



**Grading, Academic Exclusion and Readmission,  
and Honors for LL.M. Students**

- A. Grades:** Students in LL.M. programs at Stetson University College of Law are graded on an honors basis in courses graded on a 4.0 scale. Possible grades include High Honors, Honors, Pass, Credit, and Fail. For informational purposes, on a 4.0 scale, **High Honors** is in the range of 3.5 and higher, **Honors** is in the range of 3.0–3.25, **Pass** is in the range of 2.0–2.75, **Credit** is in the range of 0.75–1.75, and **Fail** is a grade below 0.75.

For courses graded on an S+ to U scale, LL.M. students are graded on a S-LLM (satisfactory) or U-LLM (unsatisfactory) basis with no degrees of “satisfactory” performance assigned.

Students in the LL.M. programs may also receive the following grades:

- ❖ X (excessive absences or failure to complete required work)
- ❖ I (incomplete)
- ❖ W (withdrew)

- B. Academic Exclusion and Readmission:** An LL.M. student who has attempted at least 5 credit hours at the College of Law is eligible for exclusion from the College of Law if any of the following occurs:

- ❖ In any given semester, the student receives a grade of Credit, Fail, or X in more than 50% of the credits attempted in that semester;
- ❖ After the first semester, in all credits attempted at the College of Law, the student receives a grade of Credit, Fail, or X in more than 30% of the credits attempted to date; or
- ❖ The student receives an X grade in two consecutive semesters, including summer sessions.

A student who is eligible for exclusion based on the grades outlined above will be given an opportunity to be heard before the Academic Standards Committee about why the student should not be excluded. The procedure for an LL.M. student to appear before the Committee, or to appeal a decision that a student is excluded from the College of Law, will be the same for an LL.M. student as the procedure outlined in the Academic

Exclusion and Probation policy for J.D. students, except that students in an Electronic Education program may appear before the Academic Standards Committee telephonically.

**C. Honors:** An LL.M. student will graduate “with Distinction” if the student has met the following requirements after all credits for the program have been completed:

- ❖ The student received a grade of High Honors in at least 25% of the credits attempted in courses graded on a 4.0 scale; and
- ❖ The student received a grade of Pass in no more than 25% of the credits attempted in courses graded on a 4.0 scale; and
- ❖ The student received no grades of Credit, Fail, or U-LLM.

**D. Graduation Honors:** In connection with the graduation ceremony, the College of Law will announce which LL.M. students are anticipated to graduate “with Distinction.” Anticipated graduation “with Distinction” will be based on the following requirements as of the semester before graduation:

- ❖ The student received a grade of High Honors in at least 25% of the credits attempted in courses graded on a 4.0 scale; and
- ❖ The student received a grade of Pass in no more than 25% of the credits attempted in courses graded on a 4.0 scale; and
- ❖ The student received no grades of Credit, Fail, or U-LLM.

When grades are finalized and diplomas printed, actual graduation “with Distinction” will be noted on each eligible student’s diploma and official transcript. An individual may not represent that he or she graduated “with Distinction” based on the announcement of anticipated graduation “with Distinction” at graduation; instead a representation that an individual is a graduate “with Distinction” must be based on final grades and the designation included on his or her official transcript.

**Cross-reference:** Academic Exclusion and Probation (effective for J.D. students entering in or after Fall 2009).

*Academic policy approved by the faculty on April 14, 2010 (replaces Academic Exclusion and Readmission Policy for LL.M. Students that took effect in Spring 2003; LL.M. Grading and Academic Standards Policy that took effect for students entering in or after Spring 2003; and Elder Law LL.M. Graduation with Distinction Policy that was approved by the faculty on December 19, 2008); this new policy takes effective at the start of the Fall 2010 semester, regardless of when a student entered an LL.M. program at the College of Law. Amended March 16, 2011 (effective for the Spring 2011 semester). Amended September 14, 2011. Amended May 9, 2017.*