Degree Program Requirements

- **Juris Doctor (J.D.)**
- **Master of Laws (LL.M.)**
- **Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)**
- **Master of Laws in the Judicial Process (LL.M.)**
- **Joint Degree Programs**

**JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.)**

The Juris Doctor is the basic degree required for entrance into the legal profession. This degree requires 86 credit hours during six semesters of residence, including certain required courses, a writing requirement, and a minimum 2.3 grade point average. To receive full-residence credit for a semester you must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours of credit toward the J.D. For more degree requirements, see Academic Policies.

**FOR INFORMATION ON APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM:** Contact Admissions at (434) 924-7351 or lawadmit@virginia.edu.

**MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.)**

Candidates for the Master of Laws degree must possess the J.D. or its equivalent and satisfactorily complete a minimum of 24 credit hours, including a substantial written work, over two semesters in residence. Graduate Studies Admissions.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Contact the program coordinator at (434) 924-3154 or gradadmit@law.virginia.edu.

**DOCTOR OF JURIDICAL SCIENCE (S.J.D.)**

To earn the Doctor of Juridical Science, the Law School's most advanced research degree, students must demonstrate superior intellectual ability in a program approved by the graduate committee. The program requires at least two semesters of residence, and must include a minimum of six hours of courses or seminars, the satisfactory completion of an oral examination and a dissertation that is an original contribution to the literature of the law. Most S.J.D. candidates already hold the LL.M. degree. Graduate Studies Admissions.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Contact the program coordinator at (434) 924-3154 or gradadmit@law.virginia.edu.
MASTER OF LAWS IN THE JUDICIAL PROCESS (LL.M.)

The Law School inaugurated the Master of Laws in the Judicial Process in 1980 as a special program for judges of state and federal appellate courts in the United States. The degree requires two resident, six-week summer sessions and a written thesis. More About the Judges Program

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact the program administrator at (434) 924-4787 or jholt@virginia.edu.