College of Law

Proposed Catalog Changes

Effective Term (unless otherwise noted) = Summer 2017

1. Add the following courses:

   Law 814 Contracts II (3 cr)
   Continuation of Law 813 on the basic elements of private, consensual agreements enforced by law under common law and UCC Article 2.
   Prereq: Law 813
   Available via distance: No
   Geographical Area: Moscow, Boise
   Rationale: The existing 4-credit Contracts class will be replaced by 5 credits of Contracts I (2 cr) and Contracts II (3 cr) over the course of two semesters. The faculty concluded that expanding to 5 credits will allow for better development of statutory reading skills through expanded coverage of Article 2 Sales in the course, in substitution for the elimination of the 3-credit Statutory Reading course from the first year. The additional credit also will allow students better to master the complexities of contract law, by giving students additional time better to assimilate the material. Because of the elimination of 820 Statutory Reading, there is no added departmental workload.

   Law 821 Legal Research (1 cr)
   Basic elements of legal research in print and electronic resources, including generating search terms; researching secondary sources, cases, and statutes; and using citators for case research.
   Available via distance: No
   Geographical Area: Moscow, Boise
   Rationale: At UI Law, as well as at most law schools, the Legal Research and Writing course concentrates primarily on legal writing. Addition of a 1-credit course devoted entirely to legal research will help strengthen legal research skills for students preparing written work not only in Legal Research and Writing but also for practice experiences.

2. Change the following courses:

   Law 805 Civil Procedure and Introduction to Law (32 cr)
   Overview of U.S. legal systems, providing basics on civil litigation and legal principles. Covers litigation topics including pleadings, pretrial management, discovery, summary judgment, trial, post-trial motions, judgment, personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction and related topics with a focus on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
   Available via distance: No
   Geographical Area: Moscow, Boise
   Rationale: The total credits in first-year Civil Procedure have been decreased from 6 to 5 (Law 805, Civil Procedure and Introduction to Law, will drop from 3 to 2 credits; Law 806, Civil Procedure II, will remain at 2 credits). The majority of past and present Civil Procedure instructors support the reduction in credits as adequate to cover the material in the course, and continue the focus on careful reading and analysis. The reduction in first-year credits will enable students better to master reading and analytical skills in the critical first year rather than being overwhelmed by the body of substantive material.
Law 813 Contracts (42 cr)  
Basic elements of private, consensual agreements enforced by law under common law and UCC Article 2: formation, principles of bargain or reliance, methods to police the bargain, interpretation, performance/breach and remedies for breach, defenses to liability, and the rights and liabilities of third parties upon assignment and delegation. (Spring only)  

Available via distance: No  
Geographical Area: Moscow, Boise  
Rationale: The existing 4-credit Contracts class will be replaced by 5 credits of Contracts I (2 cr) and Contracts II (3 cr) over the course of two semesters. The faculty concluded that expanding to 5 credits will allow for better development of statutory reading skills through expanded coverage of Article 2 Sales in the course, in substitution for the elimination of the 3-credit Statutory Reading course from the first year. The additional credit also will allow students better to master the complexities of contract law, by giving students additional time better to assimilate the material. Because of the elimination of 820 Statutory Reading, there is no added departmental workload.

Law 816 Constitutional Law I (43 cr)  
An examination of the institution of judicial review and of the constitutional divisions of government power in the United States; the principles of separation of powers and federalism; and the constitutional protection of certain individual rights and liberties, particularly under the 14th Amendment.  

Available via distance: No  
Geographical Area: Moscow, Boise  
Rationale: The credits in Constitutional Law I will decrease from 4 to 3 credits. This course used to be a 3-credit upper division course. When it was moved to 1L year, one credit was added to the course to allow for more time to assimilate the material. The instructors have found that the extra credit is not required to cover the material in the course.

3. Drop the following course:

Law 820 Statutory Reading and Interpretation (3 cr)  
Introduction to the process and techniques of statutory and regulatory interpretation, including how to read a statute or regulation, identify interpretive issues, and employ the accepted canons of statutory construction as part of the theory and practice of interpretation. (Fall only)  

Rationale: Statutory Reading and Interpretation will no longer be a required 1L course. Existing casebooks for this subject are too scattered and do not adequately teach the skill of close statutory reading. The faculty believes that the skill of statutory reading can be addressed more effectively for first-year students by building into Contracts more of the statutory material in Uniform Commercial Code Article 2 Sales, as well as through other predominantly statutory courses in the second and third years. Finally, elimination of Statutory Reading and Interpretation as a required 1L course achieves the faculty’s goal of reducing the number of credits in the first year curriculum to a more manageable number.

4. Make the following curricular changes to the Juris Doctor (J.D.):

Required courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law 805</td>
<td>Civil Procedure and Introduction to Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law 806</td>
<td>Civil Procedure II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law 807</td>
<td>Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law 809</td>
<td>Torts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law 812</td>
<td>Criminal Law</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Law 813  Contracts I (4)  Law 814  Contracts II (3)
Law 815  Legal Research and Writing (0 or 5 cr, max 5)
Law 816  Constitutional Law I (43)
Law 820  Statutory Reading and Interpretation (3)
Law 821  Legal Research (1)
Law 905  Constitutional Law II (3)
Law 907  Administrative Law (3)
Law 919  Business Associations (4)
Law 950  Evidence (3)
Law 962  Professional Responsibility (3)

Six credits chosen from the following experiential learning courses:
Law 855  Water Law Practicum (2–3)
Law 917  Negotiation and Appropriate Dispute Resolution (3)
Law 932  Estate Planning (3)
Law 958  Trial Advocacy (2)
Law 971  Lawyering Process Seminar (2)
Law 974  Legal Aid Clinic (1–3, max 6)
Law 975  Classroom Credit Public Service Externship (1–5, max 10)
Law 978  Small Business Legal Clinic (1–3, max 6)
Law 986  Judicial Clerkship Seminar (1–2)
Law 991  Skills Practicum (cr arr)
Law 994  Economic Development Clinic (1–3, max 6)
Law 995  Main Street Law Clinic (1–3, max 6)
Law 996  Immigration Law Clinic (1–3, max 6)
Law 997  Mediation Clinic (1–3, max 6)
Law 998  Tax Clinic (2–3, max 6)

Plus the following:
One Satisfaction of the Upper-Division Writing Requirement through Law Review, or a Directed Study, or particular designated courses each year course

50 Hours of uncompensated law related pro bono service

90 total credits

**Distance Availability:** More than 50% of the requirements cannot be completed via distance

**Geographical Area:** Moscow, Boise

**Rationale:**
1. These curricular changes are proposed for the Class entering in Fall 2017. They therefore should become effective in Summer 2017, not Summer 2016.
2. The faculty has changed the total credit count for the first year curriculum from 33 credits (15 fall, 18 spring) to 30 credits (14 fall, 16 spring). The reduction in credits will enable students better to master reading and analytical skills in the critical first year rather than being overwhelmed by the body of substantive material. The faculty also expects that taking more credits during 2L and 3L years will increase the engagement of upper-division students.
3. The total credits in Civil Procedure have been decreased from 6 to 5. The majority of past and present Civil Procedure instructors support the reduction in credits as adequate to cover the material in the course, and continue the focus on careful reading and analysis.
4. Contracts has been expanded from 4 to 5 credits, and will take place over two semesters. The faculty concluded that expanding to 5 credits will allow for better development of statutory reading skills through expanded coverage of Article 2 Sales in the course, in substitution for the elimination of the Statutory Reading course from the
first year (See No. 6 below). The additional credit also will allow students better to master
the complexities of contract law, by giving students additional time better to assimilate the
material.
5. The credits in Constitutional Law I will decrease from 4 to 3 credits. This course used
to be a 3-credit upper division course. When it was moved to 1L year, one credit was
added to the course to allow for more time to assimilate the material. The instructors
have found that the extra credit is not required to cover the material in the course.
6. A 1-credit Legal Research course has been added. At UI Law, as well as at most law
schools, the Legal Research and Writing course concentrates primarily on legal writing.
Addition of a 1-credit course devoted entirely to legal research will help strengthen legal
research skills for students preparing written work not only in Legal Research and Writing
but also for practice experiences.
7. Statutory Reading and Interpretation will no longer be a required course. Existing
casebooks for this subject are too scattered and do not adequately teach the skill of close
statutory reading. The faculty believes that the skill of statutory reading can be
addressed more effectively for first-year students by building into Contracts more of the
statutory material in Uniform Commercial Code Article 2 Sales, as well as through other
predominantly statutory courses in the second and third years. Finally, elimination of
Statutory Reading and Interpretation as a required 1L course achieves the faculty’s goal
of reducing the number of credits in the first year curriculum to a more manageable
number.