



2025 - 2026

Orientation Information



SAN JOAQUIN
COLLEGE OF LAW

DARRYL B. FREEDMAN
LAW LIBRARY

Monday, August 11

5:00 - 6:30pm **On-Campus Kickoff: Tours, Meet & Greet, and Key Cards/Photo IDs**

(Not mandatory to stay the whole time)

6:30 - 6:40PM **Dean's Welcome**

6:40 - 8:15PM **1L Self-Introductions**

8:15 - 8:30PM **Break**

8:30 - 9:30PM **Department Breakout Sessions**

(*In-Person students: Your group number is on your nametag.)

Group*	Room	8:30PM	8:50PM	9:10PM
1	210	Human Resources & Compliance	Financial Aid	Information Technology
2	203	Information Technology	Human Resources & Compliance	Financial Aid
3	213	Financial Aid	Information Technology	Human Resources & Compliance

Wednesday, August 13

5:30 - 6:30PM **Virtual Students Meet and Greet (Zoom Only)**

6:30 - 7:00PM **Academic Policies & Support Program**

7:00 - 7:20PM **Registrar's Office & Student Services**

7:20 - 7:55PM **SJCL's Community, Opportunity, Respect & Engagement (CORE) Committee**

7:55 - 8:10PM **Break**

8:10 - 8:30PM **Library Resources**

8:30 - 8:50PM **Clinics at SJCL - NALC & BREN**

8:50 - 9:20PM **Student Organizations at SJCL**

9:20 - 9:30PM **Closing Remarks**

Important Policies and Procedures

Student Handbook

It is your responsibility to read the Student Handbook, available on the Student Resources portal, in its entirety. Please reach out to Dean Tennerelli if you have any questions.

Student Honor Code

All students, regardless of your mode of attendance, are expected to act with utmost honesty, fairness, and concern for your professional reputation and for the reputation of the school. Prohibited conduct includes, among other things, furnishing false information to the school; cheating and plagiarizing; using AI technology to generate written assignments; threats and physical or verbal abuse; harassment; unlawful distribution of intellectual property, copyrighted materials, and class recordings; and any crime of moral turpitude.

J.D. Requirements

The Juris Doctor degree:

- Can be completed in 3, 4, or 5 years, depending on your performance and needs;
- Requires completion of 86 semester units (69 classroom units and 17 elective units);
- Requires a cumulative grade point average of 65 or higher each spring; and
- Requires a minimum of 6 units each fall and spring semester.

A “passing” grade in each class is 55 or higher. Any class for which you receive a non-passing grade must be repeated.

Advancing to Spring Semester

To advance to spring semester of your 1L year, you must:

- Pass (i.e., achieve a 55 or higher) at least 2 of the 3 core courses; and
- Attain a cumulative GPA of 60 or higher at the end of the fall term.

“Core” courses are Torts, Civil Procedure, and Contracts.

If you fail to meet these requirements, you will be academically disqualified and no probation will be granted. If you receive a grade below 55 in Part I of any course this fall but advance, you cannot take Part II of that course in spring and will need to take parts I and II during your 2L year.

Modalities

SJCL offers two modalities of attendance: in-person and through the remote option, which allows students to attend synchronous classes via Zoom. Modalities are elected by students on a course-by-course basis prior to the start of each semester. As first-year students, you are encouraged to attend in person if possible.

Attendance

Attendance and participation is crucial to your success in law school. The Committee of Bar Examiners requires students to attend at least 80% of scheduled classes to receive credit. You are expected to attend every class session, to arrive on time, and to be prepared to discuss the assigned materials. If you are going to be late or need to step for even a few minutes, please notify your professor as a courtesy and try to make as few disruptions as possible.

Professors cannot excuse absences. Professors must mark absent any student who arrives 20 minutes or more late to class, misses any part of class for more than 20 minutes, or leaves class more than 20 minutes before dismissal. For remote students, this includes any period of 20 minutes or more where the student is not visible on camera. The use of a picture or avatar will not suffice. Professors may mark any student they deem to be unprepared for class.

Virtual Attendance

It is your responsibility to ensure you have reliable wifi, microphone and video conferencing abilities. You will be deemed absent if you are off-camera or engaging in non-class activities for all or a substantial part of a scheduled class session.

Virtual learners are held to the same etiquette standards and code of conduct as in-person students. You are expected to maintain professionalism, which includes dressing in attire appropriate for an in-person classroom. Please refrain from distracting behaviors for yourself or others such as multitasking, exercising, driving, laying down, texting, and conversing with household members.

Lecture Recordings

Class recordings are restricted to students currently enrolled in the class and are for personal use only. Personal use is defined as the use by an individual student to study or complete course assignments. Any misuse or improper sharing of recordings will result in an honor code violation. If you cannot find a class recording, please contact the IT helpdesk.

Academic Calendar*

The Academic Calendars are available on the school's website under Academics > Calendar tab

Fall Term 2025

Online Registration	July 29 - 31
Orientation Week (1L).....	Aug. 11 - 14
1st Day of Term	Aug. 18
Labor Day.....	Sept. 1
Instruction Ends.....	Nov. 25
Thanksgiving Recess.....	Nov. 26 - 28
Final Exams.....	Dec. 1 - 12
Fall Term Ends.....	Dec. 12
Winter Recess	Dec. 15 - Jan. 2

Spring Term 2026

Online Registration	Dec. 26 - 28
1st Day of Term	Jan. 5
Martin Luther King Jr.	Jan. 19
Presidents' Day.....	Feb. 16
Spring Recess.....	March 30 - April 3
Instruction Ends.....	April 24
Final Exams.....	April 27 - May 8
Spring Term Ends	May 8
Commencement	May 30

*Dates subject to change

Absences and Flex Days

You are permitted a certain number of Flex Days for each course, meaning you can attend in the non-selected modality without getting an absence. If you use all allotted Flex Days, you must attend the remainder of classes in your chosen modality or you will be marked absent.

Students are permitted the following number of absences and flex days per course per semester, regardless of the reason for the absence:

Number of Course Sessions	Permitted Absences	Flex Days
Day (Contracts, Civil Procedure, Torts)	6	8
Night (Contracts, Civil Procedure, Torts)	3	4
Legal Methods	3	4

You will be administratively dropped from a course if you exceed the maximum number of absences.

Where to Find Recordings, Registration Packets, Past Exams, and More

Class Recordings, Class Schedules, Syllabi and First Assignments, Exam Schedules, Past Exams, Mental Wellness Support Resources, Clinical and Assistantship Information Packets and forms, Student Employment Documents, and the Registration Packet are located in your Student Portal. The Registration Packet includes the class schedules, exam schedules, book information, and more. The Student Portal can be accessed via the Students > Student Portal tab on the website.

ExamSoft/Examplify

You will use ExamSoft, a secure testing solution, for exams. The Law Coordinator will notify you when Examsoft is available for download and provide instructions. NOTE: Always make sure to update to the latest version of Examsoft when instructed; old versions are not supported by ExamSoft.

Prior to each exam, you will enter a password provided by the school, all other programming will close, the exam will unlock, and you will work offline. This software completely locks out/blocks access to programs, files on your computer, and internet usage.

Maintenance

For any maintenance or facilities-related concerns or to report spills, please contact the Maintenance Help Desk at maintenance@sjcl.edu. You may also contact Facilities Manager Rick Rodriguez at rrodriguez@sjcl.edu and/or 559-326-1475.

Building Access

All external entrances to the building remain locked 24/7. There are two touchless keypads located at the Southeast and Northwest doors. To enter the building, tap your SJCL ID card over the keypad or download the Verkada Pass app. To use the app:

1. Set up your SJCL email account on your phone.
2. Install the Verkada Pass App for iOS or Android.
3. Enter your SJCL email address and click next.

The App will automatically turn off to save battery life every 4-6 days. Just reopen the App when this happens. Promptly notify the SJCL Helpdesk if an ID card is found, stolen, or lost. Your ID card and/or App may not be transferred to or used by any other party. If you have questions or difficulty entering the building, please contact the SJCL Helpdesk at 559- 326-1599 or HelpDesk@sjcl.edu.

Safety on Campus

If you have any safety concerns or suggestions, please complete the Unsafe Condition Report located in the student resources portal or contact the Safety Committee at SafetyCommittee@sjcl.edu.

Tuition Payments

The Accounting Department processes tuition payments, refund, overage, scholarship checks, and 1098-T Tuition Statements. They also prepare payroll checks for students employed at SJCL and year-end W-2s. For questions, please reach out to Chief Financial Officer Jill Waller-Randles (jrandles@sjcl.edu).

Wellness Tips

You matter. Law school can be incredibly stressful, and it's okay that you will not be okay from time-to-time. Wellness is a crucial aspect of success and overall well-being. Your lifestyle can have a significant impact on how you feel and function. It is important to carve out time for each area of your life.

- **Emotional** – Law students often experience significant stress, anxiety (both generalized and test anxiety), and even depression. Before exams, practice relaxation techniques. Try meditation, yoga, deep breathing, or muscle relaxation. Please reach out to the Dean of Students if you are struggling, and see page 9 for additional resources.
- **Mental** – Caring for your mind is quite separate from your academic learning. Mindfulness - a practice to raise self-awareness and be fully present in the moment – allows you to observe thoughts, habits, and emotions that are not serving you. Defeatist thoughts like “I’m so stupid” or “this is impossible” suggest you need to change how you talk to yourself. Check out Ellis’s 12 irrational beliefs and see if any apply to you. If so, challenge them. Practice self-compassion. Talk to yourself the way you would speak to a friend, even when you experience setbacks. Avoid the “snowball” effect of dwelling on the negative. Learn from past mistakes and move forward.
- **Social** – Develop and maintain relationships with a dependable support system of friends and family. Feeling close and connected to others, both at school and outside of school, is important. Your time will be more limited, so find creative ways to keep in touch. For example, use your commute to call a friend. Don't be afraid to set and maintain healthy boundaries, even if that sometimes means disappointing well-meaning loved ones. Get to know your classmates, but avoid comparison. No two people are the same, and another student's performance is not your measuring stick. Wondering why someone else always seems to know the answer or score higher than you is not an effective use of your time and energy.
- **Physical** – Law students often neglect this area. Try to avoid getting sick by washing your hands properly, making sure you're up-to-date on your vaccines, wiping down surfaces in your home and workplace, and getting annual physicals. Remember to do what you know you should: eat a balanced diet, get enough sleep each night (even during finals season), exercise, avoid smoking, monitor your caffeine intake and, if you drink alcohol, do so in moderation. If you aren't currently taking care of yourself, try making small improvements. While things like all-nighters, energy drinks, sugary snacks, nicotine, and alcohol may serve a temporary need, they can lead to erratic shifts in our moods and energy levels. What is bad for the body is bad for the mind.
- **Spiritual** – Whether this involves attending church services, quietly meditating in the morning, connecting with nature, playing music that brings you peace, or simply believing in something greater than yourself, it is vital to care for your soul and remember what gives you a sense of purpose.
- **Personal** – Remember the “you” before law school. While you will need to make some adjustments, don't completely abandon the hobbies you really enjoy, or forget about the things you have always wanted to try. Prioritize activities that will help you to grow as a person.
- **Financial** – This is about creating a sense of security and making sure you have enough to meet your needs while you focus on school. Track your spending so you know where your money goes, and identify any areas where you can cut back. Then, set a realistic budget for yourself. Please meet the Financial Aid Director if you have questions about loans.
- **Academic** – Make a realistic weekly schedule and try to follow it. Seek academic help when you need it and don't be afraid to get guidance from professors and T.A.s. When studying for an exam, study in short blocks, and stay focused. Take frequent, short breaks.

Sample Four-Year Program

The Juris Doctor degree must be completed within a total of five years from the time of admission.

Four-Year Program

SJCL's Four-Year Program is designed for a diverse community. The curriculum is intended to accommodate the needs of working students, parents, commuters, and others who have substantial commitments outside of their studies. The program requires an average of ten classroom hours each week throughout the four years.

Year 1

Fall/Spring (20 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Civil Procedure I & II	5
Contracts I & II.....	6
Legal Methods I & II	4
Torts I & II.....	5

Year 2

Summer (2 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Professional Responsibility	2

Fall/Spring (20 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Business Organizations I & II	4
Criminal Law/Criminal Procedure	6
Appellate Advocacy (Fall)	2
Property I & II	5
Real Property Drafting	1
Moot Court (Spring)	2

Year 3

Summer (2 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Clinical and/or Electives	2

Fall/Spring (21 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Constitutional Law I & II.....	6
Evidence I & II.....	6
Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning I & II	5
Clinical and/or Electives	4

Year 4

Summer (4 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Clinical and/or Electives	4

Fall/Spring (17 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Advanced Research & Writing.....	3
Community Property	3
Remedies I & II	4
Clinical and/or Electives	7

Sample Three-Year Option

Three-Year Option

Students in the Four-Year Program who complete the first year with a minimum **cumulative GPA of 75** can accelerate their studies by transferring to the Three-Year Option. Students who wish to transfer to the Three-Year Option are required to meet with the Academic Dean, Dean of Students, or Dean for approval before transferring. If receiving financial aid, the transferring student must also meet with the Director of Financial Aid. The Three-Year Option requires students to take additional courses during the second and third year of the program and complete a minimum of four (4) clinical units. Any outside employment in excess of (20) hours per week is prohibited.

Year 1

Fall/Spring (20 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Civil Procedure I & II	5
Contracts I & II.....	6
Legal Methods I & II	4
Torts I & II.....	5

Year 2

Summer (6 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Professional Responsibility	2
Clinical and/or Electives	4

Fall/Spring (26 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Business Organizations I & II	4
Criminal Law	3
Criminal Procedure.....	3
Evidence I & II.....	6
Appellate Advocacy (Fall)	2
Moot Court (Spring)	2
Property I & II.....	5
Real Property Drafting.....	1

You must have a cumulative GPA of 75 or higher after completing 20 units to transfer into the Three-Year Option.

Year 3

Summer (6 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Clinical and/or Electives	6

Fall/Spring (28 Units)

COURSE TITLE	UNITS
Advanced Research & Writing.....	3
Community Property	3
Constitutional Law I & II.....	6
Remedies I & II	4
Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning I & II	5
Clinical and/or Electives	7

*Programs subject to change

Joyce Morodomi*Director of Student Services/**Registrar*

559/323-2100

jmorodomi@sjcl.edu

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9AM - 5PM

Helpful Resources**State Bar of California**

Main Office

180 Howard St.

San Francisco, CA 94105

415/538-2000

Southern Office

845 S. Figueroa St.

Los Angeles, CA 90017

213/765-1000

www.calbar.ca.gov**Student Services Department
& Registrar's Office**

The Student Services Department would like to welcome the Fall 2025 entering class! Our department confidentially maintains your official student file and degree audit report, posts grades to your transcript, provides official transcripts, provides student education plans and schedule planning services based on graduation requirements, and assists with State Bar certifications.

California Bar Key Dates & Deadlines

Law students are required to register the State Bar of California. You will receive an email from Joyce Morodomi by the end of August 2025 with instructions. Register within **90 days** of matriculation into law school. NOTE: This process is separate from registering to take the California Bar Exam, which you will not do until your final year at SJCL.

MPRE Test Dates & Registration Deadlines

Every California Bar applicant must pass the Multi-State Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE). This two-hour, multiple-choice test is administered three times a year (in March, August, and October). Dates of and deadlines to register for the MPRE change each year. Please check the MPRE website for the dates applicable to the test you wish to take. You may take the MPRE any time after completing your 1L year. We recommend taking Professional Responsibility (required curriculum) and the MPRE the summer following your 1L year.

Moral Character Application

Recommended Deadline: Submit your Moral Character to the State Bar the Fall of your final year at SJCL, preferably no later than the end of January. You must submit fingerprints as part of the application.

California Bar Exam

Registration and deadlines dates change each year. Be sure to check the State Bar website for the dates applicable to the test you wish to take. Exams are administered twice a year in February and July.

Career Services

The Registrar and Dean of Students are available to assist you professionally by:

- Maintaining the SJCL Student job posting boards, located under the Careers section of the school website.
- Providing career counseling, resumé reviews and mock interviews upon request.
- Hosting various workshops, networking opportunities and programs throughout the year, including On-Campus Interviews (OCI).
- When possible, connecting you with practitioners in your field of interest.

Additionally, our job board is an excellent resource for anyone seeking employment as an attorney, paralegal, office assistant, and more.

Human Resources & Compliance

Our mission is to provide information and resources to foster a safe and productive community where staff and faculty can work, and students can learn. The Human Resources and Compliance Department ensures regulatory compliance with, and oversight of the following areas:

- Protections against harassment and discrimination
- Title IX related matters
- Campus Safety
- Family Educational rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Consumer Information
- Substance Abuse Prevention Program and Resources
- Health and Wellness Programs
- Federal Work-Study Job Opportunities

Detailed information is available in the Student Handbook and/or on our website.

Counseling Support Services

Simple EAP is a confidential resource for students and immediate household members provided at to you no cost by SJCL. The program is designed to help you address a variety of concerns that may impact academic performance and cause personal distress, such as anxiety, stress, substance abuse, and adjustment issues.

Simple Therapy gives you access to a variety of clinical and non-clinical resources, including confidential access to a licensed therapist 24/7 for short-term counseling and up to three sessions per situation every six months. For questions, please contact Dean Tennerelli ltennerelli@sjcl.edu or Beth Pitcock at bpitcock@sjcl.edu.

Online Suggestions

We welcome anonymous and non-anonymous suggestions. Offer your suggestions, ideas, and concerns online. From the website, click the students tab, then the suggestion box, or by QR code posted in the Library.

ADA Accommodations

SJCL is committed to accommodating qualified students with disabilities (e.g., mental health, learning, chronic health, mobility, hearing, vision, neurological, etc.) in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Such services are confidential and may take time to put into place. To seek an ADA accommodation, please contact Academic Dean, Justin Atkinson, at jatkinson@sjcl.edu, Dean of Students, Logan Tennerelli, at ltennerelli@sjcl.edu, or Law Coordinator, Pat Smith, at psmith@sjcl.edu as soon as possible.

Beth Pitcock

*Director of Human Resources & Compliance
Title IX Coordinator*
559/323-2100
bpitcock@sjcl.edu

Debi Hernandez

Administrative Assistant/Reception
dhernandez@sjcl.edu

Erika Rangel

Administrative Assistant/Reception
erangel@sjcl.edu

Administrative Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9AM - 6:30PM

Friday
9AM - 5:00PM

Helpful Resources

Simple Therapy / Simple EAP

888/425- 4800
<https://simpleeap.com/>
Company Code: sjclstudents

State Bar Lawyer Assistant Program (LAP)

LAP offers confidential assessment, counseling, and support to law students struggling with substance abuse and other mental health concerns.
877/527-4435
www.calbar.ca.gov/LAP

See the Student Handbook for additional resources.

Jodie Howard

*Interim Law Library Director,
Professor of Law*
jhoward@sjcl.edu

Cyndee Robinson

Supervisory Librarian
crobinson@sjcl.edu

Library Hours

Monday – Thursday
9AM - 10PM

Friday & Saturday
9AM – 5PM

Sunday
10AM – 6PM

Law Library

Welcome to the SJCL Law Library!

We are dedicated to supporting you, our students, however we can. Should you have any questions or concerns about the collection or any of the services we offer, feel free to ask for assistance from our Proctors, the Librarian, Cyndee Robinson (crobinson@sjcl.edu), or the Interim Director, Jodie Howard (jhoward@sjcl.edu).

The library hours will be posted both in the library and on the library page of the SJCL website.

Proctors

The library employs many student proctors. Have you ever considered being a Library Proctor? If so, please inquire at the library front desk or go to the library page of the SJCL website to apply.

Services

- The library currently offers students access to copying, printing, and scanning.
- The library has several places for students to study whether in groups or individually. There are also study rooms you can reserve.

Materials

- Copies of all textbooks currently assigned in your classes.
- An extensive collection of study aids to supplement your substantive classes and practice guides addressing areas of law taught at the school.
- California Reporters and Annotated Statutes, and more!

While in the building, students are welcome to utilize any materials on the library shelves.

The library allows students to check out certain materials such as textbooks, for two-hour periods. We also have monitors and white boards that can be checked out, but we do not permit materials to leave the building.

In addition to print materials, the library also provides students with access to legal databases, such as CEB's OnLAW Pro and HeinOnline. These databases are listed on and accessible through the library's webpage. There are also public terminals available for use in the library.

Students have the option to "check-out" eBook copies of legal titles, including dozens of study aids. At the library page of the SJCL website, click on LexisNexis Digital Library, the username is your student email address and the password is your exam ID. These eBooks can be accessed through your computer or on an app through your tablet, or mobile device.

We invite you to come in and explore the downstairs and upstairs sections of the library to see for yourself the options we have available for students.

Accounting

The mission of our department is to provide timely, accurate, clear, and complete fiscal information to the Dean, the SJCL Board of Trustees, and all other interested parties.

For students, we process tuition payments, refund, overage, and scholarship checks. We prepare payroll checks for students employed at SJCL and year-end W-2's. We also process 1098-T Tuition Statements. Please watch for an email from us with important financial information.

Our team would like to congratulate you on your acceptance to SJCL, and assure you that we are here to help you in any way we can. We are here because of you, and for you, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Welcome, and have a fabulous year!

Jill Waller-Randles

Chief Financial Officer
jrandles@sjcl.edu

Kiera White, CPA

Senior Accountant
kwhite@sjcl.edu

Susie Aguilar

Staff Accountant
saguilar@sjcl.edu

Victoria Denny

Payables Assistant
vdenny@sjcl.edu

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9AM - 5PM

Lisa Nilmeier

Financial Aid Director

559/326-1482

lnilmeier@sjcl.edu

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9AM - 5PM

Financial Aid

The maximum Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan total is \$20,500 per academic year and is offered automatically via the award letter once the federal FAFSA and SJCL Financial Aid Application are submitted. Federal Graduate PLUS loans are applied for by the student separately and require an additional master promissory note. They are used to cover costs (e.g. tuition and fees and allowable living expenses) that the unsubsidized loan does not cover – especially for students who transfer into the 3-year program. The maximum amount per year is the total budget minus other financial aid.

2025 - '26 Loan Interest Rates (7/1/25 to 6/30/26)

Federal Direct Unsub	7.94%
Federal Direct Graduate PLUS	8.94%

2025 - '26 Loan Fees (10/1/20 to 9/30/26)

Federal Direct Unsub	1.057%
Federal Direct Grad PLUS	4.228%

**2025 - '26 Tuition and Fees/Unsubsidized Loans
4-year program/Fall & Spring semester only**

20 units x \$1,005 per unit + \$620 fees = \$20,720

- Fall 2025 10 units \$10,360
- Spring 2026 10 units \$10,360

\$20,500 total gross disbursements - \$216 loan fees = \$20,284 net per academic year

- Fall 2025 \$10,250 (Gross)..... \$10,142 (Net)
- Spring 2026 \$10,250 (Gross)..... \$10,142 (Net)

Loans are required to be disbursed in equal disbursements for each semester – ½ Fall and ½ Spring for the first year.

- Tuition & Fees (10 units)\$10,360
- Unsub Loan (Net)..... (\$10,142)
- Balance due.....\$218

Overage Checks Available

- Fall 2025..... 8/22/2025
- Spring 2026 1/9/2026

2025 - '26 Cost of Attendance Budgets

Allowable Living Expenses – Estimated Budget for the first 9 months (20 units)

	Away from Parent's Home	At Parent's Home (No Dependents)
Tuition and Fees	\$20,720	\$20,720
Loan Fees	\$215	\$215
Housing and Food	\$22,086	\$11,493
Books and Supplies (est)	\$1,800	\$1,800
Transportation	\$3,458	\$3,458
Misc. Expenses	\$4,968	\$4,059
Register as a Law Student	\$119	\$119
Total Budget	\$53,366	\$41,864

Second Year and Beyond

Please read carefully, as you will be taking more units in your upper division years.

To receive financial aid, a FAFSA and SJCL Financial Aid Application must be submitted every academic year with a deadline in April (watch for emails starting in January).

Starting with the second year, students have the option to attend summer semester which is the first semester or “header” to each academic year.

If enrolled at least half-time (2 units) for summer semester, loans will be evenly divided among the 3 semesters – 1/3 summer, 1/3 fall, 1/3 spring (unless requested fall/spring only). If receiving loan disbursements for all 3 semesters, remember that the summer semester is much shorter (6 weeks or so), fewer units are available and nearly always a larger overage/refund check will be issued. Loan funds must be set aside to cover the higher fall and spring semester charges. The accounting office suggests that students request to keep all or a portion of their summer overage checks as a balance on their student accounts by signing an authorization to hold form.

Shannon Wentworth*Program Director*

559/326-1487

swentworth@sjcl.edu

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9AM - 5PM

SJCL Clinics

SJCL is proud to offer two incredible clinics: the BREN Special Education Clinic and the New American Legal Clinic (NALC), both directed by SJCL alum. After completing your 1L year, you will have the opportunity to obtain one classroom unit as well as clinical units through BREN, NALC, and/or external job placements, subject to the restrictions in the Student Handbook. For more details, please see the Elective and Non-Classroom Units portion of the Student Handbook.

BREN Special Education Legal Clinic (BREN)

The mission of BREN is to prepare SJCL students for the practice of law through a comprehensive experiential learning model while helping individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) in our community to obtain the education services, community services, and related support they need to reach their full potential. At BREN we strive to:

- Bolster** partnerships between families and schools
- Reform** special education services within communities
- Empower** families and individuals to self-advocate
- Network** peer-to-peer advocates

Students who work in the clinic provide representation to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families in the areas of school discipline, special education, and other education related issues under the supervision of Director Shannon Wentworth. Most cases will involve children with disabilities and other special needs who have been unable to get appropriate special education services or who are facing long-term suspensions from school.

Students have the opportunity in a real-life context to hone their lawyering skills such as interviewing, negotiating, counseling, pre-trial litigation, and oral advocacy.

The first semester a student works in the BREN clinic they are required to take a one unit class, unless they have previously passed the Special Education elective course. Students who take and pass the summer Special Education elective are not required to take the one classroom unit.

New American Legal Clinic (NALC)

NALC is a full-service immigration legal clinic, training law students in immigration law and serving under resourced individuals in our community free of charge. Through various grants, NALC serves over 700 clients each year. NALC's caseload includes citizenship, adjustment of status, U Visa, T Visa, VAWA, asylum, SIJs and removal defense cases for both detained and non-detained individuals.

NALC can assist SJCL students and their immediate family members with their immigration needs free of charge.

Students clerking for NALC will take on all major aspects of representing a client before the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) under the direct supervision of Professor Linda Barreto. Clinical hours may include interviewing clients, preparing forms, analyzing and arguing complex legal issues, and attending USCIS applicant interviews.

NALC helps SJCL students not only to learn immigration law but also to prepare for the practice of law through a comprehensive experiential learning model while promoting SJCL's dynamism, serving the needs of our local community and encouraging immigrant integration. Students who wish to participate in NALC take a foundational immigration law course with a clinical component. No foreign language skills are required.

NALC is located on the first floor of the school near the faculty corridor.

Helpful Resources

www.ilrc.org

www.aila.org

www.uscis.gov

Linda Barreto

*Managing Director & Board
Certified Specialist in Immigration
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NALC Clinic Main Line

559/326-1553

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9AM - 5PM

Derron Wilkinson*Chief Information Officer*

559/326-1454

dwilkinson@sjcl.edu

Mark Enns*Senior Designer**& Helpdesk Manager*

559/326-1599

menns@sjcl.edu

Jared Nelson*Senior Network Systems Engineer*

559/326-1484

jnelson@sjcl.edu

Help Desk

helpdesk@sjcl.edu

559/326-1599

Helpful Resources

Portal: my.sjcl.edu

Guides: sjcl.edu/library/guides

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9AM - 8PM

Friday

9AM - 5PM

Information Technology

Our mission is to support you throughout your academic journey over these next several years. Additional information on services, guides, and recommendations are available on the Help Desk tab at the bottom of the SJCL website.

Help Desk

Please contact the Help Desk for technical and troubleshooting support via email (helpdesk@sjcl.edu) or phone (559/326-1599). The Help Desk provides information and technical support for campus Wi-Fi, software, email, peripherals, mobile devices, and many other technology-related services. It is your “go-to” place for SJCL Student log-in/password information, email setup and configurations, and questions about class recordings or classroom video and audio.

If you forget your email password, please call the Help Desk; passwords and other confidential information cannot be shared via email.

Except during high-volume periods, you will be contacted by a support technician within 2 hours during regular hours. Please notify the Help Desk if your request is urgent.

Email Policies and Terms of Use

We use school email as the primary method of communicating important information to you. **Please check your email regularly for class cancellations and other important information.**

Email is provided to assist you in fulfilling your educational and professional goals. Personal use is permitted where such use does not violate any law or SJCL policy and is not detrimental to the school. You are responsible for using the email system in a professional, ethical, and lawful manner.

The all-student and individual-course email addresses are for official use only. All SBA emails will be sent to you via the Dean of Students or Law Coordinator. A Student Email Directory for you to use will be provided shortly. **Please notify Derron Wilkinson (dwilkinson@sjcl.edu) by August 29 if you do not wish to be included in the Student Email Directory.**

Equipment

You are required to have video conferencing capabilities, microphone, speakers, and reliable Wi-Fi service. We use Zoom primarily, recommend remote only students purchase a printer, and a new or recent laptop or notebook computer running Windows (Windows 11 or higher) or macOS (Monterey or higher) if you do not have this equipment already.

Copy Machine and Printing

Copy machines and printers are available for use in the Library and Student Lounge. You may print from the computer workstations or a personal laptop.