

Upper-Level Writing Requirement Information

As a requisite for graduation, all students must satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement. Students may satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement as a part of a two (2) credit seminar, an approved advanced drafting course, an approved two (2) credit independent research paper, or through a note written by a FAMU Law Review member accepted for publication in a co-curricular law school journal as certified by the Law Review faculty advisor for the FAMU College of Law. Courses approved for satisfaction of the Upper-Level Writing Requirement must earn a grade of B- or above and must meet the minimum standards outlined below. The faculty certification must be approved in the semester the grade is recorded for courses satisfying the upper-level writing requirement.

Seminar Paper or Independent Research Paper

The research paper must be a minimum of 25 pages in length, including footnotes, and the paper must meet all the standards listed on the Upper-Level Writing Requirement certification form.

Advanced Drafting Course

Advanced drafting courses that satisfy this requirement fall into the following categories: transactional legal drafting, litigation-oriented legal drafting, legislative drafting, and appellate legal drafting. Practice-oriented writing courses can be used to satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement only if the faculty member teaching the course agrees in advance to require the following:

- 25 pages minimum of qualifying written work
- The written work must
 - * involve legal analysis;
 - * involve individual/original thought and drafting;
 - * be subjected to instructor review and student revision;
 - * have a proper writing style for the legal context; and
 - * use proper legal citation form for the legal context.

Students in these courses may elect to have their credit fulfill either a portion of the Experiential Learning Requirement or the Upper-Level Writing Requirement, but not both. Courses approved for satisfaction of the Upper-level Writing Requirement must meet all the standards listed on the Upper-Level Writing certification form.

Law Review Note

A note written by a FAMU Law Review member will satisfy the requirement if the note is accepted for publication in a co-curricular law school journal and is certified by the Law Review faculty advisor for the FAMU College of Law.

The Upper-Level Writing Requirement may not be satisfied at any other institution under any circumstances.



Upper-Level Writing Requirement Certification Form for Research Papers

Professor Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Name: _____ FAMU Student ID#: _____

Indicate Semester and Year: Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____

Completed a Research Paper entitled: _____

In a Two-credit Seminar titled:

In a Two-credit Independent Research project course.

FACULTY CERTIFICATION

I have reviewed the provisions for satisfying the Upper-Level Writing Requirement, which provide:

All students must complete the Upper-Level Writing Requirement as a part of a two (2) credit seminar, an approved advanced drafting course, an approved two (2) credit independent research paper, or through a note written by a FAMU Law Review member accepted for publication in a co-curricular law school journal as certified by the Law Review faculty advisor for the FAMU College of Law.

The writing requirement is not automatically satisfied by successfully completing the requirements of the seminar or independent research project for which the paper was written. The supervising faculty member will complete this certification form to confirm that the student has received feedback on at least one draft of the paper and to certify that the papers satisfy the standards of the Upper-Level Writing Requirement. The faculty member will then submit the completed certification form to the College of Law Registrar.

Inasmuch as the above-mentioned paper:

- is a significant analytical paper
- reflects substantial legal research
- contains original thought
- displays proper writing style and
- uses correct citation form

I certify that the above-mentioned paper:

- Satisfies the Requirement
- Does not satisfy the Requirement

GRADE: _____

CREDIT HOUR POLICY COMPLIANCE (INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ONLY)

A student must complete at least 45 hours of work during the semester for each academic credit awarded, as evaluated by the faculty advisor. This student completed _____ hours of work to be awarded _____ credit hours.

Faculty Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Upper-Level Writing Requirement may not be satisfied at any other institution under any circumstances.