

Fall 2023 Course Planning Workshop – JD FAQs

- **Which IP & tech law courses offered in Fall 2023 satisfy the experiential learning requirement?¹**
 - The IP & tech law courses listed below satisfy the experiential learning requirement and are currently scheduled for the Fall 2023 semester:
 - Advanced Samuelson Clinic
 - Berkeley IP Practicum Clinic
 - Drafting and Negotiating Sports Law Contracts
 - Entertainment Law in the TV Industry
 - Mergers, Market Power and Monopoly in U.S. Antitrust Law
 - Patent Litigation II: PTAB and ITC
 - Samuelson Clinic

- **Which IP & tech courses offered in Fall 2023 satisfy the JD writing requirement?**
 - The IP & tech law courses listed below satisfy the writing requirement (either Option 1 or Option 2) and are currently scheduled for the Fall 2023 semester:
 - Advanced Samuelson Clinic (Option 2)
 - Fundamentals of Technology Transactions (Option 1)
 - IP and Human Creativity in the AI Age (Option 1)
 - Law and Technology Writing Workshop (Option 2)
 - Topics in Privacy and Security Law (Option 1)
 - Patent Litigation II: PTAB and ITC (Option 2)
 - Samuelson Clinic (Option 2)

- **Can I take classes outside of the law school?**
 - Yes, with some limitations. Students must petition the Dean of Students for prior approval for coursework taken outside of the law school. Law students are permitted to take no more than eight (8) units of graduate-level courses from other faculties of the University. Students may count half of the units earned from intermediate or advanced language courses towards the JD requirements. See <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/academics/registrar/academic-rules/> and https://www.law.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/JD_Units_Restriction_Summary2020.pdf for additional details.

- **Which courses should I plan to take as fundamental building blocks for my career? Which courses should I take to build legal skills?**
 - The right courses for you to build fundamental knowledge and legal skills depend on your chosen career path (or the paths you wish to explore).

¹ Certain of these courses may be used to satisfy either or both of the experiential learning and writing requirements. Confirm the current status of each course in the Schedule of Classes.

- For **fundamental classes**, use the pillars to guide your selections. A student focusing on entertainment and new media, for example, will want to consider taking Intellectual Property Law, Trade Secret Law, Copyright Law, and Trademark Law as fundamental courses. Conversely, a student focusing on privacy and cybersecurity law should consider taking Information Privacy Law, Computer Crime Law, and Cybersecurity Law and Policy.
- On **legal skills**: Consider which skills will be most useful to you in your chosen career. Future litigators can consider oral advocacy courses, depositions, and skills courses that provide brief writing experience. Students focused on transactional careers can consider negotiations courses and courses that provide transactional drafting experience.
- **How should I balance my course load in my 2L and 3L years?**
 - Consider three factors in balancing your course load:
 - **Type of class**: Consider taking a mixture of substantive law, writing, skills, clinical, and simulation/practice classes.
 - Substantive law classes build your legal knowledge foundation for practice.
 - Writing classes provide a valuable opportunity to hone your legal writing skills, which will be critical no matter which type of career you choose.
 - Skills, clinical, and simulation/practice courses prepare you for practice, by developing your legal practice skills.
 - Taking a mixture of these courses will provide you with ample opportunities to develop all of these skills, while not overburdening your schedule.
 - **Type of evaluation**: Consider taking classes that evaluate your legal skills through examinations, projects, and significant writing experiences. The skills you will build in each of these types of classes will prepare you for practice success, and will provide balance with your workload throughout the semester.
- **Which IP & technology law classes require applications?**
 - Four classes currently scheduled for Fall 2023 require applications from JD students interested in participating:
 - Berkeley IP Practicum Clinic
 - IP Scholarship Seminar
 - Law and Technology Writing Workshop
 - Samuelson Clinic

- Check the course descriptions for each course you plan to take, to ensure you have satisfied all requirements (including applying for admission to the course, where required). Requirements can change, and the Schedule of Classes will have the most up-to-date information.
- **Why should I earn the Law and Technology Certificate? What are the requirements?**
 - BCLT offers the Law and Technology Certificate, a specialized certificate program for J.D. students. The Law and Technology Certificate is a valuable signal to employers that a student has successfully completed a course of study focused on technology law.
 - The current requirements for the J.D. Law and Technology Certificate are available at <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/bclt/students/law-technology-certificate-program/j-d-law-technology-certificate/>.
- **Where can I learn more about careers in law and technology?**
 - BCLT has prepared a series of podcasts with faculty and top practitioners in all areas of technology law, available at <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/bclt/students/careers-in-tech-law-podcast/>. BCLT is adding additional content regularly, so stay tuned!
- **Why should I participate in student groups?**
 - **Networking:** Student groups provide essential opportunities to network with your classmates, practitioners, and professors. Your classmates will be your future professional colleagues, and the relationships you build in student groups will carry forward into your professional career. While working on student group programming and other initiatives, you will also have ample opportunities to engage with practitioners in your field of choice, as well as Berkeley Law's professors. This is a small industry, and having friends and professional contacts will be critical to your future success.
 - **Engagement and Leadership:** Participation and leadership roles in student groups signal to employers that you are engaged and willing to get involved. Student groups also provide valuable opportunities to learn to lead other lawyers. Lawyers are tough to lead, and these groups are a great way to practice.
 - **Skills Acquisition:** Student groups offer critical opportunities to develop the skills you will need to be a successful practitioner. Participation in student journals (such as BTLJ and BJESL) will help you to develop your writing, editing, and proofreading skills. Developing content and programming (whether through podcasts, articles, or conference presentations) will hone your presentation and group work skills, all essential to a successful career in practice.
 - **Programming Experience:** Student groups give ample chances to learn how to create programs (lectures, seminars, symposia), putting the knowledge from the classroom into practice.