



**Policy Title**  
**Certificate Policy**

**Policy Number**  
**1-039**

<b>Responsible Unit:</b> Office of Academic Affairs	<b>Effective Date:</b> July 22, 2022
<b>Responsible Official:</b> Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	<b>Last Reviewed Date:</b> July 22, 2022
<b>Policy Classification:</b> Academic Affairs	<b>Last Revised Date:</b> July 22, 2022
	<b>Origination Date:</b> Before 2015

**I. POLICY PURPOSE**

This policy details the requirements that must be met for a student to earn a certificate while in enrolled at Southern University Law Center (SULC).

**II. POLICY SCOPE**

This policy applies to students and the Administration of SULC.

**III. POLICY COMPLIANCE**

No student will be awarded a certificate in a designated area of law unless the requirements designated under this policy are met.

**IV. POLICY DEFINITIONS**

- A. CERTIFICATE is an additional academic award that can be earned by a student while enrolled at SULC by completing requirements as outlined in this policy.
- B. AREA OF CONCENTRATION refers to a specific list of courses that a student can earn course credit related to an identified Certificate.

## **V. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE**

The policy was created by the SULC faculty to designate the circumstances under which a student may earn a certificate in its program of legal education. The Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is charged with implementing and enforcing this policy.

## **VI. POLICY AND APPLICABLE PROCEDURES**

- A. Based upon the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee, the faculty will designate certificates for particular areas of law and identify a specific set of courses (deemed an area of concentration) in which a student must successfully earn academic credit.
- B. The faculty will update the areas of concentration as warranted.
- C. In order to be awarded a certificate, a student must:
  1. Submit an application for the certificate after the first two semesters of school but no later than prior to the completion of the fourth semester.
  2. Earn the required coursework hours to complete the program of legal education, inclusive of intervention courses that a student may be required to take as a result of the institutional level assessments performed at SULC;
  3. Successfully complete at least four courses in the area of concentration for a particular certificate;
  4. Earn a minimum 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in the courses contained within the area of concentration; and
  5. Complete any additional requirements, if any, of a particular certificate.
- D. The faculty will endeavor to ensure that a course is not placed in the area of concentration for multiple certificates so as to ensure the rigor for each certificate is maintained.

### **Approved Certificate programs:**

#### **Public Law Certificate**

- Successful completion of the 82 (or more – if student is required to take intervention courses) required course hours needed for graduation;
- Successful completion of, at least, four of the courses in the Public Law area of concentration; and
- Earn a minimum of 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in the courses in the area of concentration.

#### Public Law Courses

- Administrative Law
- Legislative Drafting I
- Legislative Drafting II
- Legislative Practicum
- Local Government Law
- Voting Rights
- Civil Rights
- Externship (with Federal, state, or local legislative or municipal body)

- Additional Clinical course

### **Tax Law Certificate**

- Successful completion of the 82 (or more – if student is required to take intervention courses) required course hours needed for graduation;
- Successful completion of, at least, four of the courses in the Tax Law area of concentration;
- Earn a minimum of 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in the courses in the area of concentration; and
- With respect to the general clinic course requirement of a student at SULC, a student seeking the Tax Law Certificate would be required to take the Tax Clinic course.

#### Tax Law Courses

- Estate Planning
- Income Tax
- International Tax Law
- Tax Procedure and Litigation
- Taxation of Flow-Through Entities

### **Transactional Law Certificate**

- Successful completion of the 82 (or more – if student is required to take intervention courses) required course hours needed for graduation;
- Successful completion of, at least, four of the courses in the Transactional Law area of concentration;
- Earn a minimum 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in the courses in the area of concentration; and
- With respect to the general clinic course requirement of a student at SULC, a student seeking the Transactional Law Certificate would be required to take the Technology and Entrepreneurial Clinic I course.

#### Transactional Law Courses

- Securities Regulation
- Corporate Finance
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Special Problems in Commercial Law
- Special Problems in Business Law
- Real Estate Transactions I

### **Intellectual Property Law Certificate**

- Successful completion of the 82 (or more – if student is required to take intervention courses) required course hours needed for graduation;

- Successful completion of, at least, four of the courses in the Intellectual Property Law area of concentration; and
- Earn a minimum 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in the courses in the area of concentration.
- With respect to the general clinic course requirement of a student at SULC, a student seeking the Intellectual Property Law Certificate would be required to take the Technology and Entrepreneurial Clinic I course.

#### Intellectual Property Law Courses

- Copyright Law
- Trademark Law
- Patent Law
- Intellectual Property
- Patent Prosecution
- Law & Technology

### **VII. POLICY HISTORY AND REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy codifies and updates the existing policy which was created and became effective prior to the implementation of the uniform policy format. The uniform policy format was implemented in 2019. The policy is subject to a five-year policy review cycle and shall be reviewed by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and any changes will be submitted to the faculty for consideration.

### **VIII. PUBLICATION OF POLICY**

The policy is published on the SULC website at [www.sulc.edu](http://www.sulc.edu).

### **IX. POLICY APPROVAL**

This policy was approved by the faculty on July 22, 2022.

  
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**John K. Pierre**  
**Chancellor**

July 22, 2022  
**Date**