



American/Canadian J.D./LL.B. Joint Degree Program

Three years. Two degrees. One distinctive program.

advantage

“The program takes advantage of our geographical location. We are the only law schools in our countries that can offer this kind of cross-border education. In this era of globalization, this is a major advantage for our students.”

Bruce Elman, Dean of Law, University of Windsor Faculty of Law



J.D./LL.B. graduates Ravi Duhra '05, Marssa Giahinejad '05 and Jay Sernoskie '06.

American/Canadian J.D./LL.B. Joint Degree Program

Three years. Two degrees. One distinctive program.

The University of Windsor Faculty of Law and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law have collaborated to create a distinctive joint degree program – the only three-year program of its kind in either country. In this program, you earn two law degrees in three years and split your time between campuses that are in two countries – but are only minutes apart. You have a special opportunity to immerse yourself in two legal cultures and two national cultures, and to establish a foundation for practicing law in an increasingly globalized world.

J.D./LL.B. Program

- An integrated approach to learning both American and Canadian law
- Prepare yourself for a world in which legal practice is becoming increasingly international
- Distinguish yourself from the crowd
- Earn two degrees in only three years

international

“Our curriculum reflects the international climate of today’s society. We developed specific courses to address the differences between our two countries.”

George Stewart, Professor Emeritus, University of Windsor, Co-founder, J.D./LL.B. Program

"I chose the J.D./LL.B. because of the unique legal education I knew I would experience, simultaneously learning the laws of two countries, and because of the mobility it would afford me upon graduation."

Frederick Gerra, Class of 2008

An integrated approach

In today's world, the practice of law increasingly crosses borders. You can prepare yourself for that work through a unique program that enables you to earn both an American J.D. degree and a Canadian LL.B. degree in the same three years during which most law students receive only one degree.

Because of their unique proximity across an international border, the University of Windsor and the University of Detroit Mercy have been able to establish a program that offers a truly integrated approach to learning the law of both countries. You learn both U.S. law and Canadian law at the same time, gaining immediate exposure to the similarities and differences in the laws and legal systems of both countries.

In this program, you will:

- Receive the educational background necessary to practice law in two countries
- Gain exposure to two distinct legal and social cultures
- Learn unique comparative and analytical skills
- Create a foundation to practice in the world legal community of the 21st Century

perspective

“It is an invaluable perspective for anyone who has business dealings in a globalized world – and not just across the US and Canada border.”

Leon Lysaght, Professor, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Co-founder, J.D./LL.B. Program

“By combining my business degree with the J.D./LL.B. degrees, I will be able to offer legal knowledge from the Canadian and American perspectives that is essential in today’s business environment.”

Jennifer Matic, Class of 2008

An international perspective

Corporations and individuals on both sides of the border need lawyers who can deftly deal with two different legal systems in a global economy. The J.D./LL.B. degree program focuses on the corporate and commercial issues that are central to the economy of today and tomorrow.

For example, after learning both US and Canadian approaches in your basic first year courses, you will take a series of courses in your second and third years that are geared toward understanding the legal relationships that underpin many international transactions. From Business Organizations and Sales to Payment Systems and Secured Transactions, you will be exposed to courses that provide a special commercial focus. These courses culminate with the third-year capstone course in Canada-US Business Transactions in which you will learn about and simulate the drafting of documents for real cross-border transactions.

For those who do not want to practice in the corporate or commercial arena, the J.D./LL.B. Program still gives students the unique ability to practice law in two countries. Whether students choose to focus on criminal law, family law, estates, or immigration, the analytical skills and the broad knowledge base they receive by studying two legal systems will serve them well in the practice of any area of the law.

experience

“My exposure to two legal systems and strong education on how Canada and the US interacts in law and business has been invaluable for me in growing Fun Technologies throughout the US and internationally.”

Lorne Abony, Chief Executive Officer, Fun Technologies, on line gaming company valued at \$470 million

“The J.D./LL.B Program is a challenging academic endeavor. At the same time, it is an extremely rewarding experience. American and Canadian Law is quite similar in many respects, and different in others. Invariably, individuals who are trained in both systems of law, even if they plan to work in only one, will have a competitive advantage in the labor market.”

Perminder Tung, Class of 2008

A distinct opportunity

The joint degree program will help you appeal to employers in the United States, Canada and beyond. Our recent graduates practice at well-respected firms in Toronto, Vancouver, Detroit, Chicago, New York and other locations.

The joint degree program prepares you to distinguish yourself in the international marketplace because you will bring credentials that few others have – degrees from two countries and analytical skills that come from understanding U.S. and Canadian law in a broader context.

In this program, you will:

- Distinguish yourself in the marketplace
- Create your own portfolio of legal writing
- Bring an international perspective to your approach to the law

respected

“Studying at the University of Detroit Mercy and University of Windsor provided me with the opportunity to compete for legal positions at some of the most well-respected law firms in both Canada and the United States.”

John Cullis, Associate, Neal Gerber & Eisenberg LLP, Chicago

The J.D./LL.B. Program requires students to successfully complete 60 credit hours of course work at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and 44 credit hours of course work at the University of Windsor Faculty of Law.

Program Course of Study

Year	At Windsor	At Detroit Mercy
First year	Property Law* (7 credits), Contracts* (7 credits), Criminal Law* (6 credits), Constitutional Law (5 credits)	Applied Legal Theory and Analysis (ALTA)* (9 credits)
<p><i>The ALTA course at Detroit Mercy is specifically designed for students in the J.D./LL.B. Program. Students will learn the legal research methods and legal processes involved in both the United States and Canada, as well as prepare a number of written assignments and participate in a Moot Court experience specifically designed for each jurisdiction.</i></p>		
Summer after first year		Taxation A (4 credits), Professional Responsibility (3 credits)
Second year	Civil Procedure (4 credits)	Constitutional Law (4 credits), Evidence* (5 credits), Torts I* (4 credits), Torts II* (4 credits), Business Organizations* (5 credits), Comparative Civil Procedure (3 credits)
Third year	Secured Transactions – Canada (3 credits), Payment Systems – Canada (1 credit), electives sufficient to complete 44 total credits at Windsor	Secured Transactions – U.S. (2 credits), Payment Systems – U.S. (3 credits), Commercial Law-Sales* (3 credits), Canada-U.S. Business Transactions* (3 credits), electives sufficient to complete 60 total credits at Detroit Mercy

* indicates that the course deals with both U.S. and Canadian law. Note: The Course of Study is subject to change without notice.



University of Detroit Mercy campus



University of Windsor campus

“Enrolling in the J.D./LL.B. program is one of the most rewarding decisions I have ever made. I joined one program, but was welcomed into two communities.”

Keith Marlowe, Class of 2008

A unique community

The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law offers a distinct approach to legal education through its focus on ethics, service, the integration of the realities of practice into the classroom, and an international perspective. The law school is in the heart of downtown Detroit, Michigan. U.S. Court buildings and some of the largest law firms and multinational corporations in the region are within walking distance of the campus. The Renaissance Center, home to some of these firms and companies, offers views of the two nations, their peaceful border, and a busy region rich with opportunity. This is the setting in which the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law has thrived since 1912.

The Faculty of Law was established in 1968 at the University of Windsor, located almost adjacent to the Ambassador Bridge. This institution has a rich history that traces its origins to the founding of Assumption College in 1857. Since its inception, the law student body has grown from 30 to more than 500. Windsor Law has developed a varied, yet highly purposeful, program of study in which law is seen as part of a complex and dynamic social process: law touches all aspects of human endeavor and is, in turn, fashioned by it.

The campuses are minutes apart by car. Public transportation and carpools are available.

compete

“I chose this program because it was the only practical path to obtaining my goal of working in both the USA and Canada. This program has already allowed me to summer with a US litigation firm and now article with a large full service Canadian firm.”

Alex Eisenberg, Class of 2006

Join our community

The J.D./LL.B. joint degree program at the University of Windsor Faculty of Law and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law provides a foundation for success in the 21st Century. It is an education that crosses national, legal and educational borders, and provides a broad international perspective that is crucial to the practice of law in a globalized world. For those interested in practicing law either in the U.S., Canada or both, students must learn the requirements, rules, and regulations of the jurisdiction in which they choose to practice. Residency-related requirements for non-citizens vary from state to state and province to province as do other requirements that must be met before a person can sit for the bar and practice law in that state or province. Applicants who propose to enter the practice of law in any common law province or territory of Canada must consult directly with the Law Society of that province to determine its requirements for admission. Similarly, applicants who choose to practice in any state in the United States must consult directly with that state to determine its requirements for admission.

When you're ready to learn more, we're ready to hear from you.

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