



# UPPER-YEAR WRITING REQUIREMENT

1. In order to graduate from the Faculty of Law at the University of Calgary, all LLB/JD students must satisfactorily complete a writing requirement (C– or better) during their second *or* third year.
2. Students may meet this requirement:
  - (a) by writing a paper or case comment or similar component, required or optional, in an upper year course, worth at least 50% of the course grade and involving significant research, *or*
  - (b) by completion of Law 653: Directed Research, *or*
  - (c) by completion of the Jessup International Moot, the Canadian Corporate/Securities Law Moot, *or* the Gale Cup Moot.
3. With respect to 2(a), above:
  - In the case of a paper or other work worth 100% of the course grade, the work should normally comprise around 10,000 words (including footnotes/endnotes but excluding bibliography). So papers etc. worth 50% of the course grade should normally comprise around 5,000 words, and so on.
  - The required research should ordinarily involve secondary material (texts, articles, etc.) as well as primary material (statutes, case law, etc.).
  - While instructors are expected to review and discuss the research question(s) and outlines and revised outlines, they are not expected to review and comment on drafts of the paper, factum or other work, unless the work is part of a Directed Research project *or* unless the student is evaluated solely (or almost solely) through the piece of writing *and* the instructor is able to offer the same opportunity to all students enrolled in the course.
  - By Labour Day each year, the Associate Dean shall post a preliminary list of upper year courses which appear to allow fulfilment of the writing requirement for that particular academic year. The Associate Dean may amend this list from time to time.

4. A student who seeks to fulfil the writing requirement, and who obtains less than a C– for the work done, may

- (a) redo the same written work (remedial option), or
- (b) nominate another course and piece of writing instead (replacement course option).

Under either option, the student must obtain a satisfactory grade (C– or better) in order to graduate.

A student who elects the remedial option must normally submit the rewritten work no later than 45 days after grades are published.

Satisfactory completion of the remedial option shall not alter the initial grade recorded for the course.

The remedial option shall not apply where other regulations of the Faculty of Law require a student to take a supplementary evaluation in that course in order to graduate or be promoted.

5. Upon satisfactory completion of the upper year writing requirement, the following notation shall be added to student transcripts: “Upper-year writing requirement completed”.

6. While mandatory for graduation, the upper-year writing requirement is not a course per se and has no special registration number. On the contrary, you must satisfy the requirement within the confines of a regularly listed course in which you are otherwise duly registered. HOWEVER, Law 607 (Legal Research) is not such a course. You cannot satisfy the writing requirement through Law 607. That said, you are well advised to take Law 607 in the same year (perhaps even the same semester) as you propose to satisfy the writing requirement, since pedagogically that maximizes your opportunity to tie research and writing together.