



ONLINE GRADUATE PROGRAMS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

COURSE REGISTRATION

Q: Do I register myself for courses?

A: No, students in the graduate law program do not register themselves. Instead, Jennifer Lovelady will register students for each course, each term.

Q: How will I know which courses I am registered for?

A: You can view your completed registrations for each term by visiting the Samford Portal and reviewing the "Registrations" tab. Jennifer Lovelady will also email your course registration. You can also reach out to Jennifer Lovelady at any time to discuss your course of study.

Q: I need to drop a course or sit out of this term completely. What do I do?

A: Contact Jennifer Lovelady and she can make any adjustments to your course enrollment, including withdrawals from a course, term or the university.

TEXTBOOKS

Q: How do I know what textbooks are required for my courses?

A: Visit the Samford Bookstore to search for your textbooks. You will enter your course prefix and course number (example: MSLW 515), to see which textbook(s) is required. You can either purchase your textbooks directly from the [Samford Bookstore](#), or you can use the ISBN provided and purchase your textbooks elsewhere. If you choose the latter, make sure you purchase the correct edition. Jennifer Lovelady will also send an email that includes all textbooks per term per course.

CALENDARS

Q: There are many calendars listed on the Samford Registrar's website. Which one do we follow?

A: The graduate law program follows the Accelerated Terms calendar found on the [Samford Registrar website](#). During fall and spring terms, students take one course during "A Term" and a second course during "B Term." These 7-week mini terms allow students to focus on one course at a time. During summer terms, the graduate law program follows the Summer III calendar. This schedule will have students take two courses concurrently for the 10-week term.

Q: When is the first day of A and B term this fall?

A: A term will run from August 25 through October 15. B term will run from October 20 through December 11.

CANVAS

Q: Why can't I see the courses I am registered for in Canvas?

A: You will not be able to see courses in Canvas until the first day of class. This includes courses for B term – you will not see your B term course until October 20.

Q: Do I have to be online for class at a specific time?

A: No. All of the courses run asynchronously, meaning that you do not have to do anything with classmates or faculty in real time. Instead, your course will be broken down into weekly modules. Each module will run Wednesday through Tuesday. Each week, you'll log into your course and see the assignments and schedule for the week. You are then able to complete the module at your own pace and schedule.

Q: What will I be doing in an online course?

A: Depending on the subject matter and instructor, you can expect to see text and outside reading assignments, pre-recorded lectures, videos from other experts, discussion board posts, etc. You may be asked to take a quiz at the end of a module or complete a short essay. Some courses require a group project while others have a final exam or paper.

Q: Will I know my classmates?

A: Yes! You'll start the program with your cohort, and as long as you stay on track, you'll move through the program with the same classmates. You'll also notice that courses rely on a heavy use of discussion board posts. This gives you an opportunity to get to know your classmates and also learn from other perspectives who may be in the industry you are studying.

Q: What if I have problems with technology?

A: If you experience any problems with Canvas technology, you can visit the "Help" tab on your Canvas Dashboard. From there, you can search through the Canvas Guides to find answers to common questions or you can contact the Canvas Support Hotline for live, 24/7 help.

Q: I'm having trouble with an assignment or keeping up with the course work. Who can help me?

A: If you have any problems with the course material, you should contact your instructor. They are the only person who can make exceptions or extensions on assignments and they will always work with you on a solution.