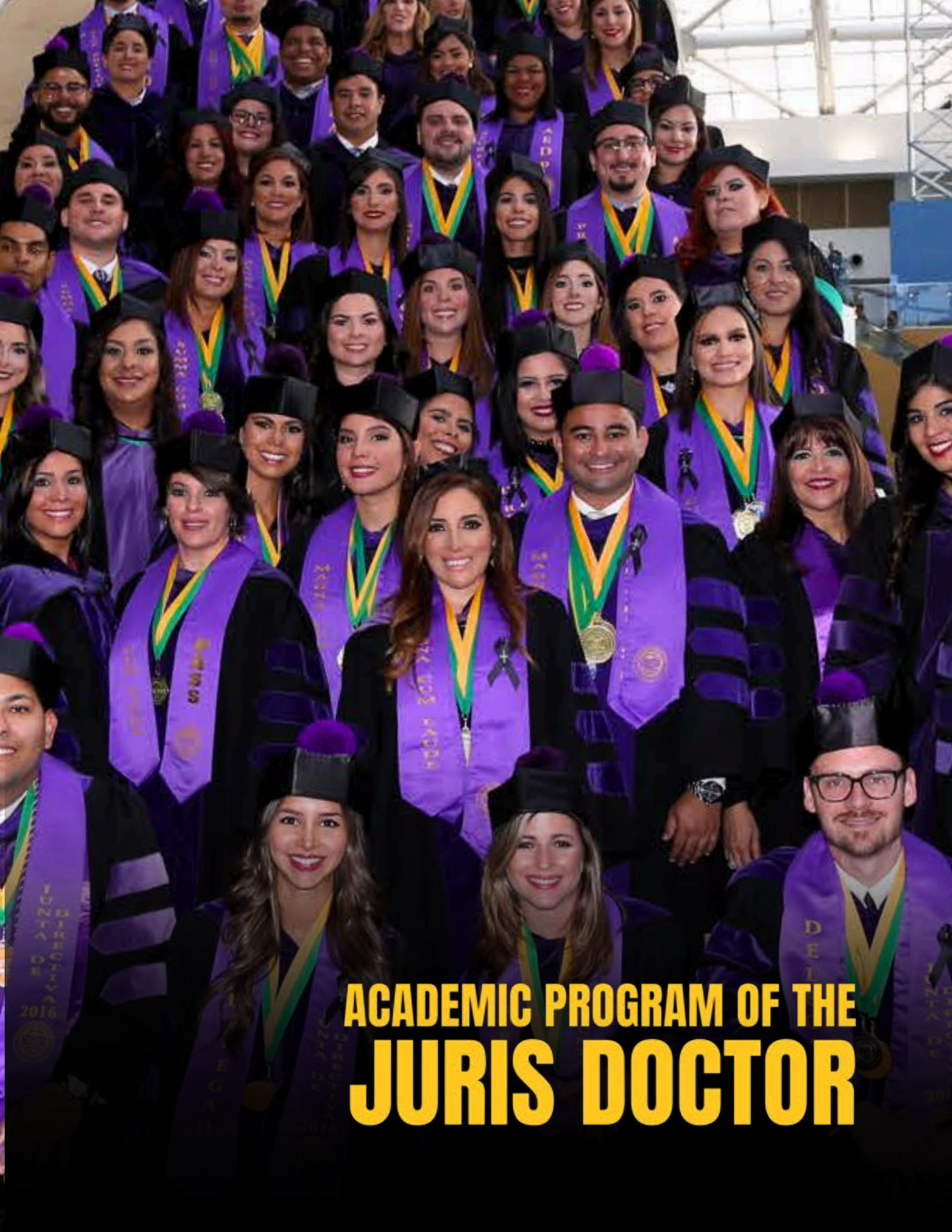
International Programs

The Office of Internationalization, Placement, and Employment coordinates international educational experiences both within and outside the School of Law. In line with our institutional goals on internationalization, we provide our students with opportunities to enrich their academic and professional development through experiences that promote the value of cultural diversity. Our goals are:

- To develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to compete in a globalized and diverse job market.
- To engage in the exchange of ideas with law students and professors, as well as those from other disciplines, from different parts of the world.
- To promote our institutional values beyond Puerto Rico.
- To highlight the talent nurtured in our School of Law both within and outside of Puerto Rico.

During the summer months, the School of Law offers courses with an international component.





**ACADEMIC PROGRAM OF THE
JURIS DOCTOR**



Academic Program



DAY PROGRAM

FIRST YEAR		SECOND SEMESTER		CREDITS
FIRST SEMESTER		Administrative Law		3
Introduction to Law	3	Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I		
Research, Analysis and Writing I	3	Successions		3
Criminal Law	3	Pre-requisite: Family		
Family Law	4	Law Obligation and		
Torts	3	Contracts		
	<u>16</u>	Evidence		4
		Prerequisite: Criminal Procedure		
		Electives		<u>5</u>
				15
SECOND SEMESTER		THIRD YEAR		
Research, Analysis and Writing II	3	FIRST SEMESTER		CREDITS
Civil Procedure	4	Mortgage Law		4
Property	4	Pre-requisite: Inheritance		
Constitutional Law I	3	Law Theory, Doctrine and		
	<u>14</u>	Litigation Practice		3
		Prerequisites: Evidence, Civil		
		Procedure History of Law		2
		Electives		<u>7</u>
				16
SECOND YEAR		SECOND SEMESTER		CREDITS
FIRST SEMESTER		Ethics of the legal profession		2
Constitutional Law II	3	Electives		<u>14</u>
Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I				16
Obligation and Contracts	4			
Pre-requisite: Property				
Criminal Procedure	4			
Prerequisite: Criminal Law				
Electives	4			
	<u>15</u>			

EVENING PROGRAM

FIRST YEAR		THIRD YEAR	
FIRST SEMESTER	CREDITS	FIRST SEMESTER	CREDITS
Introduction to Law	3	Successions	3
Research, Analysis and Writing I	3	Prerequisite: Family	
Criminal Law	3	Law Obligation and	
Torts	<u>3</u>	Contracts	
	12	Administrative Law	3
		Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I	
		Electives	<u>6</u>
			12
SECOND SEMESTER	CREDITS	SECOND SEMESTER	CREDITS
Research, Analysis and Writing II	3	Mortgage Law	4
Family Law	4	Pre-requisite: Inheritance	
Civil Procedure	<u>4</u>	Law Theory, Doctrine and	
	11	Litigation Practice	3
		Prerequisites: Evidence, Civil	
		Procedure History of Law	2
		Electives	<u>3</u>
			12
SECOND YEAR		FOURTH YEAR	
FIRST SEMESTER	CREDITS	FIRST SEMESTER	CREDITS
Property	4	Ethics of the legal profession	2
Criminal Procedure	4	Electives	<u>10</u>
Pre-requisite: Criminal Law			12
Constitutional Law I	<u>3</u>		
	11	SECOND SEMESTER	CREDITS
		Electives	<u>11</u>
			11
SECOND SEMESTER	CREDITS		
Obligations and Contracts	4		
Pre-requisite: Property			
Evidence	4		
Pre-requisite: Criminal Procedure			
Constitutional Law II	<u>3</u>		
Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I			
	11		

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Required courses

L-101A Introduction to Law– 3 credits

Introduction to legal studies. Five fundamental themes are analyzed: (1) Law and the Legal Profession, its functions, and limitations; (2) Theory of the State and the structure of the State in Puerto Rico; (3) the principal legal systems (civil law and common law); (4) the legal structure in Puerto Rico; and (5) legal reasoning.

Throughout the course there will be a continuous reflection on the practice of the legal profession. The course aims to harmoniously combine legal theory with the legal practice. To reach these goals students will be exposed to exercises and discussions that will promote the development of their legal skills.

L-103A Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I – 3 credits

This is the first of a two-part course that integrates the basic legal research program during the first year of legal studies. In this first part the theory of the sources of law is studied, research methodology, structure, utility, and citation principles of primary and secondary bibliographical sources. Also, the study and drafting of simple legal documents will be accomplished.

L-105 Criminal Law – 3 credits

Study of the evolution of Criminal Law and socio-historic development of its codification in Puerto Rico, the constitutive parts of the crime, the different types of criminal guilt, the exculpatory elements of a crime, criminal liability or causes of unimputability, the punishment and security measures and the principal types of.

L-107 Family and Personal Law – 4 credits

Study of the basic legal institutions of the personality, juridical capacity, tutelage, emancipation, absence, and the relevant procedures with regards to family relationships.

With regards to the family, fundamental concepts such as matrimony, economic regimes, extramarital cohabitation, divorce, parentage, adoption, guardianship, custody of minors, alimony, and the relevant procedures with regards to them. Emphasis will be placed on the origins of the person and the cultural factors that determine it.

L-109 Property Law– 4 credits

Study of the principal legal institutions and concepts on property and things, the limited property rights, and the relevant procedures with regards to them. The distinction between in rem property rights versus contract or obligational rights is studied. Study of particular property laws with limit property laws, and the fundamental principles of the Condominium Property Law.

L-103B Legal Research, Analysis and Writing II – 3 credits

In depth use of the methodologies and techniques studied in the first part of the course. Each student will develop a complex legal research project, will analyze the bibliographical sources, prepare and maintain a legal file, and will elaborate a legal theory in representation of a client. The course ends with the presentation of a legal brief which will contain the research, analytical and creative work product of the student.

Pre-requisite: Research, Analysis and Writing I.

L-104A Constitutional Law I – 3 credits

Study of the historical development and political foundations of constitutionalism and federalism. Judicial review of the constitutionality of government actions, the structure of the Federal system; the powers of the Federal government, the separation of powers, Puerto Rico's position in the American constitutional system; the historic and political foundations of individual rights, with special attention paid to the principle of state action.

L-106 Criminal Procedure – 4 credits

Study of the of the criminal procedure process, starting with the investigation stage before the criminal indictment, then with study of the various judicial stages prior to the trial, and ending with the conviction and judgment and the appeal procedures. Part of the course includes covering the structure and organization of the judicial system, and a full discussion on the rights of the accused.

Pre-requisite: Criminal Law.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Required courses

L-111 Obligations and Contracts – 4 credits

Study of the basic principles, concepts and legal institutions that form the general theory of obligations and contracts. It includes a study of its origins, the juridical relationship, the legal subjects, the obligation, contractual autonomy, the classification of different kind of obligations and their legal consequences, the extinction of the obligation, legal capacity to contract, object and cause, consent vices, lesion, offer and acceptance, interpretation of contracts, rights and obligations of contracting parties, confirmation, and ratification. Theory of unjust enrichment.

Pre-requisite: Property Law.

L-201 Administrative Law – 3 credits

Study of the origins, development, organization, and powers of the governmental agencies; constitutional, legislative, and judicial principles that protect the citizens in the administrative venue. Analysis of the doctrines of judicial review, maturity, exhaustion of remedies, primary jurisdiction, and capacity to litigate. Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I

L-303 Torts – 3 credits

Basic study of the concept of tort civil liability y its constitutive elements: the fault, the damage, and their causal relationship; also covered id the underlying premises of objective responsibility and the opposable defenses.

L-205 Civil Procedure – 4 credits

Study of the theoretical underpinnings and basic doctrines in the adjudication in civil procedure. Emphasis is made in the general characteristics and problems of civil procedure to solve disputes, and the constitutional and statutory principles that define it.

L-104B Constitutional Law II – 3 credits

Study of constitutional rights such as due process of law, certain economic rightstakings, contracts; equal protection of the law; freedom of expression and religious liberty.

Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I

L-204 Successions – 3 credits

Study of concepts, principles and basic legal institutions that govern the transmission of property due to death, by will or not, heirs' rights, validity and efficacy of wills, introduction to judicial procedures for solving inheritance controversies, principles and consequences of the partition of the inheritance, and the trust.

Pre-requisites: Family and Personal Law and Obligations and Contracts.

L-206 Evidence – 4 credits

The study of rules that govern the admissibility of evidence in judicial proceedings. Study of those procedural rules related to the presentation of evidence and with the determination of the sufficiency of the proof to establish a fact.

Pre-requisite: Criminal Procedure.

L-301A Mortgage Law – 4 credits

Introductory study of the principles of the Registry of Property, including the mortgage, the institution of the Registry of Property and the registration process, study of the mortgage contract, its relationship with the pledge contract and the foreclosure proceedings; analysis of the economical and juridical function of the mortgage.

Pre-requisite: Successions

L-306 Trial Advocacy – 3 credits

Developments of cognitive skills that allow the student to learn from experience. Emphasis is placed in the development of technique for interrogatories, both direct examination and cross examination, offer of evidence and oral argumentation. The principal clinical method utilized is the simulation.

Pre-requisites: Evidence, Civil Procedure.

L-108 Professional Responsibility (Ethics)– 2 credits

Study in an integrated manner of the ethical responsibilities in legal practice, in different functions and aspects. Analysis of the lawyers' rules of conduct in their relationship with society, clients, courts and colleagues.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Required courses

103 Puerto Rico Legal History– 2 credits

Study in an integrated manner of the historical origins of the institutions that make up the legal order in Puerto Rico. Beginning with Rome, it examines the expansion of this legal system towards Spain and its interaction with Germanic law in the Iberian Peninsula, and later with the "Derecho Indiano". A more detailed study is made of the adaptation of Spanish law to the circumstances in Puerto Rico in the XIX century and its interaction with the common law since 1898 and how it has shaped Puerto Rican law.



COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L – 800 Workshop: Introduction to the Bar Exam – 2 credits

This course-workshop is intended to familiarize the students with the process of admission to the legal and notarial practice in Puerto Rico. It is not a refresher course on substantive law. Rather, it is a workshop intended to orient students on aspects such as requirements for admission to the practice of law and the bar exams, and contains an important practical component on how to answer essay and multiple-choice questions.

L-112 Advanced Family and Personal Law – 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Person and Family Law may be offered.

L-112A Advanced Family and Personal Law: Comparative Family and Personal Law – 3 credits

Study of the legislation of families and its evolution in different countries. The diverse forms and solemnities of matrimony, differences in their pre-requisites and manner of celebration; different aspects of personal relationships between spouses; multiples economic regimes in matrimony; diverse causes and effects of nullity, dissolution of the matrimony by mutual consent and in some cases unilaterally; the actual legal concept of guardianship, the various forms of organizing tutelage; familiar matrimony through legislation in different countries. In accordance to the course plan, it could concentrate in the study of legislation and social policy that indirectly attempts to regulate or have impact on persons and the family. Pre-requisite: Family Law.

L-440A The Person and the Family Law Seminar – 3 credits

A detailed discussion on the legal aspects of the problems facing the family and its members in a modern society. The legal regulation of the family, which is in continuous change. Pre-requisite: Family Law.

L-308 Advanced Torts – 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Tort Law may be offered. Pre-requisite: Torts.

L-308C Torts Seminar- 3 credits

In depth study of specific themes in Tort Law such as intentional fault, the concept of negligence, the concept of damages, proof of fault, dangerous attraction, employer-employee relationship, the private contractor, the principle of sovereign immunity, the responsibility of charitable entities. Pre-requisite: Torts.

L-113 Advanced Property Law- 1 to 4 as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Property Law may be offered. Pre-requisites: Property Law.

L-113 Advanced Property Law: Horizontal Property Law – 3 credits

In depth study of the general theory and legal nature of horizontal property, its historical origins and modern development. Study of the creation of the condominium regime, the recording in the Registry of Property of the main deed and the individual apartment deeds, powers and obligations of the Owners Council, communal elements, the administration of the condominium and insurance; rules and regulations regarding the use of the apartments and the communal elements; the challenge to communal agreements; dispute resolution between owners and the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Pre-requisite: Property Law.

L-113C Advanced Property Law: Intellectual Property - 3 credits

In depth study of the Federal Copyright Law and the Spanish Law on Intellectual Property. Application and reach of both laws in our jurisdiction and its effects on the rights of authors with regards to books, pamphlets speeches, theater works, opera, movies, television productions, work for hire, musical production and scores, tapes. Work of art in libraries, computer programs, paintings, sculptures and other. Pre-requisite: Property Law.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-109B Advanced Property Law: Trademarks and Patents - 3 credits

This course is designed for students without experience or prior knowledge in the field of Intellectual Property. It concentrates in the study of basic areas of Intellectual Property such as: copyright, trademarks, and commercial secrets. It examines the fundamental principles of these laws, their underlying policy principles and how these laws interact between them. The course focuses on the protection of property rights of inventions, writings, creative expression, software, commercial secrets, and other intellectual productions protected by Patent Law, Copyright, Trademark and legislation on unfair business practices.

Pre-requisite: Property Law.

L-113E Property Law Seminar - 3 credits

In depth study of various property concepts on real property, means of acquisition, possession, accession, statutes of limitations, easements, usufructs, condominium, and special statutes limiting property rights.

Pre-requisite: Property Law.

L-113 Advanced Obligations and Contracts - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Obligations and Contracts may be offered.

Pre-requisite: Obligations and Contracts.

L-114A Special Contracts - 3 credits

In depth study of special contracts that are typified in the Civil Code. It examines the following contracts: sales/purchase, lease, agency, surety, pledge, transaction, loan, option, primes to sell/purchase, the quasi contract, joint venture, borrowing, life rent and donations.

Pre-requisite: Obligation and Contracts.

L-114E Obligations and Contracts Seminar-3 credits

Critical study of the theories and sources, legal consequences, modifications and extinction of obligations and contracts.

Pre-requisite: Obligations and Contracts

L-210 Advanced Successions Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Successions may be offered.

Pre-requisite: Successions.

L-210C Successions Seminar - 3 credits

In depth study of the different legal institutions pertaining to Successions. Also, critical analysis of Puerto Rico's Successions in contemporary society. Pre-requisite: Successions.

L-309 Advanced Mortgage Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Mortgage Law may be offered.

Pre-requisite: Mortgage Law

L-309B Registry of Property Workshop - 2 credits

Specialized workshop in which an in-depth analysis of different aspects of the Mortgage Law will be made. The specific course plan for the semester may cover different mortgage procedures such as: domain procedure, priority reservation request, sales price deferment under express conditional resolution, surface rights, new recordings, recording of option to purchase, domain certification, contradictory proceedings, procedure for rectification of land size, requalification pleadings, governmental recourse.

Pre-requisite: Mortgage Law.

L-600 Registry of Property Seminar- 3 credits

In depth study of different areas of the Mortgage Law. Themes will be discussed in preparation of a legal research and writing work.

Pre-requisite: Mortgage Law.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-302A Notarial Law - 3 credits

Introductory study of the differences between the Latin notary and the Anglo-American notary and of the origin of Puerto Rico's Notarial Law and its place in the Latin notary universe. Study of the duties of the notary and the consequences in case of breach. It includes the study of the notarial public instruments and the causes and effects for its nullity, the principles, rules, and concepts that affect the drafting of the most common notarial instruments and an analysis of its legal consequences.

Pre-requisite: Registry of Property Law.

L-342A Commercial Law and Negotiable instruments. 4 credits

Study of the rules governing commercial transactions in comparison to the rules in civil transactions. Study of the legislation on civil and commercial partnerships and other suggested by the case law such as limited partnerships. The partnership is studied as an alternative or complement to the corporation. Basic study of the Law governing Negotiable Instruments, including the most common in the transfer of goods, obligations and rights of the subscribing parties, validity and nullity of commercial instruments, formalities and endorsements.

Pre-requisite: Obligations and Contracts.

L-555 Advanced Commercial Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved.

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Commercial Law may be offered.

Pre-requisite: Obligations and Contracts.

L-115 Advanced Criminal Law - 1 a 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Criminal Law may be offered.

-115A Advanced Criminal Law: Special Criminal Laws - 2 credits

Study of the criminal laws, with emphasis in the Arms Law, Vehicle and Transit Law, Controlled Substances Law. The case law is examined with regards to these laws and the constitutional doctrines regarding privacy and due process rights. The course includes a historical and sociological perspective.

Pre-requisite: Criminal Law.

L-116 Advanced Constitutional Law - 1 a 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Constitutional Law may be offered.

L- 116 Q Advanced Constitutional Law: Constitutional Problem in the movies - 3 credits

This course examines specialized areas in Constitutional Law, using as a point of departure different movies and supplemental readings, which will provoke the consideration of them. The first day of class will be to select the areas to be discussed and to select the movies that will be object of study through the semester.

Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I

L-104 I Advanced Constitutional Law: Mass Media Law - 2 credits

This course analyzes the application of law to written, radio and television media. The course is divided in four parts. The first part is about freedom of expression and freedom of the press in Puerto Rico and the United States. The second part is about the civil liability of the media in libel and defamation case, invasion of privacy, and copyright infringement. The third part is about the right of the press (written, radio and television) to access information, public records, and judicial proceedings. It also covers how and when the State can require information from the press and the privileges of the news persons. Finally, the fourth part is specifically about broadcast journalism.

Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-410 Federal Jurisdiction - 3 credits

Study of the Constitutional and statutory principles for the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts, the trial by jury in civil cases, the conflicts between State and Federal Courts, with special attention centered on the special relation that Puerto Rico has within the federal system.

Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I

L-483 Advanced Federal Jurisdiction - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Federal Jurisdiction may be offered.

L-460A Constitutional Law Seminar - 3 credits

In depth study and critical analysis of Federal, State and Puerto Rico Constitutional doctrines to elaborate new theories and doctrines.

Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I and II.

L-211 Advanced Administrative Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Administrative Law may be offered.

L-211B Advanced Administrative Law: Immigration Law - 2 credits

Study of legislation and case law related to immigration regulation. Analysis of the procedures in the United States Immigration and Naturalization Services. It includes discussions on obtaining a visa, permanent residence, exclusion procedures, deportations, administrative and judicial review, and naturalization.

Pre-requisite: Administrative Law

L-302C Advanced Administrative Law: Environmental Law - 2 credits

Basic study of the laws and regulations utilized in the protection of the environment. Study of selected problems in the environmental protection, resources, mining, depletion of coastal sands, environmental pollution.

Pre-requisite: Administrative Law

L-211 J Puerto Rican Environmental Law Seminar - 3 credits

The course aims to study and analyze those areas related to Puerto Rico Environmental Law considering recent experiences in environmental struggles. By environment it is understood that it includes patrimonial, cultural, historic, natural, landscape, planning and security values which protect a community.

L-211G Administrative Law Seminar - 3 credits

In depth study and research of administrative procedures and the functioning of the principal administrative agencies in Puerto Rico, underscoring the degree and ability it has shown to adapt to more modern concepts in Administrative Law. Pre-requisite: Administrative Law

L-202A Labor Law - 4 credits

History of the labor movement and labor legislation in Puerto Rico and the United States. Study of the National Labor Relations Law, The Puerto Rico Labor Relations Law; civil complaints for collective bargaining violations; public policy on arbitration regarding employer-employee.

Pre-requisite: Administrative Law

L-211 Advanced Labor Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Labor Law may be offered.

L-212B Advanced Labor Law: Labor Arbitration - 2 credits

In depth study of arbitration as an integral part of the collective bargaining process; the course focuses on labor disputes through the process of claims and remedies.

Pre-requisite: Labor Law

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-212E Advanced Labor Law: Employment Discrimination - 3 credits

The course introduces the concept of discrimination in the study of Title VI of the Civil Right Law, as well as other local analogous federal and local laws. After exploring the theories of discrimination, and the available procedures and remedies under the statutes, the course discusses principles of statutory interpretation, litigation strategies and the use of statistical methods as evidence. Also, other controversies will be discussed, such as equal pay for equal work, comparable work, sex and gender distinctions in toxic work places and affirmative action quotas. Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I.

L-402 Advanced Social Legislation- 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Social Legislation may be offered.

L-207 Corporate Law - 3 credits

Basic course on Corporate Law, with special reference to the Puerto Rico General Law for Corporations. The course covers the concept of the juridical personhood of the corporation, its promotion, creation and organization, including the intimate and non-profit corporations, capitalization and financing, power and duties distribution among stockholder, directors and officers, the concept of fiduciary duty, creditors rights, transfer of capital stock, dividends, stockholder claims, structural changes, including mergers, consolidations, dissolutions, regulation of foreign corporations and the corporation in criminal law.

L-213 Advanced Corporate Law – 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Corporate Law may be offered.

L-213A Advanced Corporate Law: Corporate Financing- 3 credits

Study of specialized areas in corporate law, including non-profit corporations, the emission and reacquisition of corporate securities, types of corporate securities, types of acquisition studies securities and consolidation, voluntary recapitalizations, dissolutions and liquidations, payment of corporate dividends and the Federal Securities. Pre-requisite: Corporate Law.

L-213C Corporate law Seminar - 3 credits

Study and in-depth research in a related area of Corporate Law, for profit and not for profit. Emphasis is placed on the need to amend the Puerto Rico General Law for Corporation Law. Pre-requisite: Corporate Law.

L-208 Tax Law - 3 credits

Study of the principles of taxation; the power of the State to impose taxes, and their Constitutional limits and authority under the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The problems of the individual taxpayer will be addressed and the basic concepts of brute income, adjusted income, deductions, exemptions and credits, analysis of the problems related to the income attribution and the determination to whom it pertains. Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I.

L-214 Advanced Tax Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Tax Law may be offered.

L-392 Bankruptcy - 3 credits

Study of the Federal Bankruptcy Code; creditors and debtors rights and obligations. Emphasis will be placed in the recognition, analysis and problem solving of the typical cases in this field. Pre-requisites: Obligations and Contracts.

L-310 A Insurance Law - 2 credits

Study of the Puerto Rico Insurance Code. The parts of the insurance contract are studied the duties towards the insured obligations and the different kinds of insurance and financing. The duties and functions of the Insurance Commissioner Office are also covered. Pre-requisites: Obligations and Contracts.

L-363A Public International Law - 3 credits

Study of the principles, rules and treaties that regulate the relations between States and peoples, in war and in peace, and with reference to the international legal organizations; the reciprocal rights and obligations of nations under International Law; analysis of the basic problems facing the community of nations in the contemporary world and the treaties that govern them. Pre-requisites: Constitutional Law I, Obligations and Contracts, Civil Procedure.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-348A International Private Law - 3 credits

Study of the principles and regulations that determine the territorial limits of the law when they are applied to persons, things, events, and legal relationships subject to more than one law. A historical exposition of the different schools and doctrines that treat laws and territorial space, analyzing the principles which have developed over time and their impact on positive law. Possible conflicts of law between the principle legal systems are also covered.

Pre-requisites: Successions, Civil Procedure.

L-371 Advanced International Law - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Public and Private International Law may be offered.

L-371A Advanced International Law: Human Rights- 2 credits

Study of international rules on human rights in civil, political economic, social, and cultural fields. Study of the historical development of the international human rights movement, the principal systems for their protection (United Nations, Inter-American System, European Council), and the procedures for international supervision.

Pre-requisites: Constitutional Law I

L-372 P Advanced International Law: United Nations and its organisms – 3 credits

This course studies how the principal organisms of the United Nations work, with emphasis in the exercise of the delegated authority of the Secretariat, the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the International Court of Justice. In this context, the course promotes the study of the organization as an international peace and security guarantor; as an entity that claim for itself the monopoly on the use of military force; as a body which exercises a fundamental legislative role in the development of rules, in adjudicating and supervising the international relations, and as a generator of international law.

L-420 Theory of Law -3 credits

Study of the nature of Law, its elements and principles as developed through time. Analysis of the basic principles and the characteristics of the different theories and legal doctrines, emphasizing their presence in Western Legal Thought, particularly in Puerto Rico.

L-419 Advanced Jurisprudence - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Jurisprudence may be offered.

L-419A Advanced Social and Legal Theory: Feminist Perspectives - 3 credits

Study of the contributions made by feminist theory and its impact in the structures that shape human relationships, contributions of feminist philosophy to other fields in the Western intellectual tradition with regards

To the confluence in the way we think and express ourselves; notions of free choice and autonomy and its relation to the idea of liberty; and the influence in the private sphere in economic and political social theory.

L-419E Advanced Social and Legal Theory: Law and Social Change - 3 credits

Analysis of contemporary social and legal problems that confront the human being in a mass, urban and technological society; the function of executive processes implementing or hindering social progress.

L-475 Advanced Legal Writing - 3 credits

Specialized study of legal bibliography and research method and analysis. Principal sources of law studied in the basic course may be used to test their characteristics, limits and utility, or to study the particularities of the sources and research methods in a specific field of law; also to study in depth the various research methods.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-476 Legal Research Assistant - 2 credits

Independent study supervised by a professor. The course requires that a report be submitted to the Dean's Office explaining in detailed manner the research project which the student will undertake or in which he/she will participate. The submitted report must be approved by the professor. At the time of grading the supervising professor must submit a written report evaluating the student's work.

L-447A Teaching Assistant I – 2 credits

This course is available to students that have a 3.00 grade point average or a B grade in the course they wish to be a Teacher Assistant. As Teacher Assistant will perform those tasks assigned by the professor, such as tutoring students and other academic and administrative work. The course requires the submittal to the Dean's Office a written report explaining in detail the work to be performed by the student.

L-447B Teaching Assistant II – 2 credits

This course is available to students that have a 3.00 grade point average or a B grade in the course they wish to be a Teacher Assistant. As Teacher Assistant will perform those tasks assigned by the professor, such as tutoring students and other academic and administrative work. A student may not be a Teacher Assistant twice in the same course. The course requires the submittal to the Dean of Academic Affairs Office a written report explaining in detail the work to be performed by the student.

L-501 Law Review I - 2 credits

Initial Law Review Course. It offers the student the opportunity to develop his research, analysis and legal writing skills and to study in depth a particular legal problem. Besides participating in the Law Reviews special events, the student must develop a commentary on judicial opinions or statutes under the supervision of a member of the editorial board and as member of the faculty.

L-502 Law Review II - 2 credits

Law Review Course which offers the student the opportunity to develop his research, analysis and legal writing skills and to independently study in depth a particular legal problem. Besides participating in the Law Reviews special events, the student must develop a commentary on judicial opinions or statutes which has not been developed for the requirement of Law Review I course.

Pre-requisite: Law Review I, with a minimum B grade.

L- 503 Law Review III – 2 credits

Law Review Course which offers the opportunity to independently do a legal research on a particular legal problem of particular interest to the student. Besides the general requirements of the Law Review, the student must draft a commentary on some selected legal area or problem. The student will have the collaboration and guidance of an editor and a member of the faculty.

Pre-requisite: Law Review I and II, with a minimum B grade.

L- 504 Law Review IV - 2 credits

Advanced Law Review Course. Has the same requisite for all members of the Law Review. Also, the student must develop a commentary on an area or a particular legal problem different to the one developed in Law Review III. In exceptional situations of excellent students, and with the consent of the Editorial Board and the Academic Counselor, the student may continue developing a project utilized as a commentary for Law Review III, and may develop it into a complex and profound Law Review article.

Pre-requisite: Law Review I, II and III, with a minimum B grade.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L – 505 Law Review V- 4 credits

Available only for the students selected to be members of the Editorial Board for a full year. The Editor and the Associate Editors will be responsible for the general direction of the Law Review, under the supervision of the Academic Counselor. It is required that the student prepare a research project under the supervision of a member of the faculty. Due to the responsibility this position entails, this is a one year course and credit is not granted for partial compliance with its requisites. Pre-requisite: Law Review I and II, both with an A grade. Prior approval of a minimum of 55 credits; that is a day third year student or an evening fourth year student.

L-418 Sociology of Law - 2 credits

Analysis of the ideological structure of the State; the relationship of the Law with such a structure, the social classes and social change. Application of the predominant value structures in Puerto Rican society to the study of the law, particularly the Civil Code, to judicial opinions, the relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States, and the application of international law to the case of Puerto Rico.

L-338 Law and Literature - 2 credits

Study of literature to analyze the relationship between the literary protagonist and Law in his/hers society. The course guides the student towards an understanding of the law in the context of fiction and Western conceptions of justice and the law as presented in literature. (By previous agreement with the professor).

L-411 Law and Poverty - 3 credits

Examination into the causes and problems of poverty. Analysis of the Welfare State as a strategy to solve the problems of the poor. Consideration of the possibilities of the law as an agent for social change, to affect economic and social inequality, emphasizing the relationship between the poor and government programs, the effect of poverty on the exercise of fundamental rights, the poor's access to the judicial system and the discrimination due to origin or social condition.

Pre-requisites: Constitutional Law I and II.

L-373 Legislative Process- 2 credits

Study of the various theories concerning the process of enactment, value and interpretation of the law; the function and authority of the legislative power; problems in the drafting of statutes and the effect of judicial opinions in their interpretation. Pre-requisite: Constitutional Law I.

L-403 Advanced Civil Procedure - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Civil Procedure may be offered.

L-117 Advanced Criminal Procedure - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Criminal Procedure may be offered.

L-215 Advanced Evidence- 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Evidence may be offered.

L-404 Advanced Professional Practice - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which other courses specializing in Professional Practice may be offered.

L-405 Alternate Methods of Adjudication - 1 to 4 credits as approved

This is a master course under which courses on the theory, doctrine and practice of negotiation, mediation, arbitration and other methods that substitute or complement judicial adjudication may be offered.

L-405B Alternate Methods of Adjudication -3 credits

Studies negotiation as a preventive mechanism to litigation, as well as a method that accompanies and culminates litigation (transaction). It will cover the theory and principles that permeate negotiations as well as developing the necessary skills for taking on such a process.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-405C Alternate Methods of Adjudication: Mediation-3 credits

Studies mediation as an alternate method for the solution of dispute, its nature, its functions and principal charges, the relevance of law and ethical considerations that may be brought up in situations where a lawyer plays a neutral role

L-403 Advanced Civil Procedure: Extraordinary Remedies- 3 credits

This is a basic course which studies certain procedural remedies of extraordinary origin including the injunction, mandamus, habeas corpus, certiorari, inhibitory recourse, declaratory judgements, and the quo warrantors. The historical origins are studied and their importance in the present.

Pre-requisite: Civil Procedure.

L-409 Civil Procedure Workshop - 2 credits

Specialized workshop which aims to study in depth the particularities of our ordinary civil procedure. The course is organized so the student

Performs the necessary steps in an ordinary civil action, from the analysis of the facts and the law prior to initiating litigation, up to the execution of the judgement. It includes drafting of motions, memorandums and other documents.

Pre-requisite: Civil Procedure (or taking it simultaneously with it).

L-410 Civil Procedure Seminar - 3 credits

Seminar that provides the opportunity to research in a theoretical or doctrinal aspect of Civil Procedure. Also studies related areas such as adjudication problems and alternate methods.

L-418A Criminal Procedure Law Seminar - 3 credits

Seminar dedicated to the research and analysis of Criminal Procedure. The student will be able to explore doctrine and theory of our existing criminal procedure and determine the changes that may be required.

Pre-requisite Criminal Procedure.

L-206A Evidence Seminar - 3 credits

Critical study of select problems of the nature of judicial evidence and the contemporary rules of evidence by which the trial procedures are regulated and controversies of fact are judicially adjudicated. Pre-requisite: Evidence

L- 391 A - Cross-Examination Workshop- 2 credits

This course exposes the student to aspects related to the preparation and presentation of witnesses in adjudicative processes. The rules of Evidence will be analyzed and the pertinent procedural rules; the methodology in the preparation for the examination of the witness; tactical consideration in the presentation and management of the witness in its examination and cross-examination; drafting of questions, objections, etc.

L-305A Legal Aid Clinic I - 4 credits

Basic course that has as its principal objective the practice of law under the supervision of a professor specialized in clinical supervision, as required by Rule 11E of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. The student will perform tasks inherent to the practice of the law, such as: client counseling, legal research, use of negotiation and alternate means, drafting legal documents, case preparation, and appearance before court and administrative agencies. The practice will be held in the Legal Aid Office with the collaboration of the Legal Office of Santurce. In determined circumstances a clinical practice may take place outside of the Clinic when it is for public service. The supervision of these external students will be coordinated by The Academic Dean and the Director of the Legal Assistance Clinic.

Pre-requisites: Theory, Doctrine and Litigation Practice.

L-390 Legal Aid Clinic II- 4 credits

An advanced course for those who wish to continue beyond the basic course Clinic I. It allows the student to deepen their clinical experience. The practice continues before courts and administrative agencies under the supervision of professors specialized in clinical supervision, as required by Rule 11E of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico.

Pre-requisite: Legal Assistance Clinic II

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L-306A Tutorial Clinic - 2 credits

Practical course directed exclusively to students in their first and second year; it allows the student to have a clinical experience, internally or externally, under the supervision of a professor. The same rules regarding external clinics will be applied, particularly those in public service. In these cases the student is not authorized to represent clients before any administrative agency or court. The Academic Dean and the Director of the Legal Aid Clinic must approve the practice center. In order for the Tutorial Clinic to be approved there must be a written proposal that describes the work to be performed by the student and the supervision it will receive.

L-1397 Independent Studies - 1-4 credits

This course permits the student to do an independent legal research in a legal area of his/her interest, under the supervision of a professor, with the purpose of submitting a written work. A proposal must be submitted to the Academic Dean explaining the research project that the student will undertake. The registration application must be signed by the supervising professor. At the time of grading the supervising professor must submit an evaluation memorandum on the students work.

L-101D Public Health Law- 2 credits

This course examines the role of the law and its influence in the practice of public health, and how it has been utilized to promote healthier habits and detain the health risks. The course will examine intervention in the area of public health and their consequences on the rights and alternatives open to individuals. The course aims to provide a critical analysis of the role of the law in public health, with an emphasis in the power of the State to regulate health for the benefit of the general health of the community or protected groups. It will also examine the interaction between the law with promotion, prevention and education strategies in the community. The emphasis in the analysis of the public health interventions will integrate basic concepts of bioethics through the assigned exercises.

L-419R Therapeutic Jurisprudence - 2 credits

This course provides the student with a broad and global perspective on the philosophic current known as Therapeutic Jurisprudence. The course will cover its origins, development and how it has spread through the world. The course will focus principally in how criminal practice has enriched this new current and its experiences in the specialized courts such as drug courts and domestic violence.

L-308D Advanced Torts: Medical Malpractice and Hospital Liability- 2 credits

This course reviews of the basic tort law, and then studies the theoretical context in which medical malpractice and medical-hospital malpractice occur. The course will cover the legal rules and the liability elements in medical malpractice, and the legal defenses available to the medical profession. The course also covers the evidentiary rules frequently applied in malpractice cases and the principal rules on expert witnesses. It also covers the federal legislation EMTALA, and the elements of the various kinds of claims brought against hospital, and the legal defenses the medical institutions may rise

L-348D International Private Law: Cyber Law-3 credits

Analysis of the legal issue raised by the internet. Topics will include: internet governance, jurisdiction, regulation of speech, privacy and anonymity, intellectual property, and various e-commerce issues. The topics will be analyzed from various perspectives: as a lawyer representing a client, as a policymaker and as a consumer.

L-201A Advanced Administrative Law: Government Ethics- 2 credits

This course identifies the normative components of Law Number 12 of July 24 of 1985, as amended, known as the Government Ethic Law of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and its regulation, which impact the government decision making process when public funds and property are expended, and how this law contributes to the development of the public and private sector.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L- 403F Federal Motion Practice Advocacy - 3 credits

This course is a comprehensive study and critical evaluation of the principles applicable to the litigation of civil motions in federal courts. The course seeks to appraise the student with realistic expectation and pragmatic understanding and practical experience of pre-trial motion practice. Students will be required to learn, implement and abide by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the local rules of the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and the Federal Rules of Evidence. Students will apply and develop pre litigation strategies and techniques using course materials.

L-403E Federal Trial Advocacy - 4 credits

This course is about trial advocacy. Therefore, the principal learning technique of the course will be learning by doing. The emphasis will be on active student participation in all phases of the trial process, from pre-trial planning through final argument. Although this is not a course in evidence or civil procedure, effective participation in litigation requires detailed knowledge of procedural and evidentiary rules. The Federal Rules of Evidence and Civil Procedure will be the applicable evidentiary and procedural law. Class grades are based on presence, punctuality, participation, preparation, individual and group performance and effectiveness.

L - 211 A Consumer Law – 2 credits

Analysis of the Puerto Rican and federal legislation and regulations applicable to the protection of the consumer class. It includes an examination of the evolution of the consumer concept and its variants, according to the statutory scheme and the jurisprudential trajectory; of the powers of the Department of Consumer Affairs and its trajectory of implantation as a quasi-judicial authority.

L - 1043 Advanced Constitutional Law: Freedom of Expression, Protest, Art and Censorship – 2 credits

In this course we will discuss the right to freedom of expression in detail. We will critically analyze the ways in which the state responds to expressions that disturb (protest, art, etc.).

Prerequisites: 104C Constitutional Law I and 104D Constitutional Law II.

L - 107 M Family Law in Private International Law – 2 credits

The course will introduce the student to the most common Family Law controversies in Private International Law. The course will study the topics of Patrimonial Aspects and Economic Regime, Divorce, Alimony, the Determination of Custody and Parental Rights and Legal Abduction of Children.

Prerequisite: Personal and Family Law.

L - 115 L Advanced Criminal Law: International Criminal Law – 2 credits

The main theme of the course is Humanitarian Law. It will begin with an introduction to public international law, followed by a discussion of the regulation of military conflicts. Special emphasis will be given to the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials. The Rome Statute and the creation of the International Criminal Court will also be studied. The course will culminate with a discussion of terrorism and the military commissions created by the United States. Prerequisite: L 105 - Criminal Law.

L - 109 F Fair Use of Copyrighted Works – 2 credits

The course will study the doctrine and modalities of the Fair Use defense when using works protected by current copyright law.

Prerequisite: Torts

L - 115 N Advanced Trial Law: Jury Trials – 2 credits

This course covers all stages of a jury trial. It discusses the origins and sources of law of the jury trial. All the rules of criminal procedure that govern this process in Puerto Rico are studied and discussed. The routine stages of the jury trial are discussed, such as the voir dire, theory and reports to the jury, instructions, deliberation and verdicts. It also discusses other exceptional figures such as the dissolution of the jury and peremptory acquittal, among others. In addition, at the end of the course the student will be able to identify and learn to handle special procedural situations that arise in the litigation of these cases. The course will be developed through lectures and visual resources.

Prerequisite: L 106 Criminal Procedure.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L - 113 A Advanced Property Law: Condominium Property Law – 2 credits

This course pursues the study of the Horizontal Property Regime, the figures, principles and guiding sources of the same. The student will study in depth the Condominium Law, Law No. 103 of April 5, 2003, as amended, the Regulation on Condominiums No. 6728, Department of Consumer Affairs, November 26, 2003, and the interpretative jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico on the subject. The course will contain a theoretical part, and practical exercises in which the student will represent one of the members of the Regimen.

Prerequisite: Property Law

L - 105 C Advanced Criminal Law: Mental Incapacity – 2 credits

Course directed to the study and analysis of the defenses of imputability due to mental incapacity and transitory mental disorder (TMD); and those of reduced or diminished imputability due to voluntary intoxication and mental abnormality (mental illness and mental defect), and reduced or diminished capacity to deny the mens rea or actus reus at the time of the act. The authors identify other defenses contained in the new Penal Code, in which psychological or psychiatric expert evidence may be presented to establish them. The study of these defenses in the investigative and judicial phase integrates the substantive, procedural, evidentiary and medical-psychiatric aspects, with special attention to the applicable litigation practice and strategies. The course is structured mainly from the defense attorney's perspective.

Prerequisite: Criminal Law.

L - 212 D Advanced Labor Law: Wage and Hour Law – 3 credits

Study and analysis of federal and state labor protective legislation with emphasis on the payment of wages and benefits in Puerto Rico and the United States. Particular interest will be given to the study of overtime pay under the Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, the Applicable Federal Regulations, their interaction with Puerto Rican law and case law developments.

L - 206 E Seminar on Scientific Evidence – 3 credits

Seminar dedicated to the investigation and analysis of various topics in Criminal Procedure Law. The student will explore issues of doctrine or theory of our current criminal procedure and the need for changes to it.

Prerequisite: Criminal Procedure

L - 371 C International Law Seminar: Current Issues in International Law – 3 credits

The aim of the seminar is, through critical analysis, to study and discuss relevant current issues in L - international considering their historical, social and geopolitical background. Among the topics to be discussed are self-determination, sovereignty and climate change, international organizations (UN/EU/Brexit) and international criminal law.

L - 3711 C Human Rights and the Environment – 2 credits

This course aims to address the intersections between environmental degradation and protection and the realization of human rights. It is designed to foster transdisciplinary thinking in students, starting from the analysis of international, regional and national instruments, to recognize the connections between the issues we often designate as environmental and human rights. It also seeks to use the conceptual framework of human rights to analyze generally unequal power relations and their implications for environmental degradation and access to resources.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L - 3711D International Law: 911 and Homeland Security – 2 credits

Following the terrorist attacks of September 2001, the war on terrorism changed the landscape of the United States and the world. This course will address the development of policy and jurisprudence since 911 and its implications. The course will provide an overview of the legal and public policy perspective related to U.S. homeland security. Topics to be discussed will include: the applicable international framework for warfare, the constitutional authorities of the U.S. President, Congress and the Judicial Branch. In addition, the student will discuss and the student will comment and debate contemporary news issues such as: privacy in times of social networks, U.S. military and intelligence operations in the world, and their impact on human rights and the effects of natural disasters such as Hurricane Marfa, in this field, interventions in electoral processes. At the end of the course, the student will have an overview of U.S. national security and its relationship with Puerto Rico and the world.

L - 107 I Theory of Law: Advocacy and Social Movements – 2 credits

This course aims to study the relationship between lawyers and social movements. We will critically analyze the literature related to the challenges and possibilities that lawyers have when working together with social movements. We will reflect on the role of women lawyers in the formation and support of social movements, with an emphasis on the work done in Puerto Rico, other Latin American countries and the United States of America.

L - 101 C Law and Religion – 2 credits

This course approaches the study, in a general way, of the concepts, ideas, philosophical foundations, the historical relationship and the interaction between Law and Religion in the current environment of humanity, with special emphasis on the western world. Students will actively participate in the discussion and investigation of the complex problems that arise in the clash of views of religion and law on issues such as: freedom of worship, relationship between State and Religion, separation of State and Religion and a host of political, theological, historical and sociological problems.

L - 418 G Federal Appellate Workshop – 2 credits

This course introduces students to the federal appellate process (including appellate jurisdiction, appellate standards of review, appellate rules and procedure) the advocate's role on it, the legal and strategic decisions the advocate must make, and the tools necessary to carry out those decisions. Among the tools are the general principles of form and persuasive argumentation and legal reasoning on appellate briefs.

L114 T Workshop on drafting documents and contracts – 2 credits

The course will consist of getting to know the essential and formal elements of documents frequently used in the legal profession. We will deal with the drafting of legal documents in the civil, criminal and notarial fields.

L - 420 D Legal Hermeneutics – 2 credits

This is a course under Advanced Legal Theory. It studies the philosophic foundations of legal hermeneutics, its phenomenological, epistemological and historical assumptions and context. The course will study the different theoretical currents that inform the practice of legal interpretation such as the XIX century historical school, the debate between E. Betti and H.G. Gadamer, the L - and Literature movement, originalism, deconstruction, among others. The course will also cover the principles and rules governing Constitutional, Statutory and Contractual interpretation.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L - 114 HH Obligations and Contracts Advanced (Civil Liability for Construction Defects) – 2 credits

Study of the civil consequences of the existence of construction defects in buildings, both in local and comparative law. It will examine, among others, the applicable provisions of the Civil Code of 2020 as well as those of the Civil Code of Puerto Rico ed. of 1930 and consumer protection legislation such as the Construction Official's Act. It will also examine the scientific and jurisprudential doctrine developed around the imposition of liability on professionals such as engineers, architects and contractors or builders, among others. This is a subsidiary course created under the umbrella of Advanced Obligations and Contracts, which is described in the Juris Doctor Program Catalog as follows: "This is a parent course under which courses may be offered on specialized topics in the areas of the Law of Obligations and the Law of Contracts."

Prereq: Obligations and Contracts

L - 441 B Intestate Succession Workshop – 2 credits

This workshop will provide a practical explanation of the probate procedures and non-contentious matters in the notary's office, for testate and intestate succession in accordance with the new Civil Code of Puerto Rico. Among the documents that will be discussed are: the open will, the declaration of heirs, the issuance of letters testamentary, the holographic will, the request to the registry and the partition of the inheritance.

Prerequisite: Successions Law

L - 403 M Mediation & Arbitration Practice & Advocacy – 3 credits

Today many business and employment disputes are resolved through out-of-court binding arbitration processes. This intensive, interactive course is designed to provide students with a practical grounding in counseling and advocacy skills required for state-of-the-art arbitration practice through problems and exercises simulating common arbitration scenarios in which students play the parts of lawyers, arbitrators and parties. Students learn how to draft dispute resolution agreements for arbitration and how to advise clients on many different aspects of arbitration, including the suitability of arbitration as an alternative to negotiation, mediation or litigation. They also experience advocacy roles at all stages of arbitration, including the filing of an arbitration demand, the selection of arbitrators, planning for and conducting hearings, the publication of a final decision (award), and the enforcement or setting aside of an award. The course emphasizes modern commercial and employment arbitration in the U.S. but also includes references to international, consumer, securities and labor arbitration. The class ends with students participating in an actual arbitration of a matter. This course also builds upon and augments the basics of mediation theory and practice through an indepth examination of selected aspects of the process. Students expand and refine their skills as mediators by addressing topics such as dealing with difficult parties, overcoming impasse, mediating with large numbers of participants, responding to media in a mediation, using a decision-tree analysis, and employing counterintuitive and "mindful" mediation strategies. Controversial ethical issues and public policy concerns, such as the limits of confidentiality and expectations of procedural fairness, are also explored through complex scenarios. The personal qualities of a mediator and central components integral to a professional mediation practice are examined, together with suggestions for marketing, managing and building a successful practice. Students will also practice mediations in class.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Elective courses

L - 373 N Legislative Process and Reform: A Critical Approach to its Transformation – 2 credits

The course presents an overview of the constitutional development of the Legislative Branch and the main democratic problems, in order to and the main democratic problems, to promote their discussion and suggest solutions to overcome them. The topics addressed are: the origin of the separation of powers; the structural and constitutional mutations of the Legislative Branch; and the main democratic problems. Is it possible to reform the Legislative Branch; the exceptional procedures for constitutional reform in Puerto Rico; which specific aspects should be reformed and why; a critical evaluation of the forms of citizen participation in the legislative process; understanding the legislative procedure and proposing changes to it that will tend to a greater guarantee of citizen participation and influence.

L - 420 W Environmental Law and Justice – 2 credits This course explores the considerations of class, gender and race that cut across environmental issues, analyzing the concept of environmental justice as a social movement, practice and methodology of law.

L - 378 Advanced General Litigation – 2 credits

The course aims to expose the student to the cognitive practice of litigation theory and to delve into certain topics in greater depth than is typical in the basic litigation course. The objective is to develop litigation skills in the student through controlled and supervised simulations. Through a series of exercises that stimulate the development of skills related to motions and witness examination, students will learn to argue for and against the admissibility of evidence at trial, including the sociology of litigation, pragmatic disinstruction, motions in limine, advanced witness examination skills, the use of exhibits, the use of technology at trial, and other topics for effective litigation.

L - 218 Puerto Rico before Congress: An Updated Approach to Decolonization – 2 credits

The course aims to update the debate on the political status of Puerto Rico in the face of new developments in the U.S. Congress. Students will have the opportunity to review the historical development of the case of Puerto Rico as an unincorporated territory of the United States. Emphasis will be given to the unfinished developments in the U.S. Congress from the end of the last century to the present. We will evaluate and compare the legislative measures currently being evaluated by Congress. We will analyze the initiatives that could emerge from Puerto Rico to address the issue of the political status of the country.

COURSES DESCRIPTION | Other elective courses

L - 404 K Robotics Law and Policy

L - 420 T Constitutional Hermeneutics Seminar

L - 346 C Bitcoin Law

L - 104 U Advanced Constitutional Law: Separation of Powers

L - 201 H Judicial Ethics

L - 202B Advanced Professional Practice: Health in the Profession

L - 419 1 Advanced Legal Theory: Connecting Identities and Rights: Women, LGBTTI, Race, Functional Diversity and others

L - 105 E Biolaw

L - 372 H Advanced International Law: Law of the European Union

L - 116 S Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar

L - 115 M Criminal Law Seminar: Corruption

L - 210 D Seminar on Comparative Inheritance: Civil Code and New Trends

L - 362 B Juvenile Workshop: Juvenile Offenders, Juvenile Victims

L - 107 K Family Law Workshop: Domestic Violence

L - 418 B Criminal Procedure Workshop

L - 303 H Workshop to Prepare for the Bar: Tort Liability

L - 104 P Advanced Constitutional Law Seminar: Freedom of Expression

L - 418 H Criminal Procedure Law Seminar: Preliminary Hearing

L - 115 V Health and Human Rights

L - 115 R Advanced Criminal Law: Federal Criminal Procedure and Evidence

L - 113 K Video Game Law

L - 308 I Tort Liability: Special Laws

L - 108 G Ethics and Social Networking

L - 373 N Process and Legislative Reform: A Critical Approach to its Transformation

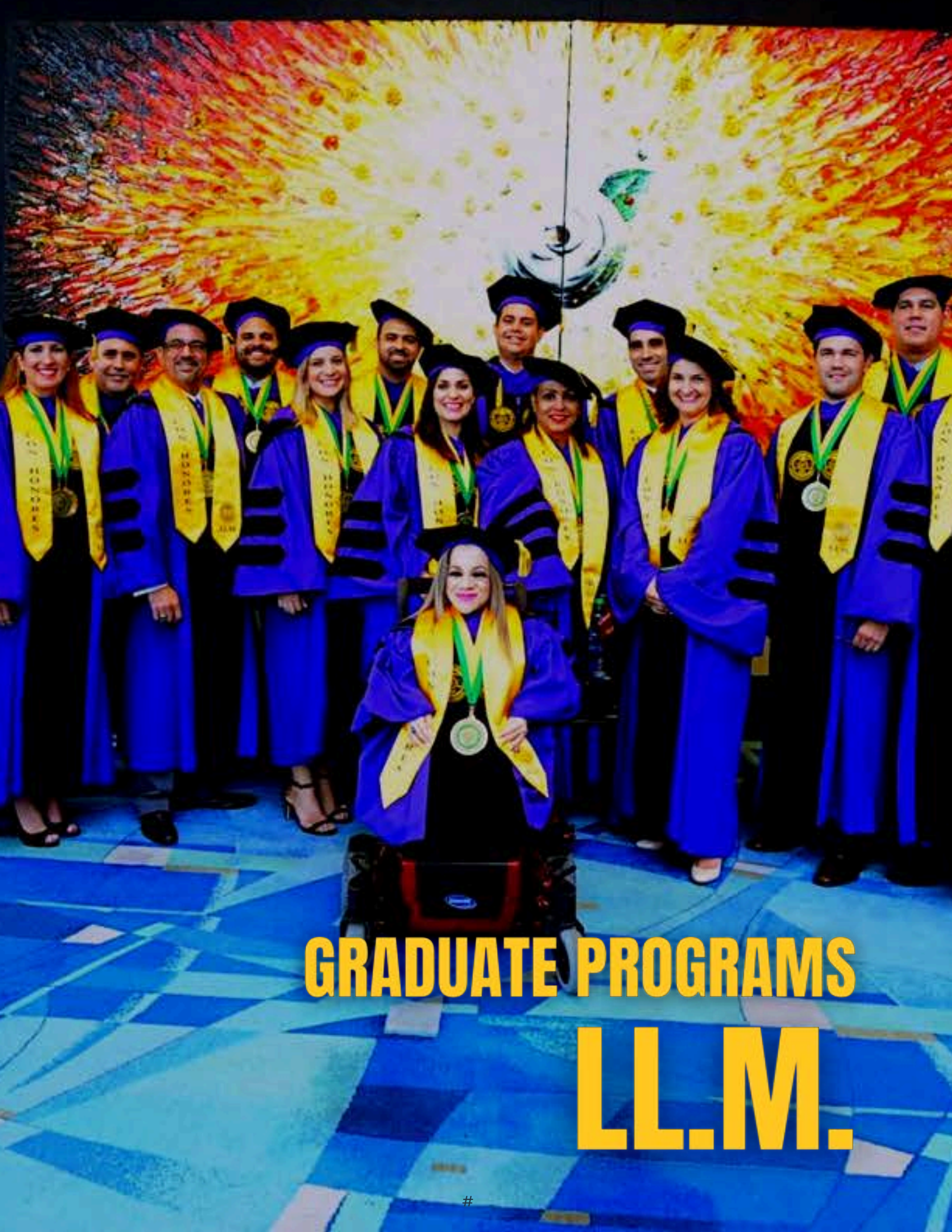
L - 460A Seminar on Advanced Constitutional Law: Access to Information

L - 211 J Seminar Environmental Law

L - 420 R Gender, Sex, Sexuality and the Law

L - 104H Civil Rights

L - 100 M Advanced Constitutional Law: Constitutional Reforms



GRADUATE PROGRAMS
LL.M.





**MASTER OF LAW IN
LITIGATION AND
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**



Master's Degree in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (LL.M)

Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution

The Master's Degree in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution seeks to help lawyers better represent their clients in the various adjudicative forums. The master's curriculum is designed to address areas that require more proficiency in forensic practice, in all its facets, and in developing and perfecting negotiating skills. In this sense, the program responds to the contemporary needs of the practice of the profession. The curriculum will include forensic courses, which will employ simulations and practical exercises to develop the competencies, and traditional courses, which will theoretically contextualize the practice of litigation and alternative methods.

To obtain this LL.M degree, the student must meet the following requirements: Complete 24 credits, of which 15 credits should be in the first area (Litigation or ADR) and 9 credits on the second area.

Admission

All applicants to the LL.M. in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution must have a J.D. degree from a law school accredited by the Section for Legal Education and admission to the Bar from the American Bar Association (A.B.A.) or, in the case of foreign students, a bachelor's degree in Law, at the time of beginning their master's studies. All applicants must have shown excellent performance during their J.D. or Law degree.

Applicants for admission to the master program must apply to the Office of Admissions, and meet the following requirements:

1. Apply no later than June if applying to begin in August, no later than November if planning to begin in January. The application must be accompanied by a non-refundable check or money order for \$63.00 payable to InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico.
2. Provide an official transcript copy from all universities or institutions the candidate did his Juris Doctor Degree or the equivalent.
3. Submit negative criminal record certificate issued by the Police Department of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or of the Police Department of the applicant's place of residence.
4. Submit two recommendation letters.
5. Submit an essay where explains how studying in the Program would contribute positively to his professional career.

Submit evidence, of being admitted to the practice of the legal profession. If the applicant is not admitted, then he or she must demonstrate competence and aptitude in the forensic area.

Master's Degree in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (LL.M)

Rules and Procedures

The academic standards of the J.D. will be extendable to the LL.M. program, in addition to the following dispositions.

Evaluation

LL.M. students will not be able to take "Pass / Not pass" courses. Credit will be granted for courses passed with A or B. Requests for correction and re-evaluation of grades will be governed by the procedures provided for the J.D. program. The evaluation method for each course will be indicated in the syllabus and will depend on the nature of the course. Among the evaluation methods are simulations, practical exercises, drafting legal and other documents, and exams. The active participation of the student is a requirement of all courses and is a fundamental criterion of evaluation.

Honors

LL.M. students with a cumulative index of no less than 3.5 GPA will be granted the degree "with honors".

Readmission

A student who fails to enroll in one or more semesters must request readmission to the Program Director to continue their studies.

Class Attendance

The School of Law requires regular attendance to class. It is the student's responsibility to comply with this requirement. Each student is responsible for the course content during any absence and is obligated to keep up to date with the class work, as assigned by the professor. In the evaluation of the students' performance and in the final grade, professors may take into consideration any irregular attendance or tardiness.

The University sets the date to report if a student never attended courses during the first three (3) weeks from the start of classes, according to the semester academic/administrative calendar or its equivalent for other academic terms.

The withdrawal date (UW) for a student who stops attending class corresponds to the last date the student participated in an academic activity related to the course. The professor must document the student's participation and attendance at this last academic activity.

Graduation

To obtain the LL.M degree, the student must complete the following requirements:

1. Complete 24 credits, of which 15 credits will be from the LL.M. specialized area, and nine credits in the second area.

a. The LL.M. student may take up to a maximum of nine credits in advanced courses of the J.D. program, with the prior approval of the Program Director.

b. Residency in the program will be required for a minimum of two consecutive semesters, obtaining an academic index of no less than 3.0. Full-time students will take no less than nine credits and up to a maximum of 12 credits per semester. Full-time students are expected to complete the curriculum courses within one academic year.

c. Part-time students will take no less than four credits and up to a maximum of eight credits per semester. Part-time students are expected to complete the curriculum courses within two years.

d. No greater or lesser credit load will be allowed in the aforementioned program without the authorization of the Program Director and the Dean of Academic Affairs. All students, whether full-time or part-time, must complete the requirements of the degree within three years after beginning their master's studies. After these three years have passed without having finished the studies, the passed courses will expire and will have no value towards obtaining the master's degree.

2. Any student who, at the end of a semester, has less than 3.00 GPA will be suspended from the master's program. To be readmitted, the student must spend a semester out of the program and request readmission, stating the reasons that justify that he or she be allowed to return to the program. The Director of the Program together with the Dean and the Dean of Academic Affairs will decide whether to grant the requested readmission.

Master's Degree in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (LL.M)

This degree does not require a curricular sequence; all courses are "self-standing." To complete the degree, students must earn twenty-four (24) credits chosen from the academic offerings, in no particular order. The program specializes in two (2) areas of study, namely, "litigation" and "alternative dispute resolution methods." Students choose a primary area of study between the two and accumulate fifteen (15) credits in the primary and nine (9) credits in the secondary. In addition, students may take up to a maximum of nine (9) credits in advanced courses from the Juris Doctor program in any of the two (2) areas of study.

COURSES DESCRIPTIONS

L-700 Litigation - 3 credits

The course will develop the necessary skills to conduct a trial before the civil, criminal, and administrative forum in a professional and effective manner. Through practical exercises and simulations, followed by a critical analysis by the teacher, the student will learn to present persuasive arguments in the various stages of the process; develop skills to carry out direct examination and cross-examination of witnesses in an effective manner, and develop the necessary techniques to present evidence of any nature. Through practical exercises, the student will also become more aware of the ethical, procedural and evidential aspects of the litigious process. The course will emphasize practical solutions to the most frequent problems faced by the litigating lawyer in the presentation of their case. At the end of the course the student must conduct a simulated case from beginning to end before a judge or before an experienced trial lawyer.

L-702 Criminal Litigation in the stages before the trial - 3 credits

The course comprehends the stages prior to the trial in its merits in a criminal case. Students will serve as prosecutors or defense attorneys during the pre-trial process. The practical exercises start from the arrest and preliminary investigation. Students will conduct preliminary judicial proceedings, such as determining the cause for the arrest, setting bail, and discovery of evidence, hearings, and motions to suppress evidence, preliminary hearings, and plea bargains.

L-705 Professional Responsibility in Adjudication and Negotiation - 3 credits

The course addresses the ethical and professional responsibility considerations that come into play in litigation processes and negotiation. The ethical

standards that govern these processes will be examined. Each session will address a hypothetical situation about one or more ethical problems. In each situation, the lawyer's responsibility towards the client and towards the adjudicative process will be analyzed and discussed.

L-707 Advanced Evidence Law - 3 credits

Explores how the Rules of Evidence can be used to present a case in an effective and persuasive manner. The course includes a review of the theory and philosophy of the rules of evidence; discusses the scope of the lawyer-client privilege rules in the context of litigation in the field of corporate and governmental law; common defense agreements; expert evidence; evidence of character and challenge of witnesses, among other topics.

L-704 Alternate Methods to the Award: Negotiation - 3 credits

Analysis of negotiation techniques, verbal and non-verbal communication, and other factors that influence the communications during negotiation processes. Introduction to the different theories of negotiation and its principles.

L-706 International Dispute Resolution - 3 credits

Examination and simulation of complex cases in the field of international law. International jurisprudence, treaties and conventions will be studied. Disputes regarding jurisdiction, selection of forum, applicable law, conflict of laws and comity will be analyzed. Students will work in groups preparing motions, gathering evidence, conducting interviews and depositions of witnesses and experts, presenting arguments, and carrying out direct examinations and cross-examinations.

Master's Degree in Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution (LL.M)

Advanced J.D. Program Courses Approved for LL.M. Students

L-483 Advanced Federal Jurisdiction and Practice - 3 credits

This mastercourse will providethe means to organize advanced courses on the jurisdiction of the federal judicial system and its particular procedures.

L-403 Advanced Civil Litigation - 3 credits

This is a matrix course that can be used to offer specialized courseson different aspectsof civil procedural law.

L-117 Advanced CriminalProcedural Law - 3 credits

This is a matrix course that can be used to offer specialized courseson different aspectsof the criminal process.

L-215 Advanced Evidence Law - 3 credits

This is a matrix course under which courseson specific topics of Evidence may be offered.

L-215A Advanced Evidence Law: Witness Testimony- 3 credits

This course examines the theory, doctrineand practice of the interrogation of witnesses in civil and criminal cases; it delves deeper into the rules relatedto the examination of witnesses; it includes particularities about the interrogation of experts, law enforcement officersand other witnesses. Prerequisite: Evidence Law.

L-404 Advanced Professional Practice - 3 credits

This is a matrix course under which courses on specialized topics on the practice of the profession can be offered.

L-405 Alternative Methods to the Adjudication - 3 credits

This master course will be used to offer courses on the theory,doctrine and practiceof negotiation, mediation, arbitration and other methods that substitute or complement adjudication as a legal way to address conflicts among individuals or groups.

L-405B Alternative Methodsto Adjudication: Mediation- 4 credits

This course examines mediationas an alternative mechanism for dispute resolution, its nature, its functions and main positions (cargos principals), the relevance of the law and the ethical considerations that may be present in situations where the lawyerplays a "neutral" role.

L-115D Seminar on Scientific Evidence- 3 credits

Seminar dedicatedto research and analysis of various topics on Criminal Procedure Law. The student may explore topics related to doctrine and theory of our current criminal procedure, and the need for changes. Prerequisite: Criminal Procedure Law

L-115B Comparative CriminalProcedure Law - 3 credits

The course examines the criminal procedures of America, Europe, Africa and Asia. It will begin with an introduction to Criminal ProcedureLaw, particularly to the characteristics of the accusatory and inquisitive models. Subsequently, several treaties and international standards will be discussed, where the characteristics and minimum guarantees that every criminal process must contain will be analyzed. The course delves into the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the standards established by the United Nations Organization. The course will continue to discuss the criminal procedural law of Spain, England,China, Israel, Germany, France, Italy, Argentina, South Africa and Russia.



**MASTER OF LAW IN
NOTARIAL AND REAL
PROPERTY REGISTRY LAW**



Master's Degree in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law (LL.M)

General description

The goal of the Master's Degree in **Notarial and Real Property Registry Law** is to promote professional, social and ethical growth of public notaries in the face of the information and technological developments of the 21st century; in line with the mission, vision, goals and objectives of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law.

At the end of their studies, graduates of this program must demonstrate:

- Theoretical, practical and historical knowledge of notarial and real property registry law in a contemporary context, both in Puerto Rico and other jurisdictions.
- Thorough and detailed legal research skills, applicable and necessary, prior to drafting and developing public instruments.
- The development of public documents, characterized by accuracy, formality and legality, which reflect the will of the parties.
- Knowledge of the contemporary development of real property law in view of new world economies.
- A high sense of ethics and value referents in the use of information, knowledge and writing and formulation techniques of public instruments in notarial and registry work.
- Knowledge and skills of mediation and alternative methods of conflict resolution to reach agreements that benefit the parties.
- Mastery of the necessary drafting techniques of complex legal documents.
- The integration of research and writing techniques with the mastery of subjects and contents related to the notary and real property registry law practice.

Admission

Any person interested in being admitted to the Master in **Notarial and Real Estate Registration Law** (LL.M) must meet the following requirements:

1. At the time of application, having a Juris Doctor degree of an American Bar Association (A.B.A.) accredited law school or, in the case of foreign students, the equivalents of an undergraduate law degree. Every applicant must have demonstrated excellent academic performance during their Juris Doctor Degree studies.
2. To have taken and passed the Notarial Law and Real Property Registry Law courses during their Juris Doctor studies. In the case of applicants who did not take or pass the courses of Notarial Law and **Real Property Registry** Law during the Juris Doctor Degree studies, a conditioned admission may be granted, subject to taking and passing said courses.
3. Demonstrating mastery of the Spanish language and being proficient in English.

Required Documents

In addition to meeting the admission requirements, any person interested in applying for admission must submit the following documents:

1. The Admission Application for Master's in Law Program.
2. Pay the Admission Fee for the amount of \$ 63.00 (non-refundable).
3. Official Transcripts from all institutions where the candidate studied Law.
4. Negative criminal record certificate. An essay which explains how completing the Program will contribute to the candidate's professional career.
5. Deadline to request admission for August | June 30 of each year.

Master's Degree in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law (LL.M)

Rules and Procedures

The academic standards of the J.D. will be extendable to the LL.M. program, in addition to the following dispositions.

Evaluation

LL.M. students will not be able to take "Pass / Not pass" courses. Credit will be granted for courses passed with A or B. Requests for correction and re-evaluation of grades will be governed by the procedures provided for the J.D. program. The evaluation method for each course will be indicated in the syllabus and will depend on the nature of the course. Among the evaluation methods are simulations, practical exercises, drafting legal and other documents, and exams. The active participation of the student is a requirement of all courses and is a fundamental criterion of evaluation.

Honors

LL.M. students with a cumulative index of no less than 3.5 GPA will be granted the degree "with honors".

Readmission

A student who fails to enroll in one or more semesters must request readmission to the Program Director to continue their studies.

Class Attendance

The School of Law requires regular attendance to class. It is the student's responsibility to comply with this requirement. Each student is responsible for the course content during any absence and is obligated to keep up to date with the class work, as assigned by the professor. In the evaluation of the students' performance and in the final grade, professors may take into consideration any irregular attendance or tardiness.

The University sets the date to report if a student never attended courses during the first three (3) weeks from the start of classes, according to the semester academic/administrative calendar or its equivalent for other academic terms.

The withdrawal date (UW) for a student who stops attending class corresponds to the last date the student participated in an academic activity related to the course.

The professor must document the student's participation and attendance at this last academic activity.

Graduation

To obtain the **Master in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law**, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete 24 credits. Each course must be passed with A or B.
2. Comply with a residency in the program of a minimum of two consecutive academic terms and maintaining an academic index of no less than 3.00 in each.
3. Complete the degree requirements within the three years following the beginning of their Master's studies. After three years without having finished the studies, the passed courses will expire and will have no value towards obtaining the Master's degree.
4. Submitting and obtaining a passing grade for a thesis related to **Notarial or Real Property Registry Law** that complies with the regulations established to these effects by the School of Law.

Required Courses

To complete the LL.M. degree in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law, students must pass courses for twenty-four (24) credits. The program has five mandatory course requirements equivalent to fifteen (15) credits, which are: L-7YY: Methodology (3 crs); L-710: Notarial Systems (3 crs); L-711: Notarial Deontology and Professional Responsibility (3 crs); L-712: Real Estate Registry Advertising (3 crs) and L-7XX: International Private Law and the Notary (3 crs) Also, the degree requires passing the course L-713, Seminar or Dissertation (6 crs).

To complete the degree requirements, students may select among the elective courses to complete the remaining 3 credits.

NOTE: *The courses of the **Master in Notarial and Real Estate Registry Law** do not replace the Notarial Law course for purposes of the requirements established by the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico to take the Notarial Bar Exam. Candidates interested in admission to the practice of Notarial Law must take the Notarial Law course at the Juris Doctor level and pass the Notary Bar Exam as established by the Supreme Court.*

Master's Degree in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law (LL.M)

COURSES DESCRIPTIONS

L-710 Notarial Systems | 3 crs

Study of the various systems of Notarial Law, with emphasis on the Latin and Anglo-Saxon traditions. Analysis of the development and evolution Notarial Law, distinguishing the characteristics of different notarial systems stemming from the concept and characteristics of Notarial Law. The General Theory and Role of the Notary will be analyzed, which includes its connection with preventive legal certainty, and the derived, but not equal, notions of public faith, notarial faith and truth.

L-711 Deontology and Professional responsibility of the Public Notary | 3 crs

Study, analysis and discussion of the meaning and nature of ethics in the role of the public notary and its importance. Study and analysis of the regulations of Puerto Rican notary; complementing the study with practical application problems and disciplinary procedures. Review of case law, legislation and doctrines applicable to the matter.

L-712 Publicity of the Real Property Registry | 3 crs

Study of the permanent expansion of public registration in light of the need to have adequate real estate traffic guarantee systems (cadastral and secure registry systems) in moments when the development of efficient economies and the mobility of capital propitiate transnational legal traffic and the new technologies enable linking of national's records. This approach implies the auscultation of both the clashes between publicity and right to privacy, when assessing fundamental limits of user rights to access public registry records, as of the challenges this presents for the institutional destiny of the Registry and the discipline that examines it, the move from traditional publicity to new ways of telematics consultation and the development of novel doctrinal categories.

L-7XX Private international law and The Public Notary | 3 crs

In the era of globalization, the notarial instruments recognized by different systems, and that are authorized from time to time, are subject to scrutiny by foreign entities that, in the exercise of "administering the justice", or to enable international legal traffic, must determine (as a threshold matter), which law applies for the purposes of assessing their validity and enforceability. "Notarial private international law", is the basis for "universal" protection under the doctrine of autonomy of the will, and operates in search of legal certainty, in relation to the legal business generated in foreign jurisdictions. The course promotes the study of the standards that apply when the legal businesses in which the public notary intervenes transcend the territorial borders in which they were conceived, and take (or are intended to take) effect in more than one jurisdiction.

Master's Degree in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law (LL.M)

COURSES DESCRIPTIONS

L-7YY Research Methodology | 3 crs

This course examines the methodologies and theories of research applied to notarial legal issues. At the end of the course, students will have developed the competencies needed to formulate a research proposal. The primary purpose is to expose each researcher to a series of methodologies and theories that allow them to improve their skills in order to be able to write about a thesis topic.

L-713 Thesis Seminar | 6 crs

In the seminar the student will present an independent and original research document that contributes to the academic field. This course will require a level of complexity showcases the candidate's ability to drive future research on their own. The student will also demonstrate the integration of research, writing and mastery techniques matters and contents related to the notarial and the real property registry law practice.

With the Thesis students will demonstrate having reached a higher stage of formal learning and will initiate the candidate in the process of independent research to contribute to their profession once their courses are over. It will represent a new level of integration of all the effort and learning development during their Master's degree. The Thesis is essentially an academic exercise, through which each student tries to contribute to the knowledge of their discipline.

ELECTIVE COURSES

714 A Drafting Notarial Public Instruments | 3 crs

Analysis of the various public deeds and documents Public Notaries prepare that carry a certain degree of complexity. The topic will be approached from a theoretical and practical perspective of the drafting of these notarial instruments. The course will cover the deed of trust, open will/testament, durable power of attorney, participation and adjudication of sales contracts, the liquidation (division) of marital assets, among others.

715 A Mortgage Financing and New Forms of Collateral | 3 crs

Identifying and applying the main legal figures and concepts of mortgage financing and related procedural devices. Describing, recognizing, and applying the difference between the substantive and procedural aspects of mortgage financing and new forms of collateral. Identifying special legislation that limits the role of mortgage financing and new ways of collateral. Recognizing the importance and value of the origin and historical development of current concepts in this discipline. Identifying and applying the main mortgage and collateral principles. Recognizing and grasping the legal and ethical framework in which these concepts operate.

Master's Degree in Notarial and Real Property Registry Law (LL.M)

ELECTIVE COURSES

716 B Registration and Real Property Special Legislation | 3 crs

Examination of special legislation that have a particular impact in the Real Property Registry. The student will learn in detail the relevant terms in statutes such as: The Timeshare and Vacation Club Rights Act of Puerto Rico; the Puerto Rico Condo Hotel Act; and the General Cooperative Associations Act, among others. Jurisprudence and relevant scientific doctrine will also be examined to drive the discussion of the legislation under examination.

717 A The Registry and Controlled-Access Communities | 3 crs

An analysis of the laws that rule the creation and operation of controlled-access and easements in equity in communities. Examination of the jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico pertinent to the easements in equity, the Vehicular Traffic Control Act and related regulations, provisions on the General Corporations Act relevant to not-for-profit corporations, and the provisions of the Public Planning Act and its regulations regarding recreation areas. Review of case law, legislation, and doctrine applicable to the subject.

718 A Alternative Methods of Resolution of Conflicts and the Public Notary | 3 crs

Exploration of the interrelation between the role of the Public Notary in conflict prevention and resolution, and theory and practice of alternative methods for conflict resolution. Analysis of the desirability and permissibility of including arbitration or mediation clauses in various public instruments: pre-nuptial agreements, liquidation of marital assets, donation, wills, and trusts, among others.

719 A Ex-parte Procedures Before Public Notaries | 3 crs

Demonstration and analysis of notarial powers in non-contentious or voluntary jurisdiction procedures. Analysis of the notarial competencies in non-contentious procedures from a theoretical and practical perspective, the duties and responsibilities assumed by the public notary acting under the Non-Contentious Matters Before Public Notaries Act, the Notarial Regulations, and the role of the State Attorney in non-contentious proceedings before a Public Notary. The course will specifically cover the general procedures for non-contentious notarial action and the particular procedures for the declaration of heirs, the issuance of testamentary letters; the ademption and protocolization of a holographic will and testament; the simple absence declaration to contract new marriage; the procedures to perpetuate facts that are not related to an active dispute and cannot result in the detriment of a certain and determined person, or intended to be used to confer identity to a person (ad perpetuam rei memoriam matters); the amendment of the Demographic Registry records, and name and surname changes.

**ADVANCED JURIS DOCTOR COURSES
AVAILABLE FOR LL. M. STUDENTS ARE
AVAILABLE AS OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM
OF THE SPECIFIC SEMESTER, WITH
PREAUTHORIZATION OF THE DEAN OF
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS.**





GRADUATE PROGRAMS
JSD



Juridical Science Doctor (JSD)



The Juridical Sciences Doctorate (J.S.D.) is the most advanced degree in Law. It provides intensive training in research, academic writing, and generation of knowledge. It is designed to offer an academic option to legal professionals who demonstrate a high-performance level in their legal careers and aspire to contribute meaningfully and innovatively in the development of the law in Puerto Rico and abroad.

The J.S.D. comes to meet the needs of Puerto Rican jurists who cannot leave the island. Internationalization is one of the goals of the InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico and the J.S.D. program offers jurists who have studied in other jurisdictions the possibility of studying the doctoral degree in a country with a mixed legal system.

The program will allow for the reformulation of the agreements that the School of Law maintains with foreign universities. Simultaneously, the establishment of new collaboration agreements or consortia with Latin American, European, and Asian universities is possible. The J.S.D. of the School of Law yield valuable benefits for both the Inter American University of Puerto Rico and the national and international legal community.

The profile of the J.S.D. graduate is directly aligned with the mission of the School of Law, as with the institutional goals. In that context the graduate of the J.S.D.:

1. Will have demonstrated to be prepared to educate and promote significant changes in the Law
2. Will have demonstrated intensive training in legal research and academic writing.
3. Will have given a course or seminar related to the area of the doctoral research.
4. Will have demonstrated a high level of performance throughout the academic career
5. Will have demonstrated a positive attitude towards the contribution to the development of law in Puerto Rico or in the international field.
6. Will have produced academic work of the highest level which may be published as articles in law reviews, essays or textbooks.

Juridical Science Doctor (JSD)

Faculty of the Doctoral Program

Any member of the Faculty of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law who holds the degree of Doctor of Juridical Science (J.S.D./ S.J.D.), Doctor of Law or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), or who holds exceptional credentials, will be considered part of the Faculty of the Doctoral program. The doctoral faculty includes the following member:

- Pedro Cabán Vales
- Iris M. Camacho Meléndez
- Jorge Farinacci Fernós
- Marta Figueroa Torres
- Julio E. Fontanet Maldonado
- Margarita E. García Cárdenas
- Manuelita Muñoz Rivera
- Luis Mariano Negrón Portillo
- Dora Nevares Muñiz
- Doel R. Quiñones Nuñez
- Yanira Reyes Gil
- Luis Rafael Rivera Rivera
- Enrique Vélez Rodríguez
- Esther Vicente
- Charles Zeno Santiago



Juridical Science Doctor (JSD)

Admission

The J.S.D. Program will admit a maximum of two (2) students per academic year, unless the Dean authorizes additional admissions. Anyone interested in being admitted to the Juridical Sciences Doctorate (J.S.D.) must meet the following requirements:

The person interested in applying to the doctoral program must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant must have a Juris Doctor(J.D.) degree or its equivalent, with a distinction.
- 2.The applicant must have a Masters in Law (LL.M.) degree or its equivalent, with distinction.
3. The applicant must have published at least one article in a recognized law review, collaborated as author or coauthor in a book, participated as a speaker in recognized symposiums or as lecturer in legal continuing legal education.
4. The applicant must present a proposal of the area they wish to research and develop. The proposal must include a statement of what benefit will provide for the development of legal knowledge.
 - a.This proposal must be submitted the endorsement of a member of the doctoral program faculty.
 - b.In the eventuality that candidate does not receive the endorsement from a member of the doctoral faculty, the applicant may submit the proposal along with the application in order to be referred to the doctoral faculty for endorsement, approval and mentoring of a doctoral member of the faculty.
 - c.The doctoral faculty will be composed of those faculty members of Inter American University School of Law who have a doctorate degree in the Science of Law (S.J.D.), Juridical Science (J.S.D.), or Philosophy (Ph.D.), or other exceptional credentials.
- 5.The applicant must complete the admission application.
- 6.The applicant must submit a personal statement.
- 7.The applicant must paythe admissions quota.
8. The Graduate Programs Coordinator will assess the application in order to certify the compliance with admission requirements and presents any recommendation
- 9.The application will be referred to the J.S.D. Admissions Committee for interview, either personally or virtually.

Admission documents

1. Complete the application for admission and pay a fee in the amount of \$ 75.00, non-refundable.
- 2.Copy of a photo identification.
- 3.Official transcript with conferred degree of Juris Doctor or its equivalent.
- 4.Official transcript with conferred degreeof Master of Laws (LL.M).
5. A personal statement.
- 6.Evidence about a publication of their authorship, or of their participation as a speaker in a congress or as a teaching resource in courses of Continuing Legal Education courses.
7. Proposal on the research topic that they aim to develop.

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Admissions Committee

The admission of an applicant rests on the unanimous vote of the members of the J.S.D. Admissions Committee. All applications will be evaluated by the Admissions Committee which will certify it of having complied with all the established requisites. The Committee will be composed of three (3) members:

1. Two professors who possess the following doctoral degrees: Science of Law (S.J.D.), Juridical Science (J.S.D.), or Philosophy (Ph.D.), who will be designated biannually, one by the Law Schools Dean, the other by the members of the faculty.

2. One Justice from the Supreme Court or a member of prominent standing in the legal community, designated by the School of Law's Dean for a two-year term.

Rules and Procedures

The academic standards of the J.D. they will be extendable to the J.S.D. program, in addition to the following dispositions.

The University sets the date to report if a student never attended courses during the first three (3)

weeks from the start of classes, according to the semester academic/administrative calendar or its equivalent for other academic terms.

The withdrawal date (UW) for a student who stops attending class corresponds to the last date the student participated in an academic activity related to the course. The professor must document the student's participation and attendance at this last academic activity.

Graduation

To obtain the J.S.D., the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete all three phases of the J.S.D. Program.

2. The student must have been an active student for a minimum of three (3) years and a maximum of five (5) years.

3. The student must have successfully defended the dissertation thesis.

The dissertation/thesis, as well as its defense, will be governed by the UIPR School of Law Thesis and Dissertation Manual". The thesis will be defended before a tribunal composed of three members, and two Readers.

Program of Study and Course Description

The student must complete with the three phases of the program for total of 14 credits: Academic Residence; Teaching and Publishing; and Doctoral Thesis

1. Academic Residence

The requisite of academic residence is fulfilled during the first phase of the studies program, which will have a duration of no less than (1) year. During the first semester, students must pass the "Research Methodologies" course. The course description is as follows:

COURSE L-801 – RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

This is a course on the research theories and methodologies applied to the legal field. At the end of the course the student will have the necessary capacity and knowledge to elaborate a doctoral research proposal. 4 credits.

Once the student passes the "Research Methodologies" course they must take and pass the course "Directed Research":

COURSE L-802 – DIRECTED RESEARCH

In this course the doctoral thesis proposal will be designed and drafted, develop a research plan, and begin the actual research under the supervision of the dissertation director. 4 credits.

Registration in courses in the J.D. and LL.M., Programs, for audit, may be approved by the Thesis Director.

When a relevant academic offering for purposes of the Doctoral thesis is not offered at Inter American University School of Law, the Thesis Director may authorize that the course be taken at another campus of the university or in another institution.

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Program of Study and Course Description

Once authorized, the process must be completed in the Dean's or Dean of Academic Affairs's Office. When the course is on Law, the offering institution must be duly accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) or be a world-renowned foreign institution.

If the course is on other fields of study, but related to the dissertation topic, the institution must be duly licensed by the Education Council of Puerto Rico and accredited by a regional and professional agency. In the case of foreign institutions, they must be recognized in this context.

The year of residence may be completed consecutively or periodically and must be agreed with the Thesis Director prior to beginning the first phase of the program.

2. Teaching and Publishing

The teaching and publishing requirement is covered in the second year of the J.S.D. Program. During this year each student must offer a seminar or regular course related to the dissertation topic at

Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law. This seminar or regular course will be a three-credit course or 45 contact hours. The evaluation of the student's performance will be the responsibility of the Thesis Director and will follow the evaluation methods of the Adjunct Faculty at the School of Law.

During this second year. Each student will prepare an article of sufficient quality to be published in the Inter American University School of Law Review, in the Critical Legal Studies Law Review (CLAVE), or in any other renowned law review as approved by the Thesis Director. Also, the student must present the article in a public academic setting. The evaluation and approval of the article and its presentation will be the responsibility of the Thesis Director.

3. The Doctoral Thesis.

The third phase of the program will be the preparation of the thesis, which must occur between the third and fifth year of studies, and its public defense must be approved by the Thesis Director. The dissertation defense must occur within six (6) months after approval of its approval.

In accordance with the description of the program, the syllabus for the doctorate, in chronological terms, is as follows:

Academic Term	Courses	Credits
First Year (Phase 1)	Academic residence	
First Semester	L 801 Research	4
Second Semester	Methodologies L 802 Directed Research	4
Second Year (Phase 2)	Teaching and Publication	
First Semester	Participation as a teacher in a course of his thesis subject	3 (45 hrs)
Second Semester	Writing a legal article in coordination with the Thesis Director	3 (45 hrs)
Third Year (Phase 3)	The dissertation and public defense¹	
First Semester	Writing of thesis/dissertation	
Second Semester	Writing and defense of thesis/dissertation	

¹ This phase could be extended for two (2) additional years. The maximum time to complete the degree is five (5) years.

Curricular experiences

Every candidate for the J.S.D. degree will participate actively in the academic life of the UIPR School of Law.



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