

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Vancouver Senate Admissions Committee
c/o
Enrolment Services | Senate & Curriculum Services
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February 13, 2009

To: Vancouver Senate
From: Admissions Committee
Re: **Changes in Admission Requirements**

h) Graduate Programs in Physics and Astronomy (Faculty of Graduate Studies) – Changes in Admission Requirements (approval)(circulated)

The Admissions Committee has reviewed and recommends to Senate for approval the revised calendar entry on admission requirements for applicants to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Applicants to graduate programs in the Department of Physics and Astronomy are no longer required to meet a Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) requirement for admission.

Motion: *That Senate approve the proposed changes to admission requirements for applicants to graduate programs in Physics and Astronomy, effective for entry to the 2009 Winter Session and thereafter.*

i) Graduate Programs in Reproductive and Developmental Sciences (Faculty of Graduate Studies) – Changes in Admission Requirements (approval)(circulated)

The Admissions Committee has reviewed and recommends to Senate for approval the revised calendar entry on admission requirements for applicants to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Applicants to graduate programs in Reproductive and Developmental Sciences must meet a minimum paper-based TOEFL score of 580 to be eligible for admission.

Motion: *That Senate approve the proposed changes to admission requirements for applicants to graduate programs in Reproductive and Developmental Sciences, effective for entry to the 2009 Winter Session and thereafter.*

j) Faculty of Law—Changes in Admission Requirements (approval)(circulated)

The Admissions Committee has reviewed and recommends to Senate for approval the revised calendar entry on admission requirements for applicants to the Juris Doctor.

Motion: *That Senate approve the revised calendar entry on changes to admission requirements for applicants to the Faculty of Law, effective for entry to the 2009 Winter Session and thereafter.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. David Fielding
Chair, Admissions Committee

UBC Undergraduate Admissions Proposal Form Change to Admission Requirements

Faculty: Graduate Studies Department: Physics & Astronomy Faculty Approval Date: 2008-08-19 SAC Approval Date: Feb. 11, 2009 Effective Session: 2009W Year for Change: 2008	Contact Person: Dr. Paul Hickson (Professor & Graduate Chair) Phone: 2-6706 Email: hickson@physics.ubc.ca
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Proposed Calendar Entry:

Faculty of Graduate Studies → TOEFL and GRE Requirements

URL:
<http://www.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=12,204,345,0>

Note: A new, Internet-based version of the TOEFL is now available. It is intended to replace both the paper and computer versions. Paper or computer test results will still be valid for two years after the date the test is taken. The minimum total score for all applicants to the Faculty of Graduate Studies is 550 for paper-based TOEFL and 213 for computer-based TOEFL.

The minimum total score on the new Internet-based TOEFL for all applicants to the Faculty of Graduate Studies is 80.

Many graduate programs will require higher minimum total scores, and may require minimum scores on individual components of the test. The chart TOEFL and GRE Requirements on the online version of this Calendar will have updated information on minimum TOEFL scores for individual graduate programs throughout the year.

TOEFL and GRE Requirements

Program	TOEFL (Paper)	TOEFL (Computer)	GRE
Physics	550	213	Yes ^{7,9}

¹ Not mandatory, but strongly recommended ² Or GMAT ³ Ph.D. program only ⁴ US applicants only.
⁵ TWE: 5.5 ⁶ TSE: 40; TWE: 4.0 ⁷ TSE: 55; TWE: 5.0 ⁸ Applicants from outside North America only
⁹ General and subject tests required. ¹⁰ TWE: 5.0 ¹¹ GMAT required.

Type of Action:
 Remove GRE requirement for applicants to graduate programs in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

Rationale:
 We have found that the GRE is not a reliable indicator of a student's research potential in physics and astronomy. It more closely reflects the amount of time that the student spends preparing to write the exam. This varies greatly from country to country. Furthermore, the financial burden and difficulty of scheduling and writing this exam is a deterring factor even for the best students.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC Undergraduate Admissions Proposal Form Change to Admission Requirements

Faculty: Graduate Studies Department: Obstetrics & Gynecology SAC Approval Date: Feb. 11, 2009 Effective Session: Jan. 2010 Year for Change: 2009	Date: Feb. 6, 2009 Contact Person: Roshni Nair Phone: 604-875-3108 Email: rnair@cw.bc.ca								
Proposed Calendar Entry: <u>Faculty of Graduate Studies → TOEFL and GRE Requirements</u> URL: http://www.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=12,204,345,0 Note: A new, Internet-based version of the TOEFL is now available. It is intended to replace both the paper and computer versions. Paper or computer test results will still be valid for two years after the date the test is taken. The minimum total score for all applicants to the Faculty of Graduate Studies is 550 for paper-based TOEFL and 213 for computer-based TOEFL. The minimum total score on the new Internet-based TOEFL for all applicants to the Faculty of Graduate Studies is 80. Many graduate programs will require higher minimum total scores, and may require minimum scores on individual components of the test. The chart TOEFL and GRE Requirements on the online version of this Calendar will have updated information on minimum TOEFL scores for individual graduate programs throughout the year. TOEFL and GRE Requirements <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Program</th><th>TOEFL (Paper)</th><th>TOEFL (Computer)</th><th>GRE</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Reproductive and Developmental Science</td><td>580</td><td>213</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>		Program	TOEFL (Paper)	TOEFL (Computer)	GRE	Reproductive and Developmental Science	580	213	
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Reproductive and Developmental Science	580	213							
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TOEFL and GRE Requirements

Program	TOEFL (Paper)	TOEFL (Computer)	GRE
Reproductive and Developmental Science	550	213	

Type of Action:

Change the minimum paper-based TOEFL score for admission to the Ph.D. and M.Sc. programs in Reproductive and Development Sciences from 550 to 580.

Rationale: It was suggested by the members of the Reproductive and Developmental Sciences Program that our required TOEFL score should be same as most of the graduate programs in Medicine i.e. 580. Also, it has become clear that students with less than a 580 TOEFL score have been experiencing difficulties at all levels.



UBC Undergraduate Admissions Proposal Form Change to Admission Requirements

<p>Faculty: Law Department: Faculty Approval Date: Feb. 2009 Effective Session: 2009 Winter Year for Change: 2009</p>	<p>Date: Feb. 9, 2009 Contact Person: Anita Didur (Admissions Advisor, Faculty of Law) Phone: 2-4412 Email: Didur@law.ubc.ca</p>
<p>URL: http://www.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=12,207,358,325</p> <p>Proposed Calendar Entry:</p> <p><u>Faculty of Law → Introduction</u> <i>Dean's Office</i> <i>M. A. Bobinski, Dean</i> D. Harris, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Research <i>C. F. L. Young, Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs</i> S. Hsu, Associate Dean, Special Projects</p> <p>The Faculty of Law offers programs of study leading to the degrees of Juris Doctor and Master of Laws. For information concerning the Master of Laws, Doctor of Philosophy, and Master of Laws (Common Law), see Law in the Graduate Studies Programs section. For information on the combined Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration, see J.D./M.B.A. Combined Program. For information on our combined Juris Doctor and Master of Arts in Asia-Pacific Policy Studies, see M.A.A.P.S./J.D. Combined Program.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><u>Faculty of Law → Juris Doctor → Introduction</u></p> <p>The Juris Doctor degree is granted on the successful completion of a three-year course and prepares students for admission to the practice of law (subject to further requirements that are set out below) and for business and public service. The number of students entering the practice of law in Canada has increased in the last few years and a degree in law is no guarantee of a position in either the necessary year of articles (described below) or in the</p>	<p>URL: http://www.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=12,207,358,325</p> <p>Present Calendar Entry:</p> <p><u>Faculty of Law → Introduction</u> <i>Dean's Office</i> <i>M. A. Bobinski, Dean</i> C. Dauvergne, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Research <i>C. F. L. Young, Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs</i></p> <p>The Faculty of Law offers programs of study leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws. For information concerning the Master of Laws, Doctor of Philosophy, and Master of Jurisprudence (Common Law) see Law in the Graduate Studies Programs section. For information on the combined Bachelor of Laws and Master of Business Administration, see J.D./M.B.A. Combined Program. For information on our combined Bachelor of Laws and Master of Arts in Asia-Pacific Policy Studies, see J.D./M.A.A.P.S. Combined Program.</p> <p>.....</p> <p><u>Faculty of Law → Juris Doctor → Introduction</u></p> <p>Important Notice: The University is presently working to secure the necessary provincial approval to change the name of its first degree in law from an LL.B. to a Juris Doctor (J.D.) The J.D. designation has been approved by the Board of Governors and once the provincial approval process is complete, details will be available on the UBC Faculty of Law website.</p>



<p>practice of law.</p> <p>Students who entered the LL.B program before July 1, 2008, and who were enrolled in the program in January, 2008, will receive J.D. degrees upon graduation from the program, unless they elect to receive the LL.B degree instead. All students admitted to the Faculty of Law's J.D. program for the academic year 2008/09 and thereafter will receive J.D. degrees upon graduation. Alumni who received an LL.B. degree from the University of British Columbia can elect to convert their degree to a J.D. degree. Please contact the Faculty of Law for further information.</p> <p><u>Faculty of Law → Juris Doctor → Admission</u></p> <p>Regular Applicants</p> <p>To be eligible for selection, an applicant must have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. obtained an undergraduate degree in an approved course of studies from a degree-granting university; or2. successfully completed the first three years (minimum 90 credits) or more of an approved course of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at the University of British Columbia or completed the equivalent at a degree-granting university; or3. successfully completed the first two years of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at UBC or other degree-granting university, and be currently enrolled in the third year of the degree program. (An offer of admission will be conditional on successful completion of the third year by June 30 with a minimum of 90 credits at UBC, or the equivalent at a degree-granting university, and maintenance of the academic average obtained in the first two years of studies. 30 of the 90 credit requirement must be completed at the senior level); <u>and</u>4. an overall standing of no less than 65%.	<p>The Juris Doctor degree is granted on the successful completion of a three-year course and prepares students for admission to the practice of law (subject to further requirements that are set out below) and for business and public service. The number of students entering the practice of law in Canada has increased in the last few years and a degree in law is no guarantee of a position in either the necessary year of articles (described below) or in the practice of law.</p> <p>Students who entered the LL.B program before July 1, 2008, and who were enrolled in the program in January, 2008, will receive J.D. degrees upon graduation from the program, unless they elect to receive the LL.B degree instead. All students admitted to the Faculty of Law's J.D. program for the academic year 2008/09 and thereafter will receive J.D. degrees upon graduation. Alumni who received an LL.B. degree from the University of British Columbia can elect to convert their degree to a J.D. degree. Please contact the Faculty of Law for further information.</p> <p><u>Faculty of Law → Juris Doctor → Admission</u></p> <p>Regular Applicants</p> <p>To be eligible for selection, an applicant must have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. obtained an undergraduate degree in an approved course of studies from a degree-granting university; or2. successfully completed the first three years (minimum 90 credits) or more of an approved course of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at the University of British Columbia or completed the equivalent at a degree-granting university; or3. successfully completed the first two years of studies leading to an undergraduate degree at UBC or other degree-granting university, and be currently enrolled in the third year of the degree program. (An offer of admission will be conditional on successful completion of the third year by June 30 with a minimum of 90 credits at UBC, or the equivalent at a degree-granting university, and maintenance of the academic average obtained in the first two years of
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Note: Courses completed toward a diploma program and subsequently transferred to a degree program will not be considered until the degree has been granted. Prospective applicants should be aware that almost all of our students have completed a four year degree.

Applicants should regard their satisfaction of the entrance requirements as meaning only that they are eligible for selection. Because of the competition for admission to the Juris Doctor program, a regular applicant must have an undergraduate academic average substantially higher than the minimum (65%) in order to have a reasonable chance of admission. The median applicant accepted for 2008/09 had an academic average of approximately 82%, with an LSAT score of 164 (91st percentile). The academic average and LSAT score are used in a formula to determine an index number by which applicants are ranked. The academic average and LSAT score are weighted equally. In calculating the academic average, only those years of undergraduate study making up the first undergraduate degree that are complete at the time of deadline for application are considered, except for item 3 above, where the applicant must maintain the overall standing of the first two years of studies. Generally, no greater weight is attached to one series of academic courses or disciplines than to another. Performance courses are counted towards the required minimum 90 credits but the grades earned in such courses are not usually counted in computing the academic average. Second degrees or graduate degrees are not taken into account, except within the discretionary category discussed below.

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First Nations Applicants

Applicants with First Nations ancestry may apply in the regular category or in the First Nations category. First Nations applicants should contact the [Associate Director of First Nations Legal Studies](#), as early as possible to discuss their application.

The Faculty considers the applicant's involvement with a commitment to First Nations communities and organizations, and the applicant's intention to use his or her legal training to advance First Nation's concerns and interests. Applicants are required to establish their First Nations ancestry by enclosing a copy

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of their status card. If unable to provide a status card, applicants must provide a chart tracing their line of ancestry. In addition, a personal statement is required, two letters of recommendation, LSAT score and official transcripts.

Other Categories for Admission (other than to first year)

Each year there are many requests for admission to the upper years. Only a few applicants, however, can be accommodated.

Degree Categories

Advanced Standing. Graduates of foreign law schools who have been evaluated by the National Committee on Accreditation and received advanced standing, or graduates of Quebec civil law schools, may apply to complete two years of legal studies at UBC Law to obtain a J.D. Applicants must submit a copy of their LSAT score, official undergraduate and law transcripts, a personal statement explaining the reasons for the request, a letter from the National Committee on Accreditation, and two letters of reference.

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Non-Degree Categories

Please note that applicants admitted in either of the following categories are not eligible to receive a J.D. from the UBC Faculty of Law.

Please note: we will not allow any NCA students to enrol in first-year law classes.

- **Visiting (Letter of Permission).** Students enrolled in an LL.B. or J.D. program at an approved law school may request permission from their current school to attend one year or one term of either the second- or third-year program at UBC Law on a letter of permission basis. Students must submit a letter of permission from the Associate Dean of their current law school, a copy of their LSAT score (if applicable), a personal statement with compelling reasons for their request, official undergraduate and law

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Other Documents

Other documents include letters of reference, medical certificates, special circumstances letters, or National Committee on Accreditation letters, where relevant.

Interviews are not part of the admissions procedure but the Admissions staff are available to answer any questions in person, by telephone (604-822-6303), letter, fax (604-822-8108), or [email \(admissions@law.ubc.ca\)](mailto:admissions@law.ubc.ca). Applicants wishing to meet in person for advising should make an appointment.

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