

Emory Law Student Handbook Addendum

2018-2019 School Year

The language below represents an addendum that provides guidelines for the upper-level writing requirement. A short reference sentence to the guidelines is added as an addendum in the “Juris Doctor (J.D.) Program General Requirements” section, in the “required upper-level writing requirement” on [page 10](#). An appendix item related to the upper-level writing requirement is added on [page 73](#) of the Student Handbook.

Upper-Level Writing Requirement – adding the following sentence:
(See Appendix for faculty-approved guidelines related to the upper-level writing requirement.)

APPENDIX: Upper-Level Writing Requirement Guidelines

Every student is required to research a topic in depth, submit drafts of a paper to the supervising faculty member for revision, and produce a substantial paper on a topic. A minimum grade of “C” is required to satisfy the writing requirement, which may be fulfilled through a seminar, directed research, or writing a journal article as a board candidate.

A. Guidelines for All Papers

Every paper must demonstrate the following:

1. Complete and thorough research of the topic with appropriate and accurate citation to sources used. Research must include reference to (a) primary sources such as case and statutory authority and (b) secondary materials including but not limited to legislative history materials, law review articles, and other works of legal scholarship and non-legal materials where appropriate;
2. Thorough analysis of the researched materials consistent with the logical development of an overall premise or theme;
3. Original analysis including identification of unresolved issues and suggestions for their resolution, conclusions based upon the analysis of the sources, and suggestions for likely future developments where appropriate; and
4. Clear, well-organized discussion of the topic with due regard to the fundamentals of good expository writing, including conformance with grammatical rules, accurate spelling and punctuation, and proper sentence and paragraph structure.

Plagiarism of any part of the paper will result in an “F” and/or other sanctions deemed appropriate by the Professional Conduct Court.

B. Mechanical Requirements

1. Papers must be a minimum of 30 pages in length, exclusive of footnotes and bibliography. Papers must be typed double-spaced on 8 1/2" by 11" paper with one-inch margins and font no larger than 12 points.
2. Footnotes must conform to the rules of citation found in the *Uniform System of Citation* or *The ALWD Citation Manual*.
3. A bibliography of sources must be attached to the paper.

C. Supervisory Requirements

1. Students must submit a topic outline to the faculty supervisor in accordance with a deadline established by the faculty member.
2. Students must submit a first draft to the faculty member in accordance with a deadline established by the faculty member and must meet with the faculty member thereafter to discuss the draft.
3. A substantial draft must be submitted no later than the last day of classes in the semester.
4. The final paper is due no later than TWO weeks after the last day of examinations in that semester EXCEPT THAT GRADUATING STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT SEMINAR PAPERS ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DAY OF CLASSES IN THE SEMESTER.
5. With the exception of the minimum length requirement of 30 pages, individual faculty members may vary these requirements at their discretion or impose such additional requirements for outlines, drafts, or conferences as they see fit.