

Business Law Certificate

OVERVIEW

Located in Des Moines, Iowa's capital and business hub, Drake Law School offers a robust curriculum of business and transactional courses to prepare students for the legal profession. To earn the Business Law Certificate, students must complete at least 23 total credits comprising required courses, specific electives, and experiential learning.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Core Required Courses (7 credits)
- Business Associations (4 credits)
- Federal Income Tax (3 credits)

Commercial Law Elective (Choose one, 3 credit course)
- Bankruptcy and Debt Collection
- Real Estate Transactions
- Sales
- Secured Transactions

Advanced Business Elective (Choose one, 3 or 4 credit course)
- Business Tax (4 credits)
- Mergers and Acquisitions (3 credits)
- Securities Regulation Law (3 credits)

Skills, Simulation, or Clinic Course (Choose one, 2 to 6 credit course)
- Contract Drafting (3 credits)
- Negotiations (2 credits)

- Entrepreneurial/Transactional Clinic (4–6 credits)

General Electives

Select any two courses from the unchosen required categories above, approved interdisciplinary courses from the College of Business and Public Administration, or the following list (all 3 credits unless noted):

- Consumer Protection
- Employment Law
- Gaming Law
- Insurance Law
- Patent Law
- Copyright Law
- Introduction to Intellectual Property
- Intellectual Property Licensing
- Trademark and Unfair Competition Law
- International Trade
- Law of Compliance and Risk Management
- Sports and Antitrust Law
- Internships (Insurance or Securities) (2 credits)
- Introduction to Accounting (with joint-degree advisor approval)

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Clerkships and Internships

Drake's prime location provides semester-long internships with the State Department of Insurance and with the Securities Commissioner, alongside local clerkships.

Entrepreneurial/Transactional Clinic

Students gain practical experience by advising startups, entrepreneurs, and nonprofits on entity selection, organizational drafting, intellectual property, employment policies, Sub-S elections, leases, financing, and transactional agreements.

FACULTY

Courses are taught by experienced adjunct faculty and full-time professors with extensive practical experience, including:

Jeremy Kidd, Kermit S. Sutton Research Fellow, Professor of Law: JD, George Mason University; Ph.D. in Economics, Utah State University

Natalie Banta Lynner, Dwight D. Opperman Distinguished Professor of Law: JD, Brigham Young University

Hunter R. Clark, Professor Emeritus of Law: JD, Harvard Law School

Christoph Henkel, Richard M. and Anita Calkins Distinguished Professor of Law: S.J.D., LL.M., University of Wisconsin; JD, Justus-Liebig University Law School

Joe Schomberg, Associate Professor of Law: JD, University of Chicago

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Drake.edu/law

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