Spring 2027 – FAQs for 1L Elective Selection

Who is eligible to choose a 1L elective?

All **day** 1L students will select a spring elective. Students ranked in the **top 75% of the class after the fall semester** will remain enrolled in their selected 2- or 3-credit course. Students ranked in the **bottom 25%** will be enrolled in Principles of Legal Analysis, an excellent course focused on strengthening legal analysis and writing skills, and dropped from their selected elective. Students ranked in the bottom 26–33% may also choose Principles of Legal Analysis as their elective once rankings are published.

How were courses identified for the 1L elective?

The courses identified as suitable for the 1L elective were identified by the faculty teaching the courses based on an understanding of what courses 1Ls will have completed in the fall semester and what courses 1Ls will enroll in for the spring semester. These courses may be part of our required curriculum, courses that are part of our certificates of concentration, and other courses that we think may interest you.

When and how will 1Ls choose their elective?

Eligible students with no account holds will choose their elective on **Wednesday, November 18, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Academic Affairs Coordinator Miette Broussard will email students a Qualtrics registration link that morning.

Choosing your elective will take place through Qualtrics, NOT LORA Self-Service (LSS). However, students may use the LSS Course Planner (calendar view) to determine whether an elective fits their schedules. Students will select from courses with available seats. Once a course fills, it will no longer appear as an option. Beginning **November 23**, students may use a Google Form to request a section change, join a waitlist, or register if they missed the deadline.

How many seats are available in each course section?

Availability depends on course capacity and enrollment by upper-class students. Some sections will have limited seats, so students should identify several alternatives.

Updated available seats for each section will be posted on the Academic Affairs website under "Schedule of Classes and Course Descriptions" by the morning of **November 18**. Availability will change as students select their elective through Qualtrics and are registered in LORA Self-Service by the end of the week.

What if the course I choose is full when I try to register?

Qualtrics will display only courses with available seats. You will select a first choice and a second choice in case two students select the final seat simultaneously. NOTE: You must choose a second choice to submit your form even if no remaining course fits your schedule. ***You will not be enrolled in a course that conflicts with your schedule.***

Beginning **November 23**, students may request an elective change or join a waitlist. Students requesting a waitlist placement will be selected **at random** and automatically moved into their preferred course if a seat becomes available.

What happens if I am subject to the Guided Curriculum because I am ranked in the bottom 25% of the class after first semester grades are submitted?

Students ranked in the bottom 25% after fall grades will automatically be enrolled in Principles of Legal Analysis by **Friday, January 8, 2027**, and dropped from their selected electives. This may open additional seats in elective courses, and waitlisted students may then be placed in those seats through the process described above.
Do not purchase course materials until you are certain you will remain enrolled in your selected elective.

What if the rest of my spring schedule does not appear on LORA Self-Service?

Check that you have:

- Accepted the Student Agreement in LORA.
- Resolved any financial, health, or other account holds as indicated in LORA Self-Service.
- Confirmed your emergency contact information.

Students are able to choose a 2-hour or a 3-hour course as their elective. How will this difference be factored into class rankings after the 1L year for purposes of law journal candidacy and Phi Delta Phi Legal fraternity?

The elective and Principles of Legal Analysis will be excluded from the GPA calculation used to determine 1L rankings for law journal and Phi Delta Phi eligibility (known as "internal ranks"). However, the elective will count toward your overall GPA and class rank (known as "external ranks") for the remainder of law school, as well as the cumulative GPA requirement of 2.0.
The elective is not subject to the First-Year Grading Guidelines.

Suggestions for selecting an elective:

1. Consider completing a required course, or a course that fulfills a requirement:

Options include:

- Torts II (Note: Can only take in 1L or 3L year)
- Lawyering III (Ethics) — Lawyering II is not a prerequisite.
- Constitutional Criminal Procedure
- Common Law Family Law (required for Common Law students beginning 2026)
- **Law & Poverty Requirement**: Law & Poverty (LAW-L781), Law & Poverty Seminar: Social Justice Lawyering (LAW-L782), Gender Law in Practice
- **Experiential Requirement**: Intro to Legislative Drafting & Regulatory Practice; Gender Law in Practice; DWI Practice and Procedure
- **Civil Law and Common Law Pool Courses**: Civil Law of Persons (civil); Natural Resources Law (common)

2. Consider courses that fulfill J.D. certificates of concentration requirements:

- **Environmental Law:** Intro to Legislative Drafting & Regulatory Practice; Natural Resources Law; Oil & Gas Law
- **Health Law:** Intro to Legislative Drafting & Regulatory Practice; Health Law II: Access, Regulation, & Compliance; Health Care Compliance; Healthcare Fraud and Abuse; Medical Malpractice
- **Immigration & Citizenship Law and Practice:** Immigration & Citizenship Law; suggested electives include Gender Law in Practice, Common Family Law, and Immigration Justice: Practice, Policy, & Process
- **International Legal Studies:** Immigration & Citizenship Law
- **Law, Technology, & Entrepreneurship:** Privacy Law Seminar
- **Social Justice:** Law & Poverty; Law & Poverty Seminar: Social Justice Lawyering; Immigration & Citizenship Law; Immigration Justice: Practice, Policy, & Process; Gender Law in Practice
- **Tax Law:** State and Local Taxation

See the certificate programs and degree requirements for additional information, and don't forget to declare your certificate if interested so that you can follow your program requirements in "My Progress" in LORA Self-Service.

3. Explore other courses of interest:

- **Family Law:** Civil Law of Persons (also civil law bar pool course); Common Law Family Law (also common law bar required course)
- **Business Law:** Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy

4. Check your current schedule in LORA Self-Service: Make sure that the course you choose fits into your schedule (look in calendar view), meaning it does not conflict with the day and time of one of your already-scheduled required courses. ***Again, you will not be enrolled in a course that conflicts with your schedule.***

*Additional information about Lawyering III (Ethics):

1) Graduation requirement: Lawyering III is Loyola's Ethics & Professionalism course and is required for graduation. It is offered every spring and summer. Students planning to enroll in a law clinic during their 3L year must complete it before beginning that year.

2) MPRE requirement: All U.S. jurisdictions require the Multi-State Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) for bar admission. Students may take the exam during law school, but individual jurisdictions have different rules regarding how long scores remain valid. Consult the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) for your jurisdiction's requirements.

Please contact your faculty advisor, Dean Garda, or Director Harvey with any questions about selecting your elective.