

Prerequisites

Prerequisites and/or corequisites for classes are identified in the course descriptions. Below are some of the prerequisites and corequisites that many students may want to know:

Ethics Prerequisite for Clinics and Externships. Students are required to have instruction in the Model Rules of Professional Conduct prior to participating in a clinic or an externship. The courses that fulfill this prerequisite are: Ethics and The Law of Lawyering (LAW 238), Ethics of Social Justice Lawyering (LAW 237), Ethics and the Law of Lawyering in Civil Litigation (LAW 239), Criminal Justice Ethics (LAW 317), and Ethics in Action (LAW 539). Other courses may be added to the schedule from time to time to satisfy this prerequisite.

Intellectual Property Prerequisites and Corequisites. Patent Law (Law 369), Copyright Law (Law 322), and Trademarks and Unfair Competition (Law 393) are core courses in the IP curriculum and will be prerequisites for more specialized courses within those fields of study. For example, Copyright Law (LAW 322) is a prerequisite for Entertainment Law (LAW 530), Advanced Copyright: Digital Technologies (LAW 720), and Music's Copyright (LAW 781).

Other Notable Prerequisites.

- Evidence (LAW 245) is a prerequisite for Trial Practice (LAW 420).
- Business Associations (LAW 210) is a prerequisite for Corporate Restructuring (LAW 324).
- Business Associations (LAW 210) is a co- or prerequisite for Mergers and Acquisitions (LAW 336), and both classes are prerequisites for Deal Skills for the Transactional Lawyer (LAW 777).
- International Human Rights Advocacy (LAW 537) is a prerequisite for the International Human Rights Clinic (LAW 437).
- Federal Income Tax (LAW 255) is a prerequisite for Corporate Tax (LAW 326) and International Tax (LAW 360).
- Business Associations is a pre- or corequisite for Contract Drafting for the Finance Lawyer (LAW 515).

Business Essentials/Financial Information; Commercial Transactions/ Commercial and Bankruptcy Law. Because of the overlap in content, a student who takes Business Essentials (LAW 289) is precluded from taking Financial Information (LAW 260). Similarly, a student can take either Comm'l Transactions (LAW 215) or principles of Commercial and Bankruptcy Law (LAW 286), but not both.

Waiving Prerequisites and the Honor Code

A student may seek a waiver of a prerequisite from the appropriate faculty member if he or she has an academic or professional background that warrants such an exception. A student who enrolls in a course that has a prerequisite asserts under the Duke Law Honor Code that he or she has fulfilled (or sought a waiver of) that prerequisite prior to enrollment. A student who enrolls in a course without first meeting its prerequisites (or seeking a waiver) may be ejected from the class by the instructor and could be subject to disciplinary action under the Honor Code.