

Requirements: Area of Concentration in Social Justice

Introduction

To graduate with an Area of Concentration in Social Justice, candidates must complete five or more electives from a designated list, with a grade of at least B in each course. Candidates who maintain a cumulative grade point average of B+ or higher in their area of concentration courses will receive an Honors designation.

The Social Justice Concentration includes three requirements:

1. Course requirement
2. Rigorous writing requirement
3. Practical requirement

All decisions with respect to satisfaction of the requirements for the Area of Concentration shall be made by one of the AOC Directors: Professors Dadhanian or Sisitsky.

Course requirements

A total of five or more electives from the list below are required. Candidates must earn a minimum grade of B or higher in each of the five courses selected from the list of courses. Please note: Not all courses are scheduled every year.

Advanced Criminal Defense
Advanced Prosecution Function
Asylum and Refugee Law
California Innocence Project I
California Innocence Project II
Child Welfare Law & Policy
Children and the Law
Civil Rights Law
Community Law Project – Academic Component
Consumer Law
Criminal Law Theory
Crimmigration
Critical Race Theory
Domestic Violence
Employment Discrimination
Energy & Climate Change Law
Environmental Law
Family Law
Gender, Power, Law & Leadership
Human Rights Law

Immigration Law
Jurisprudence
Juvenile Justice
Labor Law
Latinos and the Law
Mental Health Law
New Media Rights – Internet & Media Rights Clinic
Prison Law
Race and the Law
Reproductive Justice
Sexual Violence and the Law
Sexuality, Gender Identity, and the Law
Slavery’s Imprint on the U.S. Constitution
Spanish for Lawyers
Women and Immigration Law
Wrongful Conviction Seminar

Or any other course subject to the advance approval of one of the Co-Directors.

Rigorous writing requirement

Candidates must complete a rigorous writing requirement, which may consist of any of the following:

1. A scholarly writing paper in any of the above classes. A scholarly writing paper shall be at least 20 pages in length (exclusive of footnotes) and be completed under the supervision of a faculty member or Law Review editor; or
2. A 20-page paper in any of the above classes, even if it does not meet the scholarly writing requirement. The paper shall be at least 20 pages in length (exclusive of footnotes) and be completed under the supervision of a faculty member or adjunct faculty member.

Practical requirement

Candidates must participate in public interest work (paid, pro bono, or for California Western credit) for a minimum of 100 hours. Public work interest work includes non-profit work, government work, and judicial clerkships. The Directors may consider other work to satisfy the practical requirement at our discretion. Non-clinic experiential courses (“EXP”) do not count towards the course requirement.