FAQ for LL.M. students Transferring into the J.D. Program

- If you are accepted into the J.D. program, you may transfer the units from law classes taken in the LL.M. program, with the exception of courses that cannot be taken by J.D. students. The following LL.M. courses will not transfer, so units earned in any of these courses will not be counted toward your J.D. degree:
    - Contracts for Foreign Lawyers (403)
    - Civil Procedure for Foreign Lawyers (404)
    - Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research (406)
    - Contract Law: Analysis and Application (413)
    - American Law in a Global Context (470)
    - U.S. Constitutional Law for Foreign Lawyers (475)
    - Torts for Foreign Lawyers (476)

  Units from LL.M.-only sections of courses that can be taken by J.D. students, such as Evidence (211), Introduction to Federal Income Taxation (220), Business Associations (230), Entertainment Law (305), Professional Responsibility (312), Contract Drafting (763), and Negotiation Theory and Practice (785), will transfer toward the J.D. degree.

- If you are interested in transferring to the J.D. program, try to take a minimum of 21 units during your LL.M. year that you know will transfer over to the J.D. program to ensure that you can complete the J.D. program in two years. If you take less than 21 units, you may have to complete an extra (fifth) semester to earn the J.D. degree.

- You will need to take 87 total units to complete the J.D. degree. You will have two years to complete the J.D. degree (and the transferable units from the LL.M. program will count towards the 87 units required to complete the J.D. degree). There are other J.D. degree requirements that you will be advised about when you are in the J.D. program.

- During your first year in the J.D. program, you will take the curriculum for first-year law students which includes Torts, Contracts, Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law and Legal Research and Writing. We recommend that you take Criminal Law and Property during the first year of the J.D. program.
    - Please note that that the total units that first-year UCLA law students earn during their first year of law school varies from a minimum of 27 units and maximum of 30 units (the maximum is 31 units if students are in the Epstein Program and take the Epstein Program workshop).
    - If you take Criminal Law, Property and Constitutional Law during the Spring semester, you will receive 30 units total for your first year in the J.D. program.

- During your last year in the J.D. program, you will choose your courses and you can take between 12-16 units each semester. Students have the option of petitioning to take 17 units each semester, subject to the approval of Dean Marti. 12 units is the minimum number of units you must be enrolled in each semester and 16 units is the maximum.

- You have the option of taking J-term classes during the first and second year to complete extra units. J-term courses are short courses that take place during the winter break. During each J-term, you can enroll in up to three units with a maximum of two courses. J-term units count toward the 12-unit minimum, but not the 16-unit maximum. For example, you could take two J-term units and 10 units during the spring semester for a total of 12 units. Conversely, you could take two J-term units and 15 units during the semester, for a total of 17 units for the entire spring term.

- You can contact Carmina Ocampo (ocampo@law.ucla.edu) for course advising once you are admitted into the J.D. program.