



University of Dayton School of Law Learning Outcomes and Performance Criteria

Effective November 19, 2014

In accordance with ABA Standards, the University of Dayton School of Law has established the following desired learning outcomes, which identify the knowledge, skills, and values it desires its graduates to possess. The School of Law is constantly seeking to improve its students' educational experience. Consistent with that goal, the School of Law engages in periodic measurement to evaluate the degree of student attainment of competency in these outcomes and to make appropriate changes to improve its curriculum.

Learning Outcome 1: Graduates will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the law and the American legal system.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Identifying, describing, and interpreting the fundamental terms, rules, and principles of law, including significant alternative formulations, such as minority rules.

Criterion 2: Describing the American legal system's structures, processes, and procedures.

Learning Outcome 2: Graduates will exhibit issue-spotting skills.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Identifying each potentially applicable legal theory as it relates to the facts.

Criterion 2: Identifying each legal rule relevant to each potentially applicable legal theory.

Criterion 3: Identifying the legally significant facts relating to each applicable legal rule.

Learning Outcome 3: Graduates will demonstrate competency in analytical and problem-solving skills.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Critically reading the applicable authority, including identifying the key rules within each authority.

Criterion 2: Synthesizing the relevant rules of law into a logical framework for analysis.

Criterion 3: Where rules conflict, thoroughly analyzing which rule a court is likely is likely to apply.

Criterion 4: Meticulously applying the identified rules to the facts, including evaluating potential counterarguments, to determine the likely outcome of the case.

Criterion 5: When appropriate, analogizing the facts to and distinguishing the facts from those of precedent cases in specific and helpful ways to determine the likely outcome of the case.

Criterion 6: Articulating practical considerations, such as cost and effects on other people.

Learning Outcome 4: Graduates will communicate effectively and efficiently to individuals and groups.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Writing documents that are clear, concise, well-reasoned, organized, professional in tone, appropriate to the audience and the circumstances, and if appropriate, contain proper citation to authority.

Criterion 2: Speaking in a clear, concise, well-reasoned, organized, and professional manner that is appropriate to the audience and the circumstances.

Criterion 3: Actively listening to clients, colleagues, judges, and others.

Learning Outcome 5: Graduates will research effectively and efficiently.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Devising and implementing a logical research plan, which reflects an understanding of the limitations created by time and financial constraints.

Criterion 2: Accurately assessing the weight of authority.

Criterion 3: Identifying and effectively employing the fundamental tools of legal research.

Learning Outcome 6: Graduates will demonstrate competency in legal practice skills.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Capably managing a legal project (e.g., case, memorandum, mediation) from its inception to its conclusion.

Criterion 2: Effectively planning and controlling their use of time.

Criterion 3: Identifying and effectively engaging in appropriate dispute resolution processes.

Learning Outcome 7: Graduates will recognize and resolve ethical and other professional dilemmas.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Listing the sources of the law governing lawyers.

Criterion 2: Identifying and explaining the applicable law governing lawyers.

Criterion 3: Using the law governing lawyers to recognize ethical and other professional dilemmas.

Criterion 4: Applying the law governing lawyers to help resolve ethical and other professional dilemmas.

Criterion 5: Exercising professional judgment to help resolve ethical and other professional dilemmas.

Learning Outcome 8: Graduates will continue to develop professional skills and attributes.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Exhibiting self-directed learning skills that will allow them to understand areas of the law with which they were previously unfamiliar.

Criterion 2: Participating in extracurricular opportunities to increase knowledge, hone skills, and inform values.

Learning Outcome 9: Graduates will exemplify the Marianist charism of service, community, and inclusivity.

Graduates will demonstrate achievement of this learning outcome by . . .

Criterion 1: Exhibiting civility and treating others with respect.

Criterion 2: Displaying diversity skills, including sensitivity to social and cultural difference.

Criterion 3: Contributing to the profession's fulfillment of its responsibility to ensure that adequate legal services are provided to those who cannot afford to pay for them.