



Designating a Course AEXP, EXPR, or WI

REQUIREMENTS

Upper Division Experiential Requirement (noted on WaveNet as “AEXP” or “EXPR”): All students must complete at least 15 units of practice based, experiential course work or its equivalent.

A. Six of the 15 units must be upper level courses designated as experiential under the ABA definition of experiential courses, as determined by the Academic Dean and noted on WaveNet as AEXP.

B. The remaining 9 units, designated as EXP on Wavenet, may be fulfilled as follows:

1. First year LRW courses will count for 4 units.
2. Students may satisfy the remaining 5 units through other classes designated as AEXP or EXP as determined by the Academic Dean.
3. Students may count up to 5 units earned in credit bearing advocacy or journal courses toward the 15 unit requirement. Units earned in any course to satisfy the upper division writing requirement described above will not count toward satisfying any portion of the 15 unit requirement.
4. Students may seek a waiver for up to 5 units of the 9 units by certifying that they have completed the requisite number of hours of legal work under the supervision of a lawyer, paid or unpaid, per unit waived. Note that this is a waiver applicable to the 15 unit experiential learning requirement, not a waiver of total general units required to graduate and not a basis for award of units

Upper Division Writing Requirement (noted on WaveNet as “WI”):

All students are required to complete a rigorous upper division writing experience as defined by the Academic Policy. This requirement may be met by any one of the following:

1. Completing a note, comment, or article meeting the student writing requirements of the Pepperdine Law Review or other official law school journal;
2. Writing a paper complying with the requirements of the Academic Policy for a law school course, including but not limited to independent study and courses designated as providing an opportunity to fulfill the upper-division writing requirement;
3. Writing an appellate moot court brief approved by the Academic Dean and a faculty advisor as satisfying the upper division writing requirement; or
4. Other substantial and rigorous written work approved by the Academic Dean, as satisfying the upper division writing requirement.

If the student’s fulfillment of the requirement is based on taking a course, the student must earn at least a “pass” in the course if it is graded as High Pass/Pass/Credit/Fail and must earn at least a “C” in the course if it is taken for a grade.

DEFINITIONS OF DESIGNATIONS

ABA Experiential (“AEXP”): According to ABA Standard 303, an experiential course must be a simulation course, a law clinic, or a field placement (as defined by the ABA) that meets certain additional requirements. Specifically, in addition to being primarily experiential in nature, the course must integrate doctrine, theory, skills and legal ethics; engage students in performance of one or more of the professional skills identified by the ABA (see below); develop the concepts underlying the professional skills being taught; provide multiple opportunities for performance; and provide opportunities for self-evaluation.

ABA Standard 302 requires that a law school’s learning outcomes must include competency in the following professional skills: knowledge and understanding of substantive and procedural law; legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, problem-solving, and written and oral communication in the legal context; exercise of proper professional and ethical responsibilities to clients and the legal system; and other professional skills needed for competent and ethical participation as a member of the legal profession.

Experiential (“EXPR”): An experiential course should include substantial practical and practice-ready experiences, similar to courses like the first-year Legal Research & Writing

course. The Academic Dean, working with the course professor, will determine whether a course should be designated experiential.

Writing Intensive (“WI”): A course satisfying the upper-division writing requirement must require students to produce a paper of substantial merit which is of publishable quality and in a form suitable for law review publication. Proposed subjects that can be easily completed from secondary sources or existing literature are not appropriate. The subject matter will require independent thought and analysis by the student and supervision by a faculty member. For more information on the requirements, review sections 7.0 and 14.12 of the [Academic Policy](#), ABA Standard 303(a)(2), and [Upper-Division Writing Guidelines](#).