

University of Detroit Mercy

School of Law

Student Handbook 2023-2024

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A. Introduction

Founded in 1912, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (“Detroit Mercy Law”) is a well-established Catholic law school sponsored by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. The School is approved by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

B. University of Detroit Mercy Mission Statement

University of Detroit Mercy, a Catholic university in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, exists to provide excellent, student-centered, undergraduate and graduate education in an urban context. A Detroit Mercy education seeks to integrate the intellectual, spiritual, ethical, and social development of our students.

C. University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Mission Statement

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law is a diverse, urban Catholic law school in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions. We seek to educate the complete lawyer through a dynamic curriculum that integrates theory, doctrine, and experiential learning; provides unique global perspectives through transnational educational opportunities; and emphasizes ethics and service to others.

D. Academic Program

Detroit Mercy Law has changed the way lawyers are educated with an innovative curriculum. This curriculum complements traditional theory- and doctrine-based coursework with practical learning, providing a solid transition between law school and a legal career. The entire curriculum not only addresses the third and critical transition year in law school, but it enhances the first and second years with more legal theory, intensive legal writing, required clinical experience, and an international perspective. Detroit Mercy Law has transformed its curriculum to address the challenges you will face in the profession.

E. Diversity Statement

A critical component of helping our students achieve their personal and professional goals

F. Challenge – Creating a Foundation and Developing Skills

First-year students study fundamental required doctrinal courses that begin to instill critical

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A.

For students who matriculated in Fall 2020, the following courses are required:

Foundation Courses:	Credits	Minimum Passing Grade
LAW 1060 Intro to Legal Research & Communication I	1 credit	P
LAW 1061 Intro to Legal Research & Communication II	1 credit	P
LAW 1080 Applied Legal Theory & Analysis I	2 credits	1.5
LAW 1081 Applied Legal Theory & Analysis II	3 credits	1.5
LAW 1110 Contracts I	3 credits	2.2
LAW 1111 Contracts II	3 credits	2.2
LAW 1120 Property I	3 credits	2.2
LAW 1121 Property II	3 credits	2.2
LAW 1130 Torts	4 credits	2.2
LAW 1140 Criminal Law	3 credits	2.2
LAW 1152 Civil Procedure	4 credits	2.2

Core Courses:	Credits	Minimum Passing Grade
LAW 2060 U.S. Constitutional Law ¹	4 credits	2.2
LAW 2220 Evidence ¹	4 credits	2.2
LAW 2470 Professional Responsibility	3 credits	1.5
Upper-Level Writing Requirement	2 – 3 credits	1.5
Clinic	2-4 credits	1.5
Law Firm Program	3 credits	1.5
Global Law	1 – 3 credits	1.5

In addition to Foundation Courses and Core Courses, students must earn a minimum of 34 elective credit hours to satisfy the degree requirement of 90 credit.

Courses that satisfy the Upper-Level Writing Requirement, Clinic, Law Firm Program, or Global Law course requirements will be clearly indicated on the Class Schedule for each term.

Any student receiving a grade below the minimum grade required for graduation in a required course must enroll in, repeat, and earn a passing grade in that course. Absent exceptional circumstances, an affected student must retake any such course when it is next offered (excluding the Summer

2. CANADIAN AND AMERICAN DUAL JURIS DOCTOR PROGRAM

A student in the Canadian & American Dual JD program (“Dual JD Program”) who receives passing grades in the required number of credit hours at both the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and the University of Windsor Faculty of Law; with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.2 and meets all other requirements, is eligible for the award of the degree of Juris Doctor from both institutions. In no case may a student graduate in more than 72 months from matriculation.

Students in the Dual JD Program who matriculated August 2018 or earlier are required to complete 104 credits in three years between the two law schools. This includes 60 credit hours at University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, and 44 credit hours at University of Windsor Faculty of Law.

Students in the Dual JD Program who matriculated August 2019 or later are required to complete 105 credits in three years between the two law schools. This includes 60 credit hours at University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, and 45 credit hours at University of Windsor Faculty of Law.

a. COURSE OF STUDY AT DETROIT MERCY LAW

In the first year of the Dual JD program, the student will be automatically enrolled in Comparative Legal Writing and Research at Detroit Mercy Law for Terms I and III-4(d)-1 attd . Iga(g)12gg(a)

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Second Year, Including the Summer Prior:	Credits	Location

5. REMEDIAL ACTIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH A G.P.A OF UNDER 2.8

American JD students who earned an overall grade point average of less than 2.8 upon completion of the first two semesters of study (“at-risk upper-class students”) will be required to take the following bar-tested courses in order to graduate: Sales, Criminal Procedure: Investigations, Estates and Trusts, and Business Organizations. Students who subsequently successfully raise their overall grade point average to 3.0 will be permitted to opt out of this requirement.

6. ACADEMIC JEOPARDY

A student whose overall grade point average is above 2.2, but whose semester grade point average is below 2.2, is on probation. A student whose overall grade point average is above 2.2, but whose semester grade point average is below 2.2 for two consecutive semesters, shall be suspended from the Law School for one full calendar year. Summer sessions shall not be considered for purposes of this rule.

The student who is suspended must retake all courses in which he or she received a grade of 2.1 or below during the two consecutive semesters and achieve a grade of 2.2 or higher as a condition of continued enrollment and lifting of the suspended status. Both the original grade and the repeated grade shall be included within the computation of the student’s cumulative grade point average. The student shall receive academic credit toward the credits required for graduation only one time.

7.

- € The Department also consults with students and graduates on a variety of bar related topics:
- € Assistance with the bar exam application process (in any state)
- € Counseling on matters of character and fitness

through a law firm program course, and will serve clients t

€ Law 5100 Juvenile Appellate Clinic (3 cr.)

Students are strongly encouraged to cross enroll in one of the following Psychology courses on the McNichols campus for a minimum of 3 credit hours:

€ Pyc 5000 Social Psychology

€ Pyc 5420 Principles and Issues: Child and Adolescent Development

Students may apply for the Family Law Concentration by completing the application form, which is due in the Law School Registrar's Office before the student's graduation application is submitted.

b. IMMIGRATION LAW CONCENTRATION

The Concentration in Immigration Law allows students with an interest in immigration to develop expertise in this area by taking a comprehensive range of courses offered at Detroit Mercy Law. Students who successfully apply for and complete the Immigration Concentration requirements will have a designation on their official transcripts.

Students must complete 15 credits with a minimum 3.0 GPA in each of the following com.(O)-1T(og)-10(y)100

e. SUMMER COURSES

Unless a professor chooses to adopt a stricter policy as set forth in paragraph g, the following rule applies. In a two-credit course that meets once a week, a student is permitted one absence.

The first absence in a two-credit course that meets once a week is permitted. The first absence in a one-credit course that meets twice a week is permitted. The first absence in a one-credit course that meets once a week is permitted. The first absence in a one-credit course that meets once a week is permitted.

a. TRADITIONAL CASEBOOK CLASSES

Students are expected to engage in 2 hours of work on the class outside of the classroom for every hour spent inside the classroom for a total of 42.5 hours per credit hour. This out-of-class time may be spent by students engaging in readings, answering problem sets, preparing for quizzes or midterms, and other activities. Thus, a two-credit course should involve two hours in the class every week and four hours of work outside the class, a three-credit course should involve three hours in class, and six outside, and a four-credit course should involve requiring eight hours of work outside the class. In planning student assignments to comply with these requirements, course instructors should take into account the 1

bi-weekly basis when they are participating in a competition, writing a note or source checking for law review, or completing a directed research project.

The available credit hours are described below, and procedures for filing time logs are as provided below. Students shall be informed of these minimum requirements at the beginning of each semester. Failure to submit time logs will result in the withholding of credit.

Directed research projects: 1 credit hour (42.5 hours per work) or 2 credit hours (85 credit hours). Students shall submit detailed time logs to their primary supervising faculty member on, at a minimum, a bi-weekly basis.

Law Review junior members:

- € Fall – 1 credit (42.5 hours)
- € Winter – 2 credits (85 hours).

Students shall submit detailed time logs to the Faculty Adviser for the Law Review and to the faculty supervising their notes on a bi-weekly basis.

Moot Court:

- € National Teams – 2 credits (85 hours) with the expectation that half of the time for the team consist of the writing of the brief, absent extraordinary circumstances. Students shall submit detailed time logs to their competition coach and the Faculty Adviser for Moot Court on a bi-weekly basis.
- € Executive Board and Associate Board Members – 1 credit (42.5). Credit awarded in the winter term for effort throughout the year. Students shall submit detailed time logs to the Faculty Adviser of Moot Court on a bi-weekly basis.

4. COURSES TAKEN AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

A student may take courses at other ABA-accredited law schools. At least two-thirds of the course hours required for graduation must be taken at the University of Detroit Mercy. Credit hours earned at such other law school will not be accepted for transfer unless a grade of 2.2 or better is attained; only the course name(s) and credit hour(s) shall be recorded. The number of credit hours awarded for any particular course shall not exceed the number of credit hours for a similar course offered at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Approval shall not be given to a student to take required courses at another school or to take courses at another school that are offered at the University of Detroit Mercy in the same academic year. Credit hours taken at another institution are included in the calculation of maximum and minimum loads.

Students wishing to take courses elsewhere must submit a written request to the Dean for Student Affairs requesting permission to take courses at another institution. The request should provide the name of the law school; and the name, credit hours, and course description for each course requested to be taken at that institution.

A student who takes courses at another institution may transfer in up to six credits without paying tuition for these credits at Detroit Mercy Law. A student who takes courses at another institution must pay tuition for a minimum of 84 credits at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

5.

III.

A. COURSE EXAMINATIONS

In most courses, written examinations will be given upon completion of the semester. At their discretion, professors may administer other exams in addition to a final examination. Course grades will be based substantially upon the results of these written examinations. Additional factors may be taken into consideration at the professor's discretion. Any student who begins an examination receives a grade for that examination even if the student is unable to complete the examination.

All tuition and fee payments due must be paid in full or arrangements made for payment before a student will be permitted to take final examinations.

The Faculty has adopted an anonymous grading policy that applies to all courses in which the determination of the course grade is based primarily on the final examination. Students use three- and four-digit exam numbers unique to each semester. This number will be used to identify the student's examinations and other assignments graded anonymously.

Professors will specify what academic materials may be brought into the examination room. The examination begins when the examination questions are distributed. The student shall not be permitted to leave the room for any purpose without the express permission of the proctor.

When the student leaves the room for any purpose, he or she shall place his or her answers and the examination on the proctor's desk. When the proctor announces that the examination is over, all writing must cease. If a student continues to write, the proctor is to nothaT1(th)(is)1i2(r)r] TJ0 8[(i)4(ul51h

1.9 - 1.5	D/D-	Student accomplished stated objectives in POOR manner, demonstrating marginal

the Dean's List. Thereafter, the top 20 percent of students in each class, based on their semester grade point averages, will be eligible for inclusion in the Dean's List for each subsequent required semester of study.

In computing the grade point average for the award of graduation honors, a candidate who has achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 will graduate cum laude; one who has achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.5, magna cum laude; one who has achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.75, summa cum laude. Transfer students must complete 60 or more of their credits at Detroit Mercy Law to be eligible for honors.

E. PASS/NO PASS OPTION

Any student who has successfully completed 30 credit hours may choose to take one elective course within a term on a pass/no pass basis in his or her remaining terms. Only in extenuating circumstances, and only with approval from the Dean for Academic Affairs may a student take more than one elective course pass/no pass within a term. No more than six (6) credit hours for elective courses may be taken under the pass/no pass option and counted toward graduation requirements. Courses that a student must take in order to graduate (which may vary depending upon the specific program and performance of a student) may not be taken on a pass/no pass basis. A student's total number of pass/no pass credits may not exceed 11, including credits for optional and mandated pass/no pass credits such as Law Review, Moot Court, Externships, etc.

The decision to take an elective on a pass/no pass basis, or to revoke the decision, must be

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distribution of grades, and the cut off point for each grade. Grade changes will not be permitted more than 180 days after release by the School of Law.

G. APPEALS FROM GRADES

The Committee, or a designated member, shall examine the petition after receiving it. If, upon review, the Committee or its designated member concludes that the allegations on the face of the petition are insufficient to state a grievance pursuant to paragraph G(1) or G(2) supra, the Committee shall dismiss the petition. The student may file an amended petition within ten days after the mailing or other delivery of the written notice of the petition's dismissal.

If, upon examination of the petition or amended petition, the Committee, or designated member, concludes that the allegations on the face of the document are sufficient to state a ground for appeal under paragraph G(1) or G(2) supra, the Committee shall forward the petition to the professor involved and request a reply to the petition, which must include a written explanation of the standard of measurement by which the student's grade was determined. The standard of measurement shall consist of one or more of the following:

- € A sample or model answer for each of the questions being appealed on the examination;
- € A key to correct answers on the examination;
- € A written statement of the criteria used in assessing the quality of student answers;
- € An outline statement of the points or issues to be discussed in answering the examination and the substance of such discussion;
- € Sample student answers which received high and low grades on this examination;
- € Answers of students receiving grades equivalent to the petitioner on this examination;
- € Any other documentation for grading which in the opinion of the professor will permit independent objective evaluation by a person familiar with the 20(e)4(s)do457.4()4(nc)(i)-2(a)4(r)3(t-1(

C. HONOR CODE

1. PREAMBLE

The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Honor Code articulates the Law School's expectation that all students will meet the highest standards of personal and professional honor, integrity, and ethical conduct. The Honor Code reminds all members of the Law School of the necessity to act in a manner consistent with the standards of the legal profession to adhere to the highest degree of professional integrity. All members of the Law School community have a responsibility to read this Code and conform their conduct to it.

This Honor Code sets forth the Law School's standards of conduct with respect to student integrity and honesty. The Code also provides for the formation of an Honor Code Council to oversee the administration of matters pertaining to this Honor Code. Acts that violate the Honor Code or acts that are otherwise academic in nature will be subject to the reporting and complaint resolution procedures set forth in the Honor Code. The Honor Code is designed to address any alleged violations in a fair and expeditious manner.

2. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The Honor Code prohibits any conduct pertaining to academic or other University matters that demonstrates fraud, deceit, dishonesty, or the giving or taking of unfair advantage over other students or the attempt to give or take an unfair advantage over other students. Conduct that violates the Honor Code includes, but is not limited to the following:

a.

of ideas, or the language of the same, and passing them off as a product of one's own mind." Black's Law Dictionary (5th ed.);

- d.** Submitting work for academic credit, or in fulfillment of an academic requirement, when the work duplicates, in whole or in substantial part, work for which one has received or is currently receiving academic credit

b. TRAINING FOR HONOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

All members of the Honor Council will undergo training on an annual basis to ensure familiarity

report with names redacted will be kept in the Honor Council file for the duration of the academic year.

If the Investigator recommends a hearing, the Faculty Chair shall contact the student against whom the allegations are directed to set up a meeting. At this meeting, the Faculty Chair will present the Investigator's report to the student and will describe the student's obligation to respond to the report. The Dean for Student Affairs or his or her designee may also attend this meeting. The Investigator's report will be provided only to the Honor Council Faculty Chair, the Dean for Student Affairs, the student alleged to have violated the Honor Code, and members of the Hearing Panel, if a hearing is scheduled.

Within five (5) school days of receipt of the Investigator's report, the student facing charges must communicate that the student (a) admits responsibility for the Honor Code violation and accepts the recommended sanction; (b) accepts responsibility, but rejects the recommended sanction, or (c) denies responsibility. The student facing charges must submit his or her decision in writing to the Faculty Chair of the Honor Council. If the student contests the report, or accepts the report but contests the recommended sanction and wishes to present mitigating evidence, he or she will have an opportunity to do so via a written statement to the Honor Council Panel, which is submitted at least five (5) school days in advance of the hearing, as described below. The student need not submit these arguments or evidence as part of his or her initial response to the Investigator's report.

Failure of a student to respond in a timely fashion to any communications from the Faculty Chair of the Honor Council will be presented to the Honor Council Hearing Panel at the hearing stage.

After the student facing charges submits his or her response to the Faculty Chair, the matter will move to the hearing phase if it is not resolved by the student accepting both responsibility and the recommended sanction. The Faculty Chair appoints three members of the Honor Council to serve on the Honor Council Hearing Panel, described below, and sets the hearing date, following the timeline described below. When a student facing charges accepts responsibility for the Honor Code violation but rejects the recommended sanction, the matter will be heard by an Honor Council Hearing Panel for sanctioning purposes only, as described below.

If the student facing charges contests responsibility, then the matter will move to the Honor Council Hearing Panel, which will both hear the case and impose sanctions, as appropriate.

c. HONOR COUNCIL HEARING

The Honor Council Hearing will take place 10 - 15 school days after the response of the student facing charges to the Investigator's report is due.

The Honor Council Hearing Panel (HCHP) will be composed of three members selected from the Honor Council: one faculty member and two student members. The Faculty Chair of the Honor Council, or his or her designee, is responsible for appointing members to the HCHP. The faculty member serving on the HCHP will be responsible for chairing the panel.

The HCHP may take one of two forms: either a full hearing (both conduct and sanctions) or a sanctioning hearing only. A full hearing will be held when the student facing charges contests responsibility as set forth in the Investigator's Report, while a sanctioning hearing will be held when the student facing charges accepts responsibility for the Honor Code violation found in the Investigator's report, but does not accept the recommended sanction. For either type of hearing, the student facing charges will have the opportunity to submit a written statement to the HCHP

no later than five (5) school days in advance of the hearing. The student's written statement should be signed and submitted by the student, not by an advisor or other representative. The student also will have an opportunity to designate witnesses and provide evidence not previously considered, no later than five school days before the hearing. A student may request an adjournment of the hearing for up to ten (10) school days, which adjournment shall be liberally granted.

In advance of a hearing the HCHP will review the Investigator's report and the response of the student facing charges. The HCHP may request documents, call witnesses to testify at the hearing, and otherwise prepare for the hearing. The HCHP will convene in person or telephonically to prepare for the hearing, including preparing questions for witnesses. The Faculty Chair will convey to the student the names of the witnesses requested to testify and any evidence provided to the panel, which was not considered by the Investigator.

A full hearing consists of both a Conduct Hearing and a Sanctions Hearing.

i. Conduct Hearing

The Conduct Hearing is a non-adversarial, proceeding in which formal rules of evidence are inapplicable. The HCHP decides what documentary evidence to request, what witnesses to call, and what questions to present in order to conduct a thorough examination of the facts of the charged violation. The Chair of the HCHP has final authority to ensure an orderly and complete hearing.

The student facing charges shall have the right to have one personal representative, including a family member, student, friend, or retained counsel, attend the hearing with them. The student has the right to reasonably consult with that person during the hearing, but the person shall not participate as an advocate or speak on behalf of the student facing charges.

The student facing charges also has the right:

- a) To request the HCHP to ask further questions of a witness and to provide specific questions;
- b) To request the HCHP call additional witnesses in the matter;
- c) To testify and submit relevant materials;
- d) To refuse to answer any question; and
- e) To make an opening and closing statement.

At the conclusion of the Conduct Hearing, the HCHP will adjourn to deliberate on a finding of responsibility. The panel will deliberate in person and decide, within three (3) school days, applying a preponderance of the evidence standard of proof, whether the student is responsible or not responsible for the alleged Honor Code violation.

Once the HCHP has reached its decision, the HCPC will reconvene with the student within five (5) school days after the conclusion of the hearing. The HCHP will meet with the student and inform the student of the HCP's finding. The HCHP must individually address every violation of the Honor Code put forward by the Investigator, including those where the HCHP has made a finding of no responsibility. If the HCHP finds the student not responsible on all allegations, the process will conclude. If the HCHP finds the student responsible on any of the allegations, the student may accept the recommended sanction from the Investigator's report within five (5) school days. If the student does not accept the Investigator's recommended sanction, a Sanctions Hearing will be scheduled within five (5) days of the student's decision. If a student wishes to

5. DECISION

The HCHP shall issue a written decision to the student facing charges within seven (7) school days of the conclusion of the hearing. The decision issued after a Conduct Hearing when the student then accepts the Investigator's recommended sanction shall contain a finding regarding responsibility for each of the alleged Honor Code violations and a list of evidence considered and witnesses. The decision will not contain any additional information. If the student does not accept the Investigator's recommendation, the report also will contain the sanction(s), if any. The decision issued after a Sanctions Hearing where the student accepted responsibility but rejected the Investigator's proposed sanction will contain the sanction(s) for each of the allegations set forth by the Investigator to which the student did not agree. The Honor Code process concludes with the delivery of the HCHP decision.

6. APPEAL

A student facing charges is able to appeal a decision by the HCHP only after the conclusion of the Honor Council Process (that is, after the HCHP has determined responsibility and sanction(s)).

The HCHP's decision may be appealed on the following bases:

- i. The finding of responsibility, when contested by the student, is based on finding of fact that are clearly erroneous;
- ii. The finding of responsibility, when contested by the student, is based on an erroneous interpretation of this Honor Code that resulted in prejudicial error;
- iii. The recommended sanction, not agreed to by the student, is disproportionate in light of the violation of this Honor Code;
- iv. Departures from procedures detailed in this Honor Code caused a prejudicial error.

A student may submit a written appeal to the Dean of the School of Law within ten (10) school days of the receipt of the HCHP decision.

Upon a review of the full written record, the Dean will issue a decision.

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e. Actions constituting violations of law on the law school premises or at a law school function.

f.

i. Minor Violations

Minor violations are those that can typically be resolved through an educational conference with an administrator. When the DFSS determines that alleged misconduct would constitute a minor violation, the DFSS will notify the Dean for Student Affairs (DSA) of the allegation. The DSA may affirm the violation as a minor violation or may determine that it is a major violation. If the DSA affirms the violation as minor, the DFSS and the DSA will determine whether an informal investigation is required, will conduct such investigation, and will meet with the student to address the allegation. Typically, when a student commits a minor violation of Detroit Mercy Law's Community Standards, no formal charges will be filed, nor will a record of a violation be placed into a student's file. Following the meeting with the DFSS or DSA

- vi. To present mitigating testimony and/or evidence that would affect the sanctions imposed, should the student be found responsible for a violation.

d. SANCTIONS

When a student is found responsible for the alleged Community Standards Violation, either by accepting responsibility following the investigation report or as a Resolution Hearing, the Hearing Officer shall determine the appropriate sanctions for the violation.

The Hearing Officer may impose any sanctions that they deem appropriate to the Honor Code Violation. The following is a non-exhaustive list of potential sanctions which may be imposed:

- i. Written reprimand
- ii. Probation, which includes a loss of any scholarship award, loss of present leadership positions, and a bar from seeking future leadership positions for the duration of the probation
- iii. Ethical counseling / reflective exercise
- iv. Loss of privileges
- v. Restitution
- vi. No contact order
- vii. Required leave of absence, with or without specific conditions that must be met in order for the student to return to the program
- viii.

- i. The finding of responsibility is based on findings of fact that are clearly erroneous;
- ii. The finding of responsibility is based on an erroneous interpretation of the Detroit Mercy Law Community Standard(s), which resulted in prejudicial error;
- iii. The recommended sanction is disproportionate in light of the violation

F. WAIVER OF RULES

1. REQUEST

Every student has the right to request a waiver of the rules which pertain to scholarship and withdrawal from courses. The request must be addressed to the Petitions Committee and submitted to the Dean for Student Affairs. The request should be made in a formal, typed letter and include: the nature of the complaint, a concise statement of the rule at issue, the way in which it was applied, the reasons why the result should be different in this situation, and the relief requested. A student's signature on a request is certification that all information submitted is correct.

2. DEADLINES

Requests for waivers should be presented as soon as the student knows of the application of the rule, e.g. posting of a grade, a decision by an administrator or faculty member. Special meetings will be held in the sole discretion of the faculty. A student should submit five (5) copies of the request.

3. FINALITY

The decision of the committee is final and binding and precludes appeal.

G. STUDENT CIVIL RIGHTS GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

It is the duty of every member of an academic community not to discriminate because of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, height, weight, marital status, familial status, disability, religion, creed, military service, or political belief, or other bases irrelevant to academic merit. The following paragraphs constitute the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Student Discrimination Grievance Procedures and are to provide a means for a student to obtain relief from allegedly discriminatory acts by members of the faculty or staff of Detroit Mercy Law which do not result in a concrete detriment to the student for which redress through the appeals committee already exists. Illustrative examples might include a failure to provide wheelchair access to a classroom or classroom harassment. Even if discriminatory animus is alleged, the grievance procedure does not include appeals from academic determinations such as grades, probation, admission, dismissal, or readmission, that are within the jurisdiction of the appeals committee, which has its own procedures.

Student means anyone enrolled for the purpose of taking courses at Detroit Mercy Law.

Grievance means an allegation of improper discrimination. A law school grievance officer shall be appointed by the Dean but shall not consult with the Dean on any particular grievance.

Respondent means the person or person alleged to have discriminated.

A grievance shall be initiated with the filing of signed, written charges with the Dean for Student Affairs. If the law school grievance officer finds an allegation of discrimination to be supported by probable cause, s/he shall furnish the respondent and the Dean with a copy of the written charges and the Dean shall convene a three-member ad hoc Student Civil Rights Grievance Committee (SGC). The SGC shall consist of two faculty members and one student.

In not less than seven nor more than 21 days after the charges have been served upon the respondent, the SGC shall hold a hearing to consider oral and written evidence in support of and

0. Failure to comply with the direction of an individual identified as an authorized School official or other official acting in the performance of his/her duties.
1. Presence during any violation of School policies in such a way as to condone, support, or encourage that violation. Student who anticipate or observe a violation of School policy are expected to remove themf Shœ Tm[()-318h775.2[(m)-2(f)3(Sa4f

6. Individuals and groups should be aware that serving alcohol to a minor or an intoxicated person can lead to civil and/or criminal liability for injury or damages caused by that individual. Those serving alcohol should use great caution.
7. Alcohol served at a licensed event may only be consumed in the area designated for the event. Alcohol may not be taken from or brought into the area by individuals.
8. Violators of state law concerning illicit drugs or regulations regarding alcohol at School events or on campus are subject to discipline through campus judicial or Human Resources processes and/or through criminal or civil court procedures. Possession, use, manufacture, or distribution of illicit drugs on campus may lead to immediate termination of an employee or student relationship with the School, on a temporary or permanent basis, as well as criminal prosecution.

I. DRUG POLICY

Possession, use, distribution and/or sale of narcotics and marijuana is illegal, and student involvement in such illicit use, possession, distribution, manufacture, or sale of narcotics, amphetamines, barbiturates, LSD, ecstasy, marijuana, or any other harmful or hallucinogenic drug is prohibited. This also includes the possession, use, distribution, and/or sale of drug paraphernalia. Students engaged in any type of this prohibited activity are of concern for the School whether on or off campus and regardless of any action taken by civil authorities. Students found in violation of the School drug policy are subject to suspension or expulsion. This may also apply to students found abusing, distributing, and/or selling legal prescription drugs.

J. BUSINESS AND SOLICITATION POLICY

Solicitation for business, i.e., appealing for donations, selling goods or services, or soliciting donations to members of the School community on School property, is prohibited except when specifically authorized by the School's designate or the Dean's office in connection with an approved activity. Solicitation of Detroit Mercy Law students and employees for activities unrelated to School-approved or –sponsored curricular and co-curricular programs is prohibited. In connection with School-approved programs and with the specific permission of Student Affairs officials, individuals, groups, or associations may sell items in specific areas of the School as designated.

K. CHILDREN IN THE CLASSROOM POLICY

Detroit Mercy Law students have the right to attend class free from the distraction of non-students. Therefore, the general policy of the School is that non-registrants are not allowed in the classroom. This pertains to children of students as well as other non-registrants because classrooms and instructional facil

2. The rights of all other enrolled students to an effective learning environment are assured.
3. The presence of the child or other non-registrant is not habitual.
4. The child or other non-registrant does not compromise the academic use or alter any computers or other equipment used in the learning facility.
5. Under no circumstances should a student bring a child or other non-registrant to a clinical facility.

L. SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS POLICY

Effective February 15, 2012:

1. Smoking is prohibited in any Detroit Mercy Law building, space within a building, or structure owned, leased, rented, or operated by the School.
2. Smoking is prohibited in any vehicle owned, leased, or rented by Detroit Mercy Law.
3. Smoking is prohibited at the Larned entrance and on the Larned ramp at all times and in all weather conditions.
4. Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of all other Detroit Mercy Law entrances, including the loading dock, fire exits, etc., at all times and in all weather conditions.
5. Smoking is permitted in the courtyard. Smokers are responsible for properly disposing of cigarette butts and other smoking-related trash.
6. For safety reasons, this policy recommends that faculty, staff, and students refrain from smoking in parking lots.

The success of this policy depends on the consideration and respect all Detroit Mercy Law faculty, staff, and students have for one another. Therefore, it assumes that all will adhere to this policy voluntarily and that enforcement will not be needed. If a Detroit Mercy Law Smoke-Free Campus Policy violation is observed, the appropriate actions to take are as follows:

- € Respectfully request that the person who is smoking in a prohibited area stop smoking.
- € If a student or guest continues to smoke in a no-smoking area, please report the incident to the Dean for Student Affairs.
- € If a faculty or staff member continues to smoke, please report the incident to the Dean.

M. STUDENT EMAIL POLICY

All undergraduate and graduate students (including employees who are taking classes) will be assigned a University student email address with the expectation that they will read their email regularly. This will help ensure that they are kept informed of current Detroit Mercy Law updates, deadlines, emergency notification, etc. It is the student's responsibility to read all Detroit Mercy Law correspondence sent to the student's University email address by UDM faculty and administration.

Rationale: Detroit Mercy Law is committed to increasing its interactions with students and improving ways of conveying important information. This policy will enhance the ability of faculty and administrative offices to send official and course-related information to students via email with minimal barriers.

Guidelines: In general, redirecting Detroit Mercy Law email to another non-University email address is not encouraged. Detroit Mercy Law will not be responsible for the handling of email

Q. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY*

3. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A student organization that uses social media must include a note in its account with the subject line “Disclaimer” and the following text:

This page is maintained by a student organization at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. The comments and opinions found here do not necessarily represent the views of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

4. REPORTING A PROBLEM

Social media sites have codes of conduct that govern appropriate content and online conduct. Alleged violations may be reported directly to the social media site.

Online content or behavior that may constitute a violation of Detroit Mercy Law policies or rules should be reported to the Dean for Student Affairs.

*Portions of this policy were drawn from the Texas Wesleyan School of Law Social Media Policy and DePaul School of Law Social Media Guidelines.

R. WEAPONS FREE CAMPUS POLICY

Detroit Mercy reserves the right at any time and at its discretion to search all Detroit Mercy-owned or leased vehicles, and all vehicles entering any Detroit Mercy campus. Detroit Mercy also reserves the right at any time and at its discretion to search all packages, backpacks, duffels, handbags, boxes, bags, containers, dormitory rooms, lockers, desks, work areas, and persons entering the campus, to determine whether a person or persons have brought weapons onto any Detroit Mercy campus in violation of this policy. Any student or employee who refuses to permit a search will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion or discharge, as appropriate.

The Deputy Title IX Coordinators may be contacted via the Dean for Student Affairs or the Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging.

As part of the University's compliance and prevention efforts, all law students are required to complete an online training module called Voices for Change.

THIS STUDENT HANDBOOK IS PUBLISHED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. IT CREATES NO CONTRACT RIGHTS FOR EITHER STUDENTS OR STAFF. ALL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF ANY STATED POLICY TO AN INDIVIDUAL MUST BE REFERRED TO THE APPROPRIATE UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS FOR FINAL DETERMINATION.

Updated April 2023.