



Juris Doctor Program

Awards and Prizes

Internal Guidelines

Effective September 1, 2023

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Effect of Deferrals on Course Awards

(a) One deferral instance means a student has obtained a deferral which includes the deferral of all assessments/deliverables spanning a specified time period that will be deferred for the same reason or pursuant to the same request. One extension instance means a student has obtained an extension for all work within a specified period of time, based on or stemming from one same extension request.

(b) All JD students who have only one deferral instance or obtain only one extension instance per academic year are eligible to win prizes and awards, including the Pitblado Scholarships. The Associate Dean's Office will have discretion to allow a student with more than one deferral instance or more than one extension instance to be eligible to win prizes and awards in situations where the principle of equity would justify the student continuing to be eligible.

(c) All deferred examinations shall ordinarily be written on the last day of term and all deferred assignments and papers shall ordinarily be due on the last day of term, unless other dates are approved by the Associate Dean's Office.

(d) This section does not apply to JD students who have Student Accessibility Services (SAS) accommodations.

Dean's Honour List

The Dean's Honour List for each year, based on weighted grade point averages, shall comprise the top ten percent of full-time students enrolled in each year as at May 31. A student who defers or receives an extension, or who completes an incomplete grade, or who successfully appeals a grade, shall be added supernumerary in the event that the student's ultimate grade point average is at least as high as that of the lowest ranking student placed on the Dean's Honour List in May. A half-time student shall be added supernumerary to the Dean's Honour List in the event that the student's grade point average after completion of a year is at least as high as that of the lowest ranking student placed on the Dean's Honour List in that year.

Gold Medal

The University Gold Medal for Law shall be awarded annually to the graduating full-time Third Year student with the highest cumulative weighted grade point average for all three years of the J.D. program, with no required minimum grade point average. In the event of a tie for the Gold Medal in Law, the Gold Medal in Law shall be awarded to the student with the highest standing calculated on compulsory subjects together with whatever elective subjects the tied students had in common. A student who took a non-law course may also be eligible for the Gold Medal.

Letter of Permission and Transfer students

- (a) A student who takes courses on a Letter of Permission at another university shall be ineligible for our prizes and awards based upon cumulative grade point average for that year, and for prizes and awards based upon cumulative grade point average for the whole J.D. program.

- (b) A student who transfers into the Faculty from another university shall be ineligible for prizes and awards based upon cumulative grade point average for the student's entire J.D. program. The student who transfers into the Faculty from another law school will however be eligible for course prizes in our Faculty.

- (c) When a Third Year student takes a non-Law course, the evaluation of the student's performance in the non-Law course shall be treated as a Pass/Fail course for the purpose of prizes and awards based upon a cumulative grade point average, but otherwise the student shall be eligible for all prizes and awards.

- (d) When a student takes the Mishpatim course or other Faculty-approved programs (for example the Indigenous Program at Osgoode Hall Law School) on a Letter of Permission, the evaluation of the student's performance in the course shall be treated as a Pass/Fail course for the purpose of prizes and awards based upon a cumulative grade point average, but otherwise the student shall be eligible for all Faculty prizes and awards.

Deferred Examinations

(a) A deferred examination is any examination, including a mid-term examination, written by a student other than on the day on which the examination was scheduled and which is in substitution for that examination. A deferred examination includes an examination written either before or after the date of the regularly scheduled examination.

(b) The granting of a request for a deferred examination or a deferral instance shall be at the discretion of the Associate Dean's Office based upon demonstrated compelling medical or compassionate grounds.

(c) If a student is granted a deferral of a mid-term examination, the grade for the course may be based on the other evaluation methods applicable in the course, subject to the approval of the Associate Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor concerned.

(d) Applications for a deferred examination or deferral instance will only be considered if the following procedures have been properly observed:

- A student seeking a deferred examination is obliged to apply to do so at the earliest opportunity, by completing the online request form. [Application for Deferral or Extension – Non SAS requests](#)
- Where a student is unable to or does not attend an examination, the student is normally expected to apply to the Associate Dean for the deferral prior to the time scheduled for the examination.
- With respect to a final examination, an application must normally be filed within seven working days of the last examination the student is scheduled to write in that term.
- With respect to all other examinations, normally an application must be filed within seven working days of the scheduled examination.
- If a deferred examination is not granted to a student who did not attend an examination, the student shall receive a grade of F/NP in that examination.

- Where a student does attend an examination and either partially or fully completes the examination, a student seeking a deferral of that examination normally must make application for a deferral to the Associate Dean immediately upon turning in the examination paper, to be followed by such written documentation in support of the application as may be required.
- If a deferred examination is not granted to a student who partially or fully completes the examination, the examination turned in by the student shall be graded and the grade recorded in the normal fashion.
- A student who is granted a deferred examination shall sign the non-disclosure undertaking required by the Associate Dean's Office.