



Twin Cities Campus

Juridical Science S.J.D.

Law School

Law School

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

- Program Type: Doctorate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2016
- Length of program in credits: 48
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Doctor of Juridical Science

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The SJD program at the University of Minnesota Law School is intended for those who wish to carry on advanced legal study and original research under faculty supervision. SJD students must present research which makes a significant, original contribution of long-term value to legal scholarship. The dissertation must be of publishable quality and provide lawyers, scholars, or governmental officials with a useful understanding, not previously available, of a particular area of the law.

Accreditation

This program is accredited by acquiescence of the American Bar Association.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

Applicants must have completed the first degree in law AND must have completed (or are in the process of completing) a US LLM degree at the University of Minnesota or another institution.

Special Application Requirements:

1) Submission of a preliminary dissertation proposal demonstrating that the dissertation will constitute an original and substantial contribution, of publishable quality, to legal scholarship, in a research field in which the Law School has experienced faculty available for advising, and 2) Submission of an extensive, high quality writing sample written in English to demonstrate the ability to engage in advanced research and writing.

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

24 credits are required in the major.

24 thesis credits are required.

This program may not be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for students to remain in good standing.

At least 2 semesters must be completed before filing a Degree Program Form.

Coursework Requirements

[LAW 6851](#) - Practice-Ready Legal Research (2.0 cr)

The remaining 22 credits are determined through consultation with their faculty adviser and the director of graduate studies.

Thesis Credit Requirement



24 Thesis Credits



Twin Cities Campus

Law Minor

Law School

Law School

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

Law School, Walter F. Mondale Hall, 229 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55406 (612-625-1000; fax: 612-625-2011)

Email: lawreg@umn.edu

Website: <http://www.law.umn.edu>

- Program Type: Graduate free-standing minor
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2016
- Length of program in credits (Masters): 6
- Length of program in credits (Doctorate): 12
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

A law minor is available to both master's and doctoral students and is individually tailored to their academic interests.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

Admission to the law graduate minor is contingent upon prior admission to a University of Minnesota master's or doctoral degree-granting program. Enrollment in Law School courses is on a space-available basis, with preference given to law-degree-seeking candidates. Some Law School courses are open for graduate student registration without need for permission. Other courses require that students request admission by completing a declaration form and the non-Law student petition form (found at <https://www.law.umn.edu/academics/non-degree-programs/graduate-and-undergraduate-courses>), and submitting them to the Law School Registrar's office.

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A masters minor requires at least 6 graduate credits; a doctoral minor requires at least 12 graduate credits.

Program Sub-plans

Students are required to complete one of the following sub-plans.

Students may not complete the program with more than one sub-plan.

Masters

Required Courses

Masters students must complete 6 credits of LAW coursework.

Doctoral

Required Courses

Doctoral students must complete 12 credits of LAW coursework.



Twin Cities Campus

Master of Science Patent Law

Law School

Law School

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

612-625-4819

Chris Frank, J.D., Program Director of Master of Science in Patent Law Program

411 Walter F. Mondale Hall

229 19th Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55455

Email: patlaw@umn.edu

Website: <https://www.law.umn.edu/academics/degree-programs/mspl-program>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2016
- Length of program in credits: 30 to 36
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Science Patent Law

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The Master of Science in Patent Law is a professional master's degree for scientists and engineers interested in pursuing a career in the growing field of patent law. The program requirements may be completed in one year of full-time study or in two years (with an optional third year) on a part-time basis. This program is offered through the University of Minnesota Law School. Students in this program will learn practical patent drafting, patent research, patent portfolio management and innovation skills. Many courses in this program will be taken jointly with J.D. students.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

Applicants with a degree in Science or Engineering are preferred.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

GRE and LSAT scores are accepted but not required.

Special Application Requirements:

Personal statement, resume, letters of recommendation, interview, patent bar eligibility assessment.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
- IELTS

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL, IELTS).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Plan C: Plan C requires 30 to 36 major credits and 0 credits outside the major. There is no final exam. A capstone project is required.

Capstone Project: Patent Law CAPSTONE: Innovation (3 credits): In this course students will select a technology of interest with the cooperation of their adviser. Using their knowledge of innovation, patent law, patent prosecution, patent research and strategy they will identify, articulate and present opportunities for innovation in their chosen technology.



This program may not be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 2.8 is required for students to remain in good standing.

At least 1 semesters must be completed before filing a Degree Program Form.

Patent Law: Core Curriculum

Students are required to take 23 credits of core coursework, plus 7 additional elective credits as approved by the program director.

- [LAW 5001](#) - Introduction to the American Legal System (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 5224](#) - Patents (3.0 cr)
- [LAW 5231](#) - Patent Prosecution Practice I (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 5250](#) - Patent Portfolio Management (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 5003](#) - Writing, Analysis & Persuasion (3.0 cr)
- [LAW 5025](#) - Patent Law Proseminar (1.0 cr)
- [LAW 5232](#) - Patent Prosecution Practice II (3.0 cr)
- [LAW 5707](#) - Intellectual Property Transactions (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 5290](#) - Patent Law Capstone: Innovation (3.0 cr)
- [LAW 5075](#) - Ethics for Patent Agents (1.0 cr)
- [LAW 5026](#) - Intellectual Property and Technology Proseminar (1.0 cr)

Electives

Students may choose from the following list of electives. Other courses may be approved in consultation with the program director.

Take 7 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [LAW 6608](#) - Trademarks (3.0 cr)
- [LAW 6613](#) - Copyright (3.0 cr)
- [LAW 6248](#) - Advanced Patents (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 6225](#) - Winning Patent Litigation (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 6949](#) - Biotechnology & Patent Law (2.0 cr)
- [LAW 6402](#) - Food and Drug Law (3.0 cr)