

Definitions of “Transnational” and “Research Paper” Course Requirements

Effective July 2026

Research Paper Course

A “research paper course” is defined as an upper-year course (2L or 3L), worth a minimum of 3 credits, in which the student submits one research paper worth at least 50% of the final grade in that course. The paper must be at least 5,500 words in length, excluding footnotes and bibliography. It must include significant research that advances a thesis and engages with relevant legal and academic debates. The purpose of this requirement is for students to engage in a substantial piece of legal writing that deepens their research, writing and analytical skills.

Transnational Course Requirement

“Transnational courses” are those with a significant public/private international or comparative law element as well as any other course which looks at “law and globalization” or law in a global context. A course that includes material written by non-Canadian authors does not by itself fulfill the requirement. A course that is solely concerned with another country’s domestic law would not ordinarily meet this criterion.

Please note that, as of Fall 2026, perspective requirement courses are no longer required.