

Grading and Academic Standards:

The LL.M. students will be graded on a different system than the J.D. students; the following system will be used:

- If the LL.M. student receives a 3.5 or higher (on the J.D. scale), the grade will be recorded as “High Honors.”
- If the LL.M. student receives a 3.0 or 3.25 (on the J.D. scale), the grade will be recorded as “Honors.”
- If the LL.M. student receives between a 2.0 and 2.75 (on the J.D. scale), the grade will be recorded as a “Pass.”
- If the LL.M. student receives between a 0.75 and 1.75* (on the J.D. scale), the grade will be recorded as “Credit.”
 - * While this grade entitles a student to academic credit for a particular course, students must attain an overall grade point average of 2.0 in the program in order to satisfy the graduation requirements for an LL.M. degree.
- And, if the LL.M. student receives below a 0.75 (on the J.D. scale), the grade will be recorded as “Fail.”

The individual professor will assign numerical grades, using Stetson’s grade normalization curve, to both J.D. and LL.M. students. A numerical grade between 0 and 4.0 will be assigned to all examinations. The Registrar’s Office will then convert the numerical grades of LL.M. students to the preceding scale. This grading system shall be effective for all LL.M. entrants in the fall of 2005, and thereafter.

[Approved by faculty, April 13, 2005, and effective with the 2005 entering LL.M. class.]

LL.M. Academic Exclusion Policy: The following policy applies to students enrolled in Stetson’s LL.M. program. A full-time LL.M. student is defined as one enrolled in at least ten credit hours in a given semester.

- A. A full-time LL.M. student who fails to achieve a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average at the end of any semester will be excluded.
- B. A part-time LL.M. student who fails to achieve a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average after attempting eight credit hours will be excluded. A part-time student who has completed more than eight credit hours will be excluded if he or she fails to maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 at the end of each subsequent semester and/or summer session, regardless of the number of credit hours taken in that semester.
- C. Any LL.M. student who completes a semester or summer session with less than a 2.0

average for the semester or session, but who does not meet requirements for exclusion, will receive a letter from the Registrar reminding the student that a 2.0 minimum cumulative grade point average must be achieved by the time noted under paragraph (A) or (B) above, and that failure to do so will result in exclusion from the College of Law. The student also must attend a mandatory counseling arranged by the Dean's Office and must complete all remedial work required.

[Effective with the Spring 2003 entering class.]

Readmission Policy for LL.M. Students: A student who withdraws from the College of Law or is excluded for academic reasons can be readmitted only upon petition for readmission and favorable action thereon by the Academic Standards Committee.

Readmission will be granted only in extraordinary circumstances. In determining whether an LL.M. student should be readmitted, the consideration of the Committee will include, but not be limited to, the following factors: (1) the best interests of the educational institution, including but not limited to, the maintenance of high standards of academic excellence and professional responsibility among members of the student body; and (2) the best interests of the individual applicant for readmission. In considering the student's satisfactory progress, the Committee will consider any evidence of correctable peculiarities or disabilities, or culturally-based disadvantages that may have contributed to the student's academic performance.

It is the policy of the Stetson University College of Law faculty not to have the faculty consider petitions for reconsideration or appeal from former students when a decision for readmittance had earlier been denied by the Committee on Academic Standards, except a petition in the nature of a request for "certiorari." Such a petition should be presented to the Chairperson of the Committee, addressed to the faculty. Copies of the petition will be given to the Dean and each faculty member entitled to vote on it. In response to a request for consideration, the Committee may circulate to the Faculty a memorandum setting out the basis for its decision. (If a faculty member is on leave, that member may elect to vote or not vote, but if he/she elects to not vote he/she shall not be counted for purposes of determining whether "certiorari" should be granted.) The Dean and faculty entitled to vote on the petition shall be allowed two weeks in which to vote whether the faculty should consider the petition for readmission. Ballots shall be turned in to the supervisor of the faculty secretaries. Failure to vote constitutes a "no" vote. At the end of the two weeks, the Chairperson shall tabulate the votes. If one-third of the Dean and faculty entitled to vote are in favor of "certiorari," the issue of readmission shall be placed on the agenda at the next practicable regularly-scheduled faculty meeting held during the fall or spring semester (not during the summer). At the meeting, the faculty may decide whether to hear the petitioner and/or witness or instead to decide the case merely on the basis of the petition and discussion by faculty. A decision on the petition for readmission shall be by majority vote.

If an LL.M. student is readmitted, the student's course selection may be limited or mandated by the Dean's Office or the Program Director.

[Effective with the Spring 2003 entering class.]