



# The State Bar *of California*

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## **OPEN SESSION AGENDA ITEM O-407 AUGUST 2021 COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS**

**DATE:** August 20, 2021

**TO:** Members, Committee of Bar Examiners

**FROM:** Natalie Leonard, Principal Program Analyst, Office of Admissions

**SUBJECT:** Action on Major Change Request from University of West Los Angeles School of Law to Add Online JD Program

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The University of West Los Angeles School of Law (UWLA) seeks the Committee of Bar Examiners' (CBE) approval to launch an online JD program to be offered in addition to its classroom JD program starting in Fall 2021 as set forth in Attachment A. Staff recommends granting the request because the school's application appears to demonstrate that the online JD program will comply with the Rules for Accredited Law Schools (Rules) and Guidelines for Accredited Law Schools (Guidelines), and the law school will maintain overall compliance.

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### **BACKGROUND**

Historically, California accredited law schools could not include more than twelve credits of online courses in their JD curriculum.

In May 2019, this cap was removed, and accredited law schools may now request CBE approval to offer JD programs that are taught in hybrid format or fully online.

Under Rules 4.164 and 4.165, "[a]n accredited law school contemplating a major change must notify the Committee . . . [and t]he notice must explain in detail any effect the change might have on the law school's compliance with the rules." (Rule 4.164) Such changes include "instituting a new division," and "offering any new program in law study, whether a degree

program, non-professional degree program, or non-degree program,” as is contemplated here. (Rule 4.165).

Here, UWLA plans to continue its classroom JD program at both campuses and to add an online JD program taught 100 percent online through synchronous sessions.

## **DISCUSSION**

UWLA is a non-profit California accredited law school founded in 1969. It operates campuses in both Inglewood and Chatsworth, California. A total of 204 JD students were enrolled in the law school’s JD program as of its last inspection in April 2021. The University of West Los Angeles is also accredited as an institution by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

The law school was last inspected on April 28-30, 2021 and that report is also being presented to the CBE today.

The law school’s Minimum, Cumulative Bar Passage Rate has continued to be above the 40 percent minimum percent minimum, with a value of 54.1 percent in 2018, 50.0 percent in 2019, and 41.8 percent in 2020, 49.8 in 2021.

UWLA is seeking approval from the CBE and has already received approval from WASC to add the online JD program.

### **Proposed online JD program curriculum and procedures**

UWLA requests permission to add a fully online JD program while it continues to offer a classroom JD program at both of its campuses.

Though students are expected to register for either the online JD or the classroom JD, they will be able to petition to take classes in either track or transfer between tracks.

The law school seeks this permission based on its good experience and strong preference from students and faculty while teaching classes online during the pandemic. Due to the pandemic, the law school has been offering its classes online since March 2020. When UWLA surveyed its faculty and students, 85 percent of students and 75 percent of faculty indicated that they preferred to continue to teach and study via online courses even after the pandemic subsides.

The online program will use the same academic calendar and class schedule as the classroom program, but courses will be livestreamed via interactive Zoom sessions. The school has also installed Campus Café to provide student services online. Technical support is available to students and faculty through the eLearning Virtual Instructional Support Team (eLVIS) daily.

The online JD proposal will have the same overall requirements as the law school’s classroom JD program: 85 credit units, with similar course titles and content, course progression, course exams, and academic calendar.

The hybrid program is expected to launch in September 2021 to all levels in the JD program, continuing the online course offerings that have been in place since the start of the pandemic.

### **The law school's plan appears to comply with the Accredited Rules and Guidelines**

The online JD program proposal exceeds the minimum requirements of 80 credit hours and 1200 hours of verified academic engagements, as well as the required practical skills courses and access to student services, as described below.

### **The proposed online JD program complies with the requirements in Guidelines 6 and 7 applicable to the format of online education**

Under Division 6 Academic Program Guidelines, the law school “must maintain a qualitatively and quantitatively sound program of legal education” requiring at least 80 credits, with each credit including at least 15 hours of verified academic engagement plus 30 untracked hours of preparation. (Guideline 6.5 A-B)) UWLA’s proposed hybrid JD program exceeds the minimum requirement of 80 credits, requiring 85 credits in its classroom JD program and proposing the same for the online JD program.

Under Division 7’s Scholastic Standards, the law school’s online JD program must include at least 1200 hours of academic engagement. (Guideline 7.11). UWLA will be able to use a combination of methods to successfully meet this requirement, largely involving taking attendance at the livestreamed classes.

### **The proposed online JD program provides the required opportunity to offer fifteen or more hours of practice-based skills**

An accredited JD program “must require that each student . . . satisfactorily complete a minimum of six semester units (or their equivalent) of course work designed to teach practice-based skills and competency training” and must further “provide the opportunity for students in the JD degree program to complete a minimum of fifteen (15) units of practice-based skills and competency training.” (Rule 4.160(F), Guideline 6.9(A)(1)).

UWLA’s online JD curriculum will require students to complete 18 hours of practical skills training and provide the opportunity to complete more hours through elective coursework, including clinics and internships. These options are similar to the options available to students in the traditional classroom JD program.

### **The school will support the online JD program with compliant library resources, financing, and infrastructure**

UWLA also demonstrated that it already possesses compliant library resources, financing, and technical infrastructure to support the hybrid JD program.

The law school's current library fulfills the Division 8 Library Requirements. The law school is ready to serve both classroom and online students by making required library resources available online through LexisNexis and Westlaw. The law school also maintains a hard copy library.

The law schools' infrastructure will continue to be compliant with Division 9 Physical [and Infrastructure] Requirements if an online JD is added. The technical platforms mentioned in the proposal, Desire 2 Learn, Zoom, and Campus Café, are already in use at the school. All student services can be accessed online as well, and all students have access to both campuses and the law school's administrative office as needed.

Division 10 Financial Resources must be "adequate . . . to support [the school's] programs and operations . . . including all services it claims to provide." Here, because the school has already invested in the technology platform, and designed the coursework, there is little additional investment required.

## **FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT**

None

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee receive and file UWLA's Request for Major Change seeking to add an online JD program as set forth in Attachment A and to grant the request, allowing the program to begin effective immediately.

It is further recommended that the UWLS be required to confirm its start date or any delay to the CBE within 60 days, and that it provide the CBE with an annual progress report regarding the online JD program's enrollment and performance, as compared to the law school's classroom JD program, to be included with the law school's Annual Reports each year until the law school is inspected again.

## **PROPOSED MOTION**

If the CBE agrees with this recommendation, the following motion is suggested:

**MOVED**, that the University of West Los Angeles School of Law's Request for a Major Change to add an online JD program as set forth in Attachment A be received and filed; that the request be granted effective immediately; and that the following progress reports be required to be filed with the Committee: 1) a letter confirming the start date of the program and initial enrollment within 30 days of the program launch or advising the Committee by November 1, 2021 of any delay in the program's launch; and 2) an annual progress report regarding the online JD program's enrollment and performance, as compared to the law school's

classroom JD program, be included with the law school's Annual Reports each year until the law school is inspected again.

## **ATTACHMENT LIST**

- A.** University of West Los Angeles School of Law Major Change Request to Add an Online JD Program

# **University of West Los Angeles School of Law**

## **Major Change Request**

### **Online Juris Doctor Program**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Pursuant to Rule 4.165 of the Accredited Law School Rules, the University of West Los Angeles (UWLA) is notifying the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) of this Major Change Request and seeks approval by the Committee. The Major Change request is to offer UWLA's currently-accredited JD program 100% online beginning in the fall semester (August 2021).

#### **APPROVALS OF ONLINE J.D. PROGRAM:**

The content, curriculum, outcomes, and proposed budget have been reviewed and approved by the Curriculum Review Committee, Director of Assessment, School of Law Dean/Provost, and the University President. UWLA is an accredited WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) institution. UWLA is concurrently seeking approval for WSCUC to grant accreditation to the same online JD program; see attachment 2021-26, Univ of West-JD (distance education). Our proposal to offer an online JD was submitted to WSCUC on May 21, 2021, and the WSCUC tentative proposal review date for that sub-change request is currently scheduled for July 15, 2021. Once we receive a response to our proposal, we will forward said response to the Committee.

#### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW:**

The JD program for the School of Law seeks approval to offer this degree program 100% online, starting with our fall 2021 class. The curriculum which makes up the degree, the faculty and administration, our admission standards, and course scaffolding will largely remain the same as it currently exists in the on-ground program. Additionally, this has been the methodology employed by UWLA since March 2020 due to COVID-19. By way of example, UWLA extensively surveys its stakeholders, in one such survey students were asked to rate UWLA's response to the COVID-19 required transition to distance education the following summarizes the response: "86% rated UWLA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic as either strong or outstanding." Further, UWLA's most recent "Returning to Campus Survey" evidenced the following: 1) 85% of students surveyed would prefer to remain in an online educational environment even post COVID-19 and 2) 75% of faculty surveyed would also prefer to remain in an online educational environment even post COVID-19. It is UWLA's intention that although its on-site program and proposed distance education program will be separate, UWLA will allow students in either program to petition to take courses in the other program subject to both 1) UWLA's Academic Council's petition for special action process and 2) UWLA's accreditors, Rules, Guidelines, and CFRs.

Below is a description of how UWLA's proposed online JD program aligns with our institutional Mission, Values, and Vision, as well as the State Bar's mission and goals. Additionally, our adherence to the Rules and Guidelines will be maintained as set forth below.

**a. Description and Alignment with Mission, Values, and Vision.**

This program is currently offered by UWLA in an on-site modality and is aligned with the community that we serve. UWLA was founded 55 years ago with the purpose of "democratization of the practice of law" this founding bedrock principle has guided our institution for more than half a century. UWLA believes that the legal profession should reflect and be composed of the same populations that it serves in California (i.e. racial, ethnic, gender, religious, and sexual orientations). UWLA's pedagogical approach has been to provide an opportunity for those that may not normally have access to a legal education, for whatever reason. That pedagogical approach has infused UWLA's JD program with a practitioner focus rather than the traditional theory based pedagogy of many law schools. Our JD program is supportive, rigorous, and stresses practical skills training and sound preparation for the California Bar Examination. We have met this goal for more than half a century via our day, evening, part time, and full time programs. Our holistic admission criteria meets our opportunity mission charge while at the same time, still requiring an LSAT based credential for admission. Offering an online JD continues to advance our Mission, Values, and Vision.

**Mission Statement**

University of West Los Angeles is a family.

Our culture of diversity creates a unique equitable educational empowerment environment. We provide opportunities for resilient learners to become servant leaders to their communities.

**Values:**

FEEL Definition - An Experience

(an emotion or sensation)

Family

Equity

Educational Empowerment

Leadership

**Definitions of Our Values:**

Family –

Our Family value of interpersonal relationships requires that we care for and treat all \*members of our community in a constructive but honest and respectful manner.

\*members of our community are all who share our values.

Equity –

Our value of Equity encompasses diversity and inclusion, it requires that we support each member based upon their unique needs for support and gives them fair access to educational empowerment. UWLA affirms its position as an antiracist institution.

Educational Empowerment –

Educational Empowerment adds to and refines the members of our communities' existing capacity and knowledge with the creation of opportunities for professional development and social mobility.

Leadership –

Irrespective of titles or names, the value of Leadership is the ability to bring about transformative change from vision to completion, while at the same time remaining a humble lifelong learner.

### **Vision Statement:**

Liberation through Education.

Thus, an online modality will add greater flexibility and accessibility in terms of cost, time management, and location to those students who would otherwise struggle to access education necessary to enter the profession.

UWLA strives to continually improve the JD program to better ensure student success. As part of the program's continual improvement, our assessment of learning outcomes supports our conclusion that our students need additional learning opportunities and greater formative feedback throughout the program. The online modality will allow UWLA to better service its students by bringing higher education to their home and workplace and thus meeting the learner where they are.

### **b. Curricular Design and Nomenclature**

The curriculum will mirror our current on-ground offering. We will offer a 15-week cohort model, accepting new students in fall and spring semesters, as we do under the current model. The scaffolding of courses will remain the same, with theory and practical application throughout. With regard to pedagogical method and instructional theory, the online curriculum will be enhanced with problem-based learning, rather than an exclusively Socratic approach, providing students with the opportunity to apply their understanding to real world scenarios. The content will be a live synchronous video stream in place of the on-campus in classroom three hour lecture discussion, all other pedagogical modalities will be applied equally to the online JD program as they currently are within the on-campus JD program. Assessments of course learning objectives will be conducted in the same manner as they currently are for the on-campus JD program through our Learning Management System (LMS) Desire2Learn (D2L) in the form of formative assessment artifacts administered during the twelfth to thirteenth class session.



The degree nomenclature will remain a Juris Doctor (JD).

### **c. Alignment with State Bar Mission and Goals**

UWLA's request for approval of a fully online JD program aligns with and advances the mission of the State Bar, with particular emphasis on increasing both the diversity of the profession and increasing access to justice to underserved populations in California.

Please see:

<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/About-Us/Our-Mission> ("Mission"),  
<http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/reports/Diversity-Inclusion-Plan-Report.pdf> ("Diversity Plan"), and  
<http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/accessJustice/Attorney-Desert-Policy-Brief.pdf> ("Access to Justice").

One of the great advantages of the online modality is that it instantly creates access to law school for people in areas that are not otherwise served by a brick-and-mortar school as well as for people who do not have the wherewithal (financial or otherwise) to move to large cities with law schools (and a higher cost of living). Providing access to qualified applicants from these communities will not only increase access to justice for those communities, but will also increase the diversity of those practicing law throughout the state, which are two of the stated goals of the State Bar.

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic has still not run its course to conclusion, Los Angeles' notorious traffic has already returned. Distance learning allows our students to save anywhere from thirty minutes to three hours driving time over a typical thirty-mile drive to campus. Thus, a distance learning modality will allow our students who typically come onto campus twice per week to save from two hours to twelve hours of commute. They can then dedicate that saved time to additional study time to master their subjects or more importantly, to engage in much needed self-care for their mental health under these trying times.

### **The Online Modality Results in Less Overall Student Debt**

The California Accredited Law School online modality will allow students to incur far less student debt than the traditional ABA law school model, thus increasing access to law school to students with less financial resources. One of the primary goals of offering an online JD is to reduce the cost of a legal education. UWLA's tuition is currently \$90,015.00. Additional cost savings will be realized via electronic texts embedded into the LMS, as well as both cost of living and cost of commuting for those not in the immediate area.

### **The Online Modality Will Increase Diversity in The Practice of Law**

Currently there are numerous, qualified people throughout the State of California and Los Angeles County who do not pursue a legal education. This is not because of a lack of desire, but rather due to the cost of legal education and the difficulties of traveling to a physical campus from either their worksite or their home for those that care for family members. Greater access to law school for these populations through an online program will create a higher probability of bringing diversity, equity, and inclusion due to the multicultural landscape of Los Angeles County.

### **The Online Modality Will Yield Data Consistent with The State Bar's Goals**

The State Bar's Diversity Plan focuses on the disproportionate attrition rate of diverse students in law school, collecting and analyzing statewide data to identify systemic issues that need to be addressed, and developing programs to address them. (Diversity Plan, p. 2). Not only is the online modality a potentially systemic solution to some of these problems, but it will also generate numerous data that can help the State Bar track and understand the needs, learning processes and success or failure of its students. By its nature, the online modality will yield a tremendous amount of data and information that is not available in the traditional on-campus law school format.

### **UWLA's PLAN FOR ONLINE DEVELOPMENT:**

The online JD program has been developed as a system-wide partnership between the School of Law Dean, full-time faculty, adjunct faculty, Director of Assessment, Director of Faculty Development, Director of Institutional Research and eLearning, and UWLA's Curriculum Review Committee. UWLA, since March of 2020, through the joint acquiescence of the Committee as well as WSCUC has conducted its existing on-campus JD program through a distance learning modality online. Thus, this fifteen month process has enable UWLA to established best practices that create the structure of the online JD program that we are requesting permission to offer here.

UWLA's online modality is currently being held via synchronous Zoom classroom sessions that are held on a one-to-one ratio of hours as if the courses were being offered on-campus. Law students access their Zoom rooms through our online student LMS, D2L, and have been granted additional access to our new Student Information System (SIS), Campus Café. Campus Café, which was implemented in March of 2021, allows a greater level of transparency for all UWLA stakeholders, by way of example, students may now access remotely through the internet their unofficial transcripts, register for classes, pay their tuition, and receive grades once they are released. Additionally, these technological systems are overseen by our eLearning Virtual Instructional Support team (ELVIS) which consists of: Director of eLearning, Jesse Aldava in conjunction with library staff Mauricio Canas, Jeff Gast, Aria Golshorkhi, and Chris Kukta. This ELVIS team is available to students and faculty all day every day.

### **COMPLIANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES**

#### **Division 1: General Provisions.**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures under Division 1.

### **Division 2: Honesty and Integrity**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures under Division 2.

### **Division 3: Governance**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures under Division 3.

### **Division 4: Dean, Full-Time Administrator, and Faculty**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures under Division 4.

### **Division 5: Admissions**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures under Division 5.

### **Division 6: Academics**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures under Division 6, sections 6.1-6.4.

### **Guideline 6.5 Quantitative Academic Requirements**

Pursuant to **Guideline 6.5 (A)**, the minimum requirement for the J.D. Degree is the satisfactory completion of a course of study requiring 1,200 hours of verified academic engagement. In pertinent part, **Guideline 6.5 (B)** states that “academic engagement” includes instruction in a compliant Juris Doctor degree curriculum offered through any of the following means: ...**(b)** student participation in a synchronous or asynchronous curriculum offered through distance-learning technology.

The online JD Program requires a student to successfully complete 85 units. Our 3-unit courses will require 45 hours of academic engagement. Our 2-unit courses will require 30 hours of academic engagement, and 15 hours of academic engagement will be required for our 1-unit courses. The number of hours of academic engagement in our currently offered, on-ground program remains the same in the proposed online JD program. We expect the student/instructor ratio to be no greater than 20:1, which is in line with our current ratio.

The full-time faculty and School of Law Administration have developed a plan for online course development that ensures 1,200 hours of verified academic engagement, and includes weekly student to faculty and student to student engagement opportunities which directly match UWLA’s on-campus JD program. Unverified academic engagement, such as case book readings, case briefing, outlining of course material and study time in groups or alone will continue to be required for student success, as it currently is in UWLA’s on-campus JD program. Weekly course design, with anticipated verified engagement hours, for the courses is below:

- a. Required case book readings
- b. Verified interactive synchronous video lectures with questions to elicit student understanding

Weekly verified academic engagement for a 3-unit course:

<b>Academic Engagement</b>	<b>Time Estimate</b>	<b>Three Unit Course</b>
Interactive synchronous video lectures	Three hours	Student-faculty engagement

Weekly verified academic engagement for a 2-unit course:

<b>Academic Engagement</b>	<b>Time Estimate</b>	<b>Two Unit Course</b>
Interactive synchronous video lectures	Two hours	Student-faculty engagement

Weekly verified academic engagement for a 1-unit course:

<b>Academic Engagement</b>	<b>Time Estimate</b>	<b>One Unit Course</b>
Interactive synchronous video lectures	One hour	Student-faculty engagement

### **Unverified Academic Engagement – Student Preparation**

Expected unverified academic engagement hours per week will not change in the online modality. In alignment with the Carnegie system, UWLA students are expected to spend at least three hours per course unit preparing for class. For a three-unit course, students are expected to spend at least nine hours per week in preparation, six hours per week for a two-unit course, and at least three hours for a one-unit course. Unverified academic engagement includes case book readings, content review and outlining, preparing case briefs and written assignments, and study of the material. Where unverified academic engagement is conducted within the online platform (i.e., embedded case books, outlining tools, time spent within the course content, etc.), the average time students spend in preparation will be tracked and reviewed annually. All faculty are required to assign readings and other preparatory work to students which, in our estimate, takes the student the number of hours required per unit for outside-of-class preparation. This requirement will not change and all syllabi will continue to be checked and reviewed to ensure adequate preparatory time is required within each course, each week.

## **Exams**

Each bar tested substantive course will have a proctored online timed final exam. UWLA uses Exemplify and will use ProctorU to proctor online exams which will ensure 1) authenticity of the student taking the exam, and 2) protect the integrity of the exam against cheating. Which is in alignment with the methodology employed by the Committee within both the October 2020 as well as the February 2021 General Bar Examination. To ensure authenticity of the examinee, students will create their Exemplify profile. During this process, a student uploads a government-issued photo ID (such as a passport or driver's license), answers security questions, and enters their first and last name. This information acts as the signature proctors use during the authentication process. All information is encrypted and stored on servers residing in the United States. UWLA and Exemplify hold strict security standards, and the information is only used during the authentication process and in compliance with all FERPA and HIPPA requirements where applicable. Once the student is authenticated, the proctor watches the student during the exam to ensure no outside resources (e.g., online, notes, people) are utilized. Pursuant to and **Guideline 2.7 (5)**, grading of all exams will continue to be anonymous.

### **The Online JD courses are below:**

The School of Law's JD program has an 85-unit requirement comprised of: 55 units in course work mandated by the State Bar of California to meet the content of the California Bar Examination; 18 units in required professional practice-based courses; and the remaining 12 units in electives which are largely practice oriented.

\*\*\*All courses that have already been conducted in an online environment by UWLA since March of 2020 are indicated below by the inclusion of \*\*\* preceding the course name. Thus, UWLA has already conducted in an online format, as UWLA is requesting within this Major Change Request, all 24 Required Courses from its curriculum as well as 21 of the potential 33 or 64% of the Electives that it historically offers its students.

### **Required Courses**

#### **\*\*\*Advanced Legal Writing (3 units)**

Building on the skills mastered in Legal Research and Writing, this course provides students with advanced legal research skills training as well as additional writing practice including closed and open office memoranda of points and authorities.

#### **\*\*\*Appellate Advocacy (3 units)**

This course is designed to study the methods and procedures attorneys use at trial. Students will learn through active participation in all aspects of trial, including opening statement, direct examination and cross-examination of witnesses, closing arguments, objections, demonstrative

evidence, exhibits, and moving exhibits into evidence. The instructor and classmates will provide feedback to students on their presentations. The course will emphasize the importance of ethical courtroom demeanor and the skills needed for effective oral advocacy.

**\*\*\*Business Organizations (3 units)**

A study of the law relating to corporations, agency, and the various forms of limited liability entities, including general and limited partnerships (LLC's and LLP's) and uniform acts such as the Uniform Partnership Act and the Model Business Corporations Act.

**\*\*\*Civil Procedure (4 units)**

The course provides an overview of traditional, classic Federal and California Civil Procedure doctrines, comparing selected areas where the two systems differ. Students will discover that procedural devices and rules can decide who wins a case the way military strategy delivers victory to a weaker combatant who outsmarts a stronger foe. Among the techniques students learn how to use to determine outcomes: 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment *in personam* jurisdiction; Federal subject matter jurisdiction; venue; Erie Doctrine choice of law; 7<sup>th</sup> Amendment right to jury; res judicata and collateral estoppel; Collateral Order Doctrine appealability.

**\*\*\*Community Property (3 units)**

The law of California marital property. Topics include classifying marital property, management and control of community property, the liability of marital property for the debts and torts of the spouses, the division of community property upon dissolution or death, and the property rights of putative and meretricious spouses. The course also includes coverage of selected California family law topics.

**\*\*\*Constitutional Law I (3 units)**

An introductory study of the Constitution of the United States. Subjects include the structure of the federal republic, the constitutional powers of government, separation of powers, the theory and practice of judicial interpretation and review, individual rights, including due process of law.

**\*\*\*Constitutional Law II (3 units)**

A further study of the Constitution of the United States. Subjects include equal protection, freedom of expression and association, and free exercise and establishment of religion.

**\*\*\*Contracts I (3 units)**

The first semester of the year-long course in contract law covers the agreement process (intent to contract, offer, acceptance, consideration, etc.), alternative doctrines under which a noncontractual promise may be legally enforced (promises made in recognition of a benefit received, promissory estoppel), "policing the bargain, doctrines (status, misconduct, public policy), Statute of Frauds (the requirement of writing).

**\*\*\*Contracts II (3 units)**

The second semester of the course begins with parole evidence and contract interpretation. With all aspects of contract formation covered; the course goes on to contract performance doctrines (conditions, impossibility/impracticability, frustration of purpose, breach). The course is then

completed with remedies (damages, restitution, specific performance), the rights and duties of third parties (assignment, delegation, third party beneficiaries), and finally, remaining doctrines of contractual discharge (mutual rescission, accord and satisfaction, novation).

### \*\*\*Criminal Law (3 units)

Criminal law is the study of the substantive law by which society regulates the conduct of its members and imposes criminal liability. Criminal liability is normally referred to as punishment. That liability may be discharged by a fine, by imprisonment, or by death. We will study general principles of criminal liability as well as the specific crimes of homicide, conspiracy, assault and battery, rape and sexual assault, attempts, theft crimes including robbery, and burglary, as well as justification defenses and excuses for criminal conduct. While there is no such thing modernly as common law crimes and while all criminal systems must be provided for by statute of the jurisdiction involved; we will study cases from a variety of jurisdictions as well as the Model Penal Code promulgated by the American Law Institute in 1962.

### \*\*\*Criminal Procedure (3 units)

Rules relating to the exclusion of evidence against a criminal defendant alleged to be in violation of one or more of the first Ten Amendments and the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Includes illegal search and seizure of the person or property, search warrants, double jeopardy, self-incrimination, confessions, right to counsel, right to bail, right to a fair and speedy trial, right of witness confrontation, right to trial by jury, right of due process of law, pretrial criminal procedures, and post-conviction remedies.

### \*\*\*Evidence I (3 units)

The admission and exclusion of evidence and the basis and logic/or policy underlying the rules. Topics include relevancy and materiality; hearsay and its exceptions. The allocation of the burden of persuasion and of producing evidence and the effect of presumptions are also examined.

### \*\*\*Evidence II (3 units)

Materials include competency of witnesses; privileged communication; impeachment and cross-examination; and scientific, demonstrative, and documentary evidence.

### \*\*\*Introduction to Legal Studies (3 units)

The substance and structure of legal analysis and legal method, including reading, briefing, and understanding cases and statutes. Extensive in-class and out-of-class written work emphasizing the application of case law and statutory law to specific fact situations.

### \*\*\*Legal Research and Writing | (3 units)

Basic techniques of manual and computer-assisted legal research, legal writing, and updating research. Course requires submission of written research assignments, an office memorandum, and a memorandum of points and authorities.

### \*\*\*Pretrial Litigation Procedure (3 units)

Students explore pre-trial procedures (including pleadings, discovery and planning the trial).

**\*\*\*Professional Responsibility (3 units)**

Organization, regulation and ethical obligations of the legal profession; unauthorized practice; forming the attorney-client relationship; limitations on advertising, solicitation, and group legal service plans; compensation for legal services; fiduciary duties to client; avoiding conflicts of interest; competent representation; withdrawal from employment; duties and limitation on zealous representation; relations with other attorneys and the court; judicial ethics.

**\*\*\*Real Property I (3 units)**

An introduction to the law of real property, including the states and other interests in land at common law, concurrent ownership, modern methods of creating, acquiring and transferring interests in land, including the contract and the deed and remedies for failure of performance.

**\*\*\*Real Property II (3 units)**

Includes the recording system, title insurance, covenants of title and implied warranties; private restrictions on the use of land and zoning; duties and rights of landlord and tenant; easements; covenants; equitable servitudes.

**\*\*\*Remedies (3 units)**

A study of legal and equitable remedies. Includes damages, injunctive relief, specific performance, restitution and defenses. Emphasis will be placed upon the choice of appropriate remedies for achieving the best strategic result.

**\*\*\*Torts I (3 units)**

An introduction to Tort theory and the nature of public policy. Extensive study of the laws governing intentional torts and negligent conduct.

**\*\*\*Torts II (3 units)**

Continued study on the laws governing negligence. Other topics covered include strict liability, product liability, defamation, invasion of privacy and business torts.

**\*\*\*Trial Advocacy (3 units)**

Students explore trial procedures and strategies (including selecting a jury, examining witnesses, raising objections and making legal and factual arguments to the jury).

**\*\*\*Trusts and Estates (3 units)**

The nature and use of inter vivos and testamentary trusts; elements of private and charitable trusts; use of trusts in estate planning; duties of trustees; rights of beneficiaries; enforcement of trusts; intestate succession; nature, validity, and operation of wills with particular emphasis on the California Probate Code, and probate and administration of estates.



## **Elective Courses**

The following is a list includes all elective courses offered by UWLA in the preceding two years and it is not exhaustive as new electives are developed every year. Note that not all electives are offered every year, but on a rotating basis based upon student interest.

### **\*\*\*Bankruptcy (3 units)**

A study of the substantive law of Bankruptcy and its application, including voluntary and involuntary liquidations, discharge of debts, exemptions and creditor claims. Chapter 11 reorganizations, Chapter 13 plans and adversary proceedings will be detailed.

### **Billing and Case Management (1 unit)**

Focuses on the art of billing and file organization. This hands-on course will provide students with skills they will need in every field of law they practice. With the assignments in this class, the students will be exposed to various tasks involved in multiple fields, and will learn how to capture billing. The familiarity with billing practices and case management that students will gain from this class will help provide the competitive tools needed to advance in the areas of law they choose to practice.

### **California DUI & Traffic Defense (3 units)**

The purpose of our DUI & Traffic Course is to prepare students for the practice of criminal law in the defense of infractions, misdemeanors, and felonies relating to the California Vehicle Code. This course is designed to cover legal issues, forms, pleadings, procedures, preparation of the case and defense thereof, and issues dealing with Traffic Court and Diversion Drug Court Programs. In addition, this course may touch upon DMV Administrative Hearings, hearing procedures, administrative reviews, and grounds for setting aside suspensions and/or reinstating driver licenses. Although there is abundant material to cover in this course, particularly in DUI Defense, this course is designed to give students sufficient background to be familiar with traffic and DUI cases as they may arise in their professional careers

### **Civil Rights Law (3 units)**

This course provides students with the principles of the primary federal and California civil rights legislation, as well as a working knowledge of the historical, moral, and social policies that gave rise to these legal rules and that affect their continuing application today. The course analyzes noncriminal statutes Congress and the California Legislature enacted to protect civil rights, and litigation under those civil rights laws. The course will first focus on federal law, including 42 United States Code section 1983, and laws prohibiting sex discrimination, discrimination in employment and housing, and disability discrimination. California law will also be examined, including the Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Unruh Civil Rights Act, and other state civil rights legislation

### Client Counseling (3 units)

This is a client-centered course on client counseling and interviewing. We shall employ some traditional concepts, strategies and techniques for interviewing and counseling both new and existing clients with which you will find yourself once entering the practice of law. You will be introduced to a range of strategic options that exist when confronted with varying problems with clients. This course is much more than teaching you how to execute a given skill or technique, but will help you become better interviewers and counselors.

### \*\*\*Criminal Litigation Workshop (3 units)

This class will be a hands-on introduction to complex criminal litigation. We will evaluate a large current criminal case that involves hundreds of evidentiary documents and we will discuss how to analyze and organize the case in preparation for a hearing. Students will be evaluating arguments presented by (real) counsel and will be preparing counter-arguments. We will also be observing similar proceedings taking place in real courts during the semester. Each student will prepare a pleading addressing their assigned portion of the case.

### \*\*\*Criminal Practice (3 units)

A course covering the practical aspects of criminal practice and procedure from arrest through trial. Emphasis on pre-trial proceedings such as arraignments, motions, preliminary hearings, discovery, and trial. Designed for those who are interested in careers as prosecutors or criminal defense lawyers in either public or private settings.

### Debtor-Creditor Relations (3 units)

This course is designed to familiarize students with many of the applicable laws that apply to nearly every aspect of a client's personal and business life and recognize the pervasive nature of the Debtor-Creditor Relationship: The Debtor-Creditor Relationship is central to everyone's life, and is central to the day-to-day life of a practicing attorney.

### Domestic Violence (3 units)

This course will examine the legal system's response to domestic violence using an interdisciplinary approach. The course will address the legal issues of domestic violence in the areas of criminal, family, tort, immigration, employment, human rights, federal, and constitutional law. Ethical and policy issues will be included throughout. Specific legal issues will include the effectiveness of civil restraining orders, how intentional torts have applied to domestic violence, the erosion of interspousal immunity, how domestic violence is taken into account in custody and support proceedings, and interstate custody problems. The course will also analyze in the criminal area the efficacy of mandatory arrest and no-drop prosecution policies, including claims of self-defense and the use of expert testimony.

### \*\*\*Employment Discrimination Law (3 Units)

This course will examine State and Federal statutes and case law that cover the cause of antidiscrimination in the workplace. The types of discrimination to be covered will be race, sex, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age and religious discrimination. The review of federal statutes will include Title VII of The Civil Rights Act of 1964, and its amendments, The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and The Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA). The principle California statute to be reviewed will be The Fair Employment & Housing Act (FEHA). Students will learn practical skills and applications of this field through drafting an Employment Discrimination Complaint, an Answer to an Employment Discrimination Complaint, a Discovery Request and a Discovery Response, based upon fun and interesting real- life fact patterns. Students will also learn about the administrative agencies charged with the enforcement of these statutes (the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the California Department of Fair Employment & Housing).

### \*\*\*Entertainment Law (3 units)

A comprehensive and systematic approach to entertainment transactions, with an emphasis on film and television production. Basic copyright and trademark law will be covered as it relates to the transactions.

### \*\*\*Family Law (3 units)

Family relations, including the law of marriage and annulment, dissolution and judicial separation, property settlement agreements, spousal support, legitimacy of children, custody, and adoption.

### \*\*\*How to Start a Successful Law Practice (3 units)

This is a practical course/workshop which will cover everything a new Attorney needs to know too start a new law practice. The class will feature at least one guest lecturer. Students will be taught how to interact with potential clients through role play and other methods. Students will prepare a business plan for their own mock law practice.

### \*\*\*Immigration Law (3 units)

The law relating to enforcement agencies, administration, requirements, exclusion process, elements of deportation, aliens, citizenship, naturalization, and customs.

### Independent Study (1-3 units)

Comprehensive individual research projects under supervision of a faculty member, resulting in a scholarly paper. Topic and unit credit must be approved in advance by the Academic Council. Students who elect to do independent study must be in good standing academically.

This is an opportunity for advanced students to pursue new and different areas of the law not covered in the standard curriculum. Generally, projects will be awarded 1 to 3 units of credit, based upon the amount of identifiable and pre-approved time spent in research and writing. Independent study units are graded on a pass/fail basis and are included in the maximum eight non-classroom units. Before a student may register for Independent Study, the student first must petition the Academic Council for permission, submitting a detailed written proposal jointly prepared by the student and the professor who is willing to supervise the project, and receive approval by the Academic Council in advance of beginning the project. The written proposal must include a time-line of steps to be taken and the estimated number of hours of each step, including research, a bibliography, drafts, editing, rewriting, and the like. If the Academic Council approves the petition, the Council will determine the number of acceptable units.

NOTE: If a student opts to participate in Independent Study under the supervision of a professor who is not scheduled to supervise the course for that semester, it is the student's responsibility to make ALL of the arrangements and to pay the professor's salary for the course.

### \*\*\*Jurisprudence (3 units)

Law students must be able to think critically and write well in order to succeed in law school and pass the California Bar Examination. However, these objectives cannot be fully realized without a grasp on the foundational conceptions and theories regarding the fundamental nature of law.

Jurisprudence is the theory and philosophy of law. Scholars of jurisprudence, or legal philosophers, hope to obtain a deeper understanding of the nature of law, of legal reasoning, legal systems and of legal institutions. The semester will be spent exploring central issues in Jurisprudence as well as the various approaches and philosophies underlying it. This will be done in part through the study of various theories about the purpose and function of law in the Western legal tradition including Legal Realism (e.g., Karl Llewellyn, Jerome Frank), Natural Law (e.g., Aquinas, Ronald Dworkin, John Finnis) and Positivism (e.g., H.L.A. Hart, Joseph Raz). We will also examine the implications and affects of these theories on law as well as life in general. After a preliminary overview of the differences between pre-modern, modern, and post-modern thinking, students will be required to complete a group assignment which will be presented in class. Details of this group assignment will be provided at a later time.

### \*\*\*L.A.W. B (2 units)

Legal Analysis and Writing (LAW) is a practicum-based course in which students will spend two hours per week reviewing essays fact patterns and writing responses to those questions, while at the same time receiving immediate feedback from their professors focused on Spring semester substantive subjects.

**\*\*\*Law School Bootcamp (1 Unit)**

This is an introductory course to the fundamentals of law school and surviving your first week. Covering topics from briefing, legal writing, and understanding the law school process.

**\*\*\*Legal Writing (2 units)**

Legal writing is a practicum-based course in which students will spend two hours per week reviewing essays fact patterns and writing responses to those questions, while at the same time receiving immediate feedback from their professors focused on Fall semester substantive subjects.

**\*\*\*Legal Clinic Educational Law (IEP) (3 units)**

The objective of the Legal Clinic is to provide a wide range of support to families and children with physical and/or mental disabilities or other special needs. Students enrolled in the Legal Clinic course will provide assistance to families as it relates to Individualized Education Plans (“IEP”). Students will provide support and counseling prior to, during, and after the IEP Process whereby the family will have the opportunity to meet with the law student(s) at the UWLA Campus for free assistance with their IEP. Students will subsequently serve as “Advocates” with the family during their IEP Meeting. In addition to providing families with the above-mentioned services, it is the goal of the Legal Clinic to promote community awareness of the University of West Los Angeles thereby enhancing student achievement. Further, the Legal Clinic will provide UWLA law students the unique opportunity to learn various aspects of special education law. Students will receive hands on experience in hopes of enhancing their skills as law students and as effective practitioners.

**\*\*\*Legal Externship Program (LEP) (1-3 units)**

Students who have completed 21 units with a satisfactory GPA may participate in LEP. They place with public agencies, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, legal aid clinics, judges, and law firms and companies. Students work under the supervision of an attorney dealing with clients and courts, handling real-world legal problems. Prior to beginning LEP, students obtain (1) determination of administrative eligibility to take externship units from the Registrar or Associate Dean, and (2) determination of academic approval from the Director of the placement chosen by the student. The State Bar permits up to 8 units of non-classroom work. More than 3 LEP units in a semester, or a total of 9 LEP units, are permitted if good cause is shown. Students log their time on monthly reports signed by their attorney supervisor, and complete assignments, including viewing legal ethics videos and submitting reports, a final report on the student’s work at the placement, an exit report describing the student’s level of satisfaction with the placement, and weekly journals for students placing at private law firms. The course is Credit/No Credit. Students may concurrently participate in the State Bar’s *Practical Training of Law Students* program under its rules.

**\*\*\*Lex Parsimoniae (Bar Exam Prep) (3 units)**

Focusing on test-taking techniques with an emphasis on essay questions, the objective of this course is to enhance the student’s knowledge and mastery of subjects tested on the California Bar Examination. The class is not intended as a substitute for any other course in the curriculum or for an outside bar review course.

**\*\*\*Litigation Management & Courtroom Decorum (3 Units)**

This is a course managing litigation from a perspective of the judiciary. This course will provide a real world, hands on approach to courtroom decorum, trial preparation, jury selection, and witness management. This course will consist of practical and mock hearings.

**\*\*\*MBE B (1 unit)**

Focusing on test-taking techniques with an emphasis on multiple choice questions. The objective of this course is to enhance the student's knowledge and mastery in multiple choice questions of subjects offered and tested during the FALL 2017 semester and on the California Bar Examination. The class is not intended as a substitute for any other course in the curriculum

**\*\*\*Moot Court (3 units)**

Upper-division students are given an appellate problem for use in representing UWLA in Moot Court Competition. This course is available by invitation only.

**\*\*\*Moot Court Project (1, 2 or 3 units)**

Upper-division students are given an appellate problem for which they must write a judged research brief and participate in a judged oral argument on behalf of both appellant and respondent. The topic is an actual (but modified) recent CIVIL appeal involving employment law. Following the preparation of the brief, done individually and with individual and group meetings with the instructor, all members of the Project meet for a series of group class sessions and simulated oral arguments. Participating students must have previously completed the Appellate Advocacy class. Class sessions are scheduled to accommodate other class/work obligations of the Project participants, and therefore meetings typically take place in the evenings and on weekends. Although there are informational meetings held during the brief writing portion of the Project, the majority of class meetings take place following the conclusion of the brief, when simulated oral arguments are conducted. At those simulated court sessions, students alternate advocating on behalf of either party, and also serve as appellate judge, evaluating presentations of the advocates. Students will be evaluated by Professor Glassman, other advocacy instructors, fellow students, and invited attorneys and judges. Participation will also provide students to attend oral argument sessions of the California Court of Appeal, during which related actual case hearings will be evaluated. The Project concludes in the first week of April, providing students ample time to prepare for examinations in other classes and for graduating students, commence bar preparation. Class is Pass/No Pass.

**Police Misconduct and Excessive Force (3 units)**

This course focuses on litigating civil rights claims under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983, in lawsuits suit government officials (including City agencies and individual police officers). This course will discuss the nuances between filing in Federal versus State jurisdiction. There will be a discussion of the potential federal and state causes of action. The primary focus will be to learn how to use federal and state statutes to vindicate constitutional rights or defend governmental entities. We will also cover the proper defendants and theories under Section 1983; what kind of constitutional violations must be shown; how causation works for governmental and tort claims; immunity and other defenses that have been read into the statute; and how damages are assessed.

There will also be a discussion surrounding the attorney's fees provision in Federal court. We will discuss high profile police misconduct cases while discussing a wide range of substantive civil rights violations, including due process violations, equal protection violations, denial of free speech, excessive force, and unlawful searches and seizures. Finally, we will discuss the discovery process as it relates to section 1983 cases (including Pitchess Motions). There will also be discussions regarding the intersection of the criminal and civil proceedings.

#### Post-Conviction Relief Other Than Appeal (3 units)

Course includes There are legal mechanisms available in the trial court simply to improve a criminal record – usually done to improve employment opportunities. This is a practical “how to” class on what can be done, and the underlying legal principles involved, including supporting statutory and case law. Topics include, early termination of probation, reduction of a felony conviction to a misdemeanor, post-conviction dismissal (expungement), certificate of rehabilitation and pardon, and motion to seal records (factual innocence).

#### Preparing for Law Practice in California (3 units)

This course, Preparing for Practice in California for Solos and Small Firm Practice, will introduce the student to traditional concepts, strategies and techniques for preparing to open, opening, surviving the first year of a solo or small firm practice and beyond. The student will be introduced to a range of strategic issues faced by the new practitioner, including preparing a business plan, financing and capitalization, and marketing. We shall explore the use of new technology, including software for general and client trust accounting, conflict screening, billing, and more. The underlying principles introduced in this courses' practical approach is grounded in the rules and laws of ethics.

#### Sales and Secured Transactions (3 units)

This is a basic course dealing with contracts for the sale of goods under Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Its goals include the development of skills in statutory analysis and an in-depth understanding of the process of contract formation and performance in the modern world of sales of goods. An understanding SECURED TRANSACTIONS This practical course focuses on the formation, enforceability and use of security interests in personal property and in basic commercial transactions. Secured transactions are covered under Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code Both Sales and Secured Transactions relate to and control fundamental everyday legal issues that impact our clients.

#### \*\*\*Introduction to Federal Income and Other Taxes (3 Units)

An introductory course on federal income taxes with a focus on different types of taxable income, deductible expenses, and the general structure of an income tax return. The course will also cover the tax consequences of varied financial and non-financial transactions and an overview of various other taxes. No prior tax knowledge is required.

#### Trademark (3 units)

This course will make students familiar with the fundamentals of trademark law and begin exploration into the trademark prosecution with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

**\*\*\*Workers Compensation Practice I (3 units)**

Workers Compensation Practice I prepares students for the practice of Workers' Compensation law before the State of California Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. The course covers all legal issues, forms, pleadings, procedures, preparation/file management/litigation of applicant's cases and defense thereof. The course includes practicum portions with training in depositions, cross-examination techniques and skills, rating and analyzing reports, and completing settlement and trial documents. The course focuses on the actual practice of workers' compensation and the assignments were designed to walk the students through the initial handling of a workers' compensation case up to litigation.

**Guideline 6.5 (C)** requires regular and punctual attendance in academic engagement. The online JD will require not less than 80% of the minimum number of hours required for academic engagement required in each course. This amount will be calculated in the same manner as it is conducted on campus in which the professor will call roll and then submit that verified attendance roster to UWLA's Registrar.

**Guideline 6.5 (D)** Curriculum, is set forth above.

**Guideline 6.5 (E – N):** No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures.

**Guideline 6.6 Externship, Clinical, Law Review, and Similar Programs:**

UWLA has a highly developed and compliant Legal Externship Program. Please see Attachments LEP 1 through 11.

Additionally, UWLA has a highly developed and highly impactful Clinic which benefits our community by providing representation to families denied reasonable accommodations in the form of Individualized Educational Programs by the Los Angeles Unified School District. Please see course descriptions for both the LEP and Clinic above as well as take note that both courses have been offered continuously since March 2020 in an online modality.

**Guideline 6.7 Content of Curriculum**

Guideline 6.7 mandates that a school must design its curricular offerings, units per course, and requirements for graduation in a manner consistent with Rule 4.160C and Guideline 6.1. The online JD includes all subjects tested on the California Bar Examination, offered annually. Additionally, a course in Professional Responsibility will continue to be required.

**Guideline 6.8 Balanced and Comprehensive Course of Study**



The courses set forth above are to be taken in sequence. At UWLA students are required to take 12 units of electives, 18 units of UWLA practicum courses, and 55 units of substantive law courses to satisfy the 85 units to complete the program.

### **Guideline 6.9 Practical Skills**

Guideline 6.9 (A) requires that schools provide the opportunity for students to complete a minimum of fifteen (15) units of practical-based skills and competency training. The online JD exceeds this requirement by mandating 18 units as described below as well as offering many Electives to satisfy this requirement additionally with the 12 units that students may self-select in their areas of interest.

UWLA Practicum Courses: 18 units

Intro to Legal Studies-3 units  
Legal Research & Writing-3 units  
Advanced Legal Writing-3 units  
Pre-Trial Litigation Procedure-3 units  
Trial Advocacy-3 units  
Appellate Advocacy-3 units

### **Guideline 6.10 Student Interaction**

The online JD will include numerous opportunities for student-to-student interaction. All courses will include live discussion within the three-hour course class sessions synchronously wherein students and faculty can engage with one another on course content.

Features to help engage student interaction on Zoom include the following: Polling, break out rooms, etc.

### **Guideline 6.11 Required Examinations**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and examination practices, other than our use of Exemplify and ProctorU as our proctoring mechanism. All courses, except those requiring substantial oral or written work, will have final examinations testing student knowledge and ability for advancement.

### **Guideline 6.12 Restrictions on Use of Past Examinations**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures.

### **Guideline 6.13 Examination formats; Evaluation of Examination Effectiveness**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures. All bar tested substantive examinations will involve both essay questions, where applicable, and MBE-style

multiple choice questions. The School of Law faculty chairs constitute UWLA's Examination Review Committee and they will continue to review all examinations in advance of them being given to ensure they will test the students' ability and knowledge of the fundamental principles of the course.

#### **Guideline 6.14 Grading Standards**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures.

#### **Division 7: Scholastic Standards**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures.

#### **Division 8: Library Requirements**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures. All required materials will be accessible online and students will be provided both Westlaw and LexisNexis access as they are currently. Additionally, students will have access to all Committee required materials in an online format as well as hard copies available at each campus.

#### **Division 9: Physical Resources**

**Guideline 9.1** requires that a law school have physical and technological resources in an infrastructure adequate for its programs and operations. There will be no changes made to our physical structure in the online JD. The administrative office and technology platform will be maintained in California as required by this guideline, as it has for the past fifteen months in employing the online teaching modality.

**Guideline 9.3** requires a school to have and maintain instructional equipment and distance learning technology that is adequate to support its educational program. The online JD will utilize the D2L platform. The D2L platform is one provided by an industry-leader in LMS, and is now used by over 1200 schools, colleges, universities, and businesses around the world. Since the program is online, support for the platform is provided 24 hours a day to ensure that, should students run into infrastructure concerns while attempting to complete their coursework, they can receive resolution in that session and complete on time as scheduled. In addition to immediate service support to redress any issues, there are monthly and bi-weekly meetings to continue to refine and improve the experience and platform. Additionally, as discussed above UWLA has transitioned to a new SIS, Campus Café, to further enable both student and faculty access to student information as needed remotely.

#### **Division 10 Financial Resources**

##### **Guideline 10.1 - 10.3**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and practices governing financial resources. UWLA's 2020 Annual Compliance Report and related financial disclosures was submitted to the State Bar.

### **Division 11 Records and Reports**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures. Our Annual Compliance Report has been submitted. Pursuant to **Guideline 11.1 (O) (2)**, the School of Law has an extensive assessment process. Attached please see JD Curriculum Map, which articulates the alignment between the courses and program learning outcomes. Also attached please see UWLA Assessment and Program Review Handbook 2018. Consistent with University practice, each academic year two PLO's are chosen by faculty to be assessed.

In addition, the JD Program will undergo a scheduled five-year program review (program self-study). The internal five-year self-study includes annual PLO assessment data, including results and either an affirmation of existing good practices or proposed programmatic changes in an effort to close the loop. All of this flows in alignment with UWLA's Mission, Values, and Vision while at the same time being student success centered.

### **Division 12 Minimum, Cumulative Bar Examination Pass Rate**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures. Our MPR has been verifiably and compliantly reported as follows:

2018: 55.34%

2019: 49.43%

2020: 41.80%

UWLA's as of yet unverified MPR calculation for 2021, taking into account both the October 2020 and February 2021 Bar Examinations will be reported at between 47.77% and 49.37%. The range in the MPR calculation is due to the need of validation as to which UWLA alums within the MPR calculation are currently PLLs on a pathway to licensure.

### **Division 13 Awarding of Professional Degrees in Addition to the JD Degree**

If the School of Law decides to offer any professional law degree in addition to the JD, the School of Law will seek prior Committee approval in accordance with this guideline.

### **Division 14 Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination**

No changes will be made with respect to our current policies and procedures.