The Goal

- The most important endeavor you will take on in Program study is becoming an independent researcher at the professorial level.

- Other academic endeavors, such as Law Review, are important. But these are secondary to becoming an independent researcher.
Residency

• For joint-degree students, you will have 5 semesters of residency in the Law School. All other semesters will be in the Graduate School. Your last 2 semesters are referred to as in-residence only, signifying no coursework. Try not to take any courses in your dissertation year.

• This refers to where tuition is paid by your fellowship awards. This does not relate to the courses that you will take except in years 1 & 2 (core years).
The joint-degree program is designed to be completed in 6 years. The Ph.D.-only program is designed to be completed in 4 years.

In August of year 6, students should begin looking for clerkships or jobs. Ideally, students should be admitted to candidacy in the first semester of year 5 (and no later than the second semester of year 5).

Ph.D.-only students will ideally be admitted to candidacy in the first semester of year 3.
Satisfactory Progress for Funding

- With each semester, continued funding is contingent on satisfactory progress toward the degree(s).

- Satisfactory progress means:
  - Earning at minimum a 3.0 in all coursework
  - Meeting the progress markers listed in the Law and Economics Student Handbook (refer to slides 6-8)
Satisfactory Progress for Funding

For joint-degree students:

- Beginning of 1\textsuperscript{st} semester: complete math camp
- After:
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} semester: pass the preliminary examination
  - 4\textsuperscript{th} semester: complete first-year Ph.D. core and complete first-year J.D. core
  - 6\textsuperscript{th} semester: complete the Ph.D. research paper requirement (LWEC 8406)
  - 8\textsuperscript{th} semester: complete most coursework for both degrees; substantial work toward dissertation proposal
Satisfactory Progress for Funding

• After:
  ▫ 9th semester: have Ph.D. committee appointed, submit dissertation proposal, pass oral qualifying examination, be admitted to candidacy for the Ph.D.
  ▫ 10th semester: complete all coursework for both degrees
  ▫ 12th semester: complete all requirements for both degrees (NOTE: Beginning of 12th semester: submit Intent to Graduate Form)

• Refer to the Admission to Candidacy and the Dissertation: Requirements slideshow
Satisfactory Progress for Funding

• For Ph.D.-only students:
  ▫ Beginning of 1st semester: complete math camp
  After:
  ▫ 2nd semester: complete first-year Ph.D. core and pass the preliminary examination
  ▫ 5th semester: have Ph.D. committee appointed, submit dissertation proposal, pass oral qualifying examination, be admitted to candidacy for the Ph.D.
  ▫ 6th semester: complete all coursework for the Ph.D.
    (NOTE: Beginning of 8th semester: submit Intent to Graduate Form)
Overview of Ph.D. Requirements

- 72 hours of Ph.D. study, including:
  - a minimum of 48 hours of formal coursework
  - 6 hours (2 semesters) of LWEC 8490: Ph.D. Workshop
  - 12 LAW credit hours will count toward your Ph.D.
    (the program manager must submit Request for Graduate Credit forms)
  - up to 6 hours of LWEC 8999: Non-Candidate Research and LWEC 9999: Dissertation Research

- A minimum GPA of 3.0 in all coursework is required for graduation.
Formal Coursework for the Ph.D.

• Formal, didactic courses are all of your graduate courses except LWEC 8490: Ph.D. Workshop, LWEC 8349: Readings in Law and Economics, LWEC 8999: Non-Candidate Research, and LWEC 9999: Dissertation Research.

• The formal coursework requirement includes:
  ▫ 30 hours of required core courses
  ▫ 12 hours of field courses in 2 of the 3 approved fields in law and economics
  ▫ a minimum of 6 hours in elective graduate courses.
Required Core Courses for the Ph.D.

- LWEC 8401  Law and Economics Theory I (3)
- LWEC 8402  Law and Economics Theory II (3)
- LWEC 8403  Behavioral Law and Economics I (3)
- LWEC 8405  Econometrics for Legal Research (3)
- LWEC 8406  Research in Law and Economics (3)
- ECON 8000  Mathematics for Economists (3)
- ECON 8100  Microeconomic Theory I (3)
- ECON 8110  Microeconomic Theory II (3)
- ECON 8300  Statistical Analysis (3)
- ECON 8310  Econometrics I (3)

TOTAL 30 hours
Preliminary Examination

- Each year in late May, law and economics administers the preliminary examination for students who have just completed the first-year Ph.D. core.

- If the student does not pass the preliminary examination, he or she will not be considered to be making satisfactory progress, which may have implications for funding.

- Students will be given a maximum of 2 attempts to pass the preliminary examination.
Fields

• The 3 approved law and economics fields are:
  ▫ Behavioral law and economics
  ▫ Labor markets and human resources
  ▫ Risk and environmental regulation

• Students may create a new field with DGS and Co-Director approval, e.g. Legal and Economic History or Industrial Organization. Please see the Admission to Candidacy Slideshow for more information on student-created fields.
Field Requirements

- 2 fields
- 6 hours of graduate coursework in each field
- 5-6 hours per field of related courses that are not LWEC courses (paired law courses)
- Maintain a 3.0 in all field courses

Related courses should be primarily law courses, but with DGS and Co-Director approval, other relevant courses may be paired with the graduate field courses.
Transferring Credits

- 12 hours of LAW credits will count toward the Ph.D. for all joint-degree students. The program manager will submit a Request for Transfer Credit form to the Graduate School Registrar in the Spring of year 5 for all 5th year students.

- 12 hours of GRAD credits will count toward the J.D. for all joint-degree students. The program manager will work with Dean Pavlick to initiate this transfer in the Spring of year 6 for all 6th year students.
Taking Professional Courses for Graduate Credit

• With DGS and Co-Director approval, you may take a professional course for graduate credit as long as the instructor approves you to take the course and has agreed to work with you to give you extra assignments that brings the class to the graduate level for you.
REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO RECEIVE GRADUATE CREDIT FOR AN
UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL OR PROFESSIONAL COURSE

Student's Name _______________________________ Date __________________
(Last, First & Middle)

Student's SSN _______________________________ Semester __________________

Print Name of Instructor _______________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title:</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course (Dept.) Prefix</td>
<td>Course Number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe why you need to take this course as a part of your graduate program:

_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

List the assignments you must complete which are in addition to the work assigned to the undergraduate or professional student:

_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

Signature of Student ________________________ Date ______________

Signature of Instructor ______________________ Date ______________

Signature of Director of Graduate Studies __________ Date ______________

Return completed form to the Graduate School, 411 Kirkland Hall, no later than the tenth day of classes (the end of the change-of-course period).
Field: Behavioral Law and Economics

NOTE: LWEC 8403: Behavioral Law and Economics I (3) is a required core course, not a field course.

To complete a field in Behavioral, take:
• LWEC 8404: Behavioral Law and Economics II (3)

Take one related graduate school course such as:
• PSY 8551: Seminar in Cognitive Psychology (3)
• PSY 8744: Seminar in Neuroscience (3)
• PSY-GS 8430: Advanced Seminar in Cognitive Studies (3)
Field: Behavioral Law and Economics

NOTE: You should obtain approval from the instructor before enrolling in a graduate course that is outside of economics or law and economics.

• Finally, you will take 5-6 additional hours of related coursework, probably in law.
Example: Behavioral Law and Economics

Here is an example of a completed field in Behavioral Law and Economics:

- LWEC 8404: Behavioral Law and Economics II (3)
- PSY 8744: Seminar in Neuroscience (3)
- LAW 8000: Actual Innocence (3)
- LAW 9088: Law and the Emotions Seminar (3)
Example: Labor and Human Resources

Here is an example of a completed field in Labor and Human Resources:

- LWEC 8420: Labor and Human Resources I (3)
- LWEC 8421: Labor and Human Resources II (3)
- LAW 7164: Employment Discrimination Law (3)
- LAW 7168: Employment Law (2-3)
Example: Risk and Environmental Regulation

Here is an example of a completed field in Risk and Environmental Regulation:

- LWEC 8430: Risk and Environmental Regulation I (3)
- LWEC 8431: Risk and Environmental Regulation II (3)
- LAW 7000: Administrative Law (3)
- LAW 7184: Environmental Law I (4)
Electives that Fit: Behavioral Law and Economics

- PSCI 8370: Topics in Political Science: Experimental Methods (topic varies; Professor Kam) (3)
- PSY 8551: Seminar in Cognitive Psychology (3)
- PSY 8744: Seminar in Neuroscience (3)
- PSY-GS 8360: Human Cognition (3)
- PSY-GS 8430: Advanced Seminar in Cognitive Studies (3)
Electives that Fit: Labor and Human Resources

- LAW 7164: Employment Discrimination Law (3)
- LAW 7168: Employment Law (2-3)
- LAW 7214: Health Care Fraud and Abuse (2)
- LAW 7216. Heath Law and Policy (3)
- LAW 7224. Immigration Law and Policy (2)
Electives that Fit: Risk and Environmental Regulation

- LAW 7000: Administrative Law (3)
- LAW 7174: Energy Law (3)
- LAW 7184: Environmental Law I (4)
- LAW 7395: Environmental Annual Review (1)
- LAW 7410: Land Use Planning (3)
Joint-degree students are required to complete an original research paper in their third year.

The timing of this original research paper for Ph.D.-only students will be determined by the DGS.

The paper is developed within LWEC 8406: Research in Law and Economics.
LWEC 8406: Research in Law and Economics

- There are two options for the paper:
  - The paper may pose an original research question, including an explanation of the methods, model, and data that will be used in the investigation.
  - The paper may be a replication of an existing empirical result, containing details of the research methods and trying to account for any differences in findings.

- This paper is an opportunity to prepare for the dissertation research and proposal.
LWEC 8490: Ph.D. Workshop

• 2 semesters of Ph.D. Workshop are required.

• LWEC 8490: Ph.D. Workshop is usually taken in both year 4 and year 5. You will be expected to attend some Ph.D. Workshops in year 6 as well, and it is beneficial to do so.

• Requires attending all Program seminars/lunch talks.
Work Responsibilities

• For joint-degree students, work responsibilities begin in the 3\textsuperscript{rd} year.

• For Ph.D.-only students, work responsibilities begin in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year.

• As part of the condition for your stipend, you are required to work up to 20 hours per week for Program faculty during the academic year. NOTE: Your stipend is still designated SFS for tax purposes.
Work Responsibilities

- If you are on Law Review or have another compelling reason, you may request a reduction to 5-10 hours per week.

- You may not request a reduction in work hours for Program faculty if you are working for non-Program faculty.
Summer Work

• You do not receive a monthly stipend during the summer. You may work in outside employment or on research projects with Program or other Vanderbilt faculty.

• You are expected to work on your independent research throughout the summer after the 2nd year if you are joint-degree and after the 1st year if you are Ph.D.-only.
Coauthoring

- Remember that no part of your dissertation can be coauthored. You may have opportunities to coauthor papers with Program or other Vanderbilt professors in years 3-5. Years 5 and 6 should be devoted to program course completion and your dissertation. Producing a quality dissertation will take all of your time. It is highly recommended that you avoid coauthoring opportunities that begin in years 5 and 6. Co-authoring with professors at other institutions is never recommended until after you have graduated with both the J.D. and the Ph.D.
Overview of J.D. Requirements

- 76 hours of J.D. study (88 are required; 12 of your Ph.D. hours will double-count toward your J.D. if degrees are conferred at the same time), including:
  - 31-32 hours of required first-year J.D. core courses
  - LAW 7600: Professional Responsibility (3)
  - Professional skills requirement (1)*
  - Writing requirement (seminar paper)

*Students beginning their 1L year in Fall 2016 will be required to complete 6 credit hours of professional skills coursework.
Overview of J.D. Requirements

• The remainder of your J.D. hours will come from paired law courses for your graduate fields and electives.

• Program students must maintain a 3.0 average in J.D. classes.

• You may receive a maximum of 5 extracurricular credit hours. NOTE: YES does not recognize this limit.

• Published Notes for Law Review and ELPAR credits are for academic credit.

• Regular Law Review credits and Moot Court credits are for extracurricular credit.
First-Year J.D. Core

- LAW 6010: Civil Procedure (4)
- LAW 6020: Contracts (4)
- LAW 6030: Criminal Law (3)
- LAW 6040: Legal Writing I (2)
- LAW 6050: Legal Writing II (2)
- LAW 6060: Life of the Law (1)
- LAW 6070: Property (4)
- LAW 6080: Regulatory State (4)
- LAW 6090: Torts (4)
- LAW elective (3-4)

TOTAL: 31-32 hours
J.D. Professional Skills Requirement

- The professional skills requirement can be fulfilled by 1 credit. Beginning with the entering J.D. class of 2016, 6 credits are required.

- Refer to the Law School Student Handbook for details on the professional skills requirement.

- NOTE: Independent Study can no longer fulfill the professional skills requirement.
J.D. Professional Skills Requirement*

- The 2016-2017 VLS Student Handbook lists the following courses that can fulfill the professional skills requirement:

J.D. Writing Requirement

- Most 9000-level, 3 credit hour J.D. seminar courses can fulfill the writing requirement.

- Refer to the Law School Student Handbook for a detailed description of the writing requirement.
Good Moral Character

• Each candidate for the J.D. must “be of good moral character, according to the standards of personal and professional integrity traditionally associated with the profession of law. The law faculty may remove a student from the J.D. program at any time for failure to meet the standard of good moral character required for the degree, or impose sanctions other than suspension or expulsion.”
Order of the Coif

- 66 hours of graded J.D. credits are needed in order to be eligible for nomination to the Order of the Coif after graduation.
Clerkships

- Fall of the 4th year is an ideal time to start the clerkship application process.
Admission to Candidacy, the Dissertation, and Graduation

Refer to the Admission to Candidacy and the Dissertation: Requirements slideshow.