Rules Governing Admission to the Bar in Texas

On July 1, 1936, the new rules adopted by the Supreme Court of Texas governing admission to the bar became effective. The principal features of these rules may be summarized as follows:

1. Bar examinations are held in Austin, beginning on the fourth Monday in February, June and October.

2. To be eligible for the examinations the applicant must be twenty-one years of age, a bona fide citizen of Texas and of the United States and a resident of Texas for one year.

3. Applicant must have filed a declaration of intention to study law before beginning such study or within thirty days thereafter.

4. This declaration of intention if filed before July 1, 1937, must show graduation from a recognized high school or the equivalent; if filed between July 1, 1937 and July 1, 1938, it must show credit for thirty semester hours of work in a recognized college, or the equivalent; if filed after July 1, 1938, it must show credit for sixty semester hours of work in a recognized college or the equivalent.

5. The candidate for admission shall file his application for permission to take the bar examinations with the Secretary of the Board of Legal Examiners not less than thirty days before the beginning of the examinations.

6. Such application shall show:
   (a) That the applicant has studied law in an approved school or with an approved attorney or law firm for not less than twenty-seven months; and
   (b) That he is a person of good moral character and honorable deportment.

7. The fee for the first examination is $20.00; for subsequent examinations it is $10.00.

For details concerning the rules and the course of study apply to the Secretary of the Board of Legal Examiners, Austin, Texas.
Character of Instruction; Bar Courses; Case Clubs

The method of instruction is the case system. The study, analysis, and discussion of judicial decisions give an effective knowledge of legal principles and develop the power of independent legal reasoning. It is believed that students are best prepared for the practice of the law, not merely by instruction in the dogmas and precedents of the law, but by instruction in the origin, development, and functions of the law.

In all courses, care is exercised to co-ordinate the general principles of the common law with the law of Texas, and to correlate as far as possible theory with practice. In furthering this latter object, there is offered each year a series of short practical courses taught by outstanding members of the Dallas bar. In addition, two case clubs are maintained for the trial of legal problems, for which credit not to exceed one semester hour per year may be earned. The student is also encouraged, during his summer vacations, to do apprenticeship work with a good lawyer, thus gaining a practical knowledge of the profession for which he is preparing, and frequently paving the way for a business connection after his graduation.

Limitation of Enrollment; Small Classes;
Personal Contact

The enrollment in the School of Law is limited to one hundred. A full-time faculty of five provides one instructor to every twenty students. This compares very favorably with an average of twenty-eight students per teacher in sixty-two law schools that are members of the Association of American Law Schools, and with nearly sixty students per teacher found in some of the leading law schools located in the Southwest. Classes vary in size from ten to fifty, as compared to classes of one hundred and fifty to two hundred in the larger schools.

The small classes enable the student to have a larger part in the daily recitations and the classroom discussions, and to maintain close personal relations with his instructors, a very valuable part of his legal training.

Requirements for Admission

Admission to the School of Law is under the control of the Dean of the School of Law. Correspondence relative to entrance and to transfer of credits from other law schools should therefore be addressed to him.

1. Regular Students

An applicant for admission as a regular student in the School of Law must be at least nineteen years of age, and must present evidence that he is of good moral character; that he has passed the medical examination; that he has fulfilled the general entrance requirements of the University; and that he has satisfactorily completed two full years, with credits amounting to at least 60 semester-hours in the College of Arts and Sciences, or the equivalent in another approved institution, with grade-points at least equal in number to the number of the semester-hours of credit offered, that is, with an average grade of C on all college work taken. This is the grade-average required for graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences.

In accordance with the regulations of the Association of American Law Schools, of which this school is a member, no credit will be allowed for "non-theory courses in military science, hygiene, domestic arts, physical education, vocal or instrumental music, or other courses without intellectual content of substantial value," nor for courses of intellectual content, where such credits were acquired by correspondence or extension instruction since December 28, 1931. Students preparing for the law are urged to arrange their courses so as to get at least one year's work in each of the following subjects: English Composition, English Literature, English History, American History, Economics, Government, Mathematics, Accounting, a natural science. If a foreign language is elected it should be Latin. Attention is directed to the combination of courses listed below by which a student may secure the B.A. degree or the B.S. degree in Commerce, together with the LL.B. degree, in six years.

2. Special Students

In rare cases, a person twenty-three years of age not meeting the foregoing scholarship requirements may be admitted as a special student, if he satisfies the Dean of the School of Law that he is of good moral character, possesses sufficient capacity, training, experience, and industry to enable him to profit by the instruction offered, and that he will not be a hindrance to the school. Such a person cannot receive credit for work done nor be a candidate for a degree. If such student proves unsatisfactory, he will be dropped from the school. The Association of American Law Schools provides in its articles of association that the number of special students "admitted each year shall not exceed ten per cent of the average number of regular students admitted by the school as beginning law students during the two preceding years." The school applies this rule. A special student who successfully completes the three-year course will be given a certificate so stating.
3. Transfers from Other Law Schools

An applicant who is qualified to enter the School of Law as a candidate for a degree, and who has satisfactorily completed a period of study in an American law school that is a member of the Association of American Law Schools may be given equivalent rank in this school upon presenting a properly authenticated certificate of such work; provided that he has maintained an average grade of C in all courses taken, or an average grade of C on the courses taken during his last two periods (semesters, terms, or summer sessions) if his study has extended over a longer time. The right is reserved to give credit only on examination and to withdraw credit if the student's work in this school is unsatisfactory.

Registration

All students must matriculate in person at the office of the Dean of the School of Law. For dates of matriculation see page 6. Classes meet September 20. The classes meet in the second semester on January 31, 1938. Matriculation for the second semester is on January 31 and February 1, 1938. An extra fee is charged for late matriculation. An additional charge of $2.00 is made for late payment of fees.

The prospective student must present (1) evidence of good character, (2) certificate of physical examination, (3) official statement containing a full record of previous college work, including the credits on entrance, with an honorable discharge from such college, or, if he is the holder of a degree, his diploma, or a certificate showing that he was graduated from such college.

Case-Club Work

Two case-clubs are maintained among the students of the School of Law for arguments on questions of law. The student-attorneys in these cases submit carefully prepared briefs of the law questions involved, and then argue the cases orally before a judge or banc of judges. In the second semester, the two clubs contest among themselves for the Arthur A. Everts Award.

Co-operation and Assistance of the Dallas Bar

The School of Law seeks at all times to co-operate and work in harmony with the organized bar of Dallas, and in return receives aid from the bar. The Bar Association maintains an advisory committee to counsel with the authorities of the University in regard to courses of study and the development of the law school. Four prominent members of the bar are giving courses in the law school, as is shown in the curriculum at page 234. Members of the bar aid materially by serving as judges in the case-club arguments and interclub contests. Many law students during vacation serve as apprentices in the offices of members of the bar.
hours of college work, at least thirty of which must be taken in Southern Methodist University. At the end of two years of satisfactory work in the School of Law, he will be granted the college degree, and at the end of another year, upon satisfying the requirements of the School of Law, he will be granted the LL.B. degree.

A suggested schedule leading to the A.B. degree is as follows:

**Freshman Year:** English 1, 2, or 3, 4; foreign language, intermediate, 6 hours; science, 6 hours; mathematics, 6 to 8 hours according to high-school units presented or 6 hours of Latin or of Greek as a substitute therefor; Social Science 1, 2; electives to bring total to 30 hours. Physical Education 1a, 2a, or 3a, 4a.

**Sophomore Year:** English 11, 12, or 13, 14, or Comparative Literature 11, 12; foreign language, intermediate or advanced, 6 hours; science, 6 hours; History 11, 12, or 13, 16, or both, or Government 11, 12; electives, 6 hours. Physical Education 11a, 12a, or 15a, 16a.

**Junior Year:** Advanced English, 6 hours (recommended but not required); foreign language, 6 hours (not required, if three or more high-school units in language were presented for entrance); Religion 21, 22; History 15, 16, or 11, 12; electives, 6 hours, or 12 hours.

A suggested schedule leading to the degree of B.S. in Commerce is as follows:

**Freshman Year:** English 1, 2, or 3, 4; Social Science 1, 2, a science (Biology, Chemistry, Geology or Physics); Mathematics 0 to 6 hours according to high-school units presented, or 6 hours of Latin or of Greek as a substitute therefor; electives sufficient to bring total to 30 hours. Physical Education 1a, 2a, or 3a, 4a.

**Sophomore Year:** English 11, 12, or 13, 14, or Comparative Literature 11, 12; Commerce 13, 34; Accounting 41d, 42d; a science (Geography, Psychology, Philosophy, or Mathematics); History 15, 16, or 11, 12; Physical Education 11a, 12a, or 15a, 16a.

**Junior Year:** English, advanced, or Government, or History 11, 12, or 15, 16; Commerce 53, 54; Finance 55, 56; Religion 21, 22; an elective, School of Commerce.

**Rules and Regulations**

The School of Law has its own rules governing registration, changing courses, classroom attendance, quizzes and examinations, grades and reports, failures and continuance in the school, and graduation. These rules are kept posted on the official bulletin board and the student is charged with notice of them. With these exceptions all students of the School of Law are subject to the rules and regulations of the University except that the regulation requiring physical education does not apply to the granting of the law degree.

**Expenses**

Tuition, each semester.......................................................... $107.00
Library deposit, returnable less deductions for damages and fines (payable one semester only).......................... 5.00
Medical fee (See pages 38, 57)................................................. 3.00
Student Activity fee................................................................. 12.00

(Books will cost about $35.00 to $45.00 a year.)

**Scholarships**

Two scholarships worth $72.50 a semester each are offered to graduates of senior colleges who expect to enter the School of Law. These scholarships are awarded by the Dean of the School of Law to the two applicants who present the highest scholastic record in their college work.

Application, on a blank to be furnished by the Dean, accompanied by a transcript of the applicant's college record and the names of three or more persons as references, should be in the Dean's hands by July 1.

**Reading Course**

In addition to the courses offered in the curriculum given below, students in the School of Law are urged to pursue a course of selected reading designed to broaden their conception of the law as an agency of economic and social control. A selected list of books suitable for each class is posted at the beginning of the school year.
THE CURRICULUM
1937-1938

The letter "R" following the name of a course indicates that all students are required to take that course in order to be qualified to receive the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

All courses are subject to change or withdrawal without notice.

FIRST YEAR

Actions. (R) Two hours first semester.
Nature and forms of actions at law; the demurrer; fundamentals of procedure at law.
Casebook to be selected.

Agency. (R) Two hours second semester. Mr. Harrison
Rights and duties of principal and agent; rights of third persons; ratification; undisclosed principal; termination of agency.

Contracts. (R) Three hours for the year. Mr. Harrison
Formation and performance of promissory undertakings in formal and informal business transactions, including breach and legal remedies therefor.
Grismore, Cases on Contracts.

Criminal Law. (R) Two hours for the year. Mr. Potts
Nature of crime; defenses; combinations of persons in crime; the study of specific crimes.
Harno, Cases on Criminal Law.

Property I. (R) Three hours first semester. Mr. Rhea
Introduction to real and personal property; feudal tenure; possessory and non-possessor estates; uses and the statute of uses; interest in chattels real and personal.
Fraser, Cases and Readings on Property, Vol. I.

Property II. (R) Three hours second semester. Mr. Rhea
Real and personal property continued; possession; bailments; finders; liens; pledge; acquisition of ownership; fixtures; air, land and water.
Fraser, Cases and Readings on Property, Vol. II.

Torts. (R) Three hours for the year. Mr. Ray
Assault; battery; false imprisonment; trespass; negligence; legal cause; fraud and deceit; libel and slander; malicious prosecution.
Casebook to be selected.

Use of Law Books. (R) One hour first semester.
Instruction in the use of law library.
Material to be selected.

SECOND YEAR

Civil Procedure. (R) Three hours for the year. Mr. Ray
Pleading and practice in the courts of Texas. Mimeographed materials.

Constitutional Law I. (R) Two hours for the year. Mr. Potts
The American system of government; citizenship; foreign relations; taxation; regulations of commerce; due process of law.
Dodd, Cases on Constitutional Law.

Conveyances. (R) Three hours first semester. Mr. Rhea
Original and derivative titles to land; conveyances; descriptions; covenants and priorities.
Kirkwood, Cases on Conveyances.

Equity I. (R) Two hours first semester.
General principles of equity procedure; specific performance of contractual undertakings.
Casebook to be selected.
Not given in 1937-38.

Equity II. (R) Three hours second semester.
Injunction against tort and crime; bills of peace; relationship of vendor and purchaser; fraud and mistake.
Casebook to be selected.

Texas Property. (R) Two hours second semester. Mr. Rhea
Distinctive features of Texas real property laws; adverse possession; community property; homestead and exemptions.
Rhea, Mimeographed Cases and Materials.

THIRD YEAR

Administrative Law. Two hours second semester. Mr. Potts
Separation of powers; delegation of powers; judicial control of administrative action.
Casebook to be selected.

Business Organizations. (R) 4 hrs. 1st sem. Mr. Harrison
Nature and formation of partnerships, corporations, limited partnerships, joint stock associations, and business trusts; rights, powers, duties and liabilities of the enterprise and its participants as a going concern; solvent dissolution.
Casebook to be selected.

Conflict of Laws. (R) 3 hrs. 2nd sem. Mr. Harrison
Enforcement of rights created and obligations assumed in States other than the State of the forum; private international law.
Cheatham, Dowling, and Goodrich, Cases on Conflict of Laws.

Constitutional Law II. Two hours first semester. Mr. Potts
Special problems in Constitutional Law.
Dodd, Cases on Constitutional Law.

Evidence. (R) Two hours for the year. Mr. Ray
Presumptions; burden of proof; judicial notice; witnesses; hearsay rule; opinion evidence; circumstantial evidence; best evidence; parol evidence.
Casebook to be selected.
Future Interests. Three hours first semester.  
Mr. Rhea  
Future interests in property; reversion; remainder; executory interests; powers,  
perpetuities; illegal conditions and restraints.  
Leach, Cases on Future Interests.

Courses Open to Second and Third Year Students

Administration of Criminal Law. 2 hrs. 2nd. sem.  
Mr. Potts  
Arrest; extradition; bail; grand jury indictment; defendant's pleadings; jury  
trial; appeal; probation and parole.  
Keedy, Cases on the Administration of Criminal Law.  
Potts, Cases on Criminal Procedure in Texas.  
Not given in 1937-38.

Bills and Notes. Three hours first semester.  
Form and inception of bills of exchange and promissory notes; negotiation;  
liability of parties; discharge.  
Casebook to be selected.

Creditors' Rights. Four hours second semester.  
Administration of the estates of insolvent debtors; fraudulent conveyances;  
general assignments; receiverships; bankruptcies.  
Casebook to be selected.

Damages. Two hours first semester.  
Mr. Harrison  
General principles of damages; exemplary damages; elements of compensatory  
damages; damages in specific actions of tort and contract.  
McCormick, Cases on Damages.  
Not given in 1937-38.

Insurance. Three hours first semester.  
Life, accident, and property insurance; creation of the relation of insurer and  
insured; insurable interest; rights, powers and remedies of the parties; facts  
operating to mature the policy.  
Casebook to be selected.  
Not given in 1937-38.

Legal Ethics. One hour first semester.  
Mr. Potts  
Education of attorneys; duty of attorneys to clients, to opposing counsel,  
and to the court; regulation of the legal profession; disbarment.  
Arant, Cases on Legal Ethics.

Sales. Two hours first semester.  
Mr. Harrison  
Transfer of title to personal property; effect of fraud; rights and remedies of  
parties; warranties.  
Casebook to be selected.

Security. Three hours second semester.  
Mr. Rhea  
The security concept as applied to liens, pledges, mortgages, and suretyship.  
Hanna, Cases and Other Materials on Security.  
Not given in 1937-38.

Taxation. Three hours second semester.  
Mr. Harrison  
Legitimate purposes of taxation; general property tax and tax administration;  
excise, inheritance, and income taxes.  
Not given in 1937-38.

Trusts. Four hours second semester.  
The nature, creation, and essential elements of express trusts both private and  
charitable; resulting and constructive trusts; administration of trusts.  
Casebook to be selected.  
Not given in 1937-38.

Wills and Administration. 3 hrs. 2nd sem.  
Mr. Rhea  
Testamentary capacity; execution of wills; fraud and mistake; undue in-  
fluence; revocation; probate and administration of estates.  
Casebook to be selected.

Courses Offered by Members of the Dallas Bar

Examination of Abstracts. One and one-half hours for ten  
weeks during the Spring. Credit one semester hour.  
Mr. Burgess  
Mimeographed materials.

Oil and Gas. One and one-half hours for ten weeks during the  
Winter. Credit one semester hour.  
Mr. Hawkins  
Selected materials.

Preparation of Legal Instruments. One and one-half hours  
for ten weeks during the Winter. Credit, 1 sem. hr.  
Mr. Weisberg  
Mimeographed materials.

Workmen's Compensation. One and one-half hours for ten  
weeks in the Fall. Credit, one semester hour.  
Mr. Holland  
Selected materials.

SUMMER SESSION 1937

First Term, June 7 to July 10

Use of Law Books. 3 hrs. Credit, 1 sem. hr.  
Mr. Sparks  
Materials to be selected.

Sales. Six hours. Credit, two semester hours.  
Mr. Sparks  
Casebook to be selected.

Dobie, Cases on Federal Procedure.

Second Term, July 12 to August 17

Actions. Six hours. Credit, two semester hours.  
Casebook to be selected.

Legal Ethics. 3 hrs. Credit, 1 sem. hr.  
Mr. Harrison  
Arant, Cases on Legal Ethics.

Suretyship. Six hours. Credit, two semester hours.  
Mr. Ray  
Arant, Cases on Suretyship, Second Edition.

Taxation. Six hours. Credit, 2 sem. hrs.  

Both Terms

Damages. 3 hrs. Credit, 2 sem. hrs.  
Mr. Ray  
McCormick, Cases on Damages.