

## Honors Program s Policies

Administrative policy approved July 22, 2022. Effective immediately.

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook; established as a standalone policy August 2022; updated August 2023.

Related policies: Graduation Requirements Policy

Scheduled Review Date: July 2024 (Student Affairs Office; Honors Program Faculty Directors)

### Table of Contents

A. Law Review .....	1.
B. Law Journal .....	6.
C. Moot Court Honors Program .....	9
D. Negotiation Honors Program .....	13
E. Trial Advocacy Honors Program .....	17

#### A. Law Review

The Southwestern Law Review is a student-edited journal that publishes scholarly articles

Participation in the Law Review Program furnishes students with an opportunity to study specific areas of the law as well as



determination and will prevent the candidate from becoming a Law Review member.

2. Board of Editors

The Law Review Board of Editors consists of an Executive Board and other nonvoting Board members. The Law Review Executive Board consists of 8 to 12 members as follows:

- a.* Editor-in-Chief, responsible for the selection of the Law Review's contents and overall quality of publications;
- b.* Managing Editor, responsible for the daily operations of the Law Review,
- c.* Lead Articles Editors (3 or 4), responsible for soliciting and editing lead (non-student) articles;
- d.* Notes and Comments Editors (3 or 4), responsible for supervising second-year staff members and editing student notes; and
- e.* Special Projects Editor, responsible for the research of topics, the review of production assignments, and the coordination of symposia.

Executive Board members are the only voting members of the Law Review. They may not accept outside employment during the academic year, participate in an externship for more than 3 units, or serve on Law Journal, Moot Court Honors Program, Negotiation Honors Program, or Trial Advocacy Honors Program without obtaining a positive recommendation from the Executive Board, and waivers from the faculty advisors and the Office of the President and.

Selection of the members of the Board must be communicated by the out-going

- vi. Students who satisfactorily complete all staff assignments and attend regularly scheduled program meetings will receive Credit for the spring semester. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete staff assignments or attend program meetings will receive No Credit for the spring semester.
- vii. The faculty advisor(s) will determine whether students receive Credit or No Credit for the spring semester. Before making that determination, the Law Review Board will advise the faculty advisors(s)



Law Journal Course - All students selected as Law Journal staff members are required to register for a 2-unit, Credit/C/No Credit course which is taught by one or more of the Law Journal's faculty advisor(s) during the fall semester. Enrollment is mandatory. Registration in the course is restricted to students who have been selected for Law Journal. Completing the Law Journal Course will satisfy Southwestern's upper division writing requirement. (See Graduation Requirement Policy.)

2. Board of Editors

The Law Journal Board of Editors consists of an Executive Board and other nonvoting Board members. The Law Journal Executive Board consists of 8 to 12 members as follows:

- a.* Editor-in-Chief, responsible for the selection of the Journal's contents and overall quality of publications;
- b.* Managing Editor, responsible for the daily operations of the Law (na2- 0 ody202gTJn -0j -

Board to the faculty advisor(s) and the Dean with clearly articulated and objectively verifiable reasons as to the appropriateness of the choices, why each student was selected or not selected, and with an accompanying job description for each member's position. Each appointment is subject to veto or ratification by the

- vii. In all cases, the determination of the faculty advisor(s) regarding the granting of Credit, a letter grade of C, or No Credit will be final.
  - viii. Executive Board members will receive 2 units of credit in each semester, for a total of 4 units of credit in the final year of law school.
  - ix. Associate Editors will receive 1 unit of credit in each semester, for a total of 2 units of credit in the final year of law school.
- b.* All incompletes and withdrawals for Law Journal units will be governed by the current academic regulations.
  - c.* If a student is accepted by Law Journal and successfully completes the Law Journal Course, the written assignments, and staff work required for membership, and chooses not to enroll for credit, the Law Journal membership will be indicated on the academic transcript by a notation of "Law Journal."

C. Moot Court Honors Program

First-year students who wish to be considered for membership in one of Southwestern's three advocacy honors programs, the Moot Court Honors Program, the Negotiation Honors Program, or the Trial Advocacy Honors Program (TAHP), must (1) complete the requirements of the LAWSII course; (2) participate in one of the intramural competitions; and (3) interview with the honors program they wish to join. Each honors program may also impose its own additional requirements.

Entering first-year students have the opportunity to participate in one of three LAWS tracks for their first-year spring semester: (1) appellate advocacy; (2) negotiation; and (3) trial practice. The appellate advocacy track feeds into the Moot Court Honors Program.





day.

A member of the Moot Court Board of Governors may not hold an executive editorial position on Law Review or Law Journal, serve on the Trial Advocacy Honors Program or Negotiation Honors Program, accept outside full-time employment during the academic year or participate in an externship for more than 3 units without obtaining waivers from the faculty directors. In addition to any units awarded for participation in an interschool competition, Board members are eligible to receive 1 unit of academic credit for each semester they serve as a Governor. As with competitors, academic credit for Board of Governors participation must be approved by the program directors.

**f. Moot Court Fellows**

Returning non-board Court Honors Program members are designated as Moot Court Fellows. In this manner (f.) Top Moot Court Fellow assumes a leadership role in the Moot Court Honors Program, assisting with the Moot Court Appellate Advocacy course, brief-writing and oral advocacy preparation.

- c.* Students may drop Moot Court only during the regular drop period that governs the rest of the curriculum and only after having informed the Board of Governors of their intention to drop.
- d.* The Program Directors have the responsibility to notify any student who is not performing satisfactorily in the Honors Appellate Advocacy course. A student not performing satisfactorily may receive a C or No Credit in the course, and/or may be removed from the program. The Board of Governors has a duty to notify any student who is not performing satisfactorily within the Moot Court Honors Program. Responsibilities and procedures for disciplinary action including removal from the program are clearly laid out in the Moot Court By-laws. All disciplinary measures require the approval of the program directors.
- e.* If students are accepted as members of the Moot Court Honors Program and they successfully complete program requirements, their membership





Program, accept outside employment during the academic year, or participate in an externship for more than 3 units without obtaining a positive recommendation from the faculty advisor(s). Board members are eligible to receive 2 units of academic credit for each semester they serve as a Governor. As with competitors, academic credit for Board of Governors participation must be approved by the faculty advisor(s).

2. Unit credit

- a. Entering members of the Negotiation Honors Program enroll for 2 units of credit in the fall semester and 1 unit of credit in the spring semester, regardless of the semester in which they compete.
- b. Negotiation Honors Program Fellows enroll for 1 unit of credit in the fall semester and 2 units of credit in the spring semester, regardless of the semester in which they compete.
- c. Returning Negotiation Honors Program Members enroll for 1 unit of credit in the fall semester and 1 unit of credit in the spring semester. Returning members do not compete in national competitions.

- d. For all positions within the Negotiation Honors Program, unit credit for the fall semester will be Credit/C/No Credit. Unit Credit for the spring semester will be Credit/C/No Credit.

memoranda column.

- i.* If a student fails to meet the expectations of the Negotiation Honors Program, the faculty advisor(s) have discretion to remove a student from the Program, suspend a student's membership in the Program, or change a student's position within the Program. For minor infractions of Program expectations, the faculty advisor(s) will notify any student who is not performing satisfactorily prior to removal or suspension. However, if a student's actions constitute a serious violation of expectations, as determined by the faculty director(s), no warning will be given prior to removal/suspension. In all cases, the determination of the faculty advisor(s) as to the student's withdrawal, suspension, change of position, as well as whether students should receive academic credit, a letter grade of C, or No Credit will be final.

E. Trial Advocacy Honors Program

First-year students who wish to be considered for membership in one of Southwestern's three advocacy honors programs, the Moot Court Honors Program, the Negotiation Honors Program, or the Trial Advocacy Honors Program (TAHP), must (1) complete the requirements of the LAWSII course; (2) participate in one of the intramural competitions; and (3) interview with the honors program they wish to join. Each honors program may also impose its own additional requirements.

Entering first-year students have the opportunity to participate in one of three LAWS tracks for their first-year spring semester: (1) appellate advocacy; (2) negotiation; and (3) trial practice. The appellate advocacy track feeds into the Moot Court Intramural Competition; the negotiation track feeds into the Negotiation Honors Program Intramural Competition; and the trial practice track feeds into the Trial Advocacy Honors Program Intramural Competition. Students may change from their LAWS track into a different intramural competition after the first mandatory round subject to the rules set by the honors programs.

1. Intramural competition

The Trial Advocacy Honors Program (TAHP) is a competitive program that provides students with the opportunity to participate in a trial practice track. The program is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop their trial advocacy skills and to compete for a place on the trial team. The program is open to all first-year students who are members of the Trial Advocacy Honors Program. The program is a competitive program that provides students with the opportunity to participate in a trial practice track. The program is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop their trial advocacy skills and to compete for a place on the trial team. The program is open to all first-year students who are members of the Trial Advocacy Honors Program.

Members are selected by the Trial Advocacy Honors Program Board of Governors with the assistance and agreement of the faculty advisor(s). Selections are based on performance in intramural competitions and an interview with the Board of Governors.

Students may interview for only one advocacy honors program. ~~Any~~

*b.*

for a one-year term, becoming effective on the date assigned by the law school as graduation day.

A member of the Trial Advocacy Honors Program Board of Governors may not hold an executive editorial position on Law Review or Law Journal, serve on Moot Court Honors Program or Negotiation Honors Program, or participate in an externship for more than 3 units without obtaining a positive recommendation from the Board of Governors, and waivers from the faculty advisor(s) and the Office of the Dean. A full-time student who is a Board member may not work without the consent of the entire Board. An evening or PLEAS/Parttime day student may work a maximum of 20 hours per week. Members of the Board receive 1 unit of academic credit for each semester they serve on the Board.

2. Unit credit

- a.* Trial Advocacy Honors Program is graded on a Credit/No Credit basis.
- b.* Students may add Trial Advocacy Honors Program units only during the add period that governs the rest of the semester.