

Basic Information for Students about "Standing" and Supplemental Examinations Faculty of Law, University of Victoria

Under the regulations of the Faculty of Law, to achieve standing in any given year of the JD and the Joint JD/JID program (i.e. to "pass" the year), a student must have no "N", "F" or "DEF" grades and must have a GPA of at least 3.0 (C+ average). A student must pass each year (i.e. first year, second year and third year) of the program in order to graduate. First year consists of all of the mandatory courses and in each of second and third years, a student must complete a minimum of 14.5 units of coursework. The minimum 14.5 units in each of second and third year includes the mandatory course(s).

Standing is assessed at the end of each year of the student's program (i.e. first year, second year and third year). At that point, if the student has not met the above requirements, and if his or her GPA for that year is at least 2.0, he or she will be eligible to write up to two supplemental examinations in an attempt to meet the "pass" standards.

A student with a yearly GPA below 2.0 or who has more than 2 "F" grades for that year is not eligible to write supplemental examinations. In that case the student has failed the year and may apply to the Faculty for special permission to "repeat the year". Such permission is discretionary, and each case is assessed individually.

Students who are eligible to write supplemental examinations must successfully complete them and achieve standing in their current year, before they are allowed to commence the next year of the JD or Joint JD/JID program. Students who are eligible to write up to two supplemental examinations must write a supplemental examination in course(s) with F grades and may not write a supplemental examination in any course with a final grade of C+ or higher. Students who do not achieve standing in their year after writing up to two supplemental examinations, must apply to the Faculty for special permission to "repeat the year", as described above, if they wish to continue in the program.

Supplemental examinations are usually written in the Summer Term. They are scheduled at a time that gives instructors adequate time to set the examinations and sufficient student time to prepare to write them.

When supplemental examinations are written, the student's original grades in the courses remain on the official transcript, as does the original GPA. The grades obtained in the supplemental examinations are then listed separately, along with a revised GPA that is calculated by substituting the grades on the supplemental examinations for the grades originally obtained.

It is often possible to make arrangements to write supplemental examinations at a location other than Victoria if this is necessary, and if appropriate arrangements can be made.

The University requires payment of administration fees for supplemental examinations. The fees are \$50.00 for each supplemental examination written on campus and \$60.00 for each supplemental examination written off campus.

As part of their preparation to write supplemental examinations, students should make arrangements to review their original examination(s) with the course instructor(s) to see "where they went wrong" and how they can improve their performance on the supplemental exam(s).