



# Law Co-op - The J.D. Program and Extra-Curricular Involvement

## How does participating in Law Co-op impact my J.D. Program and involvement in extra-curricular activities?

The Law Co-op Program provides law students with the exciting opportunity to work in a variety of legal settings before graduation. Participating in the Law Co-op Program does, however, impact involvement in some academic and extra-curricular activities, as follows:

- Mandatory Academic Summer:** All Law Co-op students are required to attend one academic summer session. Students are not permitted to complete all of their work terms during summer semesters. Third year students (co-op and non co-op) have priority for admission to Law Centre during summer academic semesters. Law Co-op students are not guaranteed a space in Law Centre in order to attend a second academic summer term, and are responsible for planning accordingly.
- Mandatory Schedules:** Law Co-op students are required to follow one of the three academic/work term schedules outlined below. Any schedule changes must be approved, in writing, by both the Law Co-op Coordinator and the Associate Dean, Academic and Student Relations, and approval will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.

### Option 1

| Year 1 |        |             | Year 2 |             |        | Year 3                          |        |                   |
|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Fall   | Spring | Summer      | Fall   | Spring      | Summer | Fall                            | Spring | Summer            |
| Study  | Study  | <i>Work</i> | Study  | <i>Work</i> | Study  | <i>Optional Work</i> (or study) | Study  | Study (if needed) |

### Option 2

| Year 1 |        |                | Year 2 |             |        | Year 3      |        |                                 | Year 4            |
|--------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Fall   | Spring | Summer         | Fall   | Spring      | Summer | Fall        | Spring | Summer                          | Fall              |
| Study  | Study  | <i>Opt Out</i> | Study  | <i>Work</i> | Study  | <i>Work</i> | Study  | <i>Optional Work</i> (or study) | Study (if needed) |

### Option 3

| Year 1 |        |        | Year 2      |        |             | Year 3 |        |
|--------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|
| Fall   | Spring | Summer | Fall        | Spring | Summer      | Fall   | Spring |
| Study  | Study  | Study  | <i>Work</i> | Study  | <i>Work</i> | Study  | Study  |

- **Co-op Course and Job Search:** Co-op students are required to attend the Co-op class and search for Co-op positions while attending an academic term. The time commitment can be equivalent to taking an additional course.
- **Mooting:** The alternating academic/work term Co-op schedule impacts eligibility for moots and can limit Co-op student participation. To moot, students require the permission of the Law Co-op Coordinator and the Associate Dean, Academic and Student Relations, and in some cases a Co-op employer.
- **Environmental Law Clinic (ELC) Intensive:** Three students will be permitted to participate in both the Law Co-op Program and the ELC Intensive during each academic year. Participating in both the ELC Intensive and the Law Co-op Program requires the permission of the Law Co-op Coordinator and the Associate Dean, Academic and Student Relations. Please speak to the Law Co-op Coordinator and the ELC Program Director for more information about the admission process.
- **Appeal:** Law Co-op may be able to accommodate one student each year who wishes to enroll in both Co-op and Appeal. Participating in both Appeal and the Law Co-op Program requires the written permission of the Law Co-op Coordinator and the Associate Dean, Academic and Student Relations. Please speak to the Law Co-op Coordinator for more information.
- **Law Students Society (LSS):** Co-op students are eligible to compete for some LSS positions and typically do a split term, meaning they run with another classmate who has an opposite academic/work term schedule. Some positions, such as LSS President and Treasurer, however, cannot be split between two students thus making Co-op students ineligible to compete.
- **Faculty Research Positions/Fellowships:** Non-coop students have priority in competitions for these positions.
- **Course selection:** Due to the alternating academic/work term Co-op schedule, there will be some limits to course selection. Please refer to the Course Offerings Patterns document on the UVic Law website for guidance with course selection.
- **Graduate later:** Work terms extend the length of the J.D. with Co-op program. Please speak to the Law Co-op Coordinator and/or the Law Careers officer about how this may impact access to articles and clerkships.

For additional information, please refer to the Law Co-op Student Handbook, the Law Co-op Student FAQ handout, the Law Co-op student resource binder and speak to the Law Co-op Coordinator. You can also obtain information about articles and clerkships from the Law Careers Office.

Thank you,

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