

**Institutional Learning Outcomes**  
**University of Detroit Mercy School of Law**  
**May 2017**

The School seeks to educate the complete lawyer through a dynamic curriculum that integrates theory, doctrine, and experiential learning; provides unique global perspectives through transactional educational opportunities; and emphasizes ethics and service to others. In support of this mission statement, the Law School has adopted the following Learning Outcomes and Competencies.

**1. Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of the substantive and procedural law that forms the core of the American legal system.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of terms and rules of law in their courses.
- Students will demonstrate their ability to identify legal rules and synthesize those rules into a larger analytical framework.

**2. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to apply their understanding of legal principles to new factual problems.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to identify issues presented by new factual scenarios.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use their understanding of legal rules to engage in analogical and deductive reasoning to solve legal problems presented by new factual scenarios.

**3. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively.**

Competencies:

- Students will communicate their written analyses of legal problems in a clear, well-organized, and professional manner.
- Students will communicate their oral analyses of legal problems in a clear, well-organized, and professional manner.

**4. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to engage in legal research necessary to determine the legal rules involved in solving new factual problems.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of hierarchy of law principles and the relationship between primary and secondary sources.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to conduct thorough and efficient legal research.

- 5. In addition to the skills identified in Learning Outcomes 3 and 4, graduates will demonstrate competency in the legal practice skills identified below.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to use documents and other information in developing an understanding of a client's case.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively interview and counsel clients.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to draft documents used in legal practice.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to develop effective strategies to address clients' goals.

- 6. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to practice law in a professional and ethical manner.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize ethical issues that may be presented in a particular factual scenario.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the ethical duties imposed on counsel.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to apply that understanding of ethical duties in new factual scenarios.

- 7. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of the transnational nature of the practice of law in the twenty-first century.**

Competencies:

- Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the structure and principles of a legal system other than the core American legal system.
- Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of international or comparative law principles.

- 8. Graduates will be exposed to the value of serving in their communities and promoting the legal profession.**

Competencies:

- Students will have opportunities to contribute to the betterment of the local communities.
- Students will have opportunities to serve the underrepresented and traditionally marginalized communities.
- Students will have opportunities to participate in legal and professional organizations that are dedicated to improving and educating the legal community and the Law School on current legal issues.