

# Taft Law School

## **The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program** *(A Non-Resident Independent Study Degree Program)*

CATALOG SUPPLEMENT MARCH 2012

*Taft Law School is dedicated to the memory of Bernard E. Witkin (1904-95), a legendary legal scholar and a believer in life-long learning.*

This catalog supplement should be carefully reviewed in conjunction with the Taft Law School General Catalog by individuals considering application to the *Bachelor of Science in Laws Program*. Additional catalog supplements are available for other Taft Law School degree programs. (Since enrollment in the Program is conditioned in part on the completion of the first year of Taft Law Schools Juris Doctor Program, prospective applicants should also review the catalog supplements for the Juris Doctor Programs.)

Any questions on the information contained in this catalog supplement should be directed to the Admissions Office at the mailing address, e-mail address, or telephone numbers below:

**Taft Law School**  
**3700 South Susan Street, Office 200**  
**Santa Ana, California 92704-6954**

**(800) 882-4555**

**(714) 850-4800**

**Email: [Admissions@TaftU.edu](mailto:Admissions@TaftU.edu)**



©2012 The Taft University System

Rev: 3/2012

## ■ The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

#### OVERVIEW

The *Bachelor of Science in Laws Program* (hereinafter the *Program*) is a non-professional bachelor's degree completion program. Admission to this Program is limited to individuals who have not earned a bachelor's degree and have completed the first year curriculum of Taft Law School's *Juris Doctor – Attorney Track<sup>SM</sup> Program* or its *Juris Doctor–Executive Track<sup>SM</sup> Program*.

The *Program* is of primary interest to individuals who have earned approximately 90 semester units at the time of application to one of the Juris Doctor Programs and who may be eligible for salary increases upon earning an accredited Bachelor's degree.

#### PRESENTATION

The *Program* is presented in a independent study modality requiring no classroom or seminar attendance.

The Independent Study process developed by the Taft Law School has four major elements:

- (1) Distance Education;
- (2) Independent Self-Study;
- (3) Senior Faculty Advisors and;
- (4) Faculty Mentors.

Distance education is education designed for students who live at a distance from the School's facilities. It is a process that provides organized, formal learning opportunities for its students.

Independent self-study recognizes that education is an individual process where individuals with different learning needs and study schedules can be accommodated. It emphasizes learning that is meaningful, where individuals are involved in and enjoy the learning process, and where individuals acquire knowledge to better understand and cope with their own careers.

Senior Faculty Advisors assist Faculty Mentors in developing comprehensive course outlines and assist in documenting that the respective courses are comparable to similarly titled courses in other well respected accredited institutions with respect to course content and expected student learning outcomes.

Senior Faculty Advisors may also be retained for special purposes including, but not limited to, developing effective assessment procedures and technology development. Senior Faculty Advisors do not normally have teaching or student contact responsibilities.

The School's Faculty Mentors support the student's independent-study learning role by guiding and stimulating the learning process in one-on-one interaction. Taft faculty members recognize individual learning styles and needs, encourage one-on-one contact, and emphasize the relevance of the material to the individual's situation.

Each course in the Program contains a series of lesson assignments generally consisting of reading requirements and research projects. Students are evaluated through examinations and/or research assignments which are submitted for faculty evaluation.

#### ADMISSION POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Consistent with the School's stated Mission of providing educational opportunities to individuals who are mature adults, employed on a full-time basis, or for whom place of residence or travel requirements are constraining factors, Taft Law School has instituted two classifications of applicants of this *Program*. Prior to enrollment, all applicants to the B.S.L. Program must complete a *Degree Completion Plan Agreement*.



## ■ The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### ADMISSION POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS Concluded

#### REGULAR APPLICANTS

Applicants who have earned a minimum of 80 semester units from a college or university accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education generally qualify as regular applicants. ***Individuals who hold an earned Bachelor's degree are not eligible for admission to this Program.*** The majority of applicants to this Program are mature adults working in a variety of professional settings. Many have not attended college for several years. Consequently, prior class rank and grade point average are not significant factors in the admission process.

#### APPLICANTS EDUCATED OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES

It may be necessary for applicants who have attended colleges or universities outside of the United States to obtain an evaluation of their education from a credential evaluation service approved by Taft Law School. Upon request, the Admissions Office will provide a list of approved evaluators.

In addition, applicants whose native language is not English and who have not earned a degree from an accredited institution where English is the principal language of instruction must have received a minimum score of 550 on the paper version of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

#### CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT IN THE JURIS DOCTOR PROGRAM

A maximum of 24 units earned in a Juris Doctor Program offered by Taft Law School may be applied to the *Bachelor of Science in Laws* degree. Candidates for the B.S.L. degree cannot continue into the second year of the Juris Doctor Program until they have completed all degree requirements of the B.S.L. Program. (Units earned while enrolled in the B.S.L. Program cannot be applied to the degree requirements of the Juris Doctor Program.)

#### INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES AND METHODS

Shortly after enrollment, all students are provided with a syllabus for each course containing expected student learning outcomes, required materials, lesson assignments and examination procedures. Although students are provided with specific lesson assignments, the timing of the completion of these assignments lies with the student. This format allows maximum flexibility in allocating time between a student's academic, professional, and personal life. The structure of the courses will vary depending on which Juris Doctor Program the student has selected. However, all electives in the *Bachelor of Science in Laws Program* utilize an independent study modality.

**Individual catalog supplements are available on Taft Law School's website for each of the Juris Doctor Programs offered by the School. Each such supplement contains information on instructional policies and methods for that program.**



## The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### COURSE INFORMATION

### CURRICULUM AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To earn the *Bachelor of Science in Laws* degree, a student must document the completion of at least 120 semester units including a minimum of 30 units completed at Taft Law School. (Required and elective courses are set forth below.) At least 30 units must be in general education courses. General education courses as well as other non-law courses are not offered by Taft Law School. They may be satisfied through transfer credit or the College Level Examination Program examinations. Credit will be granted consistent with the recommended standards of the American Council on Education.

The *Program* must be completed within two years from matriculation.

### CURRICULUM

#### Required Courses

<i>Introduction to Law (LAW 601)</i>	1 Unit
<i>Contracts (LAW 616)</i>	8 Units
<i>Torts (LAW 612)</i>	7 Units
<i>Criminal Law (LAW 613)</i>	5 Units
<i>Legal Writing (LAW 604)</i>	3 Units

#### Elective Courses

<i>Administrative Law (LAW 651)</i>	3 Units
<i>Alternative Dispute Resolution (LAW 674)</i>	3 Units
<i>Bankruptcy Law (LAW 653)</i>	3 Units
<i>Corporate Securities Law (LAW 654)</i>	3 Units
<i>Community Property (LAW 633)</i>	3 Units
<i>Directed Legal Studies (LAW 650)</i>	1-6 Units
<i>Health Care Law (LAW 675)</i>	3 Units
<i>Intellectual Property (LAW 658)</i>	3 Units
<i>Labor/Employment Law (LAW 672)</i>	3 Units
<i>Sports Law (LAW 671)</i>	3 Units

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### **Administrative Law (LAW 651) 3 Units**

This course is an examination of the law relating to governmental agencies, with emphasis on federal regulation. The course deals with issues such as the due process right to a hearing, adjudication, rule-making, freedom of information, secret lobbying, control of discretion, judicial review and regulatory reform.

#### **Alternative Dispute Resolution (LAW 674) 3 Units**

This course focuses on the options that parties may have to settle a dispute without going to trial. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) has become a mandatory step in many judicial districts before a matter may proceed to trial. In particular, the course examines the processes of Negotiation, Mediation, and Arbitration.

#### **Bankruptcy Law (LAW 653) 3 Units**

This course introduces federal bankruptcy law and the Bankruptcy Code. It focuses on the policy considerations that underlie the code, and the provisions of the code that apply in both business and consumer cases. The course pays particular attention to business reorganizations under Chapter 11.

#### **Contracts (LAW 616) 8 Units**

This course analyzes the law relating to formation of contracts, the statute of frauds, third-party beneficiary contracts, assignment of rights and delegation of duties, liability for breach of contract including the law of conditions and discharge.

#### **Corporate Securities Law (LAW 654) 3 Units**

This course focuses on federal and state regulations of business and business enterprises. The issuance and trading in stocks, bonds and other securities. It also delves into disclosure and civil and criminal liability provisions.



## The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS *Concluded*

#### ***Criminal Law (LAW 613)***

**5 Units**

This course probes laws relating to various criminal offenses, including crimes against the person and habitation, larceny and kindred offenses, attempt and conspiracy rules, the defenses to criminal charges and the procedural rights of the accused.

#### ***Directed Legal Studies (LAW 650)***

**1-6 Units**

This course consists of an independent research project written under the supervision of a law school faculty member. Subjects may vary dependent on the nature and interest of the student and requires the approval of the Dean or Associate Dean.

#### ***Health Care Law (LAW 675)***

**3 Units**

This course provides the student with the necessary background on a wide variety of health care topics, enabling professionals to deal with the common legal and practical problems facing the health care industry.

#### ***Intellectual Property (LAW 658)***

**3 Units**

The protection of intellectual property and encouragement of creativity. Explores copyright, trademarks, trade secrets, patents, unfair competition, and selected state law theories. It provides students with a general working knowledge of the various intellectual property doctrines.

#### ***Introduction to Law (LAW 601)***

**1 Unit**

This is an orientation course to help prepare the lay person for the study of law. As the first law school course, it provides the new student with an understanding of principles of law and of case analysis.

#### ***Labor/Employment Law (LAW 672)***

**3 Units**

This course examines the historical foundation for labor laws and the creation of the labor movement while focusing on the workplace of today. The laws and regulations that govern the employment relationships, particularly those related to wages, hours, benefits and conditions are focused upon. The distinctions between public and private employers are also reviewed.

#### ***Legal Writing (LAW 604)***

**3 Units**

This course explains how to write in a "Lawyerlike" manner. The student is guided through the process of how to write memoranda, letters, briefs and answers to law exams.

#### ***Sports Law (LAW 671)***

**3 Units**

This course reviews the broad spectrum of issues related to the world of sports. The course will examine such diverse issues as the power of the sports commissioner, labor negotiations, the role of the sports agent, professionalism vs. amateurism, injuries, and gender equity.

#### ***Torts (LAW 612)***

**7 Units**

This course examines laws relating to civil liability for intentional wrongs to person and property, negligence, strict liability, misrepresentation, defamation and other civil wrongs.



## The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The tuition for the *Bachelor of Science in Laws Program* is \$330.00 per unit (the total tuition will depend upon the number of units an applicant must complete to satisfy the graduation requirement of 120 units). Additional information on financial aid and tuition financing is set forth on the School's website.

#### FEES

Application Fee	None
Degree Completion Evaluation Fee	\$200.00
Registration Fee	None
Library Fees	\$75.00
Non-Resident Surcharge (Per Year)	\$250.00
<i>(Applies Only to Students Residing Outside of the United States)</i>	
Administrative/Accounting Fee	\$50.00
<i>(Applicable to Installment Payment Plans Only)</i>	
Returned Check Fee	\$25.00
Transcript Fee	\$7.50
<i>(Two Provided at No Charge)</i>	
Graduation/Diploma Fee	\$75.00

**All of the fees on this schedule are non-refundable.**

The cost of required books and materials, other than each course's syllabus, is not included in the tuition. The current estimated cost for these materials is between \$200.00 and \$300.00 per course. Most books and materials may be purchased through any legal book store. However, students will always be provided with mail and/or online sources for obtaining any required materials. Taft Law School does not sell books or study aids.

#### HOW TO ENROLL

To apply for admission to the *Bachelor of Science in Laws Program*, an applicant must first complete the first year curriculum in a Taft Law School Juris Doctor Program, complete the Degree Completion Plan form and submit the Degree Completion Evaluation fee.

If the applicant is accepted for admission to the Program, enrollment materials will be prepared and mailed to the applicant for review and signature. All payments submitted for tuition and fees must be payable in U.S. dollars. Payments may be made by major credit cards (MasterCard®/Visa®/American Express®) or personal or business checks.

#### POLICY ON TRANSFER CREDIT

A maximum of 90 semester units can be awarded toward the total bachelor's degree requirement of 120 units through a combination of any or all of the following:

(1) Units earned at public or private institutions of higher learning accredited by an accrediting association recognized by the United States Department of Education, or any institution of higher learning, including foreign institutions, if the institution offering the undergraduate program documents that the institution of higher learning at which the units were earned offers degree programs equivalent to degree programs accredited by an accrediting association recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(2) Scores on College Level Examination Program (CLEP) examinations. Credit will be granted consistent with the recommended standards of the American Council on Education. (See the next page of this Catalog Supplement for specific score requirements and semester unit values. Credit for CLEP exams cannot exceed 30 units.)



## The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS *Concluded*

Duplicate credit will not be granted in categories (1) and (2) for the same subject. (For example, if transfer credit has been accepted for completing *American Government* at an appropriate college or university, no additional credit would be granted for passing the *American Government* CLEP Examination.)

At least 30 semester units must be completed in general education subjects through transfer credit or CLEP examinations. At least one college level course or CLEP examination must be completed in any four of the following five general education areas:

*English Composition*

*Humanities*

*Mathematics*

*Natural Sciences*

*Social Science and History*

It is *not* required a student pass the CLEP *General Examinations* to satisfy the above requirement. A student may take any *Subject Examination* within a general area.

Taft Law School does not award credit for work experience.

### COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP) SCORE REQUIREMENTS

	Min Score	Units
<b>Business Examinations</b>		
Business Law, Introductory	50	3
Information Systems & Computer Applications	50	3
Principles of Management	50	3
Principles of Marketing	50	3
<b>Composition and Literature</b>		
English Composition	50	6
English Composition & Essay	50	6
Humanities	50	6
American Literature	50	6
Analyzing & Interpreting Literature	50	6
Composition, Freshman College	50	6
English Literature	50	6
<b>Foreign Language</b>		
French – College Level 1	50	6
French – College Level 2	59	12
German – College Level 1	50	6
German – College Level 2	60	12
Spanish – College Level 1	50	6
Spanish – College Level 2	63	12
<b>Social Sciences and History</b>		
Social Sciences & History	50	6
American Government	50	3
Intro to Educational Psych	50	3
History of the US – Part 1	50	3
Human Growth & Development	50	3
Principles of Macroeconomics	50	3
Principles of Microeconomics	50	3
Psychology, Introductory	50	3
Sociology, Introductory	50	3
Western Civilization – Pt. 1	50	3
Western Civilization – Pt. 2	50	3
<b>Science and Mathematics</b>		
Algebra, College	50	3
Biology	50	6
Calculus	50	3
Chemistry, General	50	6
College Mathematics	50	6
Natural Sciences	50	6

Additional information on CLEP examinations can be found on the website of The College Board ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)).



## The Bachelor of Science in Laws Program

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**1. Q. What books and other materials are utilized in the Program?**

**A.** Taft Law School students use many of the same casebooks and textbooks as students at traditional universities such as Harvard, Stanford, and other American Bar Association approved law schools. In addition, Taft students benefit from professionally prepared course outlines, law summaries, and recorded lectures.

**2. Q. Can I transfer credits earned at Taft Law School to other schools? Can the Bachelor's degree I earn at Taft qualify me for admission to a graduate program at another school?**

**A.** The evaluation of any units or degrees earned at Taft Law School, for the purpose of transfer credit or admissions into graduate programs, is controlled solely by the institution you wish to subsequently attend. Some colleges or universities will only consider credit earned at a regionally accredited institution. The School therefore cannot make any representation about whether the units or degrees earned in this program will be accepted upon transfer to any other institution. Any questions about transferring credit earned at the School must be directed to the institution to which you are planning to transfer.

**3. Q. What type of preparation is advisable for the study of law?**

**A.** Successful law students - and outstanding attorneys - have come from all walks of life and educational backgrounds. Consequently, Taft Law School does not prescribe a specific course of study or employment experience for admission. Any person who has the ability to learn, is well motivated, has reasonable writing skills, and possesses a logical mind has the basic tools necessary to become a successful Taft student and attorney.

**4. Q. How soon do I need to select an area of specialization?**

**A.** A common misconception about law school is that students must specialize in particular areas of the law while pursuing the first law degree. The volume of basic material essential to professional competence and required to pass the bar examination is too great to allow specialization within the *JDAT<sup>SM</sup> Program*. A major focus is to prepare students for the California Bar Examination. For attorneys wishing to specialize in particular areas of the law, the Continuing Education of the Bar and many private organizations offer hundreds of outstanding programs annually.

**5. Q. What financial aid is available?**

**A.** Special grants-in-aid are available to outstanding prospects such as graduate degree holders and certain members of professional groups such as CPA's, members of the military and law enforcement personnel. These grants are generally equal to 5% - 10% of the tuition.

**This Program is not an eligible program for purposes of obtaining federally insured student loans.**

**6. Q. How soon can I get started?**

**A.** For this Program, Taft Law School maintains open enrollment throughout the year. Applications are reviewed weekly and most students commence study within three weeks from the date of application.

