

LEGAL EDUCATION AT MICHIGAN

1859-1959

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CHAPTER IX

The Law Student: Terms of Admission and Graduation

IX: I. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: 1859-1959

SOURCE: *University Catalogue* (1860-1883), *Annual Announcements* (1884-1959)

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

FIRST YEAR CLASS

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
1859-1860 (a)	a. Good moral character
1860-1861—1879-1880 (a b)	b. Eighteen years of age
1880-1881 (a b c)	c. Pass general examination
1881-1882 (a b d)	d. College or normal school diploma <i>or</i> pass examination
1882-1883 (b d)	
1883-1884—1884-1885 (b e)	e. High school or academy diploma <i>or</i> pass examination in specified "English branches"
1885-1886—1891-1892 (b f)	f. High school, academy, or college diploma <i>or</i> pass examination in specified "English branches"
1892-1893—1894-1895 (b g)	g. College diploma <i>or</i> high school or academy diploma and pass examination in specified parts of Blackstone <i>or</i> pass examination in specified "English branches" and specified parts of Blackstone
1895-1896—1904-1905 (b f)	h. Unless college graduate, pass examination in English
1905-1906 (b f h)	
1906-1907—1909-1910 (b f)	
1910-1911—1911-1912 (a f i)	i. Nineteen years of age
1912-1913—1914-1915 (a i j)	j. High school or academy graduation plus year of work in approved college or university
1915-1916—1918-1919 (a i k)	k. High school or academy graduation plus two years of work in approved college or university
1919-1920—1925-1926 (a k)	
1926-1927—1927-1928 (a l)	l. High school or academy graduation plus three years of work in approved college or university
1928-1929 (a m)	m. Graduation from approved college or university <i>or</i> participation in combined curriculum of law and letters
1929-1930—1939-1940 (a n)	n. Graduation from approved college or university with uniformly satisfactory scholastic record <i>or</i> participation in combined curriculum of law and letters
1940-1941—1943-1944 (n)	
1944-1945—1948-1949 (n <i>or</i> o)	o. Service in armed forces and three years of undergraduate study in approved college or university with satisfactory scholastic record
1949-1950—1952-1953 (p n <i>or</i> o)	
1953-1954—1957-1958 (n p)	p. Law School Admission Test
1958-1959 (p q)	q. Graduation from approved college or university with uniformly satisfactory scholastic record

ADVANCED STANDING

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
1859-1860 (a)	a. Good moral character
1860-1861—1879-1880 (a b c)	b. Eighteen years of age c. One year of law school <i>or</i> practice of law for one year under license from highest court in another state
1880-1881 (a b d)	d. One year of law school <i>or</i> practice of law for one year under license from "highest court of general jurisdiction in any State, where the requirements for admission to the bar are equal to those in Michigan"
1881-1882 (a d)	e. One year of law school <i>or</i> practice of law for one year under license from "highest court of general jurisdiction in any State, where the requirements for admission to the bar are equal to those in Michigan"
1882-1883 (d)	f. Examination * in legal subjects and one of the following alternatives
1883-1884—1884-1885 (e)	(1) One year law school
1885-1886—1892-1893 (f g)	(2) Practice law for one year under license from "highest court of general jurisdiction in any State, where the requirements for admission to the bar are equal to those in Michigan"
	(3) Reading in law office for a "considerable period"
1893-1894 (g h)	g. Examination * in general subjects unless exempt under regulations applicable to first-year students h. Two alternative methods for admission
1894-1895 (g i)	(1) Examination * in legal subjects <i>and</i> either (a) one year of law school or (b) reading law for 18 months (2) Admission to practice as attorney at bar of another state (no examination required)
1895-1896 (g i j k)	i. Alternative methods of admission to second-year class
1896-1897—1901-1902 (g i j k l)	(1) One year's work in another law school: 1893-1894—1900-1901 (2) Attorney at law in another state: 1893-1894—1896-1897 (3) Examination * in legal subjects and 18 months office study: 1893-1894—1894-1895 (4) Examination * in legal subjects and 15 months office study: 1895-1896—1901-1902 (5) Attorneys at law in state requiring bar examination: 1897-1898—1901-1902
1902-1903—1909-1910 (j k m n)	j. Nineteen years of age for entrance to second-year class k. Twenty years of age for entrance to third-year class l. Alternative methods of admission to third-year class
	(1) LL.B. from two-year law school: 1896-1897—1900-1901 (2) Two years successful work at three-year law school: 1896-1897—1900-1901 (3) Examination * in legal subjects and two and a half years office study: 1896-1897—1901-1902 (4) Persons passing Michigan state bar examinations after 1-1-1898: 1896-1897—1901-1902
	m. Examination * in legal subjects and one of the following alternatives for admission to second-year class
	(1) Fifteen months office study: 1902-1903—1910-1911

*Years in Effect**Requirements*

- (2) One year's successful work in approved law school: 1902-1903—1911-1912
- (3) Membership in bar of state requiring examination for admission: 1902-1903—1916-1917
- (4) Completion of comparable work in approved law school: 1912-1913—1916-1917
- n. Examination * in legal subjects and one of following alternatives for admission to third-year class
- (1) Passing Michigan state bar examination after 1-1-1898: 1902-1903—1908-1909
- (2) Passing bar examination in any state having standards equal to those of Michigan: 1902-1903—1908-1909
- (3) Holders of LL.B. from approved two-year law school: 1902-1903—1911-1912
- (4) Successful completion of two years' work in approved three-year law school: 1902-1903—1911-1912
- (5) Completion of comparable work in approved law school: 1912-1913—1916-1917
- o. Twenty years of age for admission to second-year class
- p. Twenty-one years of age for entrance to third-year class
- q. Examination to show extent of work completed
- r. Completion of satisfactory work in approved law school and other required qualifications for admission to first-year class
- s. Completion of satisfactory work in approved law school and other required qualifications for admission to first-year class: maximum of one year's credit granted
- t. Completion of satisfactory work in approved law school with "substantially the same entrance standards as those in effect at this Law School" and have the other required qualifications for admission to first-year class: maximum of one year's credit granted
- u. Completion "with superior scholarship work in approved law schools" and have other required qualifications for admission to first-year class: maximum of one year's credit granted
- v. Completion with "superior scholarship, work in an approved law school" after receiving a degree from an approved college: maximum of one year's credit granted
- 1910-1911—1916-1917
(a m n o p)
- 1917-1918—1922-1923
(a o p q)
- 1923-1924—1930-1931
(a o p r)
- 1931-1932
(a o p s)
- 1932-1933—1939-1940
(a s)
- 1940-1941—1947-1948
(s)
- 1948-1949—1952-1953
(t)
- 1953-1954—1957-1958
(u)
- 1958-1959
(v)

GRADUATE PROGRAM

*Years in Effect**Requirements*

- 1891-1892—1894-1895
(a)
- 1895-1896—1897-1898
(b c)
- 1898-1899—1907-1908
(c d)
- 1908-1909—1911-1912
(d)
- 1912-1913—1914-1915
(c d)
- 1915-1916—1923-1924
(d)
- a. LL.B. from approved two-year law school
- b. Twenty years of age
- c. LL.B. from approved three-year law school
- d. Twenty-one years of age

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
1924-1925—1925-1926 (d e)	e. LL.B. or equivalent with high rank from approved three-year law school
1926-1927—1928-1929 (d f)	f. J.D. or LL.B. with high rank from approved three-year law school
1929-1930—1931-1932 (d g)	g. A.B. from approved college or university and J.D. or LL.B. with high rank from approved three-year law school
1932-1933—1947-1948 (g)	h. Interpretation of formal requirements for admission to graduate program applicable to foreign students: applicant deemed to have equivalent if he (a) has completed formal education required for license to practice law in country where his undergraduate law studies were pursued; (b) has had outstanding scholarship in law school; and (c) is capable of carrying on graduate work at Michigan as demonstrated by whatever evidence the admitting officer may require
1948-1949—1958-1959 (g or h)	

SPECIAL STUDENTS

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
1895-1896—1899-1900 (a b)	a. Nineteen years of age b. Permission of Law Faculty to take desired courses
1900-1901—1903-1904 (a c)	c. Permission of Dean to take desired courses
1904-1905—1906-1907 (c d)	d. Twenty-one years of age
1907-1908—1921-1922 (d e)	e. Satisfy Dean of capacities
1922-1923—1941-1942 (e f)	f. Twenty-five years of age

SUMMER SESSION

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
1897-1898—1918-1919 (a)	a. Evidence showing applicant can pursue work to advantage
1919-1920—1958-1959 (b or c)	b. Where work pursued by candidate for degree, proof of meeting entrance requirements of regular session c. Where no degree sought, evidence of qualifications necessary to pursue work to advantage

* See Part II, IX: 2, relative to examinations for admission.

IX: 2. EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION: 1880-1913

SOURCE: *University Catalogue* (1880-1883), *Annual Announcements* (1884-1913)

EXAMINATIONS FOR ADMISSION

TO FIRST YEAR CLASS

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Scope of Examination</i>
1880-1881 (a)	a. "... to ascertain whether their education is such as fairly to warrant their admission"
1881-1882—1882-1883 (b)	b. "... general education"

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Requirements</i>
1883-1884—1891-1892 (c)	c. ". . . Arithmetic, Geography, Orthography, English Composition, and the outlines of the History of the United States, and of England. The examination will be conducted in writing, and the papers submitted by the applicant must evince a competent knowledge of English grammar."
1892-1893—1894-1895 (c d)	d. "The following portions of Blackstone's Commentaries (exclusive of editor's notes): Book I (exclusive of Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 11); Book III (exclusive of Chapters 5, 6, 15, 16, and 17); Book IV . . . The Faculty recommends the study of Judge Cooley's edition. . ."
1895-1896—1896-1897 (c)	e. " <i>Geography, English Language, Composition, and Rhetoric.</i> —The applicant will be required to write an essay of not less than two pages (foolscap), correct in spelling, punctuation, capital letters, grammar, and paragraphing. The topics for the essays, which will be such as the applicant is likely to be familiar with and from which he may make a selection, will be given at the time of the examination."
1897-1898—1899-1900 (e f g h i)	f. " <i>English Literature.</i> . . ." g. " <i>Mathematics—Algebra—To Quadratic Equations. Plane Geometry.</i> As given in Olney's <i>New Elementary Geometry</i> , Beman and Smith's <i>Plane and Solid Geometry</i> , or an equivalent in other authors." h. " <i>History.</i> Meyer's <i>General History</i> , or an equivalent, Johnston's or McLaughlin's, <i>History of the United States</i> , or an equivalent, and Ransome's <i>History of England</i> , or an equivalent." i. " <i>Civil Government.</i> —Fiske's <i>Civil Government</i> , Hinsdale's <i>American Government</i> (Parts I and II, especially the large print), or an equivalent." j. " <i>Geography.</i> —Political geography." k. " <i>English Grammar.</i> —Selections for analysis and parsing will be set, arranged to test the applicant's knowledge of the leading facts of English Grammar." l. " <i>Composition and Rhetoric.</i> —The applicant will be required to write an essay of not less than two pages (foolscap), correct in spelling, punctuation, capital letters, grammar, and paragraphing. The topics for the essays, which will be such as the applicant is likely to be familiar with and from which he may make a selection, will be given at the time of the examination." m. " <i>Foreign Language.</i> —The requirement in foreign language may be satisfied by two years of study in any foreign language or by one year in each of any two foreign languages. . ." n. " <i>Sciences.</i> —Any two of the following sciences as given in a high school course of four years: <i>Physics, Botany, Chemistry, Physical Geography, Physiology, Astronomy, or Geology.</i> " o. English for all non-college graduates p. Law School Admission Test
1900-1901—1904-1905 (f g h i j k l m n)	
1905-1906 (f g h i j k l m n o)	
1906-1907—1911-1912 (f g h l m n)	
1949-1950—1958-1959 (p)	

TO ADVANCED STANDING

<i>Years in Effect</i>	<i>Scope of Examination</i>
1885-1886—1901-1902 (a b)	a. General subjects unless exempt under regulations pertaining to first-year students
1902-1903—1916-1917 (b)	b. Legal subjects
1917-1918—1922-1923 (c)	c. To show extent of work completed elsewhere

IX:3. COMBINED CURRICULA: 1903-1958

SOURCE: *Annual Announcements*

NOTE: The following table shows course and credit requirements for participation in the several combined curricula offered between 1903-1904 and 1957-1958, together with the years in which they were in effect.

LAW AND LETTERS

1903-1904—1907-1908

... a student enrolled in the Department of Literature, Science, and the Arts, should complete, before the close of his fourth year of residence, the following courses offered in that Department: Course 19 in History (Constitutional Law and Political Institutions of the United States); and any two of the following courses: Course 1 in International Law; Course 15 in Philosophy (Political Philosophy); Course 27 in History (Comparative Administrative Law); and Course 8 in Latin (Roman Law); and at least *twenty hours* of work selected from the following courses, all of which, however, are strongly recommended as a desirable preparation for the study of law:—

In History: Courses 3, 4, 11, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, and 31, embracing the constitutional history of England, the political and constitutional history of the United States, English political institutions, present day problems, state and local administration, and comparative constitutional law.

In Political Economy and Sociology: Courses 3, 4, 5, 9, and 22, embracing the history of the development of industrial society, problems in political economy, principles of the science of finance, money and banking, and principles and problems in sociology.

In Philosophy: Courses 1, 2a, 2b, embracing the elements of logic and psychology.

From the courses above enumerated the Faculty of the Department of Law will accept an amount represented by *ten hours* of credit as a substitute for the law courses in Elementary Law, Domestic Relations, Constitutional Law, Private International Law, and the Science of Jurisprudence. All the remaining subjects of the regular law course must be taken by the student before his graduation from the Department of Law.

It is furthermore necessary for the student in the Department of Literature, Science, and the Arts to complete before the close of his fourth year of residence, the courses offered in the Department of Law in the subjects of Contracts, Torts, Elementary Real Property, Sales and Agency. On the completion of these courses credit toward graduation to the extent of *fifteen hours* will be given in the Department of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

1908-1909—1935-1936

During the first three years the student is enrolled in the Department of Literature, Science, and the Arts alone. If at the end of this time he has